



# Dust in the Wind

March 2023

## From the President



### Child's Eyes

My husband and I are on vacation someplace warm. This morning as we walked the beach, we watched a small baby joyfully playing, his bare bottom covered with sand. He'd stop to look closely at something, then tear off, running to his next shiny object, stop short and again plop in the sand.

He was so intently focused and fascinated by it all.

I know how he feels! One of the many gifts of being an artist is learning to again see the world with a child's eye. To see everything around you with wonder, amusement and awe. Our daily walks have become slower as we marvel at the tropical colors, collect beautiful shells and hang out in the tide pools "ooh, what a pretty rock" "check out the light on those distant Hills" "wow look at that sunset!"

I brought some art supplies to sketch, take notes, and gather color samples. None of my studies have been terribly impressive, but it is still a joy to create. Each time I finish a piece, regardless of how it turned out, I think "that's OK, it was fun!" then I look around for my next subject.

Back home where it's a little cooler (ha ha) I know many of you are seeing just as much beauty in the colors of the snow, the frost in the trees and the brilliant Cardinal out your window.

What a wonderful gift we have been given through art. To be fascinated by it all. Bare sandy bottom not required!

Wendy Peterson, President

[Wlpeteking@gmail.com](mailto:Wlpeteking@gmail.com)

651-247-4405

## 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	1
Members Meeting	2
Open Position	5
Upcoming Events	6
Challenge	7
Workshop	8
Member News	10
Articles	14
Calendar	15

# Members Meeting

## January Paint-In



What a glorious day it was, with the sun shining brightly on the beautiful snow. We gathered at a different site than we normally do for meetings. It was the Totem Pole Park building of the New Brighton Parks District on Foss Road. Twelve people showed up and most were not board members who come regularly. We also had two new people who attended for the first time. The room we worked in had three of the four walls with windows to the outside, so the room was brightly lit with natural daylight.



Some of us used snow as a theme, but others brought projects that they had hoped to finish, or at least continue with during this time. After some socializing, we dug right in. Later, while some were eating their lunch, Wendy Peterson brightened our day even more by bringing in the “25 th Anniversary” cake that she ordered for those who attended. A good addition to the lunches we brought or forgot to bring. Then we dug into our paintings a second time, some of us finishing them with the time that was left.



For me, as well as others, the social feedback, inspiration, camaraderie was excellent. It was the first time anyone had seen my work, since I am still a beginner. I loved every minute of being there and encourage others to take that risk of sharing your unfinished projects with other members of our society.

This is what we are all about.



Steve Budas  
LCPS Program Chair

## MEMBERS MEETING with Guest Presenter Ann Solyst

March 14, 7 – 9 PM

### Totem Pole Park building

Ann Solyst is a painter and illustrator living in Minneapolis. She loves nature, and storytelling and has always wanted to be an artist. She started painting in high school and while in college, she embraced oils and developed a loose, vibrant style. She was fortunate enough to study art in Florence, Italy where art history is omnipresent and influential. Pieces like Donatello's David and Botticelli's primavera were at her fingertips.



Inspired in part by the bizarre descriptions of real and fantastical animals in medieval texts, she creates her own animal mash-ups that are delightfully contrarian and full of personality while still being carefully rendered so-as-to stylistically reflect the art of 19th century wildlife illustrators such as John James Audubon.

For her artist presentation in March, Ann Solyst will discuss hard pastels; their strengths, challenges, subtle differences to soft pastels, and how she came to love the accessibility and flexibility of the medium. Ann will also discuss her creative process which playfully engages in art history and natural history.

Following the presentation, materials will be provided for everyone to experiment with their creativity and coming up with their own “mash-ups” of either animals or objects. Samples will be provided, both imaginary and some created.

***Please note that the March meeting will be held at the Totem Pole Park building since no rooms were available for us in March.***

Steve Budas

LCPS Program Chair

#### Directions:

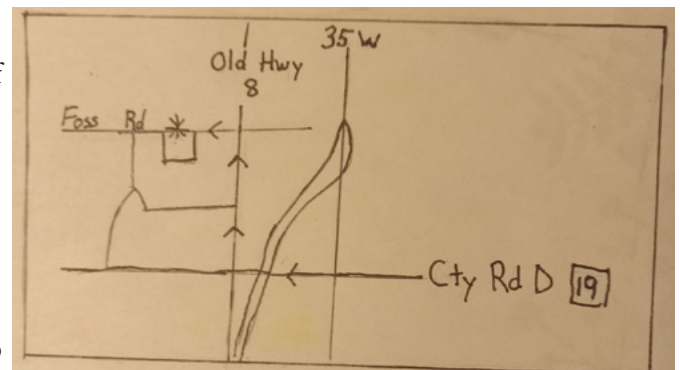
Many take 35W to get to our meetings.

This time, your exit will be County Road D, a little more south of the community center.

Upon exit, turn to the west and very soon you will come to Old US Hwy 8.

Turn right, going north to Foss Road, which is very close.

Turn left (west) on Foss Road and shortly you will come to the entrance of the park building for Totem Pole Park. 1011 Foss Road. There is a parking lot just off the road near the building to pull into. If that is full, you can park on the street.



# Open Positions

## Public Relations/Advertising -2 years term

Are you good at Facebook and Instagram?

Do you like to write?

Want to increase visibility for our group and gain sponsorships?

Would you like to help increase participation in shows, workshops, membership?

**Skills needed:**

Experience creating postings and events in Facebook and Instagram

Able to write short articles and ads

Good at researching local publications for ad placement

Willing to approach existing and potential sponsors

**Time Commitment:**

1 ½ hour monthly board meeting prep and attendance

2 hour member meeting attendance (optional)

Approx 1 hour per month for creating social media posts

Create Ads for 2 Art exhibitions and 2 workshops per year.

3 Annual sponsorship renewals with existing sponsors

You can share this role with another person, or create a committee to take on all of the tasks.

For a full position description, contact Susan Warner

[susanmwarner@hotmail.com](mailto:susanmwarner@hotmail.com)

## Vice President - 2 years term

followed by 2 year President term and 2 year Past President Term

This is the biggest commitment to LCPS. If you have been a member and want to make a long-term commitment to the future of our group, please consider taking on this role

For more information please email Wendy at

[Wlpeteking@gmail.com](mailto:Wlpeteking@gmail.com).

## Exhibits (Be a member of the Exhibits Team)

2 years term

Do you have an eye for hanging art?

Do you want to help our group find great galleries for our exhibitions?

Do you have experience planning events?

**Skills needed:**

Writing skills for prospectus and gallery applications

Organizations skills for deadlines and tracking participants

Word and Spreadsheet skills for creating labels

Contacts for galleries and judges

Ability to delegate and manage a small team of volunteers

**Time Commitment:**

Prep, plan and manage 2 shows per year

2 hour board meeting per month

2 hour per month member meeting attendance (optional)

Time to find appropriate venues for future shows

Be present at drop-off, set-up, take-down and pick-up for shows

It is highly advised that you share this role with another person, or create a committee to take on all of the tasks.

For a full position description, contact Susan Estil at

[sestill58@gmail.com](mailto:sestill58@gmail.com)

**Exhibits Committee co-Chair:**

Work with partner to locate and Coordinate 2 annual exhibitions for LCPS. One is judged, one is not judged. Position entails talking to gallery staff and handling administrative details of publishing notice of exhibits to our membership and gathering entries. Sometimes you will help hang an exhibit depending upon the hosting gallery policy.

## Secretary - 2 years term

Do you like to write?

Can you be available for the Board meetings each month?

**Skills needed:**

Listening and Writing skills for reporting on monthly board meetings

For a full position description, contact Nancy Dahlof

# Upcoming Events

May-9 meeting, 7 – 9pm, New Brighton Community Center

Dawn Emerson, who is teaching the workshop this spring, will demo her technique for the meeting's presentation. The presentation will be done in the community room on the first floor of the New Brighton Community Center. Dawn spent most of her adult life living in a log home and studio in the high plateau desert of Central Oregon and the change was huge. The wide-open space of the west, with all its inhabitants and unique topography encouraged new artistic expression. When she took workshops in pastel, she fell in love with the medium. She has been recognized for her work by respected pastel societies.

July 11 paint out, 3pm – 7pm, Keller Regional Lake, Ramsey County

Join other members for a wonderful time painting outside. We may also have additional experienced painters joining us for a great outdoor experience. Our park destination is Keller Regional Lake (and park) just off of Hwy 61, north of St. Paul. Last year the group enjoyed a fantastic weather day and the month of July is mostly without rain, so we hope to see you there.

September 12 meeting, 7 – 9pm, New Brighton Community Center

Many people work with landscapes through photographs or painting outside, but have you ever tried doing a still life painting? Or even had questions about doing the background for it? light angles? objects to use? etc. Come for this meeting and hear what options and techniques you may learn about from member Kathe Drake.

Steve Budas

LCPS Program Chair

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**art materials**





# Challenge

Congratulations to our Valentines Day challenge's winners.

Lisa Stauffer was our "blind judge" (no names) and we both agreed that every entry was terrific!!

I got to have an early peak at the Valentine challenge entries, 4 delightful paintings were sent in this time, As a previous prize winner it was my task to choose 2 to win valentine colored pastels! I urge you all to enter these friendly painting challenges. It is a chance for those starting to paint to experiment with getting your work out there to be seen by your fellow painters. It is also a chance for any of us to win some fun painting prizes! Let us see your work!

The winners are:



Lady in Red  
12 x 9  
Christine Tierney

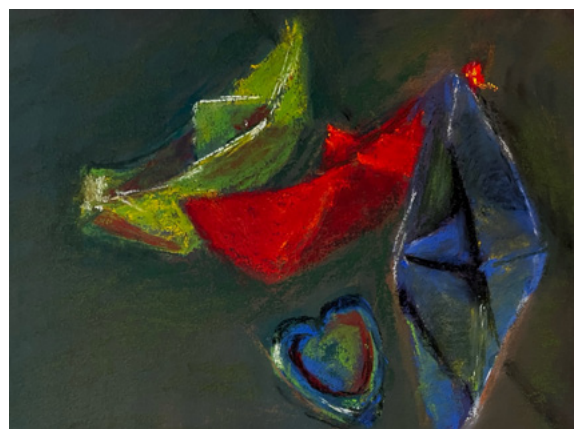


Bunny  
Sue Rowe

Each winner will receive 3 Cretacolor Hard Pastels: Cretacolor Carre 209 English Red, Cretacolor Carre 133 Rose Madder and Cretacolor Carre 101 Permanent White.



Chocolate and Prosecco  
6 x 8  
Shelly Brandon



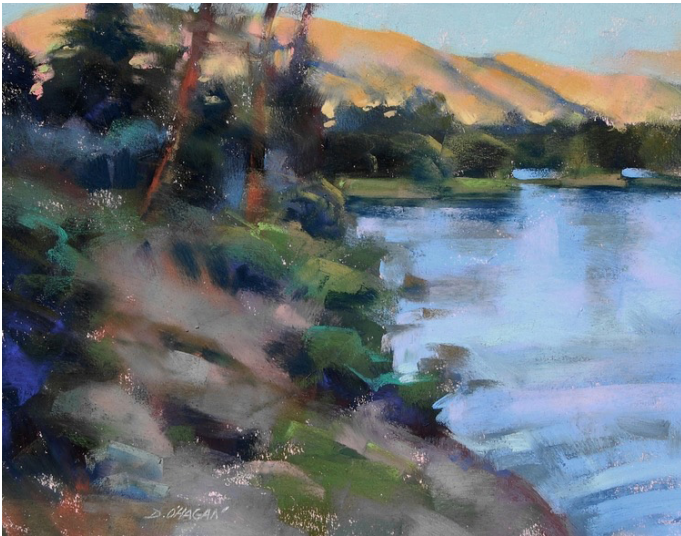
Love Triangle  
Dian Dewi

Thank you to everyone who entered.

Our next challenge theme is SPRING!

“CAPTURING LIGHT-  
Interpreting Values and Shapes”  
with Desmond O’Hagan.  
October 9-11, 2023

Desmond O’Hagan is an award-winning artist who has exhibited nationally and internationally. He is listed in Who’s Who in American Art, is a Master Pastelist with the Pastel Society of America and has achieved Eminent Pastelist status with IAPS.



O’Hagan’s workshop is designed to help you reach the next level in your pastel painting, emphasizing composition and technique through a more painterly approach. Check out his website at [www.desmondohagan.com](http://www.desmondohagan.com).

The workshop will be held at the New Brighton Community Center, New Brighton, MN. The fee is \$425 for members (\$450 for non-members).

Registration forms are below.



Initial Registration Form

DESMOND O'HAGAN WORKSHOP — LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY — OCTOBER 9-11, 2023

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Down Payment or

\_\_\_\_\_ \$425 Full Payment (\$450 non-members)

Make check payable to LCPS and mail to: Becky Jokela, LCPS Workshop

37429 65th Avenue

Cannon Falls, MN 55009

[bjokela@gmail.com](mailto:bjokela@gmail.com)

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DESMOND O'HAGAN WORKSHOP — LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY — OCTOBER 9-11, 2023

\*Return this portion with balance by September 1, 2023\*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ \$325 due if initial payment was \$100 (\$350 non-members) or

\_\_\_\_\_ \$425 Full Payment (\$450 non-members)

Make check payable to LCPS and mail by 09/01/2023 to:

Becky Jokela, LCPS Workshop

37429 65th Avenue

Cannon Falls, MN 55009

[bjokela@gmail.com](mailto:bjokela@gmail.com)

## *Liz Pawlak*

I started this piece when we lived in NM. It's pretty close to being done.

I've been looking to see what changes it needs. I'm pretty satisfied.



Spring Blossoms  
9 x 11

## *Ann Solyst*



Polar Beetle  
12 x 16

Here is a little bit about what I have been up to.

The winter season is my time to create art pastel. This year I set the ambitious goal of finishing 20 new pieces between February and June, when my summer art shows kick off. Although challenging because my work tends to be time consuming, I'm excited to stretch my creativity and see what new inventive animals I come up with.

## *Wendy Peterson*

I'm thrilled to have my painting Shifting Realities accepted into the 2023 PSWC Members Only Online Show-MOOS. The painting pays homage to my home town of Santa Cruz, California where recent storms have battered the coastline causing extensive erosion to the cliffs.

[wendypeterson.com](http://wendypeterson.com)



Shifting Realities  
9 x 12

## Rita Kirkman

Some Paint-Along fun with Rita Kirkman! Join along on Zoom with one (or both!) of these fun topics and subjects:

Mar 11 “Cowdog” Yee-Haw! This doggie dude is ready to Rodeo! Are you ready to paint him?

April 22 “Tulip Garden” Spring is in the Air! Gather your Favorite Flowery photo and paint along (to your pic or Rita’s)

Each Paint-Along is only \$25. Register EARLY to have time to prep your drawings. Rita will send you the Zoom invitations, the reference photos, suggested materials, and even line drawings for the animals that you can use to transfer to your board or paper in case you don’t have time to freehand your drawings. No drawing skills required!

Rita will be using pastel with (or without) an acrylic-based underpainting, but you can use the medium of your choice. Plenty of instruction will focus on values and temperature which are universal to all color mediums.

The paint-alongs will start at 1pm Central Time and will last about 2 hours.

(Registration includes links to the videos which will be sent out just a few days later, so if you miss the date, no worries!)



Register here for “Cowdog”

<https://www.ritakirkman.com/workshop/32279/a-cowdog-paint-along-on-zoom>

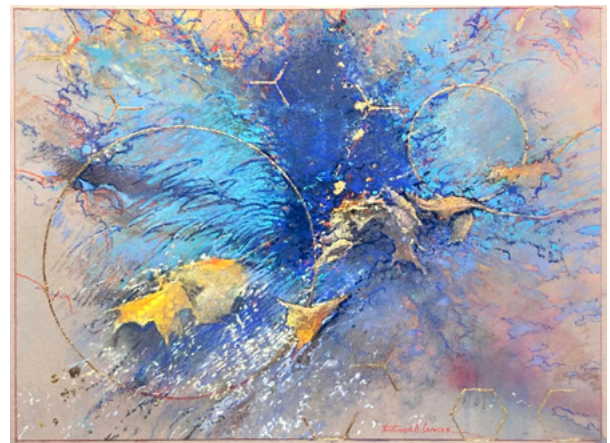
Register here for “Tulip Garden”

<https://www.ritakirkman.com/workshop/32765/tulip-garden-paint-along-on-zoom>

## Fred Somers

This piece was just excepted into the [Pastel Society of West Coast](#) “Members online Exhibit”.

This exhibit opens March 1 2023



Open wide Everlasting Doors  
16 1/4 x 22



## *Michelle Wegler*

I am the new Membership Chairperson. I have been a member since 2002. We are fortunate to have a pastel group that is as active and supportive as LCPS. All are welcome, from beginners to experts and we educate and support each other in our pastel passion.

Thank you to all who have recently joined or renewed your membership. This is a friendly reminder to renew if you haven't already. There is a great lineup of activities and you don't want to miss any of it.

You can see my paintings on Instagram and Facebook. I post on #lakecountrypastelsociety, on the LCPS Facebook page, and on my website. Sign up here for my Michelle Wegler Art newsletter:

<https://www.michelleweglerart.com/email-newsletter>



Michelle painting in Minneopa Falls State Park in February.

## *Lisa Stauffer*



Como Park Lily

I got to have an early peak at the Valentine challenge entries, 4 delightful paintings were sent in this time. As a previous prize winner it was my task to choose 2 to win valentine colored pastels! I urge you all to enter these friendly painting challenges. It is a chance for those starting to paint to experiment with getting your work out there to be seen by your fellow painters. It is also a chance for any of us to win some fun painting prizes! Let us see your work!

I had 3 paintings juried by Sir Tony Allain in to the Tony Graduates Show 2023 sponsored by Red Rock Pastel Society, Nevada. I didn't win one of the 4 awards but my painting, Como Park Lily, was chosen for inclusion in his talk as one of the many notable paintings.

### Upcoming workshops-

I will be teaching Painting In Pastel: [Landscapes From Photographs](#) at the Grand Marais Art Colony May 10-13, 2023., click on the class title link for more details on the GMAC site. It would be great to see you in class!

I will also be teaching a [Plein Air](#) class July 3-7 in Grand Marais also, click the title for more details.

## *Dian Dewi*

Might as well start with what happened on February's last weekend. It was the Opening Reception for the 40th Anniversary Exhibition at the Phipps Center for the Arts in Hudson, WI. There are 2 paintings of mine: Proud Uncle and Going Bananas.

The sticker name tags provided for the artists were not very sticky to our clothes and I didn't think it was polite to stare at people's chests. There were definitely many artists at the reception but not many that I got acquainted with.

Soft pastel is impossible to work with, said a watercolorist. Watercolor is very forgiving, she added.

Then I remembered a conversation with a teaching artist in a pastel workshop. She had said, I tried watercolor and I asked myself what I am getting myself into. Long story short, this artist found soft pastel in their desperation of watercolors.

My paintings are kind of hard to see in details. Good news is, this event runs from 24 February through 9 April 2023. Come visit.



## Playing as a Personal Challenge, by Sue Rowe

As many people do, I get stuck in my comfort ruts. I know how to work with particular materials in particular ways. Images might not be amazing, but they usually aren't too awful. Why tempt failure? Because sometimes failure is fine! Failure might be "bad" - but it probably won't be boring.

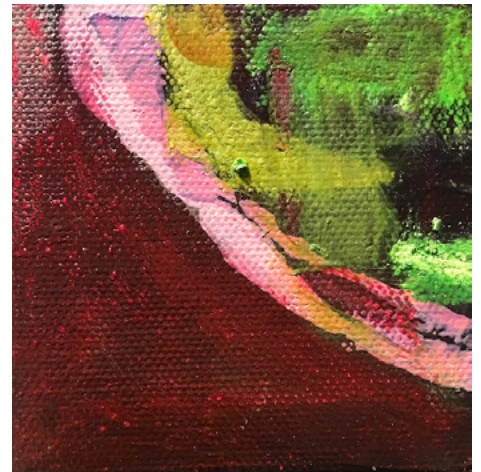
In February my art personal challenge was to take more chances. It would be OK if the resulting artwork wasn't up to showing others. It would be OK if it wasn't "finished." It would be OK to play.

I decided to see what would happen when soft pastels were combined with matte medium. Not as underpainting, but as paint. Results have been surprisingly pleasing. Granted, all work shown here is truly experimental, but it will probably lead to more serious exploration as a way I create "serious" paintings.



One experiment was to use a light pastel and matte medium wash over a charcoal drawing in a sketchbook. This resulted in a pleasing, non-smearing, semi-glossy surface. I will try more with this technique.

Canvas surfaces were fun, too! A tiny 3"x3" abstract is still a work in progress, but there was something satisfying about being able to draw shapes in pastel, and then make them permanent with matte medium.



Of course, I had to try some bears. A 5"x7" canvas has about four layers so far. It's interesting to use the matte medium to sculpt figures and landscape by alternating it with pastels. We will see where this goes.



So, nothing earthshattering, but lots interesting. If you need a break from using pastels in more traditional ways, brush some matte medium on your next creation and see what happens! And have fun in the playing!



## Board of Directors

### *President*

Wendy Peterson  
651-247-4405

### *Vice President*

OPEN

### *Treasurer*

Susan Warner  
832-663-1815

### *Secretary*

Nancy Dahlof  
952-544-8927

### *Program Chair*

Steve Budas  
952-221-6285

### *Exhibit Chair*

OPEN

### *Workshops*

Becky Jokela  
507-263-5681

### *Public Relations*

OPEN

### *Mentoring Program*

Eileen France  
717-572-1205

### *Membership Chair*

Michelle Wegler  
218-343-6887

### *Historian and Newsletter Chair*

Dian Dewi  
612-999-3106

### *Past co-Presidents*

Christine Tierney  
612-210-3377  
Pat Duncan  
612-644-6798

## Lake Country Pastel Society 2023 Calendar

### March 2023

- 1 — March Newsletter published
- 7 — 5.30-7PM Zoom Board meeting
- 15 — 7-9PM Member Meeting with  
Guest Presenter – Ann Solyst

### April 2023

- 1-15 — April Challenge
- 27 — Submit Art, news, awards etc. for  
May newsletter

### May 2023

- 1 — May Newsletter published
- 2 — 5.30-7PM Zoom Board meeting
- 8-10 — Workshop – Dawn Emerson.
- 9 — 7-9PM Member Meeting with Guest  
Presenter – Dawn Emerson

### June 2023

- 1-15 — June Challenge
- 26 — Submit Art, news, awards etc. for  
July newsletter

### July 2023

- 1 — July Newsletter published
- 11 — Annual Paint-out event. Afternoon  
- early evening

### August 2023

- 1-15 — August Challenge
- 27 — Submit Art, news, awards etc. for  
July newsletter
- Tentative Exhibit

### September 2023

- 1 — September Newsletter published
- 12 — 7-9PM Member Meeting with  
Guest Presenter – Kathy Drake - Still  
Life Demonstration.



**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 con-  
tact people who don't have email.**

**If you have questions, call Wendy  
Peterson 651-247-4405.**

