



Newsletter

August 2023

Dear Society Members,

Our short sweet summer is in full swing and I hope you all are enjoying this magic time with your families and friends, and fitting in a little bit of paint time for yourselves. The endless greens and blues catch me by surprise every year.

Things are pretty quiet for the month of August, a good time to figure out what you will enter in our national show. Entry is open now on Showsubmit and the prospectus is available there, and on the PSNH website. We are again being hosted at Discover Portsmouth, a beautiful building, but in the space upstairs this year, due to Portsmouth's 400th birthday celebration.

The member show was open for much of June in Peterborough at the Monadnock Center for History and Culture, and it was stellar. Success, in large part, was due to the tireless efforts and meticulous attention to detail by our show chairs, Art and Paula Fraser. Thank you to our paintaround artists too!

June was also the month for our fantastic first biennial member retreat, concerted by retreat chair Terri Brooks, which filled quickly. If you missed this opportunity, another will come in 2025. (IAPS is June 11-16, 2024, in Albuquerque-save those dates.)

September is a beautiful time to paint, and we are fortunate to have arranged a one-day plein air workshop with Keith Dimanche on September 17th on historic New Castle Island. This is your opportunity to get some confidence and seasoned guidance on the art of plein air painting. Please sign up on the website and use your member discount.

October is a busy month with the National Show, and in conjunction, a three-day workshop with Anne Strutz in nearby Kittery, ME. Are you curious about how to infuse your paintings with movement, and energy? Do you get to a certain stage and then have trouble moving forward? Would you like to try some unique mark making? This is the workshop for you! Please see the details and Anne's goals for this workshop on the website.

Newsflash!! Save the dates. We are thrilled to be hosting a two-day workshop with Jeri Greenberg May 4-5, 2024 in Kittery, ME. Details to be up on the website soon.

Our members only online demo with Sarah Blumenschein was a fantastic success with over 60 attendees. We will have more of these during the school year, and will work out any blips that occurred with this one.

The website is a comprehensive summary of all events and benefits, but if you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask. Thank you for your continued membership and support. And thank you to my amazing board members for their hard work and leadership. They make my job so easy.

Enjoy these heady beautiful days...

Annie

PSNH
Board Members

Annie Halvorsen - *President*
anniehalvorsen@gmail.com

Maryann Mullett – *Vice President*
maryann.mullett97@gmail.com

Peggy Van Valkenburg - *Secretary*
Vanline101@comcast.net

Carol Corliss - *Treasurer*
bagel@tpdi.biz

Maggie Smith – *Membership*
mffsmith@gmail.com

Terri Brooks - *Retreat Chair*
Terri.g.brooks@gmail.com

Thomas W. Bradley - *Member at Large*

Shuk Susan Lee - *National Show*
Sue1404@gmail.com

Paula Jennings Fraser - *Members' Exhibition*
afrazer3@yahoo.com

Keith Demanche – *Development Chair*
hauntedmilk@gmail.com

Jackie Hansen – *Publicity and Social Media*
jackiehansonart@gmail.com

Robin Hebert -*Newsletter*
ArtRaindrop@gmail.com

Workshops- Open

Member Activities - Open

Susanne Larkham - *Web Administer*
selarkham@msn.com

**IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP FOR 2023!**

SEE FORM ON PAGE 30. SEND,
WITH CHECK, TO MAGGIE SMITH
(ADDRESS ON FORM), OR GO TO
WWW.PASTEL SOCIETY NH.COM
AND PAY VIA PAYPAL



PSNH is on Instagram!
Follow us and post your
paintings to:
[#pastelsocietynh](https://www.instagram.com/pastelsocietynh)

Plein Air Groups & Events

Plein Air Painters of Maine
(PAPME) Welcomes all artists. Contact
cmcintyrepaintings@gmail.com

NH Plein Air

In NH Plein Air Artists we have members
that work at all levels and in all mediums,
including pastels. Membership in the
group is absolutely FREE. Find us at
Yahoo! Groups listed as "NH Plein Air".

WANTED by the web administrator

- 1) Would love to have people submit 1-2 new works of art for our member gallery.
- 2) Would love to see more Signature Circle Members activate their pages.
- 3) Submit to be one of our featured artists on our website and social media... 3 categories, New Members (3 years or less), Members, and Signature Members.

You can send pictures and/or requests to:
selarkham@msn.com

PSNH 18th Member's Exhibition

Hi all,

The 2023 member show closed June 24, perhaps one of our most fun and well received.

The opening earlier in the month was attended by over 40 members and public, who really enjoyed the 4-panel paint around. I think a record amount was raised and donated to our host the Monadnock Society for History and Culture (Bass Hall). We're working to book this gallery again ... how can you beat wine served in glass stemware talking about your painting?

I want to thank again all who participated, donated their time or talents, and all the members who shared with each other to make Pastel Society of New Hampshire a wonderful group to help each other grow.

Thank you all
Paula Fraser Show chair

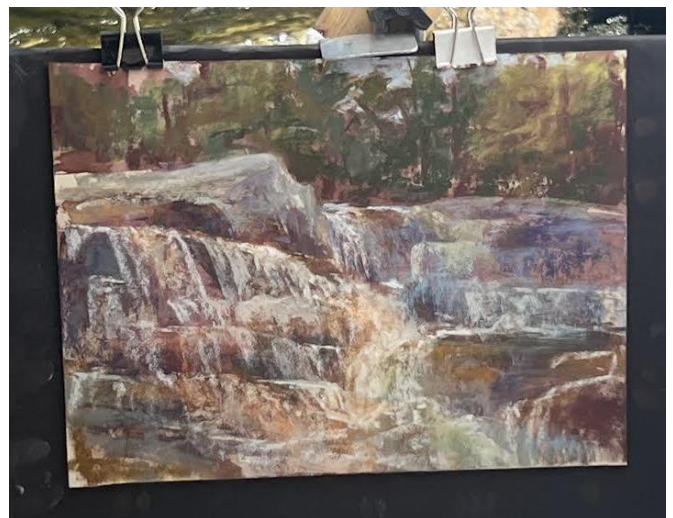
Ps

Let me share a comment made to the director of the museum.

A visitor to the gallery was from Florida and a pastel painter as well. She told the director she is a member of several organizations in Florida. She went on to say the quality of our show was outstanding! Exceeding much of what she sees in Florida!
Congratulations ALL!

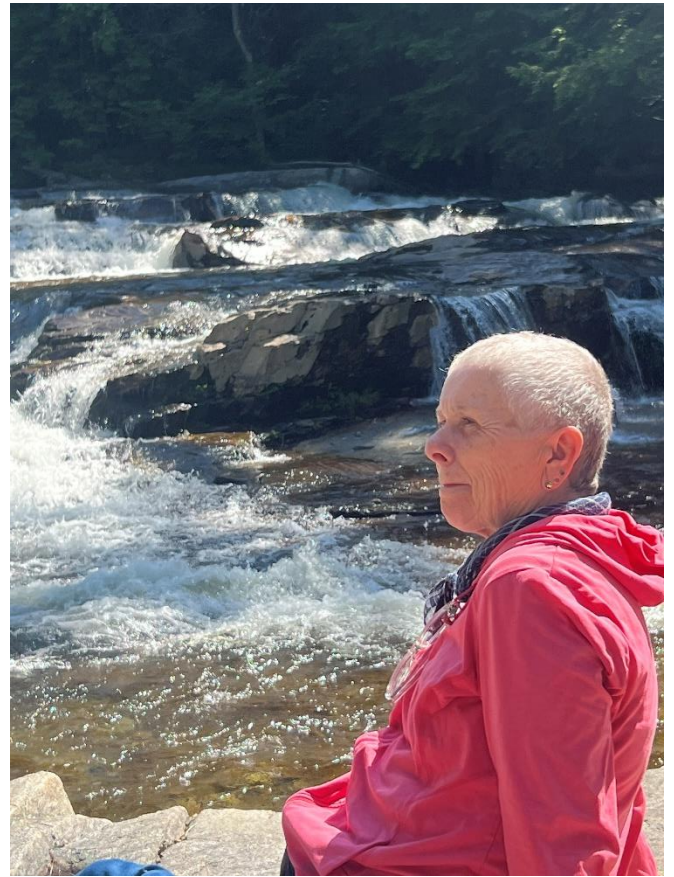
PSNH Retreat at Jackson Falls

The first PSNH retreat was a success. We had 17 attend our demo at Jackson Falls with Lisa Regopolous. The plan is to hold our retreats biannually, so next one is scheduled for 2025. Here are a few pictures.









PSNH Member News

*Peggy
Van Valkenburgh*

The Peterborough Town Library is pleased to be hosting an exhibition of pastel paintings by Peterborough Artist, Peggy Van Valkenburgh.

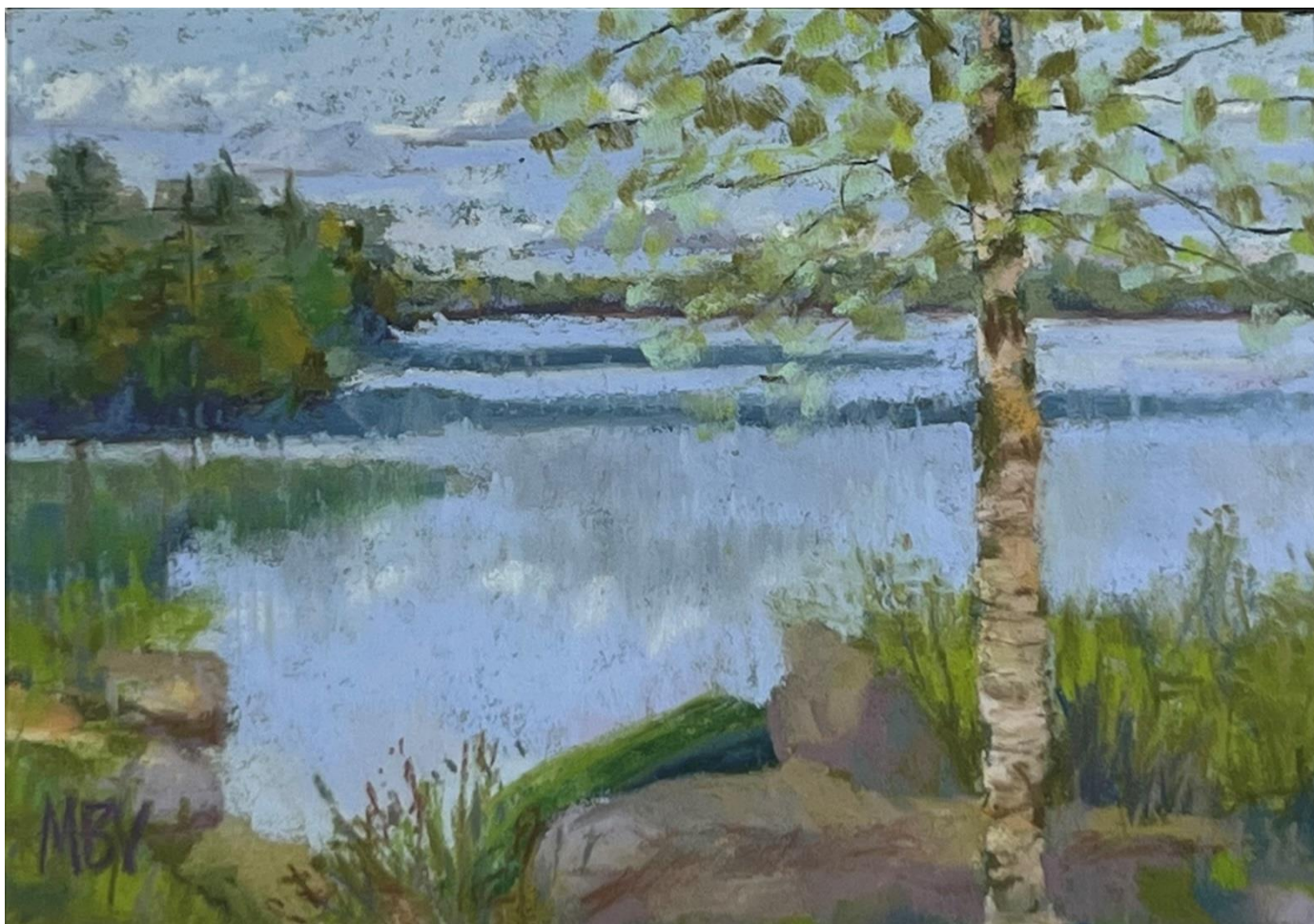
This show will be on view in the Peterborough Town Library's Community Art Gallery from Friday, August 4th until Saturday, September 30th.

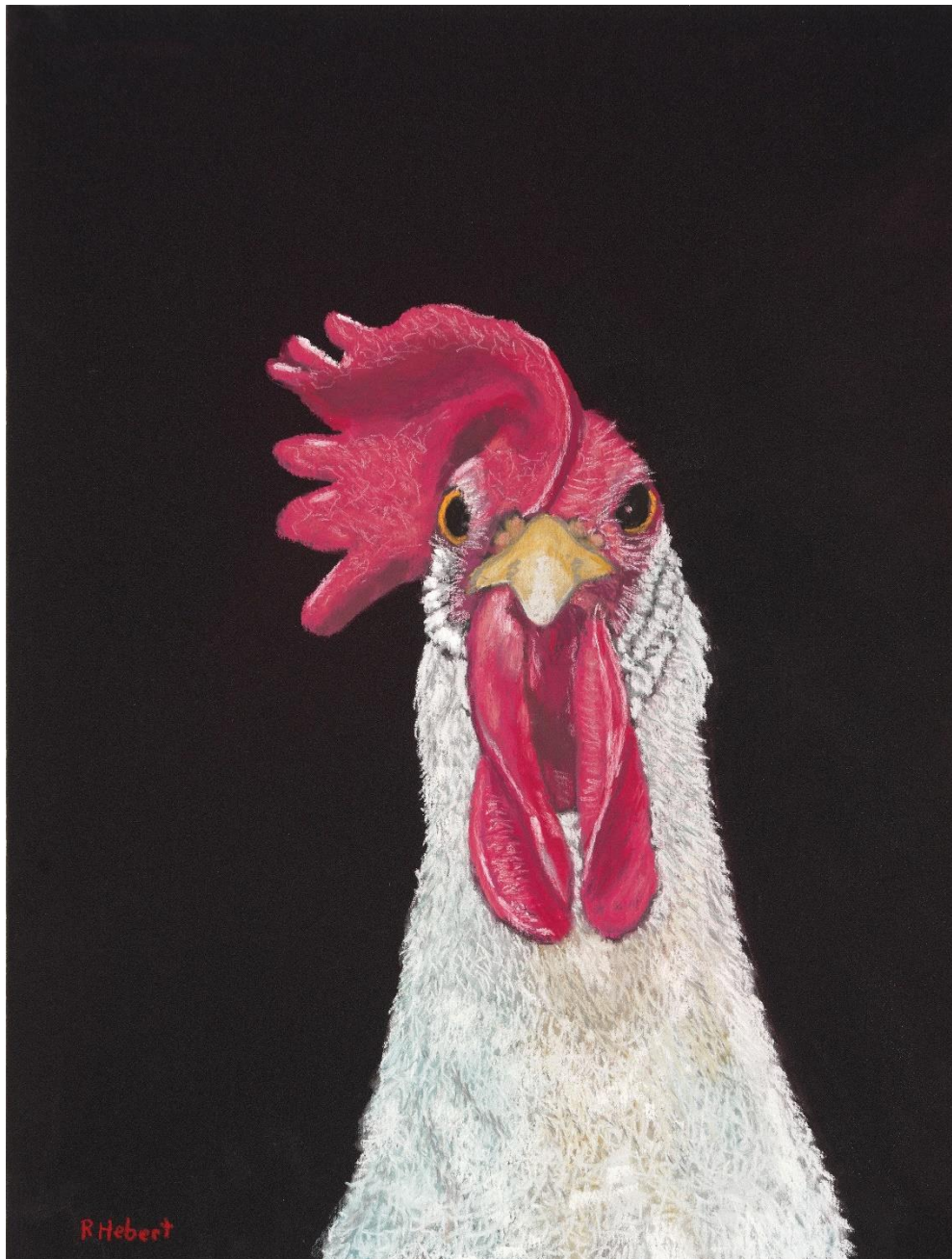
The opening reception will be held on First Friday, August 4th, 2023 from 5-7 pm.

Additionally, Van Valkenburgh will be offering an Artist Talk, on Thursday, September 27th from 6:30-8:30 PM to discuss her process and describe how her surroundings inspire her and her creative process.

This is Peggy's first show.

“Pearly Pond” (below)





*Robin
Hebert*

I was awarded the Sally Shea “Hole in One” award at the PSNH Member show in June for my painting **“Coconut”**.

I don’t get a lot of time to paint so when a subject like Coconut comes along it is a blessing. She was so much fun to paint. The whole time I was working on her she just looked at me with that attitude of high expectations so I had to do my absolute best on her, she would accept no less.

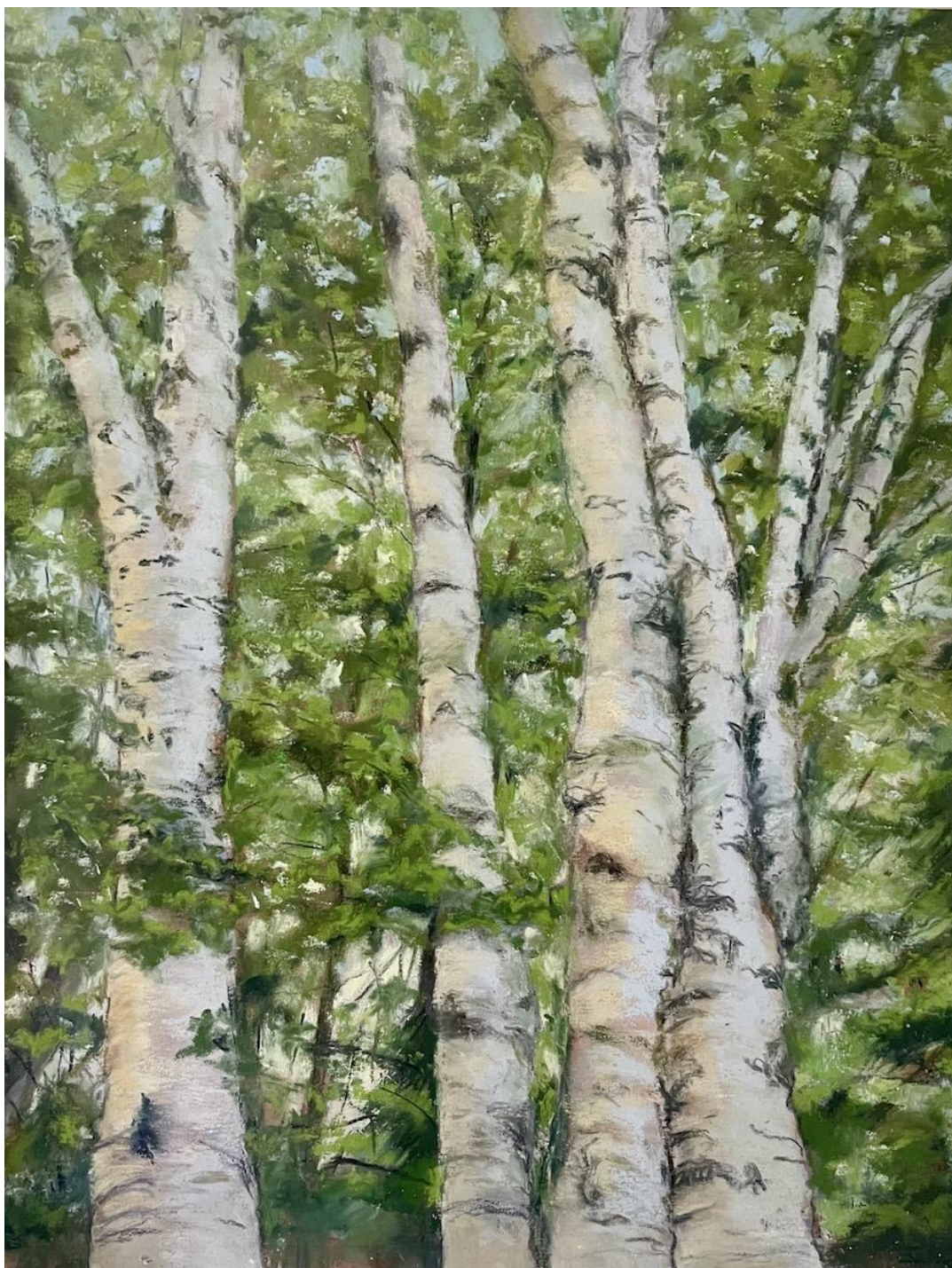
My lack of time has made my artistic journey very slow and filled with more failures than successes, although each provides a learning experience at least. I have been reluctant to say out loud that I am an artist, instead I say I like to paint. So, this painting and this award have meant so much to me in that I think I now may be able to whisper “I am an Artist”.



*Maggie
Smith*

My painting, **“Look Up”**, was one of the official 50 top paintings to make it into the 2023 Uart Online Pastel Competition.

I was honored and very delighted to be chosen by the judge, Desmond O'Hagen.



*Betsy
Payne
Cook*



Betsy Payne Cook's pastel paintings have won awards in two current National Pastel Juried Exhibits.

"Love Deeply" (left) received the Dick Blick award at the Adirondack Pastel Exhibit at LARAC gallery in Glens Falls, NY and on display until Aug 9th.

"Humble Remembrance" (below) received the Pastel Society of the West Coast award, at the Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod's For Pastels Only show. On display at the Cultural Center of Cape Cod in South Yarmouth, MA until July 22.

To receive notices for Betsy's monthly Virtual Open Studio Visits, classes and workshops please email, betsy@betsypaynecook.com

or visit her website at

<https://www.betsypaynecook.com/>



**“A Radiant Dawn Lifts the
Night”**

10 ¼ x 15 ¼, pastel on
Sennelier Pastel Card)



*Sasha
Wolfe*

**“Spring Calls the
Dawn” 1 & 2**

(above and right) are the
postcard sized tops
salvaged from a ruined
piece (top) mentioned in
the following article.



Recovering from a Fiasco

By Sasha Wolfe

www.sashawolfe.net

A lot of anguish and emotion go into creating my paintings. Maybe having to work quickly, as in plein air, keeps an artist from dwelling and overthinking the piece. Whereas, only doing studio work and sometimes spending weeks on a painting (because I don't work on it all the time), leaves me prone to worrying about what, how, and second-guessing what I did or didn't do.

For years, I've used BFK Rives paper and lately started experimenting with other papers. The smoothness of BFK Rives allowed me to rub and blend, and I usually did an underlayer using pan pastel. For this next one, I chose charcoal Sennelier pastel card. Unfortunately, pan pastel didn't work as usual on the rougher Sennelier. The texture ate up the cotton ball and make up pad.

I'd read about using a little bit of water on a sponge brush to fill in the tooth. I'd tried that on the previous painting, and it worked well. However, while it worked well on most of this painting, a 1 ½-inch oval spot formed in the middle of the painting. It was as smooth as glass and no pastel would stick to that spot. I tried everything I could think of to fix it. Nothing worked. Why had the wet worked OK on the rest of the paper? And why did this happen right in the middle? I must've somehow overworked that one spot.

I was devastated. I finally gave up and cut the top portion off the painting off, then cut that strip in half ending up with two postcard-sized mini paintings. Not the full scene I wanted, but at least there's something to show for my work.

However, the scene kept calling me. I was determined to try again. So, I began at the beginning with a new piece of Sennelier – didn't do the sponge brush technique this time. I finished it in two weeks, but I wasn't happy. Even friends admitted it was not one of my better pieces. Again, I was devastated.

I let another week or so go by. I couldn't bear the thought of going in the studio and failing again. Then I went through my collected photos for possible paintings and chose a busy autumn scene, and although my heart wasn't fully in it, it helped me get back to painting. (What's that old saying about "Getting back on the horse?"

Once I was back at it, the creative fires kicked in. So, what did I learn? Just like I have to write, I have to paint. It's who I am. Don't give up painting, just know when to move on to another before becoming distraught. Moving on isn't quitting when something isn't working. (Quitting would be if I gave up painting.) Sometimes it's OK to put an incomplete piece aside and maybe go back to it at another time. Keep working at what fills me with joy... as sharing earth's beauty does.



*Jory
Mason*

There is a fabulous National show "For Pastels Only" at the Cape Cod Cultural Center in Yarmouth sponsored by The Pastel Society of Cape Cod. It will be up until Aug 20. My thanks to Christine Ivers, Judge of Awards and Juror of Selection, Corey Pitkin, for the Chicago Pastel Painters Award for "Chianti Classico Potential"

Here are his comments:

What is there not to love about rim light and shadow! The capturing of those two elements is predominant in this painting of the leaves and grapes that have an underlying abstract feel to it. Accentuating the warmth and coolness of the vine, leaves and fruit with an expert use of value for depth, I find this artist to be accomplished in using every tool imaginable to create this lovely work. What a wonderful painting!

JoryMasonFineArt.com



“Through the Fog”

“Through the Fog” was awarded Maryland Pastel Society Award at the 2023 Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod 2023 exhibit “For Pastels Only”.

*Ruth
Rinard*



*Cristine
Kossow*

“Animal, Vegetable, Mineral” 12 x 12 (below) has won Second Place in the Vermont Pastel Society Members Exhibition at the Park McCullough Historic Governor's Mansion, North Bennington, VT through October 8, 2023.

Marlene Wiedenbaum, Awards Juror:

“Clever use of the blocks, and while the subjects are lined up, there is incredible balance in the composition to keep the viewer interested. Adept handling of pastels, a thoughtful painting.”





“Double Gambrel” 11 x 14 (above) and **“Kassidy”** 11 x 14 (below) were on exhibit in the Adirondack Pastel Society group show at the TiArts Center in Ticonderoga, NY and both have gone home to new collectors.



*Jeri
Greenberg*





I'm excited to share that my work has been juried into the following shows:

PSA Enduring Brilliance.
 PSNC Statewide Show (HM).
 CMPS Marks of Distinction Show.
 PPSCC For Pastels Only Exhibit.
 Philadelphia Pastel Society Open Juried Exhibition.
 Pastel Society of the West Coast/99
 Voices in Pastel.

“Girl in The Window”
 (left)

“Citrus Colors on Stripes”
 (below)

I'm continuing to teach weekly at the
 Cameron Art Museum.

On August 18 I will be presenting and
 demo-ing for PastelLive 2023!

I also look forward to doing a 2-day
 workshop for PSNH in May 2024.

Jeri Greenberg PSA, IAPS-MC
www.jerigreenbergart.com
[jerigreenberg622 on Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/jerigreenberg622)

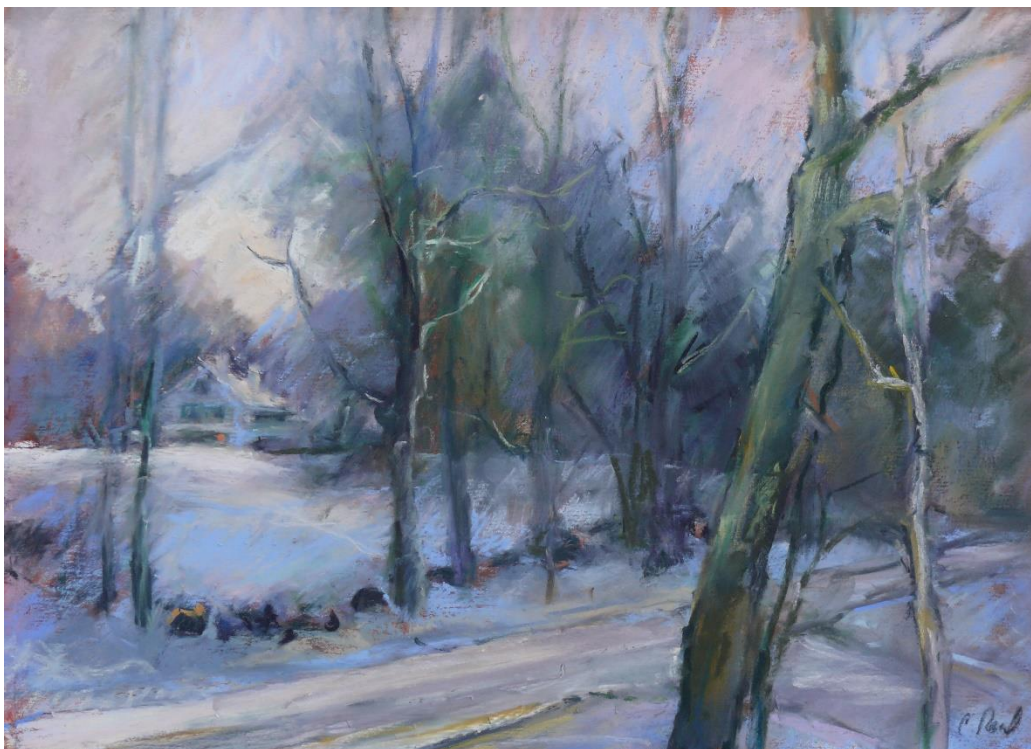
“Wrapped in Grace”
 (previous page)



*Chris
Reid*



"Summer Breeze" (above) won The Lovely Lines Award at the Vermont Pastel Society Show that is at The Park McCullough Historic Governor's Mansion now through October 10.



"Winter Light" (above) was chosen for the Hudson Valley Art Association 90th Annual Juried Exhibition. showing at Lyme Art Association Lyme, Connecticut, now through August 12.

"Summer Begins" (below) was juried into The Marks of Distinction National Show; August 29-September 30, Reception September 10, 2-4.



*Joelle
Feldman*

I Had a great time participating in a paint around for the Pastel Society of NH's Member Show with painting friends [Keith Demanche](#), [Ann Gillespie Art](#) and [Lisa Shattuck-Regopoulos](#).

Recently back from Provence, I chose to paint poppies that were covering the countryside. The paint around took a little over an hour, switching our works every 10 minutes. We completed 4 paintings that were auctioned off (all sold!) to benefit the [Monadnock Center for History and Culture](#), the elegant venue hosting the show in Peterborough, NH. See the Members show here: <https://www.pastelsocietynh.com/2023-virtual-member-show>



Paint Around painting 12" x 18"

My painting **"Forsythia Alley"** (sold) was featured on the cover of the spring/summer issue of *Nashoba Valley Living* magazine, accompanied by an article about my painting process.

You can subscribe to the publication here: <https://nashobavalleyliving.com/>

ARTIST'S FEATURE: JOELLE FELDMAN

By Tamar Russell Brown

The Path to Painting

Harvard's Joelle Feldman is an artistic gem. Like many artists in our region, she is primarily self-taught and has found art as her second career.

Raised in Normandy, France, she wasn't really exposed to art until she was 16. Ms. Feldman's friends invited her to Paris to see the Jean-François Millet exhibit at the Petit Palais — which changed her life. Then she was able to see a Salvador Dali exhibition. "I was floored, it was exceptional," she says, explaining that this exhibit gave her new eyes as to what art meant.

Her family was creative, artisans, really. Her father was a builder, and everyone in the house made things with their hands. From an early age, she designed and made her own clothes. However, even with this experience and the art awakening at 16, she did not begin painting until here 30's.

While many artists are captivated by art from a very young age, her obsession to paint, almost every day did not start until later in life. Arguably, then, she is now living an artist's lifestyle. She is now living an artist's lifestyle.

When she is painting the time shifts: "It is my time. It's all mine."

How She Started

At one stage, while working in the high-tech industry, Joelle was invited to a painting class by her in-laws. It was a watercolor class at a local community center. She agreed to go. It was perfect for her, so much so that she continued taking classes for 6 years. Then, she had an employer who was an oil painter — so, she tried that for a while. But then she started pastels, and "There was no turning back," she exclaims.

In 2015 she retired from her tech career and dived head-on into her art career, and it all worked out.

Currently, Joelle is represented by

"Swaying in the Wind" pastel 12" x 18". This piece is on display and available at the NOA Gallery at the Groton Inn, Groton, Mass.

"Last Crop", pastel, 10" x 10". Courtesy of the artist.

four New England art galleries and is a signature member of four pastel societies, boasting a host of awards from such organizations for her pastel work. She also teaches painting in person and on Zoom and is active in the community of Harvard, often hosting her students' work in the town center at Five Sparks. She also, at times, does painting workshops at

Continued on page 32

Fruitlands Museum, where she will have a solo exhibit in September. Moreover, she hosts art demos and classes at the Prescott Community Center in Groton, Mass.

What She Paints

Joelle started with still life painting. "I love still lifes. They are my comfort zone," she explains. The setting can be controlled and organized. Since she has a real love for beautiful things, painting lovely still settings inspired her for many years.

Then she started to paint landscapes. During Covid19, she found this new avenue very freeing. "I discovered my town," she explains. Her daily walks of four or five miles would give her lots of subject matter to paint. "I respond to my surroundings," she says. Photographing the scenes, drawing them right away while they are fresh in her mind, using watercolor for an underpainting, and then painting them in lively pastels, kept her busy to the tune of 40 paintings a year!

Via her travels to Maine and France each season, Joelle keeps her work fresh and real. "I paint my environment," she says. And thus, a view of her studio, whether in Harvard, Mass. or Maine, one can see many lovely scenes of Provence, Normandy, Harvard, or the coast of Maine.

Where To Begin?

Having artists in any community is a real asset and a resource. Joelle is one such person, and we asked her for some tips on where to begin.

"It is better for beginners to start in person," she explains. As an artist with a late start in life, she is an excellent source of information for artists wanting to get started. Her main suggestion is to start taking art classes, in person when possible.

She once had little time to focus on painting, and thus she encourages those who want to try, to do online classes if they cannot attend in person.

"I love it! It is a treat to teach," she concludes.

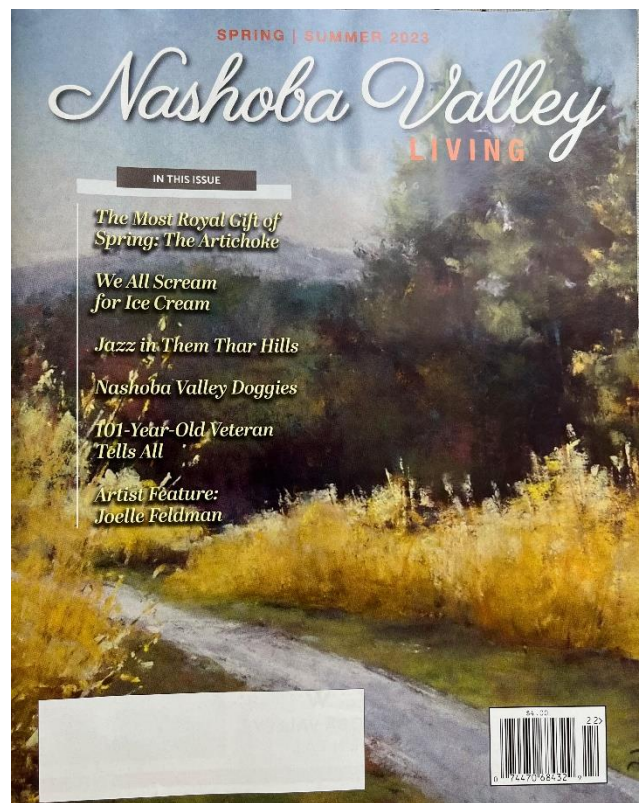
For more information about this fine artist and her classes visit www.joellefeldman.com.

Joelle Feldman teaching a group at Five Sparks in Harvard, Mass. Center. Photos Lawrence Lobby.

Continued on page 33

"Golden Light on Shaker Mill Pond" received the PSME award at the Pastel Society of Cape Cod 27th National Juried Exhibit, "For Pastels Only".

A great honor to have a piece recognized by two exceptional artists, [Corey Pitkin](#) and [Christine Danylik Ivers](#) and to be included in this amazing exhibit that you can viewed here: <https://ppsc.org/2023-for-pastels-only-gallery/>



*Shuk
Susan
Lee*

1. 3 paintings have been juried as the *Top Fav 15% of the Boldbrush Painting Contest* for the month of June.
2. **"Remembrance Of Her Smile"** won *"Marilyn Bok's Portrait Award" in the Pastel Society of New Hampshire's 18th Annual Member Show*. See link below:

<https://www.pastelsocietynh.com/2023-virtual-member-show>
3. My figurative paintings were juried into the *Pastel Society of America's 51st Brilliance online show*, the *Open New York Figurative Exhibition at the Salmagundi Club*, the *Allied Artist of America 110th online exhibitions*, and the *CMPS "Make your Mark" national shows*. All these 4 exhibitions will open in September.
4. **"HOPE from the Pandora Box"** was juried into the top 50 Finalists in the *UART Pastel online contest*. See link below:

<https://www.uartpastelpaper.com/2023-pastel-competition/?gallery=1>
5. **"In Her Own World"** was juried into the *Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod's FPO 2023 national show*.



We have a new set of PSNH Unison 30 Half Piece Set Pastel:
"Summer Summits Views"

Special pricing for PSNH members!

For more information regarding ordering and shipping please visit the PSNH website: <https://www.pastelsocietynh.com/product-page/unison-set-of-30-half-sticks-summer-summit-views>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bernadette Quirk at: BLQuirk.art@gmail.com

Also, there are a few sets left of:
"PSNH Autumn in New Hampshire"

Don't miss out!



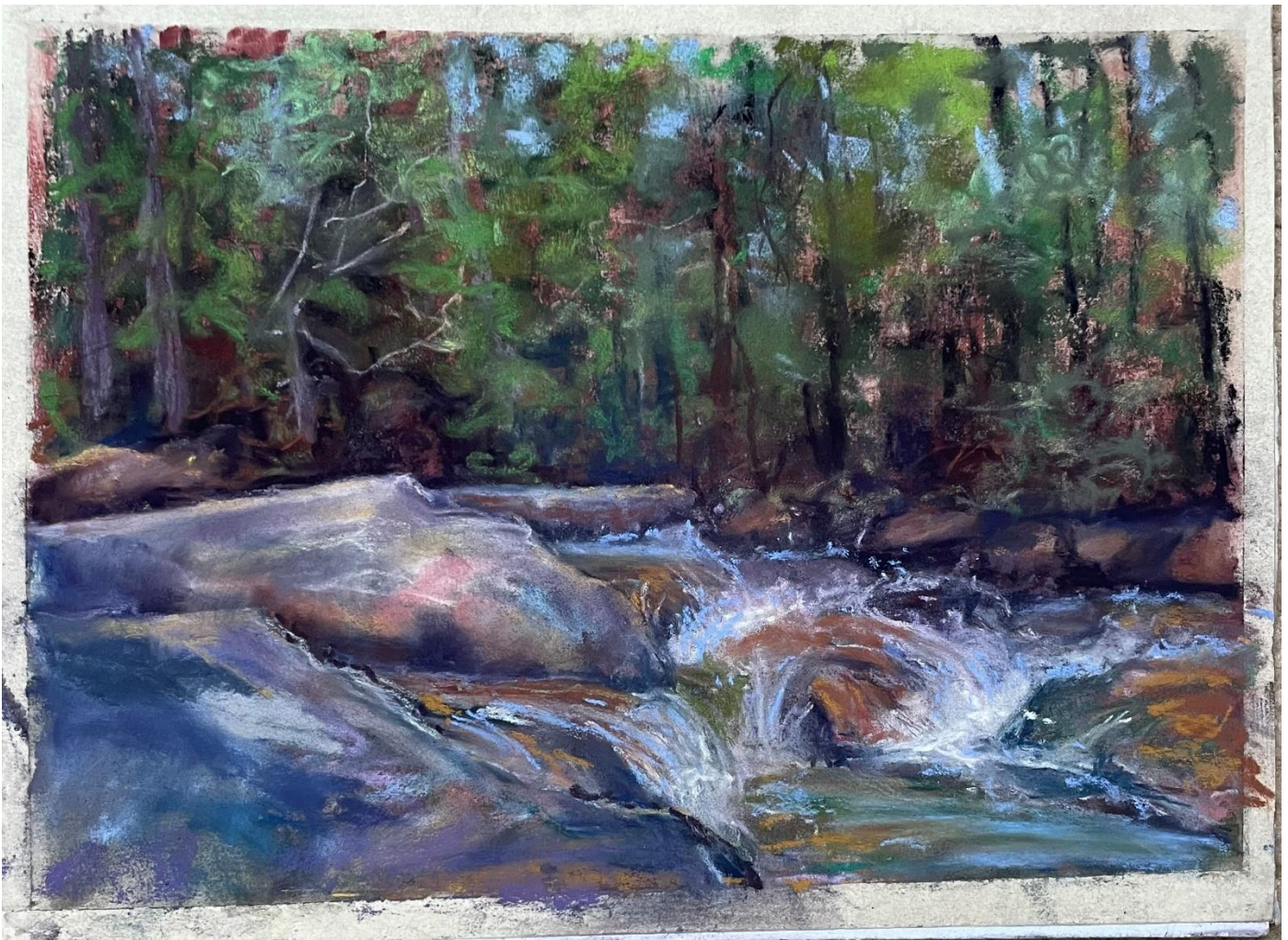


*Fresh
Off The
Easel...*

Deb Samia

1. Lupines plein air in Sugarhill NH. (below)
2. Whitegate Farm in Tamworth N plein air (next page – top)
3. Jackson Falls in Jackson, NH PSNH plein air event in June (next page – bottom)





Mary Ann Eldred

Fresh off the Easel:

The Path around my Pond (next page)

Ming portrait (below)

I got a nice write up in this month's Salem Life magazine that the Chamber puts out. I met the journalist at the show I judged for the Greater Salem Artist Association. She followed up with me to do this piece.

Here is the link:

<https://www.merrimackvalleylife.com/articles/speaking-of-art-41/>







Membership Application 2023

Memberships are for one year and run from January 1 – December 31. Memberships received after November 1 will include the following calendar year. New and renewing members who pay before 2023 (postmarked) can pay \$35.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

_____	Individual	\$ 40
_____	Sponsor	\$ 50
_____	Patron	\$ 100
_____	Benefactor	\$ 500
_____	Saint (Benefits for Saints include all the above and an award in their name presented at our annual Juried Exhibition.)	\$1,000

The Pastel Society of New Hampshire is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Date _____ Renewal _____ New Member _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State + Zip _____

Personal Art Website _____

1. PAY ONLINE on the [website](#) . If your information needs to be updated, please send the information to mffsmith@gmail.com.

2. PAY BY CHECK. Send this form and a check made out to Pastel Society of New Hampshire (PSNH) to Maggie Smith, 41 Aiken Rd, Putney, VT 05346.

Note: If you do not wish to have your name appear on the website, please check here. _____

If you are interested in helping out PSNH in any way, please contact the President of the Board, MaryAnn Mullett, at maryann.mullett97@gmail.com.

Interested in becoming a Signature Member of PSNH?

Here is how you do it. Start entering those shows today!

Signature Membership: a member in good standing may apply to become a Signature Member after earning 10 points from the following categories:

Best of (PSNH Juried) Show (includes jury into show pt.).	5 points
Second place (PSNH Juried) Show (includes jury into show pt.). . .	4 points
Third place (PSNH Juried) Show (includes jury into show pt.). . . .	3 points
Any Award (PSNH Juried) Show (includes jury into show pt.). . . .	2 points
Juried into Annual PSNH Juried Show	1 point
Best in PSNH Members Show	1 point
Juried into another National Pastel Show	1 point
(includes Pastel Journal top 100)	

Signature Member applicants must apply for Signature Membership. The applicant must keep records and send copies of all documentation of all earned points to the Vice President who will be responsible for Pastel Society of NH Signature Member record keeping.

The applicants must be members of the Pastel Society of NH while earning all points and must have served on a board position for 2 years.

Once approved, they must remain members in good standing to maintain Signature Memberships.

Benefits of Signature Members:

- May use the initials “NHPSA” (NH Pastel Society Artist) on their art work, publications, and biographies as long as they remain a member in good standing.
- May organize and participate in show only for Signature Members.
- May display additional artwork on the Pastel Society of NH’s website in the “Signature Circle Members” section.
- May receive a discount for application fees for all PSNH shows.

Responsibilities of Signature Members:

- Promote pastel painting, mentor and assist newer members
- Participate in a demo or presentation for a members’ meeting.
- Offer critique at paint-outs or PSNH functions
- Organize and participate in Signature Members Show

The earning of points is retroactive to 2009.

PSNH Signature Members

Linee Baird, Kate Bergquist, Laetitia Borden, Roxane Chardon, Carol Corliss, Suzanne DeLesseps, Keith Demanche, Linda Dessaint, Shelly Eager, Mary Ann Eldred, Wolfgang Ertl, Joelle Feldman, Jeff Fioravanti, Paula Fraser, Robin Frisella, Sandra Kavanaugh, Randy Knowles, Christine Kossow, Susanne Larkham, Shuk Susan Lee, Deb Luoma, Sandra Machell, Judith McKenna, Maryann Mullett, Gary Ozias, Ellen Pelletier, Lisa Regopoulos, Barbara Scott and Gill Truslow.