



Dust in the Wind

JANUARY 2021

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.

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from the President

A FRESH START

I think Dust in the wind is very appropriate for the times we are in.

As your new president, I look forward to the time when we can gather together and send some of our own pastel dust into the wind together. I find hope with the news of the vaccines that are beginning to be delivered, and a media message from CDC of a possibility that we will see better safer times by the fall.

When the time comes, we will celebrate together. We will paint together again, and have workshops, paintouts, demonstrations, & critiques again.

MISSING YOU

What I miss most is our conversations with each other. They are always energizing, inspiring,

and creative. In the meantime, I am looking for members who would like to create virtual studio tours. I am also looking into possibly having a virtual all-member meeting with a demonstration or critique.

As many of you know, my husband Mark does a lot of the behind the scenes technical work for our group. He is working on learning how to create Youtube podcasts, and when he has a handle on it, is willing to help members who are interested in creating their own videos. Let me know if you have an interest in his project.

I will create an email list on his progress.

MY FIRST TASK

My first task as LCPS's new President is to fill the following positions:

Vice President, (Prior Rene Ellis)

Secretary (Prior Linda Dahlof)

Program Committee Chair (Prior Cinda Columb)

Membership Chair (Prior Claudia Hodges)

Cinda and Claudia have fulfilled their Terms, and would like to step down, but will generously stay on until their positions can be filled. Thank you!!

I wish to thank you for your service and dedication to LCPS. You have been an integral part of LCPS's success!

If you are interested in filling any of these positions, please feel free to contact me

via email, or phone.

651-494-4039

May the new year bring us Light, Love, and gathering, together again. And May you and your loved ones be Well, safe, happy, together, get to do lots of painting.

Rene Ellis

THANK YOU!

December 21, 2020

To: Lake Country Pastel Society

Subject: Thank you!

Thank you for your donation and membership on behalf of the Lake Country Pastel Society to the Friends of the Lakeville Area Arts Center.

We will be mailing you a membership card and a real thank you note in a few weeks (as well as your \$15.00 Art Center gift card)

We appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness.

Happy Holidays to you and all of the fantastic Pastel Society members.

Nancy Schulte

PT Office Assistant, City of Lakeville

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Farewell Message from Past President

Dear LCPS Friends,

Today is my birthday and my husband is on his way home with a wonderful Russian dinner from Moscow on the Hill, and dessert from Cafe Latte for me. There is a small pile of unopened birthday gifts for me under our Christmas tree. We will be quietly celebrating my birthday this evening.

I am always reflective during this season, with Christmas, my birthday, and the New Year all within the same week. Resolutions, reviews, trying to clear up old business and make room for the new.

As I reflect on this past year, I am ever so grateful for all of your support, board members and the membership as a whole. I love this organization called the Lake Country Pastel Society. It is a soft landing place for many of us involved in the beautiful, colorful, sometimes frustrating, but always magical world of pastels.

Thank you all and wishing you a very happy, safe and positive new year filled with promise and new possibilities!

With love and gratitude,

Christine Tierney

Christine Tierney Studio

[113 Lewis St S, Shakopee, MN 55379](https://www.christinetierney.com)

612-210-3377

my website:

www.christinetierney.com

Follow me on Facebook and Instagram!



Wet Paint

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wetpaintart.com
651-698-6431
M-F: 10am-8pm Sat: 10am-6pm Sun: 12pm-5pm

All members are invited to submit questions, ideas, or information that you would like to have addressed to the board. Please send your contributions to our discussion to Rene Ellis at reneellis101@gmail.com by January 11th. She will forward your information to the other board members and add them to the agenda for the January 12th meeting.

Board Member Spotlight

With a new year and a new president, we thought it a good time to get to know the members of the LCPS board who have been hard at work behind the scenes. Perhaps you will find someone that you admire, relate to or would like to know better. When we meet together again, they would love to meet you as well!

Rene Ellis, Incoming President

My role is to oversee the internal operations in order to keep the organization vibrant and relevant to our members.

Since coming across Elisabeth Mowery's book "Seasons", I fell in love with pastels and love the tactile quality, drawing, blending and laying down on sanded papers (I miss Kitty Wallis paper!).

I miss our meetings and can't wait to get together in person to celebrate, paint and just reconnect.

I hope we can have a future event as fun as my favorite - Grand Marais with Richard McKinley!

Linda Riklefs Baudry, Treasurer

I Finally got my hands on pastels about eight years ago. I enjoy playing with pure color and that pastels are so versatile -- you can both draw AND paint! I also work in watercolor at times, nature arrangements and am hoping to get back into oils eventually.

As for getting to the easel -- It's usually feast or famine, I've got to be moved to show up.

What I'm looking forward to in 2021 is finding the silver lining of 2020!

My favorite thing about the LCPS groups is the workshops!

Nancy Dahlof, Secretary

My role is to take notes during the board meeting and transform them into a minutes document which is read by me at the following meeting and saved by the president for official reasons, I presume.

I try and paint a few hours each week. My favorite thing about using pastels is that it seems like a cross between drawing and painting, which I love, as well as the vibrant colors, of course. I also sketch with pencils and occasionally use watercolor as an underpainting.

One of my favorite events with LCPS was the "Paint Out" this summer at "The Landing". It was a fun outing and a good way to see how other artists work.

I love being outside on my days off and just went for my first bike ride in December on this beautiful 50 degree day! I am looking forward to at least semi-retirement from my full time job next summer so I will have more time and energy to paint.

Ginda Columb, Program Chair

My role on the board is Program Chair. I plan for the in-person meetings, choosing a speaker or a theme centered around the use of pastels. I coordinate with the New Brighton Community Center to rent a room & let them know of our basic needs or table placements. Normally I would have set aside a room for our annual January Saturday paint-in event.

It is an enjoyable role & my two-year term is up, so if anyone would like to step into this position, I have written materials that make it an easy transition.

My favorite event this year was our paint-out, held at the Landing in Shakopee. The weather was iffy, & a few of us experienced some rain, but it was a good adventure with several scenic spots to capture with our pastels. We had a good turnout & some nice door prizes to hand out.

This year has brought many changes in how we live our lives. A change for me has been dabbling in watercolors; I discovered how easy they are to transport from room to room, to take to the cabin, & easy to cleanup. I have been using pastels for a decade, so I have a lot of learning to do with watercolors!

I hope we can begin meeting in person once again in this New Year; have a creative 2021!

Susan Estill. Exhibits Chair

My role is to facilitate one non judged exhibition and one judged exhibition each year.

I like the tactile nature of the medium of soft pastels — the variety of both color and texture is exciting to me. For the past year and a half, I have been working on the medium of oil. I have taken classes in watercolor but it is my weakest medium.

I have been painting on and off for 11 years. My goal is to have some greater level of self satisfaction with my completed works and be proud of my art. I am not trying to make it my business, although I struggled with this notion for awhile before letting it go.

In 2021, I'm looking forward to my youngest daughter's graduation from college and my 40th college reunion (the latter was delayed a year due to COVID).

My favorite event was attending an LCPS sponsored workshop with Sally Strand.

Of a more personal nature about myself, I have lived with depression most of my adult life. My artwork is an

Becky Jokela. Workshop Chair

I'm a serious half-time-plus painter. I've been painting with pastels for about 20 years. I love them because the colors are so rich and I feel are especially wonderful for painting landscapes and anything nature-related.

I'm looking forward to our LCPS workshops, cancelled due to COVID and rescheduled for this coming year (May with Nancie King Mertz and October with Rita Kirkman)! I also can't wait for art fairs and in-person exhibits.

Its hard to pick just one LCPS event as a favorite. I continue to gain so much from all the meetings, but especially enjoy when we have demonstrations given by visiting artists. The exhibits are wonderful to be a part of and the workshops are incredible for artistic growth.

Little known fact: Many years ago, I worked for Georgia O'Keeffe.

Susan Warner. Public Relations Chair

My role is to interface with newsletter sponsors for their continued support (donation of gift cards) and to maintain our club's Facebook presence with periodic postings.

I love the richness and depth of the colors of pastels and the way they move across the surface of the painting. I have been using pastels for the past 5 years. My collection is relatively small. I try to add more periodically so I can try out different colors and brands. I started my art journey with watercolor which I still use sometimes for underpainting. I keep saying I am going to try oils more, but I have not had a chance.

Once I get an idea, I usually work on it two or three hours a day until I finish a piece. It is getting the ideas that I have a hard time with. Anybody have any advice about that?

In 2021, I really want to be able to travel. We usually go somewhere warm for the winter and this year we are staying put. In addition to hiking and camping in the region, we love to travel internationally. I don't know when we will be able to do that again.

I have only been a member for a couple of years and I was really looking forward to attending a workshop. I enjoyed our meeting when Colette Ody Smith attended. Seeing someone paint in person is so helpful and inspiring.

Here is something a bit nerdy - To mix things up a bit, I have started collecting stamps. Sorting and mounting stamps is a good distraction from my painting when I feel like I have had enough for the day.

Claudia Hodges, Membership Chair.

In my role I mainly keep the membership roster updated and send out annual membership cards. I've been in this role for 2 years and am looking for someone to take over.

I love the vibrant pastel colors and how easy it is to pick up a stick and start creating. I am also learning to draw using charcoal and graphite.

I consider myself a hobbyist rather than an artist. I love playing at art but struggle with "playing" vs. realism. I can easily get stressed when something doesn't look "real" to me. I need a good class in abstract art!

I always look forward to summer! My studio isn't heated, so the warmer months are my favorites for creating art.

Richard McKinley was my first favorite pastelist. When he came for an LCPS workshop a few years ago, I was ecstatic and one of the first to sign up. I remember him saying that if a painting doesn't feel right, it probably needs a value adjustment. These words of wisdom have helped me rescue some of my favorite paintings.

I like to encourage people to find hope and purpose in the life God has given them.

Wendy Peterson, Historian & Newsletter Chair

I have the pleasure of collecting news and information from members to share in our bi-monthly newsletter.

I love to draw and love color so that equals pastels! I am very much a hobbyist but try to paint most days before I head to my office. Pastels make that possible -- easy to start and stop at any point. (I SHOULD stop SOONER more often, if you know what I mean!) I also enjoy drawing in graphite and playing in watercolors. I'd love to learn to paint with oils some day.

I'm looking forward to getting back to traveling and painting together with other artists. And going to see my mom who lives in California.

I'm new to the LCPS group and only attended two in-person meetings before COVID struck. But I loved meeting other artists and seeing all the different styles.

Fun Fact - I am a quick-start. I always leap first, ask questions later and CANNOT leave anything unassembled.

WORKSHOP - Nanci King Mertz



Nancie King Mertz

Pastel Workshop

Event Dates: 5/10/2021 - 5/12/2021

Location: New Brighton Community Center, MN

More details in March Newsletter!

Linda Ricklefs Baudry

NEW though is The Art of Healing exhibition sponsored by the Violence Prevention Center in Grand Marais, online 1/1-1/31 via the Johnson Heritage Post. Submission included is 'Healing II'



Healing II



Initiation, 4" x 4"

I am pleased to share that my submitted piece was accepted in the Selected Associate Member Art for the HAPPY NEW YEAR blast from PSA!

Art pieces are selected within each membership level and if selected are shared with all 1900+ PSA subscribers. There will also be a link to the eblast exhibit posted on the PSA official Facebook page.

www.studiolrb.com

Art Weeks

I did this 9" x 12" landscape demonstration pastel last January at my Minnetonka Center for the Arts class.

This is somewhat reminiscent of times when we were in a different world than we are today. With MCFTA closed like many art centers and businesses, the snow in the pastel is also a manifestation of how things have changed.....with the lack of snow we can only reflect on how things were during many holiday seasons in the past, and pray for a better future.

Despite the toll Covid-19 has taken upon the world, the snow in this serene setting does in some respect reflects the beauty in the thousands of doctors, care givers, first responders, nurses, police and fire fighters who put their lives on the line every day.



9" x 12" Pastel on U-Art Paper, 'Untitled'

Pat Duncan

My piece, titled "Spoon and Stable" has been accepted into the PSEC Societie de Pastel de l'est du Canada (The Pastel Society of Eastern Canada). I am honored and humbled to have this piece selected for the International show of Eastern Canada. The exhibit can be viewed online at the PSEC website. www.pastelsec.com starting Dec. 15th.



Spoon and Stable

LCPS Honors Fred Somers

During our September board meeting (via Zoom), a proposal was made to honor Fred Somers for his ongoing accomplishments and support of the LCPS. The approval was unanimous. Here is

Dear
Christine Tierney, President
Rene Ellis, Vice President, Hospitality
Linda Ricklefs Baudry, Treasurer
Cinda Columb, Program Chair
Susan Estill, Exhibit Chair
Susan Warner, Public Relations
Claudia Hodges, Membership Chair
Carol Pruchnofski, & Wendy Peterson, Newsletter

With heartfelt overwhelming thanks to my dear friends in our L.C.P.S for this honor of having a L.C.P.S award with my name, "Frederick D Somers Pastel Award"

To friendships that go back to the beginning of L.C.P.S with the vision of Barb Bjornson and all pastel artists since. The door to the world was open wide. Artists came to Minnesota, a list that reads like a who's who in the pastel world.

These artists brought wisdom, fellowship and wide eyed vision connecting us with the network of like minded pastel artists world wide. The free exchange of ideas, personal visions and the unique way each artist used this medium gave our members a clear picture of the potential of pastel to express powerful personal vision.

Pastel has a glow and expression of light like no other. We can use it wet, dry, drawn or smeared. The holding of pure pigment in your fingertips. Each particle of pigment reflects light creating a color found in no other medium. In this season and history the freedom and possibilities revealed and shared in L.C.P.S, likeminded societies, PSA and IAPS are bringing together the wide eyed awareness of the potential and profound beauty of this pastel medium of pure pigment.

To my friends at L.C.P.S who knew my precious wife Avis know the gift she was to me. I am eternally indebted to her faithful love, creative energy, walking with me in this place we call the North Country, this land of heaven's blue waters. It is and was the place where we were planted by God to pursue dreams with no horizon line eternal and full of hope.

I remember a moment 52 years ago, early in the first year of our marriage and finishing my Masters of Art Degree and Avis with her nursing degree. On Christmas Eve night in 1968 the visions of humanity changed from outer space looking toward the earth. The astronauts traveling to see the moon brought an unexpected event in which we saw our earth, they called it the blue planet. Nothing else like it in the universe.

The Apollo 8 crew spoke to the world a blessing from outer space. A message of hope as they read from the Bible the book of Genesis chapter 1. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 2. And the earth was without form or void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. 3. And God said let there be light: and there was light.

As I finish this letter these words spoken on Christmas Eve 52 years ago bring great comfort to me in this season we are living in. I am back in my studio working again. While I hold pure pigment in my hands, I turn my eyes to behold these waters before me. I see eternity, the blue of heaven washed like royal lapis lazuli colors. It gives me an eternal perspective. By these Big Woods, prairie grassed, bordered waters a mirror and light of heaven's gift shines on us. I hear these words from the creator of the universe that His light would move over our northern waters, saying "let there be light."

With thanks,


Frederick D. Somers
Paint what you love, walk in the light

And this from Betsy Midthun:

I am a member of LCPS and live in the LaCrosse area. About 12 years ago, I was the executive director of the Minnesota Marine Art Museum (MMAM) and a board member for 11 years. (Just resigned). MMAM has three originals of Fred's which were a donation from a friend of his to the museum about 5 or 6 years ago. The paintings, as you can imagine, are wonderful and the only pastel paintings that the museum owns.

Fred is going to have a show at the MMAM in Winona in early 2021. At this time, MMAM is closed due to Governor's orders but hopefully, will reopen soon. If the museum remains closed, his show will be put on line for a virtual exhibit.

Should the museum open in time, it would be great to have members of Lake County Pastel Society meet in Winona for a tour of museum and Fred's exhibit.

Fred Somers

September 2020 the pastel Society of America held 48 annual "Enduring Brilliance" exhibit of Pastel paintings Maceo W. Mitchell and myself Frederick D.Somers were asked about work available for possible selection for The Butler Institute of American Art collection Youngstown Ohio. We both had piece chosen.

"Pirouette", 18 x24 inch pastel ,poured pigment and 22 ct Gold leaf was chosen.

And below, a few more of my recent pieces.



I'm excited to be featured in the February 2021 issue of Pastel Journal in the piece "Conjuring the Landscape" by Robert K. Carston. "three Masters of Pastel Frederick D Somers , Anna Wainright and Richard MCKinley share inspirations, insights and Intentions pertaining to their Quests for transformational ideas in landscape painting."

You can purchase a copy of this issue [HERE](#)

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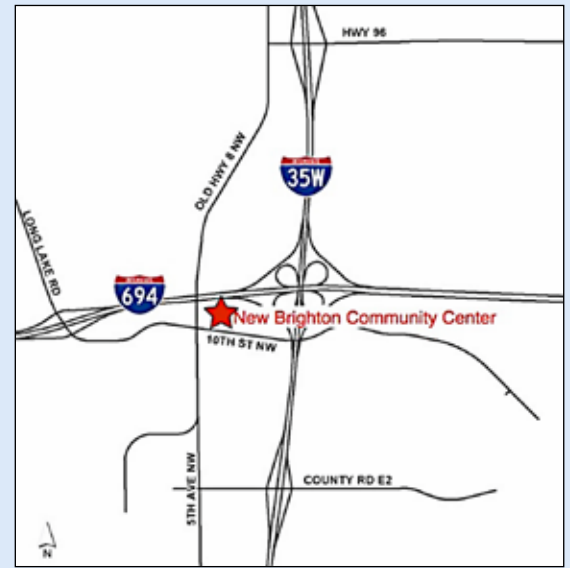
Historian and Newsletter Chair
Wendy Peterson
651-247-4405

**lake Country Pastel Society
2021 Calendar**

January 12 at 5:30pm -
Board Meeting via ZOOM

March 9 - tentatively set-
Board Meeting and Member
meeting.

May 10-12 Nanci King Mertz
Workshop



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 Rene Ellis at 651-494-4039 or email reneellis101@gmail.com

**RENEW
YOUR LCPS
MEMBERSHIP**

Memberships run from January
1-December 31

To renew, click on the link or go
to the LCPS website at [HERE](#).
Select "Contact"

You can renew online using
PayPal or mail in a check along
with the printed renewal form to:

Claudia Hodges
1933 122nd Ave NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

