

LAKE COUNTRY



Dust in the Wind

LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2015

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open

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Newsletter:

Barb Björnson

Greetings!

As we head towards Thanksgiving and into the holiday season, I'd like to start out by sharing my own "**Thanks!**" for your support of my role as President this past year, especially for your hard work as Board members, volunteers on committees, mentors, and as exhibitors!



Well...how did your summer and fall painting seasons work out? Don't lose *all* hope for plein air and photos; there still are pockets of fall color out there if you hurry and make the extra effort to look for them! Southern and southeastern Minnesota would still be good areas to check, but I've even noticed some lingering color locally. For instance, I noticed some in sheltered areas and valleys en route to and from Red Wing on Monday, October 26 and while driving the north shore of Lake Minnetonka Tuesday, October 27. What's more, there will still be *some* days with moderate temperatures in November, so make the most of them!

If you've had a good painting season, now might be the time to upgrade your images on our LCPS website "Members Showcase". A reminder that members can change their images once a year at no charge. Contact Barb Björnson barbbjornson@comcast.net or our webmaster Mark Ellis. glistor@gmail.com

Speaking of colors, images, and seeing, I've become more averse to extensive night driving. I'm not alone. From my AARP Senior Driving course (good for discounts on my auto insurance); I've learned that this is a normal-- yet frustrating--part of aging. I've heard that some of our members don't attend meetings to avoid night driving. In this spirit of "trick or tweak", I'd like to bring up the idea to change the January, March, and November LCPS meetings **in 2016** from their Tuesday evening times to Saturday mornings, perhaps beginning at 8:30 for Board members with regular meeting and program from 10:00 until 11:30 or noon. We'll discuss the pros and cons of this topic at our Board meeting November 10, so contact your Board members or myself with your comments and suggestions!

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Thank you
to LCPS members who are
volunteering and have
volunteered.
The pastel society
appreciates
ALL that you do.

To members who have
not volunteered yet,
come join the fun!

Talk to Bruce or any board
member for information.



Mission Statement:

We seek to unite artists from beginner to professional who are interested in the pastel medium and to serve their needs by encouraging artistic growth and development through education and sharing. We also work to create public awareness of pastel as a unique and beautiful art form.

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Finally, don't forget the upcoming **Art Attack** at the Northrup King Building Friday, November 6, 5:00-10:00 p.m.; Saturday, November 7, 12:00-8:00 p.m.; and Sunday, November 8, 12:00-5:00 p.m.

Likewise, don't forget our meeting and program November 10, 7:00 p.m. Room 224 at the New Brighton Community Center!

Regards,
Bruce Koprucki
President, LCPS

**~ WELCOME ~
New Members**

Donna Krska

Beth Peck



Talk with Joe Paquet

Authenticity, Creativity and the Quest for a Singular Vision, a Talk by Joe Paquet



Organic Geometry 28" x 40" \$19,500 - SOLD

Notes taken by Terrie Christian during the artist's speech presented at the New Brighton Family Center.

Joe started with an accounting of having given his talk on "Authenticity and Singular Vision" six times and it has never been easy. He has been painting for 30 years and teaching for 21. He described how much of what he has learned came from many people he has met over years. He calls them "angels" who recommend a book just at the right time, or offer other lessons he needs for life.

Being authentic takes a great deal of honesty and requires being open and vulnerable. He has been curious since he was a child and can recall looking at art and being struck by a lack of originality. He played in the woods as a child and lived in his head. Now, he says, everything he got in trouble for as a kid he gets paid for. His mother encouraged his curiosity, and interest in athletics and coached him and asked him what he wanted to do in life. This gave him permission early to be himself, and he concluded that every time you compromise it takes an infinitesimal bite out of your soul.

He began to look at art as being on two paths. Inorganic is outside of self. Organic is a tightening spiral, choosing to serve your higher self which takes great courage. To compromise does not serve your highest self – then you pay for it. What is most important to him is connection. When he paints he does not listen to music or books on tape because this disconnects the artist from himself. You know when you feel something, but we often do not trust it because it is our own.

Joe's advice to us is to have an opinion. If we don't have an opinion, the world will not listen to us. Stay open and aware. Intention is important. Love is NOT sentimentality. Connection is more important than concept (idea). When looking at art, what do you feel? There are a lot of bad paintings in museums. There is no such thing as failure in the pursuit of art. Self-trust and risk are not for everyone. Lean into the risk. Lead with your heart.

He had athletic gifts as well, but his coach told him to go to a good art school. Others encouraged this too. He went to one where he learned to engage in the process of art. No professors, it was taught by all professional artists. One amazed him and opened the world to him: John Foote. Joe believes there are no accidents – everything we need is before us if we are open to it. He found an outdoor painters group where another angel developed him. Now he always offers a class on Thursday nights for other artists who need a night class.

.....continue on page

A goal he teaches is to lose the idea of the inorganic path outside of oneself, such as painting what sells or for awards and other forms of recognition. He eschews the idea of getting an award just for showing up. He also believes that in the sixties, seventies and eighties critics took power away from artists.

It is up to us to bring something of value to the world – artists creating their own language. Everyone is artistic, but not everyone is an artist. Why limit ourselves to concept which too often leads to a dead end? We need tools and skills to be proficient at creating art. Chart where your skills are between beginning and mastery.

There is a grand difference between sentimental and sentiment, subjectivity and objectivity. Art is a struggle to get noticed. Relevancy is not so much about any idea that gets you somewhere. A work of art can only resonate that which it has been given. The problem is lack of sensitivity, so we exaggerate to get attention.

He told a story about the unfinished slaves having given the most creative art in the work of an old man who had nothing to prove and so gave his creations what he loved. He was referring to half-completed marble statues by [Michelangelo](#), dated to 1525–30, for the [tomb of Pope Julius II](#).

Risk is telling the world what you love. Why don't we do that very often? Because we are too afraid. When we say do what you love the fact is that artists don't often show their underbelly. The world is missing connection. We don't need more concept that are just pictures without love or connection. Joe ended reading an excerpt from Rainer Maria Rilke's inspiring "Letters to a Young Poet," #16 & 17.

* Reprinted with permission by Terrie Christian (a member of Minnesota Artists Association.)

Programs

November meeting

At the November 10th meeting we will have Noah Keesecher from Springboard For The Arts give us a presentation on business skills for the artist. Noah's talk will include information about copyrights, record keeping, marketing and promoting your art. We'll also have him tell us about Springboards For The Arts and the workshops they offer.

January meeting

Our January meeting date has been changed to the 5th.

We are pleased that Lisa Stauffer will be doing a watercolor underpainting demonstration and talking about surfaces. We also hope to have time for Lisa to lead a discussion about plein air painting. Bring your questions and plein air knowledge to share, it should be a fun and informative evening.

Workshop

Debora L. Stewart

April 27-29 2016

3-day Workshop \$350

Registration will open at the November pastel meeting.

\$100 non-refundable deposit will hold your space.

Debora L. Stewart PSA IAPS MC

Debora L. Stewart is a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America and a member of the Master's Circle of the International Association of Pastel Societies. Her paintings have won awards from Pastel Journal Magazine, International Artist Magazine and the Pastel Society of America. Her work has been included in numerous juried exhibitions and is represented by galleries throughout the United States.

Debora creates pastel and acrylic abstract paintings. Her work is both non-objective and influenced by nature. A current theme explores the use of flowers and plants in abstraction.

Stewart is the author of a new book by Northlight titled **Abstract Art Painting: Expressions in Mixed Media**. Her new book will be available in April/May of 2015 along with a series of videos for Artists Network T.V. on abstract pastel painting. She was a recent juror for the Pastel 100 Competition of Pastel Journal Magazine.

Debora Stewart has taught workshops at the International Association of Pastel Societies in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Pastel Society of American in NYC, Peninsula School of Art in Door County Wisconsin, Figge Art Museum in Davenport, Iowa and several art associations.

Workshops for 2015 are scheduled for Goodyear, Arizona, International Association of Pastel Societies Convention in Albuquerque, Acadia Workshop Center, Bar Harbor, Maine, Peninsula School of Art, Door County, Wisconsin, Mainstreet Art Center, Lake Zurich, Illinois and the Pastel Society of America in NYC.



Exhibits

Our exhibition at Red Wing received 32 entries from our members. Although the number was smaller than usual the show has received many compliments from the viewers. Our judge, Mary Pettis, did a wonderful presentation when she announced the winners and then she stayed afterward to discuss paintings with anyone who requested.

The following winners were selected.

Best of Show - Fred Somers - Radiant Laced Waters

First Place - Lisa Stauffer - Blue Belle

Second Place - Carol Pruchnofski - Tranquility

Third Place - Cynthia Kath - River Valley Evening

Merit Award - Jo Nelson - The Barnyard

Mary Ann Cleary - Mystical Forest

Honorable Mention - Michelle Wegler - Summer Skies

Connie Ludwig - Soft Kitty, Warm Kitty

Kami Johnson - Stony Play Station

The award for People's Choice will be announced at our November meeting.

I hope everyone has enjoyed our beautiful autumn and you will have new work ready for our next annual show which is coming up soon. The judged exhibition will be at **Hopkins Center for the Arts** from January 14 until February 14. The prospectus for this show will be on the website by November 13 and the entries will be due on December 13. This show will be held in the lobby of the center and it receives a lot of bright winter sun. Consider the use of non-reflective glass for your entry. You may submit two entries and there will be an additional fee for the second entry. We will need several volunteers for this exhibit so please check off a spot on your entry or volunteer at our meeting in November or January.

Eileen France

Red Wing Exhibit Awards

7



Best in Show
"Radiant Laced Waters"
Fred Somers



First Place
"Blue Belle"
Lisa Stauffer



Second Place
"Tranquility"
Carol Pruchnofski



Third Place
"River Valley Evening"
Cynthia Kath



Merit Award
"The Barnyard"
Jo Nelson



Merit Award

"Mystical Forest"
Mary Ann Cleary



Honorable Mention

"Summer Skies"
Michelle Wegler



Honorable Mention

"Warm Kitty Soft Kitty"
Connie Ludwig



Honorable Mention

"Stony Play Station"
Kami Johnson

Member's News

Fred Somers



PASTELS CHICAGO 2015 Fifth Biennial
National Juried Open Exhibition.
Fred had 3 paintings included in the exhibit.
"Song of Light" received Best in Show.



Pastel 100, Pastel Journal Magazine
The award winning paintings will be
in the April 2016 issue. Winners are
posted on their website.
"Rhapsody in Blue" won 1st place in
the abstract division.



Minnesota State Arts Board "Personal Best"
Exhibit in the Arts Board Offices 400 Sibley Street,
Suite 200 St. Paul, MN
October 2015 - February 2016
An Exhibition of 2013 and 2014 Two-Dimensional
Visual Arts Grantees includes Fred's painting
"Dancing Through Time"
16 x 20" pastel on mounted Canson with
22 K gold leaf.
This is a varied and interesting exhibit especially for
someone who might want to apply for an arts board
grant.



Oil Painters of America
2015 Juried Salon Show
at Beverly McNeil Gallery,
Birmingham, Alabama
"Mist at Minnehaha"
11x 14" oil linen panel

.....continued Member's News.....

Lisa Stauffer

"I feel honored to be included in the Dec 15/ Jan 16 issue of *Plein Air* magazine- I will include the teaser from the recent editorial plans e-newsletter at the end of this note. Stephen Doherty interviewed me last week for the article, now we will all see what he writes soon!

I had three mentions in the Oct/Nov 15 issue also, I won the Best Pastel award in *Plein Air* magazine's June/July salon competition and that article is in the issue."

Editorial Plans for the Dec 2015/Jan 2016 issue of *PleinAir* :

PASTEL DEMONSTRATION: LISA STAUFFER



Having joined the prestigious ranks of the Master Circle of the International Association of Pastel Societies, this Minnesota artist is an expert in using pastels outdoors.

Daily Dramas, by Lisa Stauffer

Karen Stombaugh is pleased to announce that she is now finally a signature member of the **Pastel Society of America**, based on her 3rd acceptance into PSA's annual juried exhibition. Her painting "Oh The Way We Grew" received the Fine Art Store.com and Henri Roche' Award.



"Oh, The Way We Grew!"
Accepted into the 2015 Pastel Society of America 43rd
Annual Exhibition: Enduring Brilliance.
National Arts Club, 15 Gramercy Park So., New York, NY

.....continued Member's News.....

Cynthia Kath

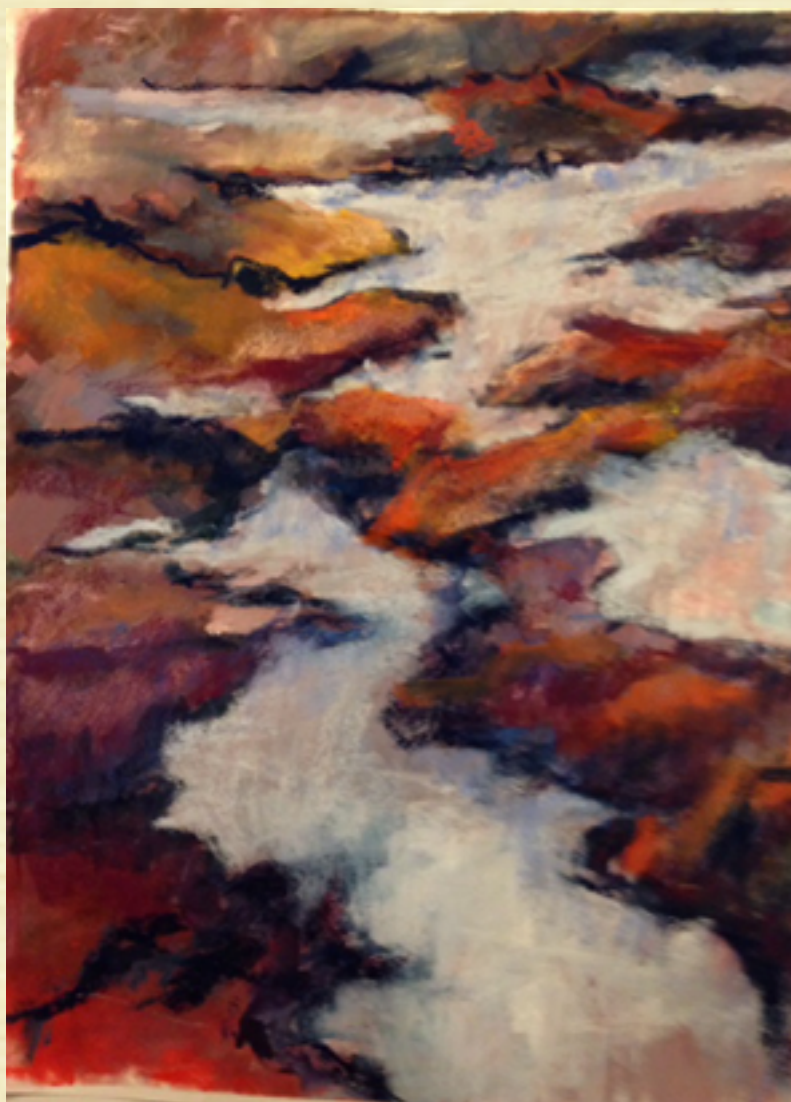
"Summer's Finale" was juried into Artistry at Bloomington Center for the Arts. Exhibit runs through Nov. 27.



MaryAnn Cleary won an award at the Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts member show. It is "Lace Lake Melody."

The painting received one of six "Award of Distinction" that were given.

.....continued Member's News.....



Rita Corrigan

"Passages" was accepted into the 39th Annual Juried Member Exhibition at Artistry, formally the Bloomington Center for the Arts.

Nov 24 - Jan 22 Rita will have a solo Exhibition at the Benedictine Center at the St. Paul Monastery. The exhibit is titled *Superior Light*. It is a series of pastels created after the death of her sister and mother just 3 months apart. They are abstracted images representing a division of light and dark.

Four of her pastel paintings will be on exhibition at the Mayo Hospital Gallery, Red Wing, until Jan 10.

Workshop opportunity:

"Pastel and Oil Painting"

With Eminent Pastellist and Oil Painters of
America exhibitor
Frederick Somers

Eight Tuesday Evenings
February 2 - March 22, 2016
At Somers Studio
9775 Dennison Blvd S.
Northfield, Minnesota 55057
email: studio@fredericksomers.com

Lake Country Pastel Society Calendar 2015/2016

Nov. 10

5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member's Meeting

Dec. 13

Entries due at Hopkins Center for the Arts

Dec. 15

Deadline for Newsletter

January 5

5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member's Meeting

January 14 - February 14

Hopkins Exhibit

February 20

Deadline for newsletter

March 8

5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member's Meeting

April 15

Deadline for newsletter

April 27-29

Workshop Debora Stewart

May 10

5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member's Meeting

July 12

Potluck paint out

August 20

Deadline for newsletter

Sept. 13

5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member's Meeting

October 20

Deadline for newsletter

November 8

5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member's Meeting



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In case of bad weather.....

LCPS will email members by noon the day of the meeting and will contact people who don't have email. If you have questions, call Bruce Koprucki 952-448-7559 or email: chaparralwoodart@gmail.com