



April 2014 Newsletter

Presentation and Workshop by Regina Burchett

Appalachian Pastel Society - May 10, 2014 Meeting at 10 AM

Presentation and Workshop by Regina Burchett

“Skies, Clouds and Storms”

At Grace Community Church - 495 Cardinal Road - Mills River, NC 28759



Description of Program

The ever-changing sky, whether it holds peaceful cumulus clouds or dark and dramatic storm clouds, is my favorite subject to paint. I have photographed thousands of different cloud formations which serve as the subjects for my paintings. In my presentation, I'll discuss how to incorporate dramatic and realistic clouds into your landscape paintings and also how to create beautiful abstract cloud paintings. During the demonstration, I will paint portions of several different types of clouds to show how to create a believable sky by studying the light and using soft edges to "set" the clouds. In addition, I will discuss how to maximize the use of your cloud photos to increase the interest of your paintings.

Afternoon Workshop

1 - 4 PM



In the afternoon workshop, I will assist each artist working on a sky painting of their own choosing (including the land is optional). You can bring your own sky photos or I will have a variety of images that you are welcome to use. I use sanded pastel paper for my pastel surface and recommend that, as it will hold a large number of pastel layers and give greater depth to your skies. Generally I use Ampersand Pastelboard, UArt or Art Spectrum sanded surfaces. I will also be bringing 11×14 sanded paper and three layer foamboard painting transport cases if you wish to purchase them at the workshop. Bring a variety of hard to soft pastels. I often do an underpainting in Nupastels in red or rust colors. Then I use primarily blues, whites, lavenders, turquoise and purples, yellows, maybe some soft mint greens, but often end up using an even wider range of colors. If you plan on painting a sunset, bring everything! Additional recommended supplies are your easel, paper towels, baby wipes, tape, floor covering, and a plastic grocery bag (for the underpainting).

About the Artist

Pastel artist **Regina Calton Burchett** specializes in impressionistic landscapes, city scenes, and sky paintings. She studied art at Michigan State University and after graduation, continued studying drawing, acrylic and watercolor painting, calligraphy, stone sculpture, weaving, and computer animation. Burchett was a geologic drafter and an architectural stone drafter for most of her career. She began using pastels in the 1990's and realized that this was the medium she loved.

Burchett is a member of the Piedmont Pastel Society (the organization's webmaster) and the Campagna Society of Artists. She works and teaches drawing and pastel classes from her studio at Clearwater Artist Studios in Concord, N.C. Burchett also teaches computer classes and designs websites for artists and galleries. (www.fallshadows.com)

The 3rd Annual North Carolina Statewide Pastel Exhibition

The Artist Reception and Awards Ceremony
Friday evening, May 9 2014 6:00 - 8:30 PM

The Cornwell Center on Selwyn Avenue in Charlotte NC

The 2014 Team and PPS is pleased to host this gala event. Beautiful Pastel Paintings, lots of good food and drink, live music and 2 very special door prizes! The door prizes are very special and include a "signed" book on pastels and an original oil painting..... more about these prizes soon. Must be present to win.

Congratulations to APS Members who are in the show

Diane Allen, Nancy Clausen, Sheryl Daniels, Peggy Duncan,
Fred Fielding, Kay Gordon, Suzy Hart, Beverly Kies, Cindy Lidd,
Gaylene Petcu, Carol Rollick, Gary Rupp, Susan Sinyai, James Smythe,
Deborah Squier, Kate Thayer, Susan Voorhees,
Maggie Whitney, Sydney Wilson, Pamela Winkler

NEWS

The Appalachian Pastel Society National Exhibition will be taking place at the Bascom Center for the Visual Arts in Highlands, NC in October. Our juror and workshop instructor is Stan Sperlak. Thank you Stan!

The prospectus will be available on Cafe online (callforentry.org) around April 17th. Applications will be accepted until July 22, 2014. There will be an email announcement when the call opens. Members are encouraged to paint, paint, paint, and enter! There will be technical help for anyone who needs assistance with photo sizing and uploading, the main thing is to flex your creativity and sense of color! Your fellow artists love seeing your work!

STAN SPERLAK PSA

ABOUT THE ARTIST



Stan Sperlak was born in Denver, CO in 1960. He spent many years traveling the country as his parents were transferred by the military from Hawaii, Minnesota and New York to finally settle in Cape May, NJ in 1974. Sperlak showed an early interest in drawing and photography, and was also involved in music and poetry during and after his high school years. He has resided in Cape May Court House and Goshen NJ Since 1985, marrying and having two sons.

Sperlak attended The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts during 1995-1998 studying with Al Gury, Jill Rupinski, Maggie Gilboy and others. During 1998-99, Sperlak studied at the home of fellow artist and noted landscape architect William Frederick of Hockessin, DE who had arranged for private classes by Academy teacher Patrick Arnold. These classes were conducted outdoors at Frederick's garden. Sperlak also studied from 1997-2003 with Patricia Vanaman Witt, founder of the Barn Studio of Art in Millville, NJ. This study focused primarily on plein air landscape painting at the Burcham's Farm on the Maurice River in Port Elizabeth, NJ. Sperlak also studied with Louis Sidney Mohollen, a student of Hobson Pittman who

taught Sperlak monotypes in 1998.

In 1997 Sperlak purchased 37 acres of farmland, forest and marsh in Goshen, NJ along the Crow Creek and started work on a studio and future teaching facility. In 2003 with the encouragement of Pat Witt, Sperlak embarked on carrying forth Witt's traditions of plein air teachings and style. Crow Creek Farm is now the main facility for his teaching. Sperlak has also taught in Maine, Colorado, South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Maryland. He has been invited to teach and speak at art centers across the US.

Sperlak's overall emphasis on teaching has been a continuation of the lineage taught at the Academy and Witt's work, where painting outdoors should be an exercise in "note taking" with color and gesture from life, to capture the light and essence of a place, and to establish the basis for future works from these studies. But to also remember that as artists, one must synthesize their self and subject to truly express and create works of interest, that compel others to think beyond what might be just pretty, to what becomes a truth.

Sperlak's latest works focuses primarily on the landscape of the Mid Atlantic. Shorelines, marshes, fields, skies, boats, fisherman and night scenes are often explored while there are examples of figures in the landscape as well and to a lesser extent, figurative paintings. His strongest influences are Robert Henri, George Inness, William Lathrop and NC Wyeth.

Since 1998 Sperlak has been showing professionally, taking the traditional route of entering shows and street fairs in the greater Philadelphia/South Jersey area. He is currently represented by SOMA Gallery in Cape May, NJ, William Ris Gallery in Stone Harbor, NJ, Main Line Art in Philadelphia PA, Hardcastle Gallery in Wilmington, DE, Main Street Gallery in Annapolis, MD, Laura Craig Galleries, Scranton PA and Bishop's Stock Gallery in Snow Hill, Md. His works are also in the permanent collection of the Noyes Museum in Oceanville, NJ

Sperlak is a signature member of the Pastel Society of America, the Maryland Pastel Society and a member of the Pastel Society of Colorado. He is also a member of the Mid Atlantic Plein Air Painters Association, having served on the Board of Directors since 2005. He is a member and past President of The Cape May County Art League.

See Stan Sperlak's work at

<http://www.stansperlak.com/>



DIRECTIONS TO GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

ADDRESS Grace Community Church, 495 Cardinal Road, Mills River, NC 28759

DIRECTIONS FROM ASHEVILLE AIRPORT & AG CENTER

- I-26, Exit for the airport
- From I-26 go approximately 3.3 miles west towards airport and Mill River on NC 281
- Turn Right on street between the Land Rover dealer and Grace Church
which is Cardinal Drive (the church is 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
- Go into the hall and go left past several doors - our meeting room is on left

Letter from the President

It's spring at last! I hope all of you are feeling as I do, energized and ready to clean out the cobwebs and start on some fresh pastels! So many things feel undone, sometimes it's hard to make time to create. So I preach to others to make more time to create! But it's important to hold that intention, and try to act on it as best we can even when life is demanding. Artists have a rare gift of having a tool for mental rest, renewal and inspiration. It is often as simple as pulling out a piece of paper and pastels, and just starting something, anything!

It is sometimes said that artists must work when the spirit moves them. The truth is "Genius is one percent inspiration, ninety-nine percent perspiration" (Thomas Edison). Writers also know this truth; that you have to sit down at the desk and begin, every morning. The day can wait. You deserve to make time for yourself.

My spring resolutions are to secure that morning time, add some exercise, keep finding joy in life and not get buffeted by the winds around me. Perhaps keep a single journal in one place to make a list of ideas I want to paint, so that when inspiration fails me I can look at my list and prod my imagination. And sometimes remember to look backward and see a body of work growing and appreciate it.

The Appalachian Pastel Society has a Newsletter Editor again! Welcome Sydney Wilson and thank you! When you have an exhibition coming up or news to share about pastels and the love of pastels, please send her your items for the newsletter! (wilstu@charter.net) We want to hear from you!

And the Library is back in business! Anne Allen has volunteered to be our Librarian. Thank you Anne!

The NC Statewide Exhibition is coming up soon and promises to be an exciting show, and our own APS National Exhibition call will be going live on Café online entry system, around April 17th. The accompanying workshop with Stan Sperlak at the Bascom is nearly full, so if you are interested, check with the Bascom (shill@thebascom.org) as soon as you can. Details and links are in this newsletter.

Vice-President Sparky Nelson is making plans with Grace Church for our Member show, coming up toward June, and we will send a special emailing so look for that. Grace Church is working out as a great place for our member meetings, well-lit, well-appointed and we are enjoying the good companionship of our members.

Janet Hartmann is preparing a great series of programs for the coming year. It's going to be immensely enriching. A warm welcome to REGINA BURCHETT who will be our presenting artist on May 10th, with "Skies, Clouds and Storms".

It's going to be great eye candy and I hope you will come!

Yours pastelfully,

APS President
Suzy Hart

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):

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
79 Alpine Way
Weaverville, NC 28787

More information: www.appalachianpastelsociety.org

Or contact Kay at: kgordon@main.nc.us

828.649.3363 or 828.206.0240