



PASTEL **notes**

JUNE • 2015

President's Message



Dear members,

What have you been painting recently?

Were you painting images of spring in New Jersey? I hope you enjoyed painting those daffodils, cherry blossoms, wisterias and irises we included in our "PSNJ Paints New Jersey" 10th Anniversary challenge. Remember to share it with the rest of us. See some images we already received on page 3. To submit challenge images to our next newsletter please follow instructions on page 3.

If you missed my letter announcing the challenge, or just needed to refresh your memory on what the next Challenge is, read it

again on page 8. We'll be adding a fall event to the list later this summer so stay tuned. Other events are also in the planning by our 10th Anniversary committee.

We had two shows on display in Bernardsville – the Member Show at Studio 7 Fine Art Gallery and our Signature and Board Members Show at Gallery W. The two galleries are within a short walking distance from each other and both participate in the Bernardsville Artwalk on June 5th. These receptions were very well attended by the general public and were a lot of fun. The two shows are part of our 10th Anniversary celebration. Read more about the beginning years in an interview with our first president, Mark deMos, on page 2.

It may seem a little early to talk about our November juried show but we want you to be prepared. We realized last year that the eligibility clause in our prospectus needed some clarification. It always required that work submitted to the juried show "be original, and not done from published photography, in a classroom setting or under the guidance of an instructor". The board has revised the guidelines to further clarify what is considered "Independent Work" and "Original Reference Material/Setups" for this show. See revised guidelines on page 7. Please familiarize yourself with them and note what is eligible and what is not.

Last but not least, we held our recent general meeting in a new venue – the Community House in Madison. We were very pleased with the venue and location. The demonstration by Gigi Horr Llerant was inspiring and colorful. See images on page 4. Our next general meeting in October will include elections to the board. Please see which positions are opening up on page 6 and consider getting involved.

Happy painting!

Michal Barkai, President
PASTEL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Big News for Members

Many new things have been happening in the PSNJ. This Board is actively trying to improve your membership experience. We have grown to over 184 members due to the quality of the programs and activities provided. The organization and the artwork of its members continue to improve consistently.

Our group is stepping up. For our membership, this means a new fee structure for the 2015-16 season. When the renewal applications go out in August, you will see both an increase and division of fees. Below is an explanation of the new structure.

The cost of new and general membership will now be \$30, a \$5 increase. The cost of Signature Membership will be \$40, \$10 more than regular members. Please note, there has not been an increase since the establishment of the PSNJ. Also, signature members are featured in our website and can participate in the Signature and Board members show.

Patron fees will now be broken out separately and will not be included with the membership costs. Those wishing to be extra generous, devoted, or grateful will have the option of adding an extra \$25 for Patron Level One, \$50 for Patron Level Two, or \$75+ for Patron Level Three. In addition, we will now have a category for non-member individuals/businesses known as Patron Friends, \$75 for Patron Friend Level One and \$150+ for Patron Friend Level Two. Only Patron Friends will have their businesses listed. Listings of Patrons will be included in all collateral materials, newsletters, and our website with possibly increased exposure to come.

Last bit of news...the Board has agreed that Signature Members will have the right to use the PSNJ assignment for life even if the artist is no longer an active member. However, please remember only active members may participate in our exhibits/activities.

THE PASTEL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

The Beginning Years

By Vinnie Dachowski

It is hard to believe that the Pastel Society of New Jersey (PSNJ) is heading into its 10th year of existence. In order to commemorate this anniversary, I sat down with the first President of the PSNJ Mark DeMos, and one of his advisors, Christina Debarry, to find out more about the beginnings of the PSNJ. At its inception, the PSNJ's Board included Rita Agron, 2nd Vice President and Nadine Weglinski, Member at Large. PSNJ's first Inaugural Art Show was held at Bouras Properties, Summit, in September 2005. We had our reception at the South Street Creamery in Morristown because we could not have it at Bouras. The PSNJ held its First Annual Members Exhibition in July of 2006 at the Bernardsville Library. Kathleen Palmer of Studio 7 Gallery helped us get the space. Other miscellaneous exhibits in 2006 were held at the Darcy School in Chatham and the Clarence Dillon Library in Far Hills. The first juried show was at the Morris County Library also in 2006.

Mark and I started from the beginning. I asked him to tell me how it all started. What obstacles did he encounter? Was it a smooth experience? Mark detailed some of the behind-the-scenes work he put into getting the PSNJ started.

Mark: Getting started was daunting. I had never started an organization from scratch before. Learning the state non-profit rules was the first order of business. Luckily, I was not alone. In fact, it was Christina who told me that it was time to start a Pastel Society in New Jersey, and with her knowledge of the workings of the Pastel Society of America, as



a past president, and with some numerous other boards, and her extensive contact list, the stress of putting together the organization was made so much easier.

At this time Annette Lange was brought in with her experience with the Art Association of Roxbury, and slowly we checked off the requirements of the State. The process went smoothly from there, putting together a working Board of old friends, Debbie Seymour, and Carol Livingston, plus numerous other energetic pastelists made the process doable, if time consuming. But mainly, we came together at the right time. New Jersey was the home of many well respected pastel artists.

There was a previous state society of pastelists which had failed. I did not know anything about that organization, but I believe in the interim, the pastel medium was going through a resurgence with artists, and teachers like Frank Zuccarelli, Christina Debarry, Joe Hing Lowe, Rhoda Yallow and so many others, new pastels, surfaces, a magazine dedicated to pastel artists. The interest in working in pastel among artists is reaching new heights.

Vinnie: How many members did you enroll for the first year? Did you have an easy time getting Board members organized and assigning tasks to each of the Board members?

Mark: By the end of the 2005, we had 44 members and a full board of dedicated artists. Each wrote their own job description, to be finalized with the Board's full input.

Vinnie: Where did you have the first meeting? Was there an artist demonstrating?

Mark: The Board first met at Studio 7 Fine Art Gallery in Bernardsville, as several of the initial board members were part of the gallery. The first task was to put together an art show to get the word out in a concrete manner at the Bouras Properties in Summit. The first member meetings were held in a community room at the Morris County Library. Elisa Prystauk gave the first demonstration in 2006. The demos were popular with the membership and helped to bring in new members.

Vinnie: How do you feel the organization has progressed and what would you like to see more of the organization doing?

Mark: The leadership has been very able and grew quickly to over 100 members in its second full year, it has found exhibition venues where the public can see the work, it has done an excellent job keeping the focus on servicing the needs and desires of its members, always looking forward, maintaining a connection for the artists who work alone in their studio, demos, art exhibits, and much, much more.

I hope that the organization will continue to thrive, getting work exposed in the locations so more of the public gets to see the quality of the artists living in New Jersey and inspiring more people to explore this beautiful medium.

At the time PSNJ was established, Christina Debarry was the President of the Pastel Society of America in New York. As an officer of this society, she was unable to hold office at the PSNJ, but has been an important advisor and member of PSNJ. She echoed Mark's answers and gave some input regarding the PSNJ's 10th anniversary. She suggested a pamphlet be made detailing the present day PSNJ including Board members, Member Artists, Member Exhibits, Juried Exhibits, and other things related to the PSNJ's 10 years of existence. (editor: a new brochure for PSNJ was created prior to this interview).

Past Presidents of the PSNJ include: Danielle Mick (2008-2010) and Louise Woodcox (2010-2014).

Michal Barkai is the current president of the Pastel Society of New Jersey.

To learn more of the Pastel Society of New Jersey please visit www.pastelsocietynj.org.

GUIDELINES FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

"PSNJ Paints New Jersey"

If you are participating in our PSNJ Paints New Jersey 10th Anniversary Challenge you can share your creations in two ways:

1. Feel free to post your image yourself on our Facebook page and remember to use the hash tag #PSNJPaintsNJ2015.
2. You can submit an image of your challenge painting to be included in our next newsletter.

We'll try to include at least one image from each participating artist.

Image requirements-

jpg file, 300 ppi, 5" longest dimension

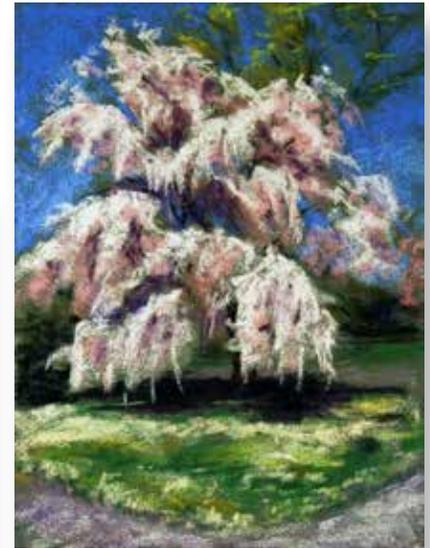
File name: lastname_firstname_title_size_(p/s)_location
(p – plein air, s- studio, ps – plein air finished in studio)

EX.: Smith_Joe_Fantasy_9x12_ps.jpg

E-mail the image to Michal Barkai at mbarkai1@comcast.net. Please use PSNJ - #PSNJPaintsNJ2015 – your name in the subject line.

Looking forward to seeing your challenge creations!

Annette Lange
"Apple Blossom Amaryllis"
20"x28" Studio



Anitia Gladstone
"Pretty In Pink"
12"x9" Studio
Springfield

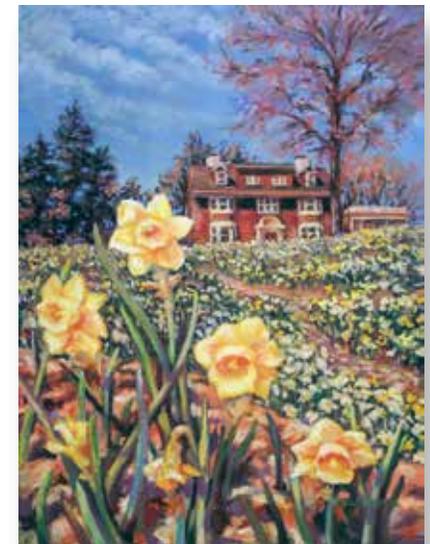
Olya Powzaniuk
"Cherry Tree Lane"
5x7" Plein Air
Tewksberry



Michal Barkai
"Reeves Reed Arboretum"
10"x15" Plein Air



Alan Gorelick
"Red Mill Museum"
16"x12" Plein Air/Studio
Clinton Mill, NJ



Carol Clemens
"Reeves Reed Arboretum"
12"x9" Studio



Bob McBride
"Jefferson Street"
12"x9" Plein Air
Lambertville

LAST GENERAL MEETING A BIG SUCCESS

**Gigi Horr Liverant
delivered an inspiring demo
at our April meeting**

By Margaret Cohen

The April program was a well-received success, with over 30 members in attendance. Gigi chose not to complete an entire work - but instead demonstrated her process by showing three different works in progress.

Feedback on the new venue was favorable. The room set-up was good and the location central for many members.

Here are some images from Gigi's demonstration. Thanks to Carol Clemens, Anita Gladstone, Marilyn Kalb, Gigi Horr Liverant, Bob McBride, Ellen Rosenthal and Rosann Toma, for providing refreshments and setting them up.



Images courtesy of Michal Barkai

THE PSNJ SPRING MEMBERS EXHIBITION

Award Recipients

BEST IN SHOW

"Petit Fille" by Beth Varkala

BEST IN CATEGORY: SCAPES/INTERIORS

1st Place: "Freshwater" by Anna Wainright

2nd Place: "5 O'Clock Sun" by Annette Hanna

BEST IN CATEGORY: FLORAL/STILL LIFE

1st Place: "Pottery" by Stephanie Cook

2nd Place: "Wild Iris Garden" by Rita Feeney

BEST IN CATEGORY: PORTRAIT/FIGURE

1st Place: "My Munchkins" by Judith Leeds

TWO MERIT AWARDS

"Road to Carteret" by Jeff Wolfson

"After the Rain" by Dianne Gray

SIX HONORABLE MENTIONS

"Three Water Lillies" by Bernadette deCesare

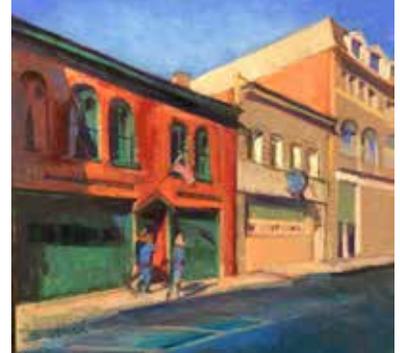
"Lorain Avenue" by Diane Revels

"The Mission" by Sally Lebowhl

"Old Philadelphia lights" by Mark deMos

"Mario" by Adrian Giuliani

"Startled" by Laurie Harden



PSNJ Wants You!

Election time is coming. No, it's not the 2016 Presidential race, but board elections for PSNJ. All of the events and activities available to members of PSNJ depend on our members volunteering their time, talents and expertise to the organization. We are celebrating our 10th Anniversary, but without a group of dedicated and determined people who have served as officers on the board or volunteered time to a particular event we would not have gotten to this significant anniversary. Not only did these volunteers help to build PSNJ but they forged friendships, learned from our talented demonstrators and shared knowledge and experience with each other.

Our elections will be held during the October General Membership meeting. The board positions up for election this year are:

2nd Vice-President/Exhibitions Chair
Treasurer
Recording Secretary/Nominations Chair
Publicity Coordinator
Webmaster

We are also looking for someone who would be interested in fulfilling the duties of Newsletter Editor for the coming year. This would be an appointed position, not an elected position, for the remainder of the current term.

Now is the time to think about stepping up to help steer the course of this wonderful organization as we move into our second decade. We would like to see PSNJ continue to grow and offer interesting and exciting programming to meet the needs and wants of pastel artists in New Jersey and beyond, but that can't happen if we don't have people to do the necessary work that keeps any organization not only alive, but thriving.

If you have questions about any of the positions and responsibilities of serving on the board, please contact me. I look forward to seeing some new names on the ballot in October.

Anita Gladstone, 973-564-6451, agladstone123@gmail.com

IT'S ABOUT GROWING

Welcome New Members!

This has been an excellent year. The PSNJ membership continues to expand as more and more pastel artists are reaching out to share and learn. This year we have gained nearly two-dozen members and there are more on the horizon as we continue to publicize and provide a place of artistic community and enrichment. Among others, we have been happy to include the following names to our roster this year:

Richard Buntzen, Leona Cheung, Pamela J. Cook, Liz D'Aversa, Carole L. Dakake, Frances DeBartolo, Jackie Eastwick, Janie Glidear, Dianne Gray, Andrea Grillo, John D. Helm, Judith Hirshburg, Christine Ivers, Donna Liebowitz, Eileen McCarthy, Margaret Meagher, Letitia Morrissey-Halpin, Anita Murray, Mary Luz Robinson, Linda Sacristan, Linda A. Saladino, Mary Seelagy, Donna Liebowitz, Dianne Gray, Diane Schultz, Robin Kinney, Susan Sica, Ricki Gottlieb, Jerilyn Weber, James Cusmano. (Apologies to any new members not included here.)

We hope all our members will continue to support PSNJ which provides such a great service. Please consider becoming more involved by volunteering a lot or a little. It will enrich more than your artwork.

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH OUR MEMBERS

Member News

Michal Barkai

- Michal Barkai's oil painting, "Avalanche Lake," was juried into the Salmagundi Club 37th Annual Juried Painting Exhibition. A reception was held on June 5th.

Carol Clemens

- Carol will be having a one artist exhibition of 30 paintings to be held for the month of September in the Gallery of the Municipal Building in Livingston, NJ.

Margaret Cohen and Anita Gladstone

- Will be exhibiting a two-woman show of their work at The Upstairs Gallery at Shomrei Emunah in Montclair. The exhibit will run from June 18 through August and is located at Congregation Shomrei Emunah, 67 Park St., Montclair, NJ. For hours please contact the synagogue: <https://www.shomrei.org/contactus.asp> or 973-746-5031

Debbie Cusick

- Had two paintings, "Savannah Sunrise" and "Misty Maritime Morning," juried into the spring show of the First Coast Pastel Society. The show was on exhibit until May 29 at the Cultural Center of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

Jeri Greenberg

- Her painting "End of Summer" was juried into the 64th IAPS show this summer in Albuquerque.
- Also her painting "Dinner Prep" was juried into the Annual Salmagundi Member show.
- In addition her painting "Exhale" was awarded Honorable Mention in Artist Magazine's All Media Contest.
- Jeri is also part of a two woman show called "Still" at Wallflowers Gallery in Bernardsville, exhibiting her still life work. The Reception and opening was May 1.

Caroline Klein

- Her pastel painting "That's Just Dandie" was selected to hang as a part of the Garden Glimpses show in the "Art from the Heart" Gallery Kiosk in the Galleria in Red Banks, NJ Bldg. 3 at 2 Bridge Avenue, Red Banks, NJ 07701. The show will hang from June 1st to July 31st. Reception was June 18th at the Galleria.

Marianne Knipe

- Was pleased to receive the following two awards at the Lehigh Art Alliance 80th Annual Spring Juried Exhibition (Moravian College Payne Gallery)
- Second Place (UGI Utilities Award) for "Haitian Woman"
- Honorable Mention for "Ilona's Garden".

Rhoda Yanow

- is exhibiting with Rae Smith at the Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University from May 22-September 20, 2015. Equisite imagery from two artists who have made their mark in the world of pastel painting.

NEW ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES EFFECTIVE MARCH 2015

PSNJ Exhibitor Guidelines

Please follow these posted guidelines when submitting your paintings to any of our PSNJ exhibits. Any deviations will be posted for a particular show.

JURIED - Open to all active PSNJ members working in dry pastels.

All entries must be executed predominantly (at least 80%) in dry pastels.

Only original work executed within the past five years and not previously exhibited in a PSNJ judged show will be eligible.

All entries must be original and created independently by the artist from his/her own original reference materials or setup.

INDEPENDENT WORK

NOT ELIGIBLE: Work done in a classroom setting or workshop, under the guidance of an instructor or in an instructor's presence, even if the artist did not ask for or receive feedback or guidance from the instructor in charge. Work critiqued in a classroom or workshop setting, even if created or completed independently, is not eligible.

ELIGIBLE: Work created in an "open studio" setting, where no instructor is in charge, will be considered independent work.

ORIGINAL REFERENCE MATERIALS/SETUPS

Work should be predominantly based on the artist's own reference materials. Minor supporting details may be researched or gleaned from other sources, but work may not be based on or directly derived from reference materials created by others. This includes photography, videos, artwork or designs, even if with permission, royalty-free, or not copyrighted.

Work may not be based on live setups (still life/figure) arranged or designed by others.

Work must be properly framed and ready for hanging, with secure brackets and sturdy, taut wire. Sawtooth hangers are not allowed. Size must conform to specifications laid out in the prospectus. Oversized and undersized work will not be hung.

PSNJ reserves the right to turn away any work misrepresented or unsuitably presented.

If there is a question about eligible works, potential exhibitors should

inquire prior to registration.

NON-JURIED - Open to all active PSNJ members working in dry pastels.

All entries must be executed predominantly (at least 80%) in dry pastels.

Only original works, created by the artist, executed within the past five years and not previously exhibited in a PSNJ judged show, will be eligible.

All entries must be original and not done from published photography or composition.

Work must be properly framed and ready for hanging, with secure brackets and sturdy, taut wire. Sawtooth hangers are not allowed. Size must conform to specifications laid out in the prospectus. Oversized and undersized work will not be hung.

PSNJ reserves the right to turn away any work misrepresented or unsuitably presented.

If there is a question about eligible works, potential exhibitors should inquire prior to registration.

COMING UP

PSNJ Juried Members Show

We are pleased to announce our Fall Juried Members Show will once again be hosted by Crane's Mill Towne Square Gallery in West Caldwell, NJ. Details will follow in the Prospectus but you may mark your calendars with the following dates:

Receiving Sunday, Nov. 1 10-11:30 am

Reception Saturday, Nov. 7 2-4 pm

Pickup Monday Nov. 30 10-11:30 am

If for some reason you are not available for Receiving or Pickup, please make arrangements with a friend or other member to assist.



LET THE CHALLENGE BEGIN (ORIGINALLY SUBMITTED APRIL 14, 2015)

“PSNJ Paints New Jersey” A 10th Anniversary Challenge... an Invitation to Paint

Spring is in the air. What an exciting time to start celebrating our 10th Anniversary! We are planning an array of events for you to take part in.

Wouldn't a painting challenge be one natural choice and our own Garden State an obvious subject matter? Whether you like painting en plein air or prefer working in the studio, enjoy landscapes, still life or urban scenes, paint from life or other references, reside in New Jersey or out of state, we will all be able to find an opportunity to join in the fun!

The challenge is comprised of multiple painting themes within several general time frames. The schedule is flexible. You can team up with a friend or paint on your own, select from some suggested locations or others more accessible to you.

Participate in as many of these as you like. We will remind you of coming challenges and alert you to bloom status in selected parks. We encourage you to be actively engaged and share your work with your fellow PSNJ members on our newsletter and our Facebook page. Instructions for newsletter challenge submissions will follow.

There is no size restriction associated with the challenge. You may, however, consider staying at 18" or less on the longer dimension as we are planning on a small works show later this year at the Livingston Gallery - "Pastel Treasures - PSNJ Paints New Jersey". More details to come.

Now that you are familiar with our challenge concept here are the time frames and painting themes. We listed a few optional locations. See more choices in the following links or opt for your local locations and subjects

- <http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/jerseygrown/consumer/njgardens.html> (listed by county)
- http://En.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_botanical_gardens_and_arboretums_in_New_Jersey

Spring Challenges -

- **April/May – Daffodils, Cherry Blossoms and Wisteria**

NJ State Botanical Garden at Skylands, Reeves-Reed Arboretum, Branch Brook Park, Van Vleck House and Gardens, Duke Gardens, and other locations.

- **May/June – Irises, Roses and Lilies**

Presby Iris Garden, Brookdale Park Rose Garden, Colonial Park Gardens, Reeves-Reed Arboretum, and others ... or paint some fresh cut flowers.

Summer Challenges -

- **June/July – Water, Tracks, Farms and Markets**

Any of the streams, rivers, lakes, waterfalls, fountains and pools around us, the Jersey shore, train stations, farms and fields, farmer markets, wineries, ... Consider Bernardsville area in June during our PSNJ shows. Streets.

- **July/August – New Jersey Towns**

Streets, shops, sidewalks, restaurants, cafes, municipal parks, people. Paint your own home town or any other favorite. (Boonton, Cape May, Clinton, Frenchtown, Hoboken, Lambertville, Montclair, Morristown, Red Bank, Westfield, or any other).

The main purpose of this challenge is to have fun and strengthen our sense of community. The other is to promote public awareness of our medium and our pastel society. So let's be visible. Paint in popular locations and hand out PSNJ brochures (pick some up at our coming general meeting), share your PSNJ challenge endeavors with your local press and on social media (use the hash tag #PSNJPaintsNJ2015 for searchability and impact), exhibit your pastel paintings and mention the PSNJ in your press releases. Be an ambassador of pastel and the Pastel Society of New Jersey!

Please contact me with any questions you may have.

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