



The following 29 artists, who are members of the Appalachian Pastel Society, participated in this virtual group activity. The artwork they created is shared here. Hugs and best wishes to all.

## APS Adventures in Pastel C-2 “Using Up the Leftovers”

Welcome to the second Adventure in Series C.

In this challenge we want you to consider the following question: Have you ever purchased a set of assorted pastels and found that after several painting sessions you’ve needed to order more sticks of certain colors while others are left in the box and barely or never used?

The answer for most pastelists is an absolute “yes”! If you’ve been painting for a length of time, you may even have a box or two of these “leftovers” tucked away in a closet or under a bed. For this Adventure, the challenge is to create a painting using your “leftovers”.

**Step 1:** Locate your leftovers and select the subject of your choice for painting. You may choose to do the entire painting with your leftovers or use them in combination with a few of your favorites. The size and surface used are entirely up to you.

**Step 2:** While you’re painting, consider why it is you feel drawn to certain familiar hues and seem to ignore or at times reject other hues. Most of all, enjoy the process and have fun with those leftovers.

**Step 3:** Take a photo of your painting AND a photo of your “leftover” collection. Send both photos along with the size and title of your artwork to Kay Gordon ([jkaygordon364@gmail.com](mailto:jkaygordon364@gmail.com)) by 6:00PM on February 22nd. Please feel free to comment on your experience and what you think about the results of using ignored or abandoned colors.

**Step 4:** Remember, this deadline is firm. Nothing can be posted that is received after 6:00PM on February 22nd. Note also your painting does NOT need to be in its finished form. This Adventure is to encourage, excite and learn more about pastels. And to do it along with other pastelists!

GET READY, GET SET, GO PULL OUT THOSE LEFTOVERS!

Catharin McCarthy Banta, Hendersonville, NC



*Mimi's Tree*

12 x 9

*Uart*



This twisted , wind blown tree can be seen out my grandmothers back deck in the Mts in Blowing Rock. I believe it has taken a lot of hits from the elements since the wind and snow can be pretty fierce.

The photo was taken at sunset so the colors were fairly vivid and it was interesting to me how fuchsia seems to creep into my work .

I have a always enjoyed working with complements , yellows, purples, red and greens and enjoyed this challenge as well.

Thank you!

Claire Benton, Riverview, FL



*Lemons*

5 x 7

*Pastel Board*

I just don't use yellows often.



Jane Best, Morganton



*Looking Up*

10 x 8

on Art Spectrum (Sand) toned paper.

This painting is based on a photo I took early one morning last summer in an old cemetery. The dark behind the sunlit flower was actually the shaded side of a tombstone.

Blacks and whites are my least used colors so I decided to use a light colored paper and make a black background. After drawing the outline of the image I covered the background with black pastel and blended it using alcohol and a brush. Then I used a variety of lesser used colors for my image. When I was nearly finished, I felt like the black background looked too “dead” so I warmed it up a little with a few sidestrokes of burnt Sienna pastel.

This was an interesting adventure and I’m glad I was able to use some of my leftovers.

**Beryl Bradley, Brevard, NC**



*Posies*

9 x 6

Attached is my incomplete "Posies" on 6x9 moss green sanded paper using a mix of pastels I rarely use.

I ran out of time so I will do more work on it but wanted to get it submitted.

Some of these pastels will be put into my "active pastels" box now that I've used them.

Thanks for all you do!

**Chris Carroll, New Bern, NC**

The pastel is a water scene 12 x 15 on uart board. I loved working on this board and I used many hard pastels that I have on the back of my table.

So I brought those up front and did a painting with Albert Handell.

Thanks



*12 x 15*

Deborah Chase, Rutherfordton, NC

*Flower Portrait 9.5 x 13.5*



I'm not too organized. The colors I don't use must be at the bottom of the pile.  
I looked through photos of recent artwork and chose a vivid pink as a color I seldom use.  
I know I prefer the cool half of the color wheel.  
The painting is on white Artspectrum paper with a pastel alcohol wash background.

## Nancy Clausen, Swannanoa, NC

The camera on the phone didn't seem to pick up the colors so it looks a little washed. Maybe the time of day. The pastels I used were mainly Great American and a few Jack Richeson. Most of the colors have sat on the other side of my table and I tend to use the colors in front of those which I like better plus some other brands. Now that I've used them, I'll probably use them more frequently than I have in the past.

The painting is a 9x12 on Uart 400 which I don't often use either, but it worked well.

The painting is from a time my husband and I visited our son and his family while they were camping out. It has good memories.



*Down by the River 9 x 12*



**Claire Crook, Hendersonville, NC**

This was indeed a challenge. There are reasons that we don't use certain pastels.

I further challenged myself with a subject that I don't usually do.

Flesh, black and white. Not in my pallet. I learned a lot, so am grateful for the challenge.

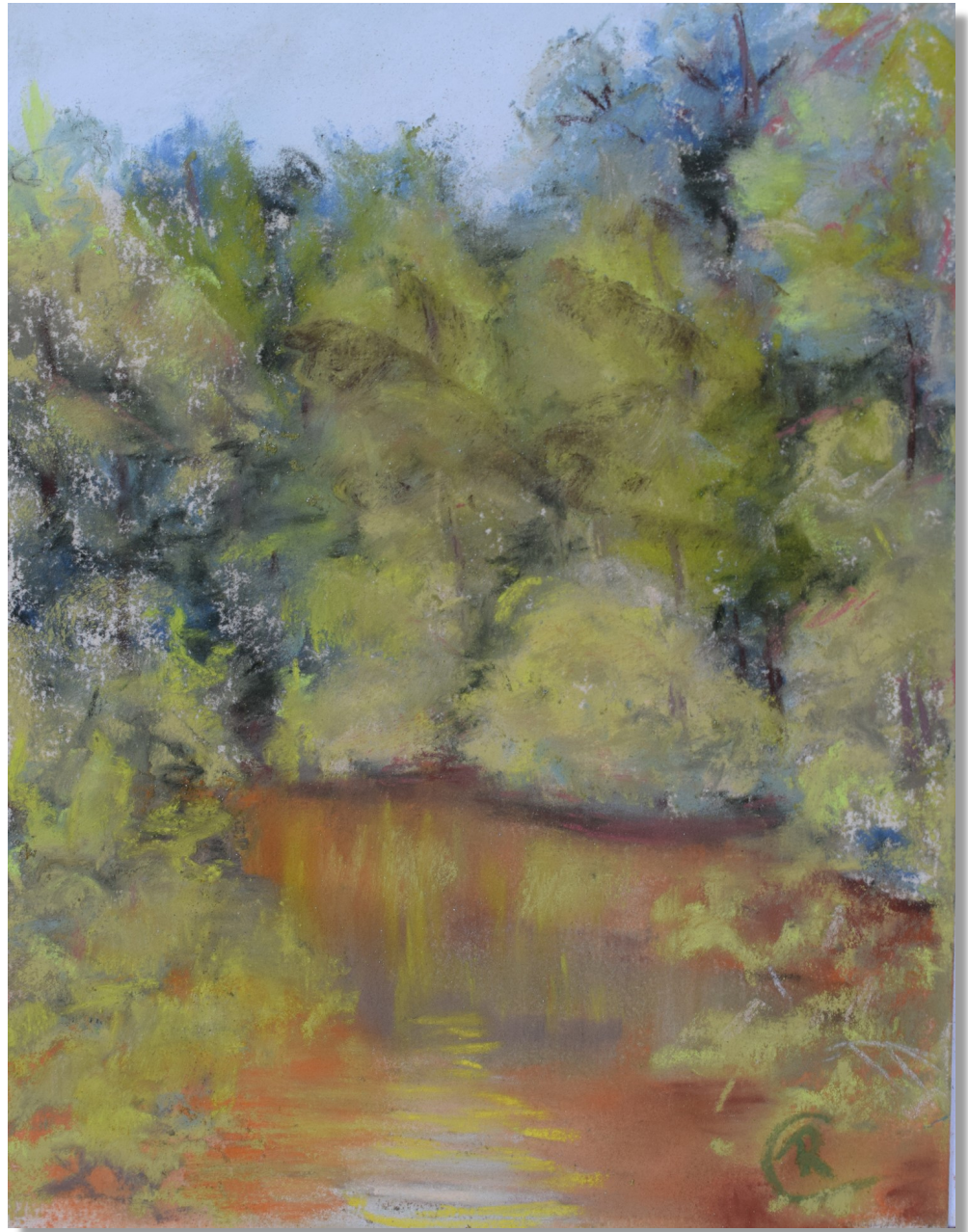
Thank you.

*Derby Glamour*

*12 x 16 on Canson paper*



Ruth Crowe, Matthews, NC



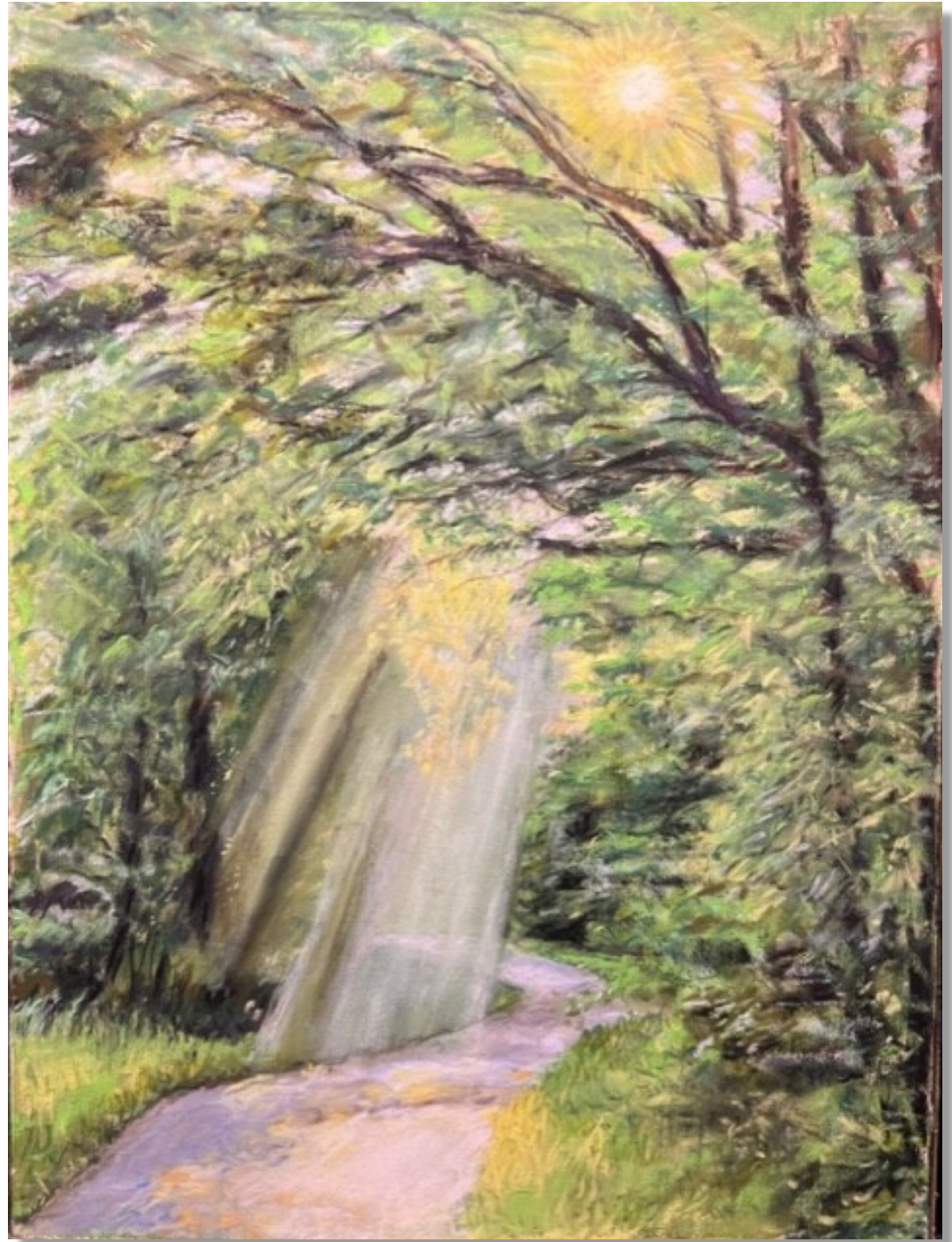
*Turkey Creek 2 7 x 5*

I used this spare box of Girault pastels which was given to me by a special friend. I have used some of them, but keep them separate from my pastels that I use. This is one of my favorite brands of pastel. I find the colors great, and they are a medium softness. Most of the ones in the box were from the green family. The only ones which I used that were not in the box are the two yellow green at the end of the box. My source picture was a photo taken in 2008 in Florida where we lived for 6 months near my son and his family. They had a raised walkway along Turkey Creek which we enjoyed walking frequently. I used a 7 x 5 format on UArt 400 grit beige paper.

Once again thank you for this Series of Adventures.

Tracy Davis, Asheville, NC

Shining Through 12 x 9



UArt 400

These are my forgotten colors. Too bad I picked this lot before the March demo... The painting is from a photo a friend took and I thought it a good one for the rarely used greens and yellows I have (and black).

**Terrilynn Dubreuil, Asheville**

*Foxy Cat*  
10 x 8

I always have some old pieces of pastels sitting in a couple small jars or dish .. usually they are waiting for the moment to be crushed and recycled into new sticks. Here are the choices I used .. and it's rather nice to work with an odd, limited palette.

A photo of my granddaughter's cat with her long ears and I'm off. I worked trying to stay totally in line, not using the side of the sticks (my favorite way to paint) .. but it is also the Element of Art I am recently presenting in my Patron and pastel society presentations. Focus on Line!

Again, as with most challenges - because they take me out of my habitual approach to painting - I had FUN!



## Will Evans, Fairview

Attached is a 9x12 on Uart 400 challenge "Using up leftovers" "Sunrise."

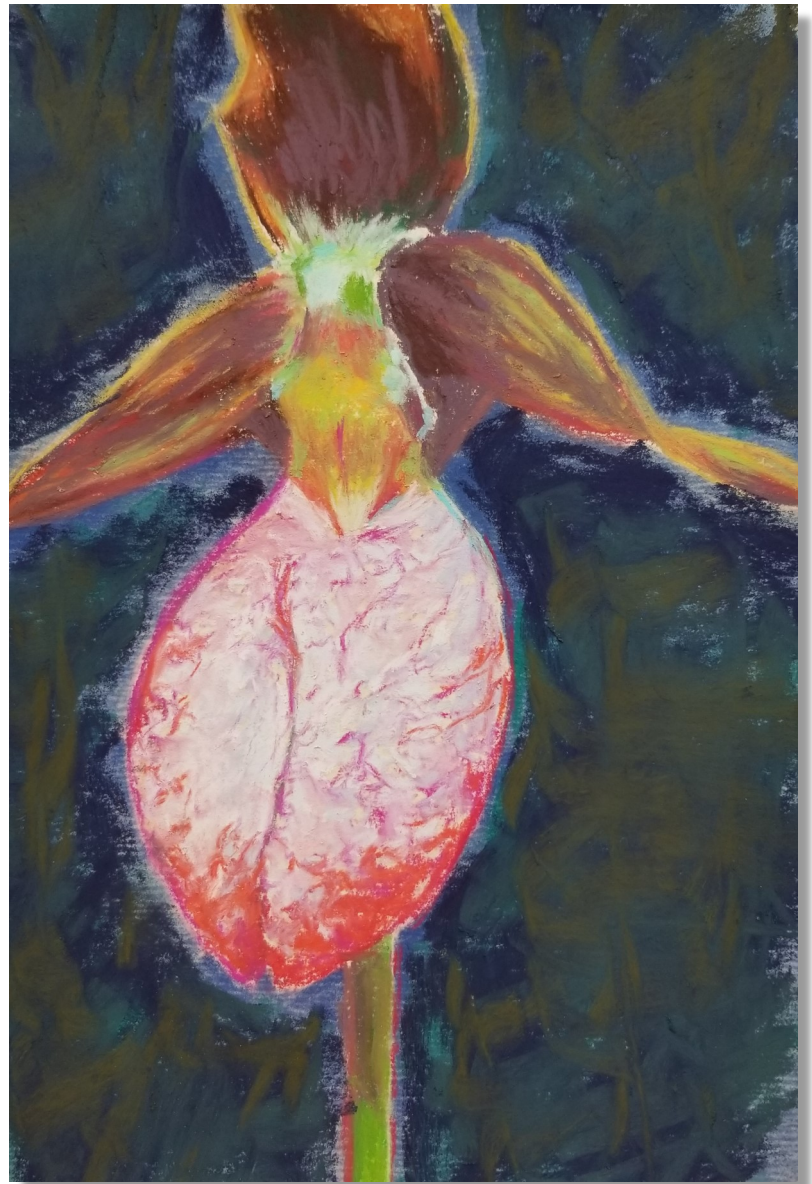
I went to my stash of hard pastels and looked for the ones still wrapped and unused.

So I started with a turquoise sketch, washed in with alcohol. My inspiration is early mornings the sunrise briefly appears as gold, not a trace of blue, white or grey. I scumbled a good bit to achieve the light bouncing off the trees, rocks and ground.



*Sunrise* 12 x 9

*Welcoming Spring* 8 x 6



I have a small collection of Rembrandts that I bought from someone years ago, and that I'd sort of pushed to the back of a drawer. The colors were not awful, but I had other brands that I always reached for first. The colors of these pastels were basic and limited...and did not have the variety or rich chroma of my current favorite choices.

For this painting, I used regular (cream) Uart 800...a mistake with these pastels, as they didn't cover the paper very well and so had to be applied much heavier than I usually do. I would have had better results if I had chosen a dark blue Canson, and kept a light touch.

It's not quite time for the Lady Slippers yet. They come up in May. We used to live across from a lovely wooded hillside that was blanketed with Lady Slippers every spring. The reference photo for this painting was one of MANY pictures I took of those flowers.

MaryAnn Grib, Gray, TN



*Meditation 10 x 7*



I don't have a box of "rejects" so I chose pastels I seldom use.

I began by playing around with some abstract ideas, but then I thought about a portrait subject I had in mind to do. There's a gentleman I see at Mass very often who prays his Rosary in this position a lot and I am always taken by his meditative spirit.

I created a very quick sketch one day with the thoughts of painting him one day. This challenge gave me the opportunity to test the waters.

I like how using these select pastels allowed me to create more of a feeling of the subject rather than a pure representation. Worth noting, this was done mostly from memory.

This is on 7x10 primed multi media paper and title is Meditation.

Alec Hall, Hendersonville



*Morocco*

6.5 x 9



Title: "Morocco"

Surface: UART 500 grit

Size: 6.5" x 9"

I have nothing against bright colors, but my animal paintings don't typically require many vibrant colors. Thus, I chose a subject that would allow me to incorporate reds, oranges, yellows, and bright blue to compliment the cat in this setting.

It was fun to bring some vibrancy into one of my paintings and it felt good to utilize some of the sticks and pencils that too often never get out of their box.

Think Spring! Alec



West Point Tree

5 x 3



When I downsized to my apartment I gave away a lot of pastels...some were leftovers. The friend I gave them to was a beginner. They were artist quality and she could keep her costs down while she was in the “deciding if I like pastels mode.”

I kept little pieces of my leftovers and for this challenge used them to paint this 3x5 Pastelmat “West Point Tree.”

My reference was a photo I took about 2010 upon a visit to the Academy to see my eldest grandson. Sweet memories.

## Anne Hudson, Lexington, KY

Good evening. I rarely use my gray and brown pastels. For this little painting of the Koala Bear I used both. I am working on shapes and values. I am practicing Koala bears this month. Assuming I end up with one I like, I plan to gift a Koala Bear painting to a friend who recently traveled to Australia.



I am still painting heavy handed and over working.

For this little painting I used a mix of hard and soft pastels, and a few pastel pencils. The painting is on a 5x7" Uart 500 paper. I did not use an underpainting. I started out with a quick stretch and dark hard pastels. I have attached the reference photo. I can't remember where I got it. I think online from Getty Images.



I always love the creativity and activity of painting with pastels. However, not always the end result. 😞

Suggestions are welcomed and appreciated. I know I need to work on the angle of the head and eyes/ perspective. As I was painting, I realized it was off.

Cheers my new pastel friends. Thank you for the experience and opportunity.

*Just Hanging Out* 5 x 7



**Kathy Hutchinson**, Rutherfordton, NC

5"x 7" on a scrap piece of Colourfix 'clear' sanded paper.

I used a variety of everything from hard pastels to super soft. I dug out some pastels I haven't used in a long time. I took an image from a copyright free source.

Only the second time I tried animal fur. I think I have a lot to learn.. either that or just revert to landscape!

Fun regardless.

*Here's Lookin' at You 7x 5*



**Lynn Jackson, Brevard, NC**

These are colors that I have never used.

I was surprised to be able to pull off a painting with them. Quite a color combination.

I had a collection of seashells that I thought would be fun to draw. I like the flow of the shapes.

I used charcoal pencil, Rembrandt pastels and Canson pastel paper



*Seashapes 8 x 12*



## Karen Knaub, Lake Lure

So this was a very difficult challenge for me for 2 reasons.

1. I just had total hip replacement last week. So to stand and move around is challenging but I haven't missed one yet and didn't want to start now. I look forward to these every month. So thank you for motivating me.



2. I consider myself a color junky. The brighter the color the better I like it.

And I am not a fan of greens.

We took this pic a few weeks ago during a hike.

This was done on black sanded uart assorted pastels.

Again thank you so much for all these challenges and the time you put into these adventures. I appreciate it

*Swamp Scum*  
12 x 9

**Cindy Lidd**, Garner, NC

Attached is my painting "Peanut Portrait", on Uart 400, 9x12. I rarely use black, so when we were instructed to use our leftovers, I immediately thought about my sister's pet "Peanut", who is mostly black.

Thanks for the challenge!



*Peanut Portrait*

12 x 9

## Anne Lunney, Melrose, MA

Here's a piece I completed for a class I am doing. Our assignment was to complete two paintings of the same marsh scene with a monochromatic color scheme and a limited value range of 4 to 7. The first painting was blue and the second was yellow. I use blue regularly and yellows rarely; voila, perfect timing for this APS challenge. The class is loosely based on Monet's haystacks, although with marshes as the subject matter. The intent is to see how a limited value palette can affect the finished piece and what luminosity can still be achieved. The second concept was how the color choice affects the mood of the painting. I did the blue painting first and it was a very restful, soothing composition. The same subject seems vibrant and alive here. I feel I learned a lot from this color study, and was surprised how quickly the second one came along. I reaped the benefit of completing a quick value sketch, followed by the blue value study; by the time I started the yellow, I had a clear intent of where I wanted to go. This week we move on to analogous color schemes on the same scene. Excited to see where this will take me.

### *Golden Glow*



**Margaret V Lyn-Soroken, Black Mountain**

Title: Beach find  
Size: 12 x 9  
Medium: left over pastels on  
Drawing paper



Comment: challenge was not to cheat and find me some colors...

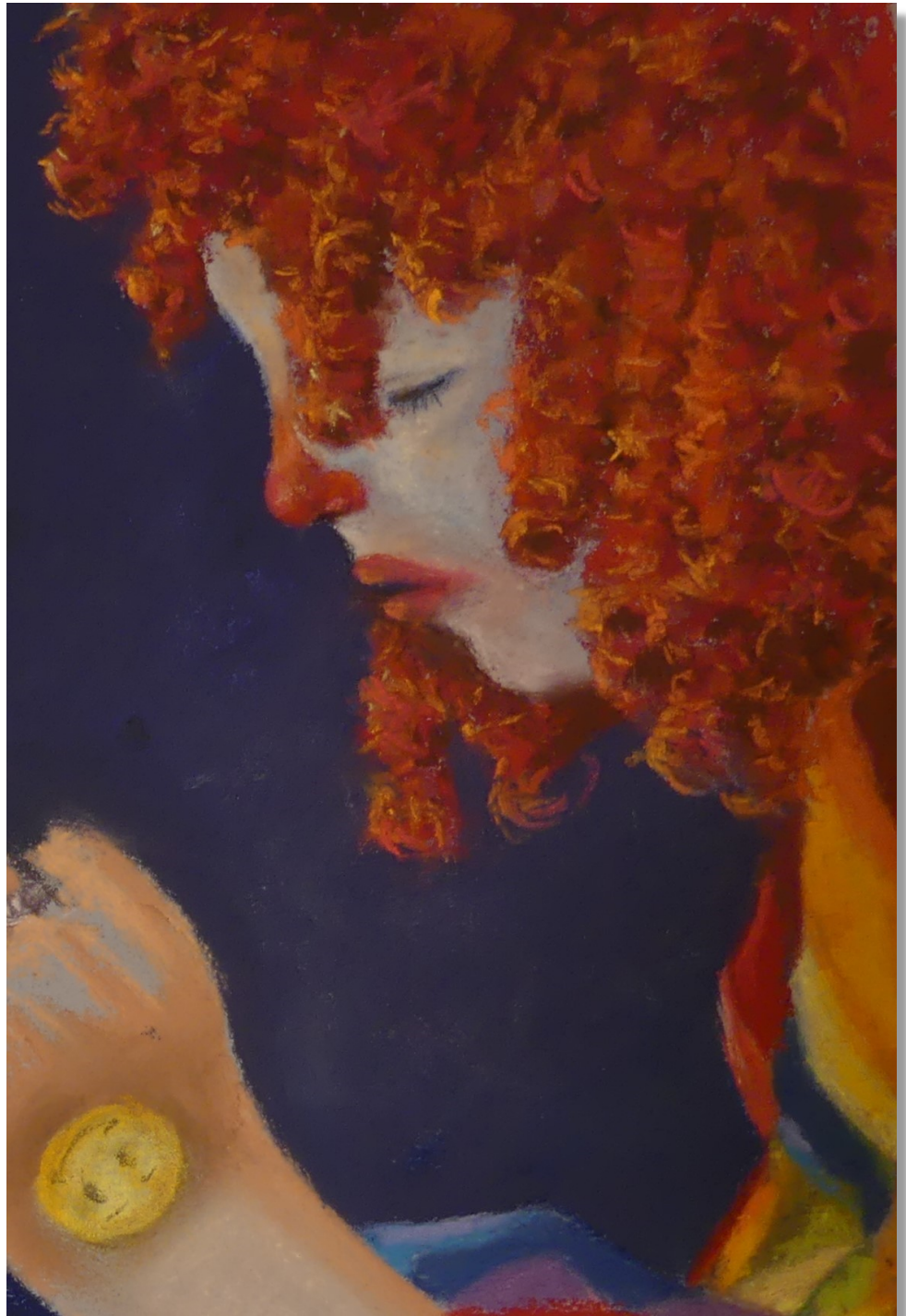
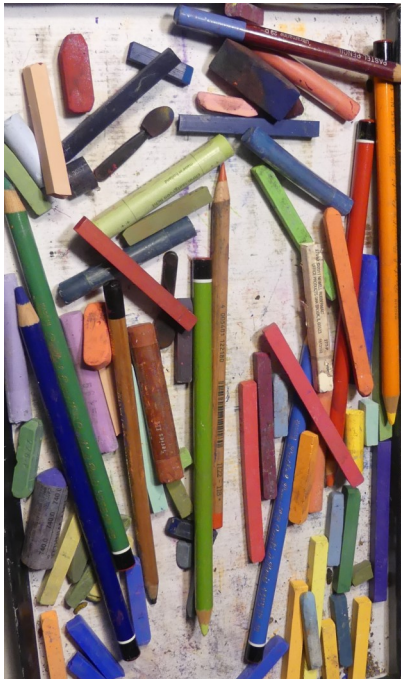


**Linda Medders-Jackson, Cross, SC**

Note before you laugh at it --- I am needing eye surgery and all the DRs are booked up so I really have a very blurry and other weird views while trying to accomplish this. I planned a bigger painting so this is the only a piece I managed to get started still needs lots of work.

Also, I do not do people and was just messing around seeing what I could do.

nupastels, Conte pencils , Derwent pencils, Rembrandt, Jack Richeson. Art Spectrum, Grumbacher Oldies, Pitt pencils on old, old art spectrum paper



*Facepainting* 6 x 4

**Meryl Meyer, Weaverville**



*Color Studies for "A Walk in Wales" 4 x 6*



Color Studies for "A Walk in Wales"

4 x 6 on Sennelier La Carte Paper

Assorted soft and hard pastels

I used some of my favorite pastels, Tony Allain's color set by Unison and Terry Ludwig. I then added some Mungyo and Grumbacher soft pastels which were tucked away in my storage area. I am glad we did this challenge because I had forgotten how much I liked the Grumbacher pastels

They are creamier and do well on the sanded paper. The Mungyo are too hard for me. I guess it might be the paper I used. I also learned a lot by doing color and value studies.

Barbara Moerk, Hendersonville

*Bottle Study*  
8 x 6



Hi, I found myself gritting my teeth painting this study. I had to take the paper off these pastel sticks because I never used them. I don't like them and unconsciously avoided them.

That started me wondering about how profoundly color affects our emotions. I am not sure I will ever finish this piece since I detest the high chroma pink, Kelly green and black I picked out for the challenge.

Thank you for the interesting challenge.

**Gary Rupp, Black Mountain**

*Cave Bear*

9 x 12



With this Adventure calling for the use of neglected colors, I thought it would be a good fit to attempt a subject I had never painted. The result was this painting of a replica of a 15,000 year old Romanian cave bear skull. They say he stood thirteen feet high and the massive jaw and teeth speak for themselves. The title is "Cave Bear" and it's 9x12 on Pastel Premier paper.

The other photo shows my neglected palette. The verdict is still out on whether I like these neglected colors better now or not. I guess future paintings will determine if I use them again.



## Zoe Schumaker, Hiawassee, GA

I love the concept of this adventure, as it pre-selected my palette. I identified my least-used colors by looking through my main pastel box for pristine sticks. There were some expected results -- jarringly bright pinks, reds and oranges, and some cooler, bright greens which can appear artificial in a landscape. But there were also some surprises -- yummy violets, turquoises, and some nice warm and cool neutrals.

I selected a floral reference that called for some bright colors, and I chose a pre-painted (abstract) support that had a mix of warmer greens and ochres, hoping that would work well with the palette. I did my best to create any missing colors through blending, with some limited success. I reached into my box for a couple helpers -- a lighter pink and a darker red. About 90 minutes into the exercise, I ran out of steam. But, I enjoyed the experience. My takeaway: all pastel colors are beautiful! I'm going to spend more time with these "unfavorites" and see if I can find fun and surprising places to use them (not just places where that local color is present).

Thanks, APS, for another stimulating adventure!



*Coneflowers and Friends* 9 x 12 on ArtSpectrum Colourfix Paper 9 x 12

## Andrea Stutesman, Black Mountain

Paper/Medium: Watercolor paper with pastel ground and primer followed by soft pastels  
Interesting challenge.

There are few colors I have not used in pastels as I try new techniques and combinations continually. So I tried a different technique and least used colors.

Tried to use the techniques from our last workshop with Rita Kirkman.



*Highlanders*

18 x 24

Much appreciation to all who participated and shared their paintings and their comments!