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pastel society

Letter from the President,

The same unfinished painting has been on my easel for several months.

Various personal commitments have stepped in front of it.

I know that I will return to it. I know that I will finish it. I have high hopes of being satisfied with it when I do.

In the meantime, I see it every day as I pass in front on my way to these other features of my life. I often pause to think about how I will proceed.

Although I have not touched a single pastel stick during this time, my mind has contemplated many approaches.

The design is pretty solid now, but color and value choices are still open. This time of reflection is the time when I will make many of these decisions. I have been enticed with some ideas and have rejected others...without ever making a mark.

"Patience" should be the title of this painting. But only I would understand why.

APS President,
Kay Gordon



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The APS general meeting is scheduled every second Saturday of every odd month i.e. Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep, Nov, from 10am - 12pm. The meetings generally take place at the WNC Agriculture Center, Youth Building. All members and those interested in pastel are welcome!

APS Members are saddened to hear of the passing of Vaun Healey's daughter, Karen.

May memories of the laughter and love you shared bring you peace now and always.



Meet the Artist of the Month - Karen Wylie

'I learned there are few 'right answers' in life and that issues in our world are rarely 'black and white' or 'right or wrong. It's that background I credit (or blame) for how I see the world.'



"Leaves"

What a surprise to be selected (out of the hat from three entries) as 'Miss January'!

I grew up in New England and came South for what I thought would be a quick two year MBA at Vanderbilt University in Nashville TN. I ended up staying on to do graduate work in 'Human and Organizational Development,' the study of the complex 'give and take' between an individual and their various environments (home, work, friends, family, community, etc). I learned there are few 'right answers' in life and that issues in our world are rarely 'black and white' or 'right or wrong.' Spending 20+ years as a business and training consultant, trying to help people and businesses adapt to the changes around them, certainly confirmed these beliefs.

It's that background I credit (or blame) for how I see the world, and for becoming an abstract artist.

I came to art six years ago, first attracted to Watercolor for its uncontrollable

nature and the challenge of learning to 'dance' with pigment, and Pastel for its brilliant color. Just about every one of my pastels begins with a watercolor underpainting because watercolor is a meditative process for me, and helps me switch gears from my left brained, analytical daily life to a creative space where I can, quite literally, let my ideas flow.

As you know, there is nothing like the intensity and brilliant color of Pastel, and it is my favorite medium to work in, too. But my interest in abstraction has led me to work in acrylic, oil, oil



"Fires and Rain - Consumed"



"Fires and Rain - Sacred Ground"

pastel and everything in between - anything that would help me view form, shape and composition differently than 'the real world' we see around us. I live 13 miles away from The Penland School of Craft in

Spruce Pine, and usually enroll in one or two two-week long sessions each year, exposing myself to mediums as diverse as silverpoint or assemblage, and always challenging my artist eye.

Weaned on wonderful landscape artists ranging from Monet to McKinley in beginning technique classes, I quickly found myself transfixed by early abstractionists like Paul Klee, Emil Nolde, and Wassily Kandinsky. Although I still enjoy working with defined (sometimes geometric) shapes, more and more I am drawn to letting Color create its own structure and drama. I am currently trying to blend the styles of Odilon Redon and Hans Hofmann into my own. (*Yes. Both of them. At the same time. In Pastel.*) This past Fall I had the opportunity to take a 'Pigments From The Earth' workshop at John C Campbell, learning how to locate, grind and form pigments from the soil into paints and pastels. I think being able to actually put a 'sense of place' into your painting via pigment is intriguing, and plan to integrate more of this approach into my work.



"Java Journeys"

APS Membership Renewal Reminder

Don't forget that as of September 1st, we are in a new APS Membership Year (the 2011/12 year).

You can now renew online on the APS website. The link to the membership renewal payment page is <http://www.appalachianpastelsociety.org/join-the-appalachian-pastel-society/>

If you don't wish to renew online, you can send your check for \$25, made out to "APS" to:

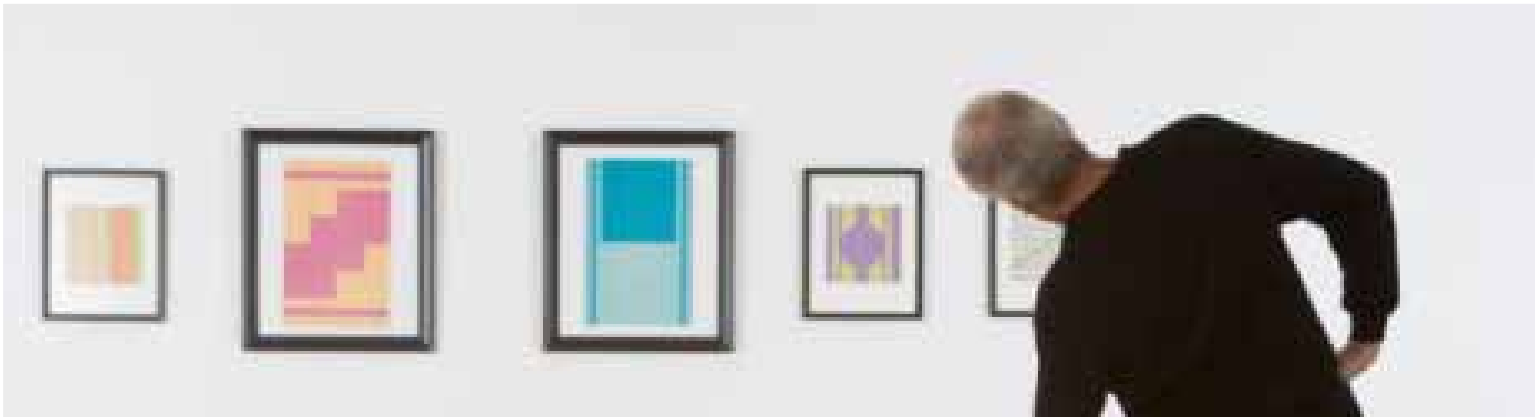
Kay Gordon
APS Membership Chair
2016 Upper Paw Paw Rd
Marshall, NC 28753

If you don't know if you are current, contact me and I'll look up your records.

Kay
kgordon@main.nc.us
828.206.0240



North Carolina 2012 Statewide Show



Announcing...a new pastel show for North Carolina, The North Carolina Statewide Pastel Show, "On Common Ground: Pastel Paintings from the Mountains to the Sea."

This new annual show is jointly sponsored by the three NC Pastel Societies. Each year a different society will act as host.

In 2012, the Pastel Society of North Carolina (PSNC), based in Raleigh, is responsible for the show and the accompanying workshops.

Prizes and cash awards total over \$3000.

There will be critiques of all submitted entries.

Deadline for show registration is March 24th, 2012.

Juror and Judge for the show is Oregon pastel artist and workshop instructor, Marla Baggetta. Marla will offer

two workshops, a Plein Air Workshop June 2-4, and a Studio Workshop June 5-7.

For full show and workshop information and a prospectus, see:
www.pastelsocietyofnc.com/blog/2012-statewide-exhibition/

...or contact 2012 Statewide Exhibit Chair,
 Patricia Savage at:
p_savage@bellsouth.net ,
 919.859.2789 or 919.438.6766

Directions to The WNC Agricultural Center

From Asheville:

Take I-26 East to Exit 40. Make a right turn off the ramp on to Airport Road, Highway 280, heading toward the airport. Turn left at the first stop light past the Asheville Airport on to Fanning Bridge Road. The Main entrance, Gate 1, is on the right.

From Hendersonville:

Take I-26 West to Exit 40. Make a left turn off the ramp on to Airport Road, Highway 280, heading toward the airport. Turn left at the first stop light past the Asheville Airport on to Fanning Bridge Road. The Main entrance, Gate 1, is on the right.

When you enter the Ag Center grounds:

Gate 1 is the main entrance to the Ag Center. Bear LEFT as you enter the main gate.

The State Police Trailer is immediately to the left of the main gate, and the Youth Building is a small building also on the left just past the State Police Trailer. The Youth Building backs up to Fanning Bridge Road.

Our November 2011 Demo by Karen Margulis – notes by Nancy Clausen

Karen has been a pastel painter for 7 years. She studied under Marsha Savage. She has a blog called Painting My World. She strongly emphasizes painting at least 15 minutes per day. Her great love is painting wildflowers.

She says we should find our personal truth; what we love to paint.

Some of her thoughts: always experiment, paint from dark to light. Use big simple shapes and then put in detail. She works all over painting to begin with.

At the moment she likes Uart Papers, the middle weights. She has been coming back to paint on Canson. The Uart doesn't buckle when wet. She's been using Crescent Perfect Mount for backing. It has adhesive that peels off and you can put your paper on it. It comes from Dick Blick.

The pastels that she prefers are Terry Ludwig and Great American. She likes the Richard McKinley set from Great American Pastels. She organizes her pastels by value and color. One interesting point is that she preselects her colors before starting to paint.

Karen also said that she tries to go to at least one workshop per year. She has three teachers that have influenced her the most. Margaret Dyer for teaching her to

understand value, Stan Sperlak for teaching her layering, and Richard McKinley for teaching her the secret of Green. The secret is that you use orange with the green and violet as the friend of green.

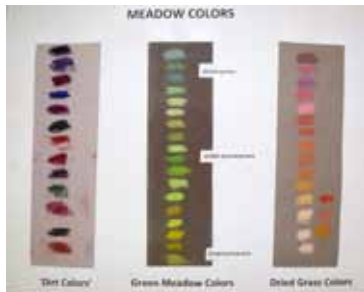
To begin a painting, Karen lays in her darks in large shapes and then some lights. She then uses an alcohol wash.

She says to start off slow and says make sure you do thumb nail sketches before you begin your painting.

Start by drawing in the painting. Do it sketchily. Then put darks in using hard pastels (build in dark patterns). Paint with the brush when using wash. Wet the lightest areas first. Pick your colors, arrange them according to value and color. As you layer make sure you use light touch. ALWAYS WATCH YOUR VALUES!!!!

Sky has layered values. She works her way down the painting. She likes to use Diane Townsend's light color.

For the Queen Ann's Lace painting: uses purples first, puts in darks first then greens. Then she begins to look for the focal point. She makes the grasses with hard pastels.



Member News

J. KAY GORDON'S

painting, "Go, Go, Go!" was awarded Best of Show in the Art League of Henderson County 2011 Member Show. The show is hanging at the Op House in Hendersonville until January 6, 2012. The show was judged by Wendy Outland.



"The Blue Motorcycle," was awarded Honorable Mention in The Degas Pastel Society's Seventeenth Juried Membership Exhibition. The show was hung at Place St Charles, a gallery in New Orleans, LA from October 29th through November 19th, 2011. Juror and judge for the show was Richard McKinley."

SUZANNE NELSON'S

painting, "Dunes at Dusk", recently was judged First Place in the landscape category of the annual all-member show of the Art League of Henderson County.



**Hope you are painting something wonderful
to enter in our 2012 APS National Show!**

Juror:

Richard McKinley

Entry Deadline:

August 1st

Show Venue:

**The Asheville School
360 Asheville School Road (off Patton Avenue)
Asheville, NC 28806**

APS 2012 General Meeting Calendar

| Date of Program | Program | Demo | Afternoon Workshop | 1 day (Sun) Workshop |
|----------------------|------------------|------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Saturday, January 14 | Paint Around | No | No | No |
| Saturday, March 10 | M. Theresa Brown | Yes | yes | No |

January 14th Paint Around

Morning Session Only -Four Volunteers will start the paintings and the members will do a round robin, giving each member the opportunity to spend time on each of the four original pieces. We will critique and have a discussion during and after the process

is completed. Great opportunity to learn from one another. The volunteers will provide the original piece and I recommend everyone bring some of their pastels to add your own touch and palette.

March 10th - Theresa Brown - Pan Pastels

M. Theresa Brown - Pastel Portrait Artist from Wake Forest, NC. With over 25 years of experience in painting people, horses and dogs, Theresa will demonstrate her latest new tool - Pan Pastels.

Cost of workshop - \$45.
Cost of Materials - To be announced.

The afternoon workshop will cover the basics of using Pan Pastels on Pastel Mat Board. We will be offering a starter kit from Pan Pastel at a reduced price so that everyone can take advantage of learning the techniques without breaking the bank. Theresa offers a variety of classes in Wake Forest and has proven to be a delightful instructor who generally gets her students hooked on new materials all the time.

2012 Exhibition Opportunities

| Exhibition | Dates/Deadline | Contact/Information |
|---|---|--|
| Southeastern Pastel Society 15th Juried International Open Exhibition | Deadline for Submissions: February 28th, 2012 Exhibition Dates: May 17 - June 24, 2012 | www.southeasternpastel.org/juried_shows.htm |
| North Carolina 2012 Statewide Show | Deadline for Submissions: March 24th, 2012 Exhibition Dates: June 1 – 30, 2012 | www.pastelsocietyofnc.com/blog/2012-statewide-exhibition/ |
| Appalachian Pastel Society 3rd Juried National Show Juror: Richard McKinley | Deadline for Submissions: August 1st, 2012 | www.appalachianpastelsociety.org |

APS Invited to Participate in Winter Exhibition at The Bascom

APS was once again invited by The Bascom in Highlands, NC to participate in their Winter Regional Arts Exhibition. Eleven regional arts organizations in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia have been asked to provide five paintings each to represent their groups.

The APS Board voted to use the Juror's award decisions from the 2011 APS Juried Member Show just completed in Black Mountain as the basis for choosing the five paintings that would represent APS at this event.

Artists representing APS in The Bascom's Winter show are Karen Chambers, Candler, NC (Twins XV); Pam Winkler, Asheville (On The Tracks 2); J.Kay Gordon, PSA, Marshall NC (Dancing With A Wave); Edward Morris, Flat Rock, NC (Triple Falls) and Karen Wylie, Spruce Pine NC (Fires and Rain 9: Sacred Ground).

The exhibition will begin with a reception on January 21st, and continue through March 25, 2012. If you'd like to attend the reception or view the exhibition, the address and driving directions to The Bascom can be found on their website, www.thebascom.org



Karen White Chambers



Edward Morris



Pamela Winkler



Karen Wylie



J. Kay Gordon PSA

Help Wanted — APS Volunteers Needed

Maybe you're only here in our Appalachian region during the Summer, and can't take on a year round position on the Board. Or maybe your work or family schedule is already overloaded, and you hesitate to add one even more regular task to your obligations.

Would you be able to help out 'one time only'?

There are many ways you can help APS continue to offer great programs, workshops and events by volunteering for 'one time only' tasks that you can fit into your busy schedule.

For example, we're trying to include summaries of our programs as well as photos taken at events in the newsletter, as well as on our Facebook page and website. You could help tremendously by volunteering to keep good notes of what a speaker says at a program, or taking some photos and emailing them to us afterwards.

Perhaps you can help accept and hang paintings at a non-juried exhibition in July. Or September. Or November. You don't have to be available for every exhibition. Just one. And if it's one you're delivering a painting to for yourself anyway, it might be an easy and convenient way for you to help out the group.

The more members we have to help, the more pastel events APS can schedule. Please take a look at the volunteer jobs listed here and consider whether you have 'a

morning here or an afternoon there' where you can keep our growing group strong.

HOSPITALITY:

Would you be willing to bring baked goods to a morning program or afternoon workshop one month?

Contact Sheryl Daniels
(423) 232-1585 or send email to stdaniels@embarqmail.com

GALLERY / NON-JURIED EXHIBITIONS:

You could help accept paintings from participating members at the venue, help hang the exhibition, or set up refreshments for the opening reception. Find an exhibition that fits with your schedule and let our non-juried Exhibition Chairs know you are willing to help with that one event.

Contact Nancy Clausen at
(919) 618-9054 or
nancy@clausen.net

WEBSITE:

Anyone with Wordpress skills willing to help upload member jpgs and bios to create a new Gallery of Member Pages on our website? Help would be very much appreciated!

Email Karen Wylie at
karen@soapshed.com

PROGRAMS:

How about offering to keep notes for a program or workshop you know you will be attending, so that

Help APS

Help Wanted — APS Volunteers Needed

we can share information in the newsletter with members unable to attend? These are all one-time commitments, one program or workshop at a time. It'd be great to identify two people per event, so that we get two different perspectives and no one has to fret about 'missing' something. Multiple volunteers will get it covered! Please volunteer for a specific program month or workshop topic.

Let Miriam Hughes know at (610) 389-0058, or misspoooppa@gmail.com

TAKE PHOTOS FOR US:

Would you be willing to bring a camera to take photos at a Paint Out, a workshop or an opening reception for one of our shows? Let's capture fun moments, and help match faces with names. We will publish your photos in our newsletter, on the website and APS Facebook Page. Your photos could also help us in our publicity efforts in local newspapers. Just email whatever you take to us!

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please volunteer

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Be sure to visit the APS Member Resource Room at our new website:
appalachianpastelsociety.org

And check out APS Facebook page at:
facebook.com/appalachianpastelsociety

Appalachian Pastel Society Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Alt Telephone _____

E-mail _____ Website _____

Renewing member _____ New Member _____

Artist ____ Art Supporter ____

Committee Interests:

Exhibitions ____ Programs ____

Newsletter ____ Membership ____

Other _____

Hospitality ____ Clerical ____

Telephone ____ Workshops ____

Awards/Experience/Comments/(or, what are your expectations from APS):

Please include a check made payable to "APS" in the amount of \$25 for membership for one year.
APS membership year starts September 1st.

Send to: Kay Gordon
APS Membership Chair
2016 Upper Paw Paw Road
Marshall, NC 28753

NEW ... you can now use your credit card or
PayPal to pay for membership in APS ... use
the following link...



More information: www.appalachianpastelsociety.org
Or contact Kay at: kgordon@main.nc.us