



Dust in the Wind

March 2019

LCPS 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.

From the President "MAKING LEMONADE OUT OF SNOW"



Last weekend my husband and I ventured out in the snow to run errands. After several stops, including lunch and a visit to Grand Hill Gallery to see fellow artist Tom McGregor's show "Big Paintings for a Big River", we drove through the Crocus Hill neighborhood of St. Paul and happened upon a sign enticing us to a "sale" at a beautiful old Victorian duplex. As you can imagine, the rooms were filled with beautiful crystal, pottery, kitchen ware, furniture...when...wait, what's this on the table? Art supplies!!! You can imagine whatever had my attention up to that moment was forgotten as I was drawn towards my new-found treasures. An unused box of 72 Prismacolor Nupastels \$10. A box of Sakura oil pastels, only a couple of them had been "tried" - \$20. A boxed set of

Prismacolor colored pencils, set of 120 for \$10 (only the lime green pencil was sharpened and barely used), a 14x18 Arches watercolor block (with a partial sheet torn off) \$10. Tube watercolor paints (mostly Old Holland, some Windsor-Newtons) 40 tubes for \$5 including a cute little plastic box to keep them in. I asked the gentleman at the register if the owner was an artist. He told me she just "dabbled". Well, she certainly dabbled with quality materials. When I got home I researched the retail prices and figure I got over \$800 worth of art supplies! All of this cost me a mere \$55. If you're looking for me the rest of winter, I'll be in my studio playing with my new toys.

RESOLUTIONS, ANYONE?

How many of you made New Year's resolutions this year? Are you on track to fulfill them? The year is young yet, but if we while away the days thinking we have time it slips away and before you know it days, weeks, and months go by. You must make a plan and diligently follow the path that leads to your goals (I'm preaching to myself here!)

Are there any procrastinators out there in LCPS land? What is stopping you from acting on your dreams? I recently entered the 34th IAPS Juried Exhibition, which will be on display at the Hotel Albuquerque during the biennial 2019 IAPS Convention in Albuquerque, NM, this June. Well, (I reasoned) I got into the 33rd Juried Exhibition IAPS Webshow in 2018. Maybe, just maybe my new work (which I was excited about) would be accepted into this prestigious international show. I entered and I waited. Then came the news: My work was not accepted. That news came just on the heels of being rejected from yet another show I was looking forward to participating in. Two rejections, just days apart.

Then I began to see some of the Facebook posts of those whose pastels actually made the IAPS cut: Their work is top-notch (as it should be for such a show). The best of the best. I made a note (resolution) to start sooner next time, plan ahead, budget my time, and build an arsenal of new paintings (so I can select from my very best work). Allow myself to experiment, make

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mistakes, and learn from them. Which means allowing time to conceptualize, sketch (do those important thumbnails!), refine, rework, or even start fresh many times if necessary.

PERFECTIONISM

We artists tend to be so hard on ourselves. We want every minute at the easel, every stroke of the brush (or pastel), every completed painting, to be perfect — a masterpiece — every time. That simply cannot happen every single time we paint! We learn from experience. We learn what works, and what doesn't work, and the next time a challenge shows up (and it will) on our easel, we can hopefully overcome it with our blood-sweat-and-tears-earned knowledge. What reward would there be if every painting was perfect? What would we learn? And what would be the point in even doing the next painting if we could glide right through it without struggles, frustrations, and moments of panic?

So I close this with a tidbit of inspiration, intended to prod you out of procrastination and perfectionism, and bring forth accomplishment, success (and even some mistakes) this year:

A Resolution to Make Mistakes

by author Neil Gaiman

"I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're Doing Something."

Do Something, Make Mistakes, and Happy Painting!

Christine Tierney
LCPS President

January Member Meeting

As of January 26, 2019, Lake Country Pastel Society's membership stood at 89. A room full of members, old and new, braved that Saturday's winter weather to participate in the annual Paint-In. There were easels standing along walls, there were easels and flat work areas on all the available tables! So many boxes of gorgeous color! Some meticulously organized. Some piled into plastic containers — organized? No way.

This did really matter, as each artist set to work on new paintings or ones already in progress. Landscapes seemed to be most in number, but there were other types in the mix.

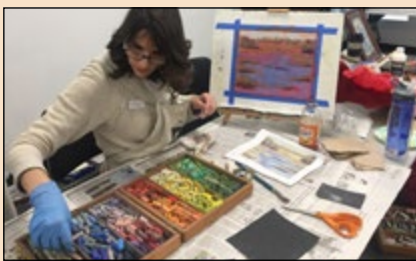
Artists were free to work and roam as they chose. Snacks were in abundance in case a weary pastelist needed an energy boost. There was the excitement of perhaps being a lucky winner of one of the door prizes being drawn for though out the day! There was time to simply chat with other members — a rare opportunity seldom had at our busy meetings.

In addition to viewing the ongoing work of the roomful of artists working on their own personal pieces, participants



could watch two members offering techniques and tips in a mini demonstration session. Heather Hultgren showed how she uses soft pastels and rubbing alcohol to blend color in creating a contrasting or complimentary underpainting. After the surface dried she then began a tree-filled landscape. Sue Rowe demonstrated several ways of putting pastel on a paper she'd prepared using gesso, acrylic paint, and marble dust. Her still life close-up depicted a lemon pomegranate, and kiwi. She used pastels in a variety of ways, including blended colors, layering, and crosshatching. The whole group shared tips or offered suggestions — so both instructors and students learned new ways in which to use our pastels.

During the meeting Fred Somers continued to cheerlead the whole group — noting that you can grow to become the person to share the talents you have, and



"You can DREAM big dreams!" Thank you for your always-encouraging words, Mr. Somers!

The lovely busy afternoon passed quickly. Everyone appeared to make progress of some kind! In this record-breaking snow and cold-filled winter it is rather hard to believe that Spring IS coming, as is our Annual Paint-Out, scheduled for July, 27th.

*Painting in or painting out —
just keep painting!!
Sue Rowe*



March Member Meeting

SAVE the DATE!

Up-coming Program — Tuesday, March 12, 7-9 p.m.
Join us for our annual Small Group Critique!

Please bring one or two unframed pastels that are underway or finished. We will break into small groups to view each other's paintings. The evening will be informal, friendly, and a way to get feedback on your work. Hope you can join us!

"Bring a pastel painting with you, that you would like to receive a critique on what's working & what could further enhance your painting".

— Cinda Columb
Program Chair



1684 Grand Ave St. Paul, MN 55105
wetpaintart.com
651-698-6431
M-F: 10am-8pm Sat: 10am-6pm Sun: 12pm-5pm



Upcoming Exhibit Opportunities — 2019/2020

LCPS Shows

White Bear Center for the Arts
Open Invitational for Entry
Juried for Awards
Theme: Florals suggested, but not necessary

NOTE: White Bear Center for the Arts has moved back the show start date to July 18, 2018, same as the opening reception, instead of July 15, 2019.

July 18, 2019 – August 21, 2019

Opening Reception – July 18, 2019

St. Paul Monastery
Open Invitational for Entry
Non-Juried Show
Theme: Spiritually uplifting

Mid November 2019 – Mid January 2020
Tentative Dates/Exact Dates TBD

— Art Weeks
Exhibit Chair

Workshops Scheduled — 2019/2020

Colette Ody Smith Workshop — May 13–15, 2019

This workshop is full but we do have a waiting list.

2020 Workshops with Nancie King Mertz and Karen Margulis

We are pleased to announce two three day workshops scheduled for 2020.

In June Nancie King Mertz will do a workshop

In September Karen Margulis will be giving a workshop. Karen will also give a presentation to the membership in September. Look for more information in the future.

— Eileen France
Workshop Chair
Becky Jokela
Workshop Co-Chair

“Every
ARTIST
was first
an amateur!”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson



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Getting to Know Our New LCPS President

By Susan Estill

As Christine Tierney begins her term as LCPS President, we took time to learn a little bit more about her. Here are a few things that you might not know...

SE: How has your initial art training influenced your current work?

CT: My degree is in graphic art. I worked in advertising, specializing in design and illustration for many years before I starting painting and teaching full time. I was the Senior Artist in the advertising department for the Star Tribune. Besides the illustration classes and one painting class I took, my formal education has been very helpful with design and layout of the composition of my paintings.

SE: How has your teaching informed your painting?

CT: I began teaching students part time in '99. I have learned to verbalize everything I've learned into words that make sense and are understandable for my students. Every painting I coach students through, I am really painting vicariously through them!

SE: What percentage of your painting do you do in pastel and what do you like best about this medium?

CT: I would estimate that I am painting about 40% pastel and 60% oil, but that is changing a bit now that I am serving as LCPS president. I've been doing much more pastel work lately. First, I like not having to clean the brushes. I can just walk away and wash my hands! But besides that, I like the immediacy of pastels. I paint looser and more spontaneously. I'm much less likely to fuss over my brush strokes.

SE: What has been your most memorable pastel workshop you have attended and why?

CT: I remember the eggs in a bowl of water in one of Sally Strand's workshops. That really stands out in my mind. I'm really looking forward to Colette Ody Smith's workshop May 13-15. And excited to attend the IAPS Convention in June where I'll be going to demos and workshops too.



SE: What advice do you have for the seasoned pastel painter for staying "fresh" and "connected" with this medium?

CT: Read. Play. Experiment. Don't be afraid to try new things. Don't get stuck in a rut.

SE: How about advice for emerging pastel painters trying to break into juried competitions?

CT: First, you can't win if you don't enter! Don't be afraid to "go for it". Have confidence, but be aware that people won't always view your work as you do. Different judges will react differently to the same painting.

SE: What are 3 tips/tricks for working in pastel you can share with the LCPS members?

CT: Hmmm...

If you are working on sanded paper, don't blend with your fingertips! (Laughing.)

It is ok to use black—but only mixed with another color to make it darker.

And when you use white, it needs to have color in it!

—Susan Estill has volunteered to write some articles for our newsletter. We hope to continue this column and get to know many more of our members. Thank you Susan!

From Art Weeks

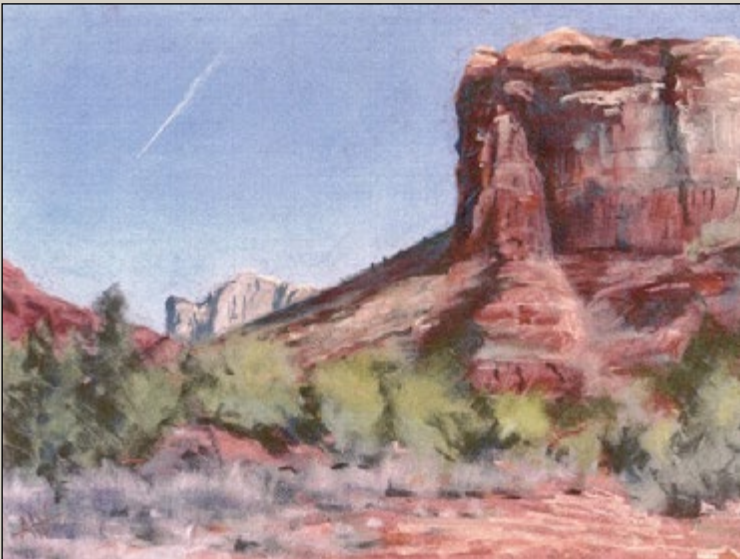
I am grateful for the warmth and sun in Arizona. These paintings are a few scenes from a previous visit. Not quite as green now as depicted in these paintings, but certainly greener than Minnesota.



On The Girdner Trail, Sedona

Art Weeks

'On The Girdner Trail, Sedona' — Painted in May 2012/
Art Spectrum Colour-Fix paper/6.5" x 9.25.



On The Courthouse Butte Loop Trail, Sedona

Art Weeks

'On The Courthouse Butte Loop Trail, Sedona' — Painted in
May 2012/Ampersand Pastel Board/9" x 12.

Lisa Stauffer

My painting, Summer On Pleasant Creek, won Third Place Pastel at Art Of The North's (new name) Annual International Show at Hopkin's Center For The Arts. This painting will be included in the Traveling Exhibit which will be on display at the American Swedish Institute from February 22 — Sunday, April 24, 2019.



Summer On Pleasant Creek

Lisa Stauffer

Workshop Opportunity

Consider coming to Grand Marais in April to join me and other enthusiastic painters for Stilllife In Pastel, April 3-5, and Advancing In Pastel, April 6 & 7.



In And Out

Lisa Stauffer

More information at
GrandMaraisArtColony.org
or 218-387-2737.

Member News

News from Fred Somers

Fred has been appointed to serve on the Capital Arts Advisory Committee that oversees exhibition of works at the MN State Capital.

Nancie King Mertz, Terrie Ford and Fred, were the jurors for selection for the IAPS Masters' Circle Convention Exhibit. Looking forward to seeing the show in Albuquerque.

Fred received a MN State Arts Board Artist's Initiative Grant to create and assemble an exhibit of both new and retrospect of his 50 year career.

The show is being planned for January–February 2020 at the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis. As American Swedish Artist of the Year he has had 2 solo shows there in the 1980's. We'll share details later.

"Discovering Seven Falls", Fred Somers solo exhibit at Big Woods State Park, Nerstrand, MN July 13 – August 11, 2019. Opening Reception July 13. During the show, July 27, a paint-along is planned with a picnic following. Cinda will publish information and details soon.



News from Sher Leksen

Sher's painting "Unfinished Business" was awarded 2nd place at the Art of the North show at the Hopkins Center for the Arts. Her piece was also chosen for the traveling show, and is currently at the American Swedish Institute, February 22 — Sunday, April 24, 2019.



Unfinished Business

Sher Leksen

He who works with his hands
is a laborer.

He who works with his hands
and his head is a craftsman

He who works with his hands
and his head and his heart is
an artist.

— St. Francis of Assisi



HELP WANTED — Have Fun and get to know your LCPS members

Can you (or maybe even a spouse) help out and fill one of these open positions?

Below are brief descriptions from our previous members who filled these positions:

Vice President (previously Christine Tierney)

- The Vice President “shadows” the President, learning the business operations and requirements of LCPS as a non-profit organization.
- Attends bi-monthly board meetings and member meetings. Becomes acquainted with the other board members and members at large.
- Assists the President and/or board in a variety of business matters, on an as-needed basis, tending to a variety of small business matters.
- Promotes and attends LCPS events, and encourages member participation in all LCPS activities: Exhibits, Workshops, Programs, etc.
- Helps to educate the public about the history and beauty of soft pastel. This is a two-year term, after which time the V.P. moves into the position of President for another two-year commitment.

Mentoring Chair (previously Heather Hultgren)

- This position can be done in a very limited number of hours and only when people express interest in finding a mentor or mentoring others.
- As the mentoring chairperson, you would send out a LCPS questionnaire form to the interested member for them to fill out. Once they return it to you, using the completed answers as a guide, you can then reach out to seasoned members of LCPS, to find a good match for the person’s interests and skills.
- Once you find that person, you email the interested party who their mentor is and their contact information, and then the mentor takes it from there. You are truly a “mentoring matchmaker”.

Public Relations

(previously Michelle Wegler)

- This position includes arranging renewal of ads in the newsletter by Wet Paint and Dakota Art supplies — a yearly email usually does the trick.
- Receiving and compiling entries for LCPS exhibits — this takes a couple of hours about twice a year when we have exhibits.
- Participating in board discussions via email. Michelle said “I have been unable to attend meetings, which would help grow the position.”

Treasurer (previously Connie Ludwig)

- In this position you would keep the LCPS check book blanced with an excel spread sheet that is shared with our accountant.
- Deposit checks for membership dues, workshops and show fees.
- Write checks as needed for workshops, room reservations, show prizes and various related expenses for LCPS.

Connie added: *“It didn’t take more than a few hours a month depending on what we were doing. I relied heavily on other board members keeping me in the loop on what they needed to be paid for and when. They are a friendly and cooperative bunch so that was the easy part.”*

Exhibit Co-Chair

- Art Weeks is interested in finding someone who would like to work with him as he transitions out of this chairmanship early summer — this person would take over as Exhibit Chair.
- Assist in writing prospectuses.
- Work with Art searching for new galleries for future shows.
- Work with Art and Avis Somers to fine tune the new electronic entry process.

Please contact Christine Tierney at 612-210-3377 or email christinetierneystudio@gmail.com if you are interested in helping.

THANK YOU
Volunteers!
We couldn’t do it without you

Board of Directors

President

Christine Tierney
612-210-3377

Vice President

Position Open —
Opportunity to serve

Treasurer

Position Open —
Opportunity to serve

Secretary

Nancy Dahlof
952-544-8927

Program Chair

Cinda Columb
612-210-9920

Exhibit Chair

Art Weeks
612-859-0180

Hospitality

Sher Leksén
763-389-1835

Workshops

Eileen France
952-431-9753
Becky Jokela
Co-Chair,

Public Relations

Position Open —
Opportunity to serve

Mentoring Program

Position Open —
Opportunity to serve

Membership Chair

Claudia Hodges
763-501-8575

Historian and Newsletter

Carol Pruchnofski
715-425-8101

Lake Country Pastel Society 2019 Calendar

March 12

5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member's Meeting —
Group Critique

April 15

Deadline for May Newsletter

May 13 – 15

Colette Ody Smith workshop

May 14

5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member's Meeting
Presentation by
Colette Ody Smith

July 27 — Save the date!

Paint-out, Nerstrand-Big Woods,
Nerstrand, MN



New Brighton Community Center

400 10th Street NW
New Brighton, MN 55112

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 Christine Tierney at 612-210-3377 or email christinetierneystudio@gmail.com

Time for membership renewal

2019

2019 is here which means it is time to renew your LCPS membership.

Membership is valid from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

To renew, please go to the Lake Country Pastel Society's website and select "Contact": www.lakecountrypastelsociety.org/contact.php

This will give you the option to renew online using PayPal, or to download a "Membership/Renewal" form and send to:

Claudia Hodges
1933 122nd Avenue N.W.
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

The membership fee is \$30.

Please make checks payable to the "Lake Country Pastel Society".