



## Letter from the President

Suzanne "Sparky" Nelson



I feel so fortunate to have found my way into a small critique group – ten painters who gather once a month to help each other resolve issues, take a “fresh look”, and improve our efforts. We do not all paint with pastels; five of us do – part or all of the time. We work in different styles and mediums – from old masters oil techniques, fastidious watercolor, splashy acrylic, and various approaches with pastel. We all know most of “THE RULES” for good composition, perspectives, color harmonies, etc. but at least one of us always reminds, “Rules are meant to be broken!” We bring different skill sets, experience, and aspirations. We get along well and are sincere with our compliments and thoughtful with our suggestions. And we all benefit greatly.

In my letter last September I suggested that running the APS was like making a painting. (You remember that, right?) Well, like a painting, making the APS better will require some critique. Please offer your input on what we’re doing well and where and how we might improve. Do you have ideas for Programs? Workshops? Exhibitions? Better communication? What? And don’t be shy – if you have some skill you could share to improve the APS, we’d love to have your assistance.

Please return this little form at the May 14 Meeting or mail: 106 Tall Oak Lane, Flat Rock, NC, 28731 (or email: sparkynelsonpaints@gmail.com) it back to me.

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Dear APS,

Here is what I think is done well:

Here are my suggestions for improving the APS:

Here is something I would be willing to volunteer to do:

Name & phone number (optional) \_\_\_\_\_



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**The APS general meeting is scheduled every second Saturday of the month i.e.**

**Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep, Nov, from 10 am - 12 pm and those interested in pastel are welcome.**

## Appalachian Pastel Society

May 14, 2016

Meeting: 10 am - noon

Grace Community Church Exhibition Hall

495 Cardinal Road

Mills River, NC 28759

There is no fee to attend the morning event. [Open to the public]

### Regina Burchett... The Other Side of Art Managing and Promoting your Work

The 'must do' aspect of art: taking photos of your work, editing your images on the computer, including re-sizing and cropping, Social Media options, setting up an art page on Facebook and Instagram, creating an art website (free or paid site), and selling prints of your work online.

### Workshop: 1pm to 4pm... Regina Burchett

Life as an artist would be wonderful if we could simply paint and create. But at some point, we need to send our creations out into the world. That is where the other side of being an artist must be addressed. For this workshop, some of the subjects we'll be going over are: taking photos of your artwork, editing your images on the computer including re-sizing and cropping, organizing your art images, editing your



source photos prior to painting, artwork management and tracking, social media options, setting up an art page on Facebook and Instagram, creating an art website (free or paid), and selling prints of your work online. We will review these subjects in as much detail as time allows and explain the actions and concepts in non-geek terms.

If you have a laptop, please bring it to the workshop! We will also have handouts to assist in your notes on what we discuss in the workshop.

**Regina Burchett** started taking computer classes over 25 years ago and has continued her studies since that time. She has worked for Dell Computer and Advanced Micro Devices, utilizing software programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint,

Database programs, AutoCAD, computer graphics and animation, and graphics software. She has been creating websites since 1997, teaching basic computer classes since 1998 to groups and individuals, and began her artist blog in 2007. For the past two years, she has worked as an Artist Support Agent for FASO (Fine Art Studio Online), assisting artists with their websites or Regina's site [www.reginaburchett.com](http://www.reginaburchett.com). 704-925-9838

*Still room to join us on May 14th at our regular business meeting and for the workshop afterwards!*

*Sign up for this workshop online! [appalachianpastelsociety.org](http://appalachianpastelsociety.org)*

## Artist of the Month - Zoe Schumaker

### Zoe F. Schumaker - My Journey in Pastel



**Riverside Mimosa** (2008)  
an early plein air piece

I've always enjoyed drawing and painting, but, for most of my life, I was just a dabbler. Only upon retiring and moving to the mountains did I begin a more purposeful artistic journey. My sojourn started at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC in 2006, where I took classes in watercolor, drawing, acrylic and oil painting, ultimately focusing on pastel.

My rediscovery of art coincided with a reignited passion for nature, so my early artistic focus was the local landscape. I preferred painting *en plein air*. The portability of pastel allowed me to hike to remote and serene places and give tribute to the beauty I saw there. I enjoyed the challenge of capturing scenes quickly, before the light changed, and with enough accuracy (realism) that they the places could be easily recognized.

In 2009, I joined the Southeastern and Appalachian Pastels Societies, enjoying the comradery and taking advantage of the workshops they offered. I began doing more studio work, experimenting with different grounds, underpaintings and techniques. In this "science" phase, I really tried to push the limits of the medium.



**Dune Sanctuary** (2014)  
exploring the Georgia Coast

By 2012, I was experiencing some modest success entering shows and selling in local galleries, but I wanted to do more with art. So, I offered to design and paint a series of composite landscapes featuring native plants and animals, for use in interpretive signs in UGA's ethnobotanical gardens in Blairsville, GA. It was a challenge to research the native plant environments, and then combine elements in an illustrative, but artistic way. Yet, I found a unique form of satisfaction – and motivation – in creating something that would go on public display for a very worthy cause.

**(Artist of the Month - Continued on p. 4)**



**Ironweed Bouquet** (2012)  
focusing on wildflowers

## *Artist of the Month - Zoe Schumaker* (continued from p. 3)



***Shrimper, at Sunset*** (2015)  
a Jekyll Island inspiration

In 2014, after eight years of painting in the mountains, I had the opportunity to do a solo exhibition at Goodyear Cottage Gallery on Jekyll Island. I wanted to paint local scenes for this show, so I embarked on a one-year “detour” to the coast. Painting new subjects -- marshes, beaches, and birds -- really energized me. It also spurred a new interest, painting wildlife (especially birds) in nature.

Most recently, I have been inspired by pastel and multi-media artist Dawn Emerson (our 2017 APS National Show Juror and workshop instructor – yeah!). She has encouraged me to get “back to basics” with stronger, simpler compositions based on solid design principles.



***Falcon Study*** (2016)  
heading in a new direction

As I write this, I’ve just been asked to teach a pastel class at the Campbell Folk School. I know it will be a lot of work (my first week-long teaching effort) but I also feel like it will spur me to new heights. Taking on new artistic challenges has always been the catalyst for growth, and I find it puts “the gas back in my tank” creatively. After all, it’s all about the journey, and I am in it for the long haul!

### **DIRECTIONS TO APS MEETINGS AT GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

495 Cardinal Road, Mills River, NC 28759

From I-26, take Exit 40 for the Asheville Airport. Drive 3.3 miles on NC-280W/Airport Rd. passing the Asheville Airport. Turn right on Cardinal Drive, between the Land Rover dealer and Grace Church (up on the hill). Turn left at the top of the drive into the church parking lot.

Go to the left side of the building to the green awning entrance.

Refreshments will be served. Bring a friend!

*News of APS Members*

**Southeastern Pastel Society  
17th International Juried Exhibition  
Oglethorpe University Museum of Art in Atlanta, Georgia  
May 6 - June 26  
Reception - May 19th - 6 - 8 pm  
Juror, Richard McKinley**

Several members from the Appalachian Pastel Society were juried into this show.



*Cathyann Burgess*



*Suzy Hart*



*Kate Thayer*

*James Smythe - no picture*



*Barbara Kitty Williams*

*News of APS Members*

**2016 NC Statewide Pastel Pastel Exhibition**  
***On Common Ground: From the Mountains to the Sea***

Annual Collaboration of  
The Appalachian Pastel Society  
The Piedmont Pastel Society  
The Pastel Society of North Carolina

at the

**Hickory Museum of Art**

May 18 - Aug 20

Reception - Saturday, May 21, 6 - 8 pm

**Juror, Elizabeth Mowry, PSA**

**Congratulations to those included in the juried exhibition from the Appalachian Pastel Society:**  
**Cathyann Burgess, Nancy Clausen, Tobi Clement, Bette Coningsby, Judith Cutler, Marcia Donley,**  
**J Kay Gordon, Alec Hall, Suzy Hart, Jim Hefley, Gail Hurt, Susan Mason, Carolyn Molder,**  
**Suzanne Nelson, Robbins Richardson, Zoe Schumaker, Susan Sinai, Deborah Squier,**  
**Kate Thayer, Jane Voorhees, Maggie Whitney**

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**J. Kay Gordon's painting, 'Dancing with a Wave,' was included in a Special Section Article of the April 2016 *American Art Collector*.**



*"New Reflections" by Pamela Winkler*

**Upstairs Artspace**  
**"New Faces"**

49 S. Trade Street  
Tryon, NC 28782  
March 12 - April 22, 2016

Opening Reception  
Saturday March 12, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Pamela Winkler • [www.pamelawinkler.com](http://www.pamelawinkler.com)

**Pam Winkler, APS member and former webmaster, is part of a new group giving this exhibition! Please come!**

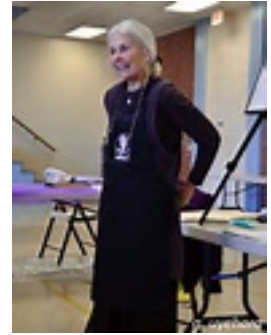
## *Elizabeth Mowry Workshop*

Elizabeth Mowry, juror for the NC Statewide Pastel Exhibition, will lead a workshop May 23-27, 2016 in Black Mountain, NC. Register at [www.appalachianpastelsociety.org](http://www.appalachianpastelsociety.org)

Elizabeth Mowry is a Master Pastelist of the Pastel Society of America and a Distinguished Pastelist of the Pastel Society of the West Coast. She is listed in *Who's*

*Who in American Art*. Ms

Mowry is a consistent recipient of national awards for landscape painting, including awards from the Pastel Society of America. Mowry has relocated from New York to Colorado. She is the author of *The Poetic Landscape*, *The Pastelist's Year*, *Landscape Meditations* and her newest book, *Landscape Painting: Tips and Techniques from a Lifetime of Painting* (2016).



“He alone is great who turns the voice of the wind into a song made sweeter by his own loving.” Kahlil Gibran

## ***SAVE THE DATE FOR FUTURE APS MEETING***

**Saturday, July 9, 2016, 10 am to 12 noon for the  
Appalachian Pastel Society Meeting**

**with Cathyann Burgess**

***Seeing the Light..Going Outside to Paint!***

**and afternoon workshop *Plein Air Workshop***

Morning programs are free and open to the public and a small fee will be charged for the afternoon workshop. Watch for the announcement on the website [www.appalachianpastelsociety.org](http://www.appalachianpastelsociety.org)

***Appalachian Pastel Society Non-Juried Pastel Show***

***The Dance of Pastel***

**March 24 through May 13, 2016**

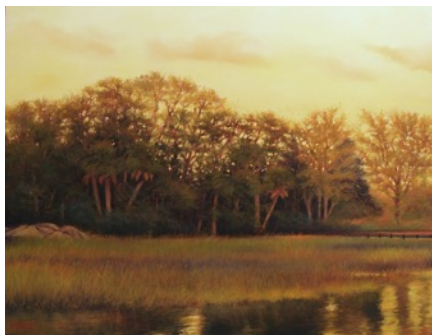
**Grace Community Church**

**495 Cardinal Rd., Mills River, NC**

***The reception is on Sunday, May 1 at 10 a.m. between church services.***

***Artists, families, friends, students, educators are all welcome.***

***Come see the work by our APS Members***



***Jaune Brillante, Susan Meyer Sinyai***



***Sunflower Pastoral, Meryl Meyer***



***Summer Rain, J. Kay Gordon***



***Marsh Bouquet, Zoe Schumaker***



***Weather in Motion, Beverly Kies***



***Caballo Blanco, Alec Hall***



# Thanks



Many thanks to Ron Laboray for his presentation on March 12,



Our thanks go to Deborah Johnson Kidwell for presenting her K.I.S.S. Workshop (Keep It Simple, Sweetie).



## *Your Own Webpage for only \$30!*

**Did you know that as an APS member, you can have your own webpage on the APS Website?**

For only \$30 (one-time charge...no yearly fee), you can have a page that will link from your name in the Membership List. If you already have your own website, we can put a link on this page that will direct people to your website.

Updates to this page can be made for \$15...but otherwise there is no additional charge.

For details...and to see pages already in place, go to the APS website ([www.appalachianpastelsociety.org](http://www.appalachianpastelsociety.org)), and click on the "Member Directory and Gallery" tab at the top of any page.

Information about how to have your own page is above the membership list.

If you have questions, contact the APS Webmaster...

**Kay Gordon**

**APS Webmaster**

[kgordon@main.nc.us](mailto:kgordon@main.nc.us)

828.206.0240

# Board Members

## Officers

				
<p><b>President:</b>  <b>Suzanne “Sparky” Nelson</b>  <a href="mailto:sparkynelsonpaints@gmail.com">sparkynelsonpaints@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Vice President</b>  <b>Kathleen Cantwell</b>  <a href="mailto:kathleenmcantwell@gmail.com">kathleenmcantwell@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Treasurer</b>  <b>Maggie Whitney</b>  <a href="mailto:maggi whitney10@yahoo.com">maggi whitney10@yahoo.com</a></p>	<p><b>Secretary</b>  <b>Catherine McCarty</b>  <a href="mailto:clmpastelist@gmail.com">clmpastelist@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Immediate Past President:</b>  <b>Suzy Hart</b>  <a href="mailto:suzyhartfineart@yahoo.com">suzyhartfineart@yahoo.com</a></p>

## Board of Directors

			
<p><b>Gary Rupp</b>  <b>Exhibition Committee</b>                  (2016 Member Show)  <a href="mailto:glrupp11@yahoo.com">glrupp11@yahoo.com</a></p>	<p><b>Suzy Hart</b>  <b>Membership/ Communications</b>  <a href="mailto:suzyhartfineart@gmail.com">suzyhartfineart@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Paint Out Committee</b>   <b>Gary Rupp</b>  <a href="mailto:glrupp11@yahoo.com">glrupp11@yahoo.com</a></p>	<p><b>Jim Hefley</b>  <b>Publicity Committee</b>  <a href="mailto:jhefley@charter.net">jhefley@charter.net</a></p>
			
<p><b>Sheryl Daniels</b>  <b>Hospitality Committee</b>  <a href="mailto:stdaniels@embrqmail.com">stdaniels@embrqmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Sydney Wilson</b>  <b>Newsletter Committee</b>  <a href="mailto:wilstu@charter.net">wilstu@charter.net</a></p>	<p><b>Anne Allen</b>  <a href="mailto:annekallen@gmail.com">annekallen@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Kay Gordon</b>  <b>Website Committee</b>  <a href="mailto:jkaygordon364@gmail.com">jkaygordon364@gmail.com</a></p>
			
<p><b>Anne Allen</b>  <b>Library Committee</b>  <a href="mailto:annekallen@gmail.com">annekallen@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Cathyann Burgess</b>  <b>Programs/Workshops</b>  <a href="mailto:cathyannburgess@gmail.com">cathyannburgess@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Gallery Committee (non-juried)</b>  <b>Anne Allen</b>   <b>Alex Hall</b></p>	<p><b>Karen Chambers</b>  <b>Statewide Show</b>  <a href="mailto:karenpaints@hotmail.com">karenpaints@hotmail.com</a></p>

### 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 \_\_\_ Hospitality \_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_

Newsletter \_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_ Clerical \_\_\_ Workshops \_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Our new membership year is September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to August 31, 2016. If you have not renewed yet, please print out the form below and send it in as soon as possible. This helps us keep our records current, keeps you in the loop for announcements about our awesome programs, shows, exhibitions and member news.

The new membership year promises to be an exciting one, with plein air events, great demonstrations and workshops, and the wonderful company and support from your fellow artists.

Stay in the loop, stay involved, and renew now! Please call me or email me if you aren't sure of your current status.

Send your \$25 dollar check and the Membership Application to:

Suzy Hart  
122 Broome Lane  
Easley, SC 29640

More information: [www.appalachianpastelsociety.org](http://www.appalachianpastelsociety.org)  
Or contact Suzy at: [appalachianpastelsociety@gmail.com](mailto:appalachianpastelsociety@gmail.com)  
845.986.3653