



Letter from the President—Gary Rupp

During one of the first workshops I attended using pastels, each of the participants received a brand new box of Unison pastels. I still remember opening the box and thinking how perfect and beautiful those pastels looked. Each one was clean, labeled and in its right place. Then our instructor, Maggie Price, said loud and clear “rip off the labels and break every stick”. I was certain I had misheard. She really didn’t mean it. She must be joking! Finally, realizing she was serious I started to rip and break. It was a truly painful experience. And that was the first of many lessons I had to learn. But that one moment changed me and the way I went about learning to paint. It taught me that everything I wanted to learn as a painter was on the other side of fear. In other words, it was not going to be enough just to attend workshops and come away with some comfortable knowledge that I could show off to others. I had to be willing to learn how to learn. That meant a willingness to try a new thing, hear things I may not have wanted to hear, and do what I was anxious about doing.

Years later, I was painting next to a lady who told me how terrified she was of the critique session coming at the end of the workshop day. When that time came, I found there was nothing I could say that would encourage her to jump in. She never did participate. I can’t say what she might have heard in that critique, but I knew I had just witnessed what happens when you don’t risk learning how to learn. Over the years I’ve learned many things about pastel painting by taking workshops, entering exhibitions, attending APS meetings and painting with fellow artists. But when someone asks me, “how did you learn to do that?” I think to myself the answer is I had to learn how to learn. And for me, the first lesson was to know this: “Fear is a Liar”. My hope is that you will join us at APS and learn how to learn along with us!

Gary

Gary Rupp, APS President

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The APS general meeting is scheduled every second Saturday of the month: Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov, from 10 am - 12 pm

Any interested in pastel are welcome.

Appalachian Pastel Society

November 10, 2018 Meeting

10 a.m. – 12 noon

Grace Community Church

495 Cardinal Road, Mills River, NC 28759

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

APS presents—Linda Coulter, *“Water, Movement and Light”*

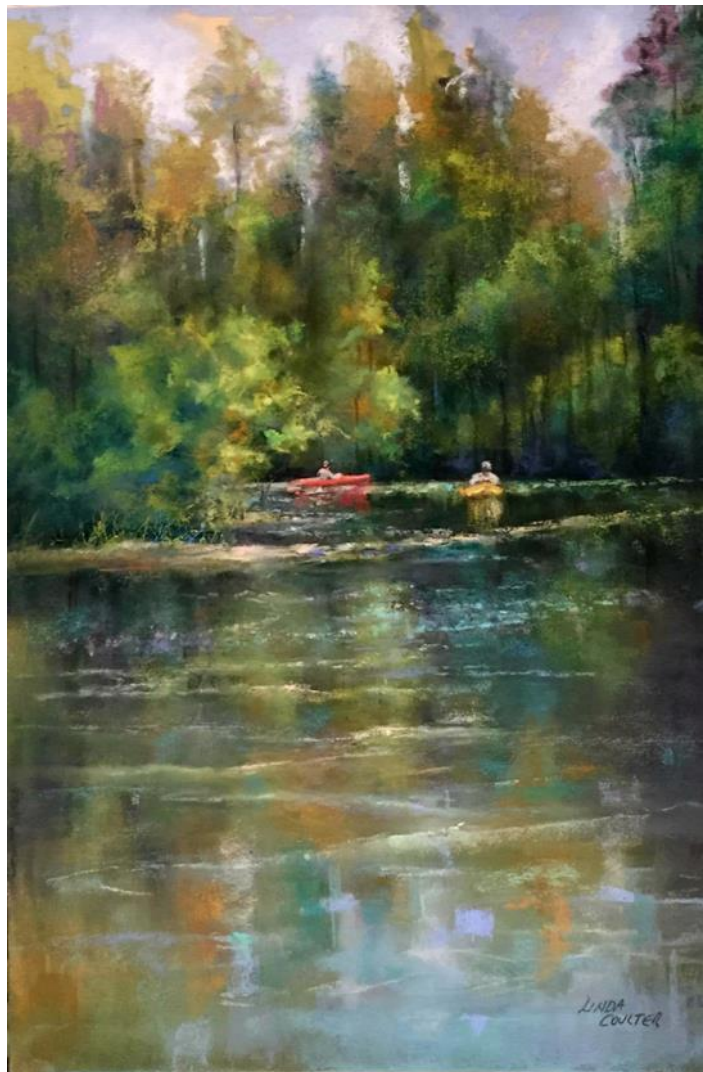
Linda Coulter began her art career with drawing, and while she has since worked in a wide variety of media, she finds pastels to be a direct progression from drawing to painting. She delights in the “hands-on” feeling of pastels for layering texture and color, and in building emotional impact with value, light, and vibrant hues.

Linda teaches privately and to groups in studio, and has conducted plein air workshops internationally.

The afternoon workshop will continue with —

Creating Water with Pastel

Please Note: FOR THIS MEETING ONLY, we will hold the meeting in The Educational Building. Signs will be in place to direct everyone to the new room location.



Workshop: 1pm to 4pm...

To register go to www.appalachianpastelsociety.org
Linda Coulter...”Water, Reflections and Light in Pastels”

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Linda Coulter



ABOUT LINDA:

Born in East Orange, New Jersey, Linda was raised in Monmouth County and lived in Ocean County for the last 20 years. She has always loved drawing – her earliest memories are of doing pencil portraits of professional football players for her brothers and his friends. By high school, she had taken up pen and ink and was fortunate enough to work after school for a children’s clothing store whose owner allowed her to do their fashion illustrations for the newspaper. She would take home the chosen outfit and decide on a theme for the layout, referring to fashion magazines for poses. In college, Linda majored in fashion illustration and business, but decided to “be sensible” and get an office job after graduation. Fortunately, she discovered a happy medium for the time being – while looking over the shoulder of the draftsman in her engineering group, she offered to help him on her own time. She then became a draftsperson and while not doing landscapes and portraits, she was at least DRAWING. Linda now has her own business doing CAD drawings for architects, environmental companies, interior designers and various other small businesses in the area. During a life painting class, Linda borrowed someone’s pastels and was hooked. She has always loved the “hands-on” feeling of drawing with pencil and charcoal, but has now discovered the vibrant colors of pastels that one cannot find in any other medium.

...for more information about Linda, please visit her website, <https://www.lindacoulter.net>

Workshop participants are encouraged to register early to save a place...



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!

Artist of the Month — Suzy Hart

An Essay: What is essential? What is arbitrary?

- By Suzy Hart

I have spent a lifetime in the arts, and lately, I ponder these questions about life in general, not just art:

What is essential? What is arbitrary?

As I look at this little pastel study of a friend's little toddler, I see a flaw. I always see possible flaws. What is it? Ok, I'll tell you. The bluish tone in the jaw is ok but needs to be raised up one step in value. Then it will be better. Essential. I know, I could have suggested the line of the right arm going off into space, instead of bluntly stopping at the edge of the sleeve. That is arbitrary. But how does one decide when there is an essential change that needs to be made, or when one's perfectionistic brain has imposed an idea that some little thing needs to be changed to get to perfect? What is perfection anyway, and does it really apply to art?



Alex

Art is always subjective. You may be moved by a painting or sculpture when there is something that triggers an emotional response. There are not always technical reasons that explain your reaction. The artwork has communicated something to you, no matter what criteria were applied by the artist.

So how do you know if you are picking apart your painting over some arbitrary detail or compositional element that it is not essential? Perhaps the same way you know in life. If I am chasing some errand that is not serving anyone, when I could be taking just a few moments to observe the sky, feel a breeze, or smile at someone who looks sad in the grocery store, I know I am caught up in stressful arbitrary tasks. My art will reveal the essential more when I approach it from my emotional core, more than when I get caught up on "is it good?". Because part of that question relates to "Am I good enough?" Where does that come from anyway?

I will not master every medium and musical instrument that interests me, and chasing every perfectionistic tendency in my own mind prevents me enjoying what I can do as much as I could. I do know that when there is an essential change that has to be made in a painting it could be very subtle and it's usually not related to the piece as a whole but rather to some elements that are not part of the area of interest. Perhaps some stroke of the pastel or brush or element just distracts from where I want to direct your eye.

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Artist of the Month — Suzy Hart



Bob Bruns, my first portrait teacher, explained values very well. He was not the best painter in the world, (though I found him masterful in my youth, before I found Rembrandt) but his method was sound and he knew how to impart it to a novice. He taught me to see the grayscale, in spite of the power and saturation of color. I began to observe values in faces. Then I started seeing the hues of green, violet, blue in skin, the warm rusts or cool olives in hair. I was off and running! Although I think I stared at people too much.

Drumming at Shakori



*Portrait of Frank Mason –
A Walk in the Light*

Bruns got me thinking about light effects in general, which really matter in landscapes as well as portraits and figures. I had started doing fluorescent surreal paintings when I was eighteen, one of which was published as a blacklight poster. You might have spotted it at Spencer Gifts! I had set up light effects in this tempera, by first working up little charcoal thumbnails of shapes, such as tunnels and mirror images. Looking back, I realize I was using notan. I was thinking macro before I got to micro. Details would be added with fine brushes only after the large areas were defined as shapes of light and dark and the structure was solid and could serve as scaffold for cool detail. (I mean “cool” here, not color temperature...artists!).

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Artist of the Month —Suzy Hart

Later, as I started studying with Frank Mason, I would hear these notan shapes referred to as masses. “Mass your forms”, said Frank. Outdoors in plein air, indoors painting the figure, no matter where or what, it was “Mass your forms!”

Mason would point out the primary light effect on a figure, and relate it to the secondary light effect, which needed to fall back and not compete, but direct and redirect the viewer’s eye to your subject matter. Rembrandt’s disappearing edges cause the eye to return to the human gaze, or a hand, or a crisp clean collar, all of which take the eye back into the human face.

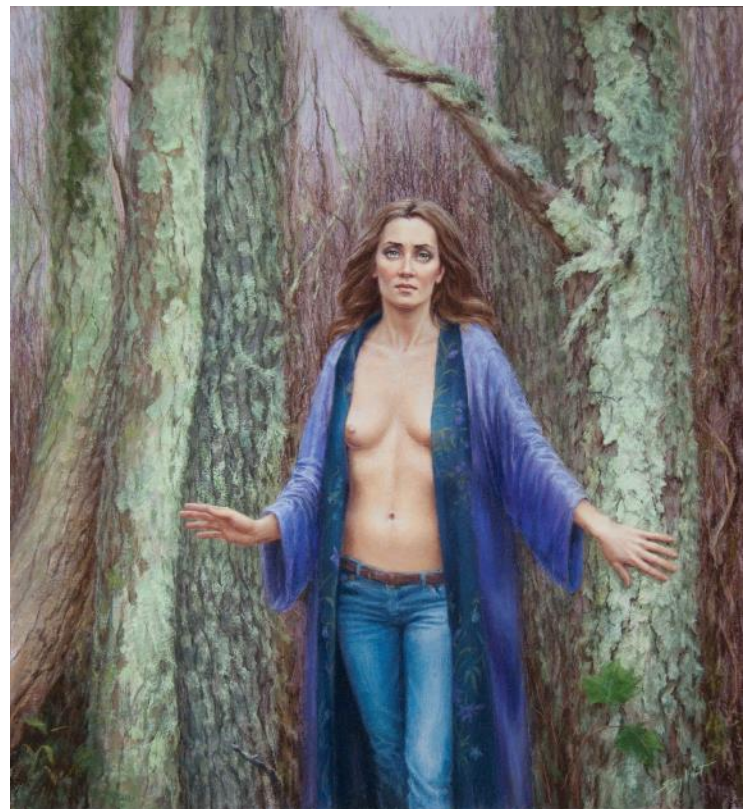
What does all this have to do with pastels? Pastels give you the best of line and color and value, and most importantly, the hand of the artist which imparts character, movement and energy. Some can do that with brushes, but gosh, liquid stuff that you have to push around and scrape and wipe and clean brushes....

That is why pastels. They are fun! If you are a DIY person, you know that sticking a beautiful tile down is way better than rolling up a wall with paint. There is an immediate gratification and “in the moment” quality to pastels. No need to wait for an area to dry to proceed with retouching.

With pastels, you can work in the essential. If you see some little patch that you should have done differently, that is most often arbitrary. Step away for a couple of weeks, and if it still bugs you, fix it. That is when you know it was really essential.

There are truly no limits when it comes to manners of making art. Joining the Appalachian Pastel Society has exposed me to such variety of approach and it is so wonderful to see my fellow painters’ progress and make such beauty. One thing is central. Art is essential to a life well lived! Whether you paint or just love to look and learn about painting, Art is as important to our wellbeing as a healthy body and nourishment.

How you paint and what details you add or omit or wish forever you had done another way - that is arbitrary. What is essential is that you did it!



Let it Rain

APS Field Trip – Wild for Life

On Wednesday October 17th a group from APS went To **Wild For Life**, a center for Rehabilitation of Wildlife. It is a nonprofit Organization licensed for State and Federal Rehabilitation of Wildlife. Member Meryl Meyer first met Susan Wright and Mary Beth Bryman and their wonderful staff at a demonstration at Wild Bird's Unlimited last Spring. He approached them about coming to see their birds of prey to learn more and photograph them for future paintings.

Susan and Mary Beth graciously offered to give a special tour and allow the birds to be seen up close for photographs. Meryl worked with Kay Gordon and together they organized a group of APS members to visit the rehabilitation center. All the APS members had a wonderful day, learning about the work done at the center and being informed about the circumstances under which these birds come to them for rehabilitation. Some birds become permanent residents due to their disabilities.

Several residents were stars for the day: “Junior” the broad winged hawk, “Peewee” the eastern screech owl, “Rosetta” the screech owl, “Willow” the red tailed hawk, and “Soco” the Barred Owl. Everyone took photographs for future paintings, and asked many questions to learn about each bird.



APS Field Trip – Wild for Life

Everyone enjoyed the excursion, and discussed how APS may be able to contribute artistically to help their cause. Lunch afterwards included much conversation covering such topics as art techniques and the upcoming shows. Can't wait to see the paintings inspired by this visit!



Plein Air Outing

Pastelists were out in force Saturday, October 13th, at The French Broad River Park in Asheville. Braving mud and the threat of more rain, we were there to capture the start of fall at our last plein air outing for the year. Leaf colors are late this year, and it took a hurricane to bring in the cooler weather. Yet fall was present in the sycamore trees, and Gary Rupp and Nancy Clausen located a great spot where we could set up and paint without getting too muddy. Views of the train from across the river, as well as the changing leaf colors, were favorite painting topics. Attendees included: Gary Rupp, Nancy Clausen, Chris Robinson, Will Evans, Susan Griffis and Lori Shaffert. We had two visitors join our group - Teri Bastian and Karen Hovde - they found our event on our web site! Social media works! We hope they will join us for future meetings.



News of APS Members

Kay Gordon's painting, "**Go, Go, Go!**" which was juried into the 46th Annual PSA Exhibition in the National Arts Club in NYC, was chosen by the Butler Museum in Youngstown Ohio to be in a show there of pieces selected from the PSA show. The show will be hung in late December and will be up for the first several months of 2019.



Congratulations are in order for Alec Hall, whose painting "**We Have Lift-Off**" was the winner of the People's Choice Award in the 2018 APD Member Show. Alec received a \$100 cash award, donated by Lorraine King to honor the winner.



Zoe Schumaker's painting "**Barnyard Strut**" has been accepted into the **IAPS 33rd Exhibition - The 2018 Web Show**

News of APS Members



Due to his work schedule, APS Member Don Osterberg has been unable to join APS groups to plein air excursions. He has been painting en plein air on his own this year and has found some unique locations with interesting subjects. One of his best experiences this year was painting at Art on Main in Hendersonville. Don highly recommends this as a location for painting – maybe consider the event for a 2019 Plein Air event? His painting of the Art Show street scene was sold before he left that day. Great exposure for the pastel medium!

Congratulations to APS Members Meryl Meyer and Nancy Clausen. Both had works which were accepted into the Swannanoa Fine Art League's **BI-ANNUAL JURIED MEMBERS EXHIBIT** held at the **BLACK MOUNTAIN CENTER for the ARTS**, at 225 West State Street, Black Mountain, NC.

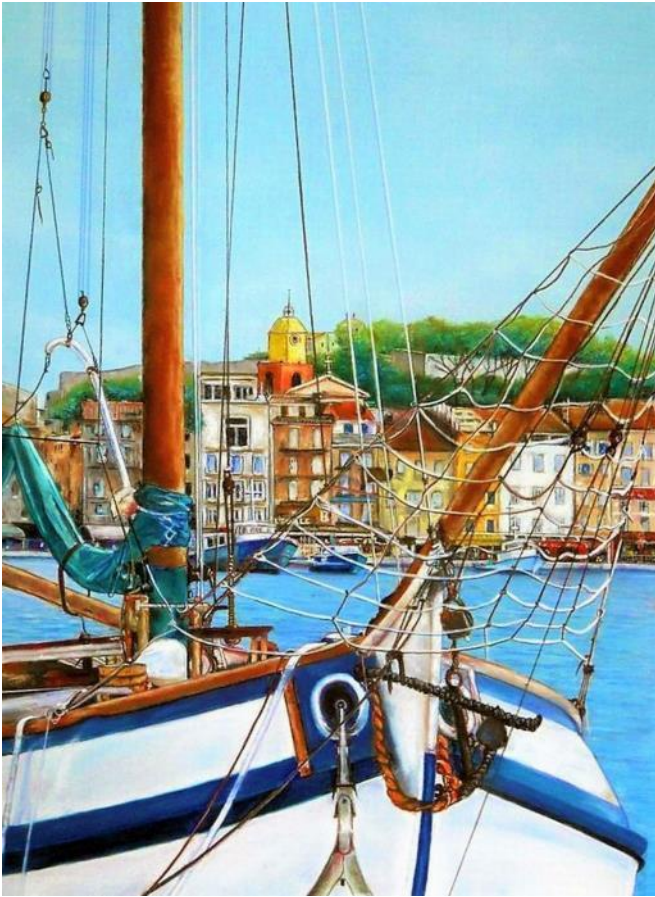
The show is open Monday – Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



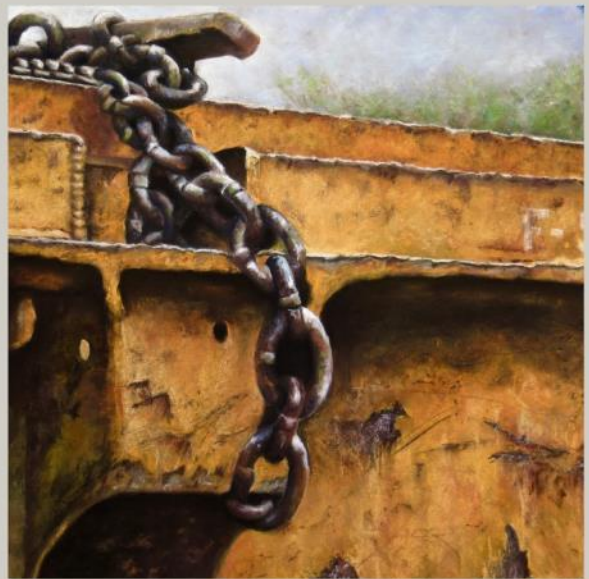
“Ancient Dwelling” by Meryl Meyer

“Cancun Sunset” by Nancy Clausen

News of APS Members



Diana L. Coidan, PSA had two pastels accepted into the **311 Landscapes and Seascapes Juried National Exhibit** in Raleigh, and received Third Place for her pastel, "**St. Tropez Harbor**". The exhibit was displayed the month of September.



"Heavy Duty" by Pamela Winkler

2018 Fall Studio Stroll

Asheville River Arts District

November 10 - 11

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Warehouse Studios • 107 Lyman St.

Hope you will stop in and see what I've been painting this year.

Pamela Winkler • www.pamelawinkler.com

APS Member Pam Winkler will open her studio to visitors during the **2018 Fall Studio Stroll** in the **Asheville River Arts District**. Visit Pam's web site at www.pamelawinkler.com to get an advance look at her paintings. Be sure to stop by and say 'hello' if you are visiting the Stroll.

IAPS 2019 Convention Preview

Welcome to the IAPS Thirteenth Biennial Convention!

Attention All Pastel Artists!

THE BIGGEST PASTEL PARTY ON THE PLANET...

...is back for its Thirteenth Convention next June in historic
Old Town Albuquerque, New Mexico

CONVENTION DATES: TUESDAY, June 4 through SUNDAY, June 9, 2019

CONVENTION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Hotel Albuquerque Reservations opened October 22 . Call for your reservation
today to

Visit the Convention Web Site for a Complete listing of all Classes and Events:

http://www.iapspastel.org/convention_welcome.php



The IAPS Thirteenth Biennial Convention
Hotel is the Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town
Albuquerque, New Mexico.

All activities will be held at the main floor
Convention Center .



IAPS Roommate Wanted!

New member Lori Schaffert is attending IAPS and is hoping to find a roommate
to share accommodations. Please contact her if you are interested at:
loriartist59@gmail.com.

Upcoming Workshops & Classes

The 2019 North Carolina Statewide Exhibition

On Common Ground: From the Mountains to the Sea

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Juror, Lyn Asselta, PSA, IAPS-EP



Softly 20x20

Lyn Asselta will teach a 4-day Plein Air workshop

at Hickory Museum of Art and environs

April 30 – May 3, 2019

“OUTDOORS AND IN, *From Plein Air to Studio*”

“A painting should speak to your soul”

Information & Registration... appalachianpastelsociety.org

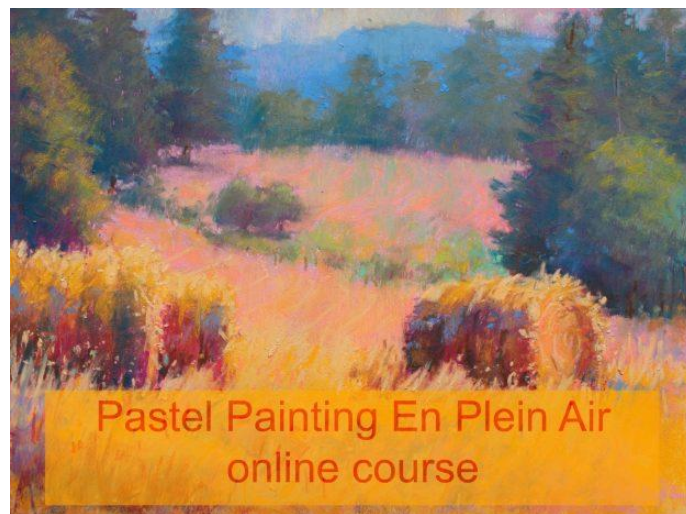
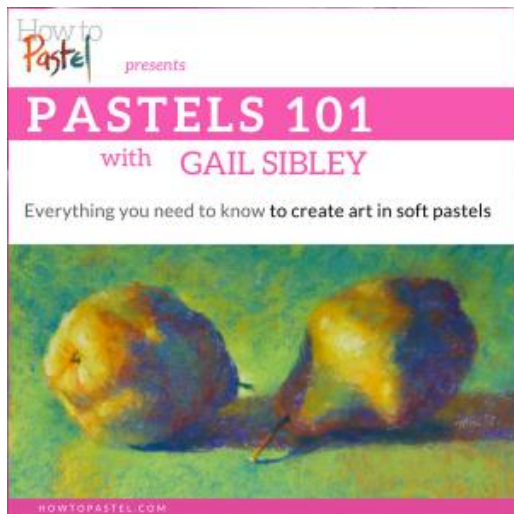
Upcoming Workshops & Classes



"Adventures in Pastel" - an experimental pastel/ mixed media class at the John C. Campbell Folk School, in Brasstown, NC. Taught by APS Member Zoe Schumaker, the class runs from January 27 - February 2, 2019 . The cost is \$630 plus room and board.

The class will explore the beauty and versatility of pastel in combination with other media such as charcoal, water-soluble oil paint, watercolor, and ink. Using simple subjects, we will incorporate pattern, texture, and abstraction to enliven our compositions and create unique personal interpretations.

For more information on the class, contact Zoe at pastelsbyzoe@gmail.com. For more information on the Folk School experience, including lodging options and campus activities, visit www.folkschool.org.



APS Member May Ann Grib discovered Gail Sibley's "How to Pastel" website and blog. You can sign up for the blog at the site www.howtopastel.com, and Gail also offers two courses. The first is a Pastels 101 and the second is Pastel Painting En Plein Air. There is a fee for the courses, however they are very reasonable. The online instruction makes it easy to take the class when it's convenient. Gail also offers online workshops, and individual critiques.

Beautiful paintings ... explore this site for additional information.
www.howtopastel.com

Sidewalk Art Show Opportunity

The Taubman Museum of Art in Roanoke has invited APS members to apply for their annual Sidewalk Art Show! This show takes place every year the weekend after Memorial Day – June 1 & 2 next year – and this will be their 61st Show!

To learn more about the show, please visit:

<https://www.taubmanmuseum.org/happenings/sidewalk-art-show>

The paper prospectus is not yet available yet, but the online application is live – the link to that is on the website as well. If you have any questions whatsoever, please don't hesitate to reach out to their event director

TAUBMAN MUSEUM OF ART
Carley Beckner
Facility Rental & Events Coordinator
540-204-4139
110 Salem Avenue SE Roanoke, VA 24011
www.taubmanmuseum.org.



Artist Information

Meryl Meyer shared the link for an interesting article detailing historic pigments found in The Forbes Collection. From the New Yorker magazine...

TREASURES FROM THE COLOR ARCHIVE

The historic pigments in the Forbes Collection include the esoteric, the expensive, and the toxic.

Author Simon Schama writes a fascinating history of pigments, used for artistic efforts, healing ... and killing. Enjoy the article!

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/09/03/treasures-from-the-color-archive>



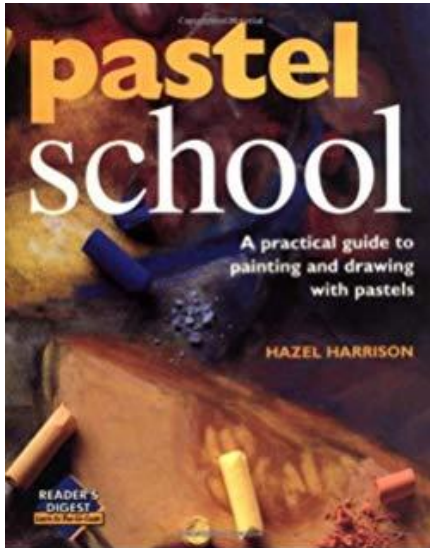
Hello, Everyone!

My name is Susan Griffis, and I have accepted the role of newsletter editor. It is truly an honor to be apart of this Society. The talent in this group is overwhelming!

I have been very impressed by the work submitted, and I look forward to getting to know each of you. If you should have news, workshops, or awards you would like to share via this newsletter, please forward the information for publication. My email is: griffis.susan@gmail.com.

From the APS Library

A new title for the APS Library ...



Pastel School

A Practical Guide to Painting and Drawing with Pastels
by Hazel Harrison

Learn as you go with Hazel Harrison. This pastel instructor provides a thorough introduction to working pastels, a guide to the special properties of the medium, the various types of available pastels, and the techniques of working with the medium. The guide offers simple exercises for exploring texture, color, and technique. This is a popular book with APS membership and is available in the lending library.

APS requests a \$5 DEPOSIT for each checked-out item. The deposit will be refunded when the items are returned to the Librarian.

Rental time: 2 months -from one meeting to the next. APS Membership required.

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), 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, 828.206.0240

APS Officers and Board Members

OFFICERS:

President: Gary Rupp, garyruppart@gmail.com

Vice President: Will Evans, pineconelodge@gmail.com

Secretary: Darlene Hays, hayes_darlyne@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Alec Hall, alechall801@gmail.com

Immediate Past President: Sparky Nelson, sparkynelsonpaints@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

2019 NC Statewide Show: Kay Gordon , kgordon@main.nc.us
Nancy Clausen, nancy@clauseninstrument.com

2018 APS Member Show: Kay Gordon, kgordon@main.nc.us
Alec Hall, alechall801@gmail.com

Ad Hoc Board Member: Zoe Schumaker, zoe_schumaker@yahoo.com

Membership: and Communications: Bobbie Kelsten, appalachianpastelsociety@gmail.com

Programs: Robbins Richardson robbinsrichardson@gmail.com
Jan Jackson janujackson@hotmail.com

Publicity Coordinator: Jane Voyles, joyles121618@gmail.com

Non-juried Shows: Anne Allen, annekallen@gmail.com

Nominating: Judy Harron, abharron@live.com

Hospitality: Sheryl Daniels, stdaniels@embarqmail.com

Paint Outs: Gary Rupp, garyruppart@gmail.com
Nancy Clausen, nancy@clauseninstrument.com

Library: Anne Allen, annekallen@gmail.com

Newsletter: Susan Griffis, griffis.susan@gmail.com

Social Media: Chris Robinson, harpnhu@charter.net

Website: Kay Gordon, kgordon@main.nc.us

**Appalachian Pastel Society
Membership Application**

DATE _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Telephone _____ **Alt Telephone** _____

E-Mail _____ **Website** _____

Renewing Member _____ **New Member** _____

Artist _____ **Art Supporter** _____

Committee Interests (How you can help):

Exhibitions _____ **Programs** _____ **Hospitality** _____ **Telephone** _____ **Newsletter** _____ **Website** _____
Membership _____ **Clerical** _____ **Workshops** _____ **Other** _____

Awards/Experience/Comments:

Skills: (Media/Teaching/Computer/Photography/Clerical/Organization/Leadership/other)

What are your expectations of APS? (How can we best serve our membership?)

How did you learn about APS? Newspaper ___ **Magazine** ___ **Web** ___ **Friend** ___ **Other** _____

Please include a check made payable to “APS” in the amount of \$25 for membership for one year. You can also submit a digital form and pay with PayPal or credit card on our website, www.appalachianpastelsociety.org If you don’t submit a digital form, please print and mail this form. Thank you!

***** NEW... APS membership year starts January 1st *****

Send to: Bobbie Kelsten, Membership Chair, 10 Flaxen Ln., Asheville, NC 28803

More information: contact Bobbie at: appalachianpastelsociety@gmail.com (828) 274-3578