



HIGHlight

February 2009

From the President...

Dear PSNM Friends —

I believe we're off to a good start in 2009. We've had a number of our members step up to volunteer for various positions. I'm happy to announce that Julie Maas has agreed to Chair our National Show. I would like to thank Julie for her willingness to take this position. Quite a few of the National Show Committees are filled, however there are still plenty of opportunities to help make our 18th Annual Exhibition a success. I'd also like to thank Beverly Snyder for volunteering to take the Refreshment Committee duties for this year.

We will meet at Las Mañanitas (located at the corner of Rio Grande Blvd. and Indian School Road) after our February membership meeting to select the jurors for this year and the judge for 2010. Glenda Jensen will preside over the selection process. All are welcome to attend this meeting. Bring magazine articles, etc. to support your choices.

For those who weren't at the January membership meeting, we announced that along with the National Show this year, there will be a membership juried small works exhibition. It will be hung in the same manner as the miniature division of MasterWorks. The plan is to have a jury of our peers, as we did for the Visions Show which was held in 2006. One of the purposes of introducing this new section to the show is to include more of our local members, which will give us a larger pool of artists to sit at the show. Our thanks to Jill Rushton for offering to be the Chairperson for this new division of the National Show.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have volunteered to serve PSNM in some capacity this year. I believe in spite of the poor economy, we have some very exciting plans for 2009.

— Elaine Koehler

INSIDE...

pg 2 - Dues Renewal Reminder

pg 3 - Program Review

pg 4 - Member News

pg 5 - Workshops

pg 7 - Call for Entries

Monthly Meeting at the Albuquerque Museum

Saturday, February 14 • 10 - Noon

Simultaneous Contrast Explained

Is it warmer? Is it cooler? Is it darker or lighter? These are questions artists ask themselves as they are creating a painting. When these questions are asked, it refers to simultaneous contrast, which is the relativity of everything we see. Lee McVey will talk about the theory of simultaneous contrast and demonstrate her approach to painting.

Lee is a signature member of 4 art societies including Pastel Society of America and Plein Air Painters of New Mexico. She has been featured in *American Artist* and *International Artist* magazines and included in two books, *100 Ways to Paint Landscapes* and *Plein Air New Mexico*.

Coming Up...

March 14 - Fred Yost - "Patterns, Fractals, and Paint" experimental painting techniques that mimic nature's amazing and beautiful patterns.

2009 NATIONAL SHOW MEETING

It's time to select the 3 Jurors needed for 2009 and the Judge (and workshop instructor) for the 2010 National Show. Join us at Las Mañanitas after our regular meeting to assist in the selection process. Northeast corner of Rio Grande & Indian School. Ordering food is not required. Parking in rear.

PSNM Officers & Committee Chairs

President	Elaine Koehler
Vice President	Fred Miller
Treasurer	Peggy Orbon
Secretary	Carol Lovelady
Member-at-Large	Enid Sorenson
Communications	Carol Hall
Corresponding Sec.	Kathleen Dietz
Evaluation	Marilyn Drake, Lee McVey, Fred Yost
50/50	Mary Stovall
Librarian	Karen Servatt
MasterWorks Rep	Carol Lovelady
Membership	Gaye Garrison
National Show	Julie Maas
Newsletter	Marilyn Drake, Alice Flitter
Programs	Maryann McGraw
Program Review	Jeanne Weitz
Publicity	Diana Stauffer
Refreshments	Beverly Synder
Signature Membership	Leila Hall
Website Manager	Marilyn Drake
Workshops	Lyle Brown

* To send emails to people on this list, go to www.pastelsnm.org then click on Contacts.

SPECIAL EVENTS

IAPS Convention • May 28 - 31

The Albuquerque Hotel
Demos, Workshops, Art Supplies
For information, go to:
www.pastelsinternational.com

Artisan Artist's Material Expo

September 17 - 20
Santa Fe Convention Center
For information, go to:
www.artisan-santafe.com

OPEN STUDIO DAY

Sunday, February 15th from 1 - 5pm.

PSNM members Lyle Brown, Nancy J. Davis,
Marilyn Drake, Bud Edmondson, Betty Giles,
Fred Miller, and Sheila Richmond

invite you to the Annual Open Studio Day at

The Artist Studio

8200 Menaul NE (Suites A & B)
in Hoffmantown Shopping Center

Library News:

Karen Servatt, our Librarian, will bring books from the PSNM Library, written by authors whose names begin with E through K, to the February meeting. They will be available for check-out, along with various other items. A complete list of Library holdings can be found on our website should you wish to request that Karen bring a specific book for you.

Please remember to return items you've borrowed from the Library so that others may check them out and enjoy them too.

Also, a big Thank You to Marie Meyer, who donated a copy of her book, *Multi-Brand Color Chart PASTELS*, to our library.

Speaking of Books:

Dick Bell of The Barnsite Gallery in Kewaunee, WI has been sending emails with information about art books he sells. So far, none have been strictly about pastels, but you might find something of interest to you if you go to his website or contact him directly.

Recently he was promoting two books:

The Wanderers:

Masters of 19th Century Russian Painting

Price - New \$150 - Used \$120

SOROLLA: La Vision de Espana

Price: \$185

To order books and catalogs, call 920-388-4391 or email Dick Bell at: barnsitestudio@aol.com or visit the website: www.barnsiteartstudio.com

Membership Renewal

DUES WERE PAYABLE by JAN. 1st

For inclusion in 2009 Membership Phone List your dues must be paid in full by Feb. 15, 2009.

NEW THIS YEAR...

Pay Online with a Credit Card using PayPal.

Renewal Form can be found in the December issue of HIGHlight, or go at www.pastelsnm.org
Go to: about PSNM, click where indicated for Membership Form. Follow instructions on the form to complete the process.

January Program Review

by Jeanne Weitz & Leila Hall

Fred Miller: Portraits from Photos

Fred Miller, PSNM Vice President, opened the first meeting of the year with a no-nonsense lecture about painting from photos, with information for both novice and professional pastelists. The high point of the program was watching Fred paint a portrait using his favorite brand of pastels — Girault. If you missed this meeting, and you want to paint portraits successfully, you will have to enroll in one of Fred's portrait painting workshops.

A camera is a mechanical tool. A human's eyes are alive. Camera shots lie. Fred pointed out many of the difficulties encountered when painting a portrait from a photo. Photos have too many variables to be a perfect reflection of nature. The quality of camera/lens, ability of the photographer, distortion of images due to focus, reproduction of color and values, and distortions due to enlargement are only a few. Sure, photos are faster and cheaper than paintings and are great for recording action and movement such as children at play or a sporting event. A painting from the real thing has myriads of values and hues. It reveals the artist's spirit and originality. In other words, the more you paint from life, the better able you are to correct camera/lens distortions when painting from photos.

A quick survey revealed only 2 or 3 artists in the audience NEVER used photos. Today time is costly. Few artists have the financial resources adequate to hire a model for a long period of time. Artists commissioned to paint a portrait of a famous person discover that person is much too busy to be able to sit for more than for one or two sessions. Many contemporary artists use photos once in awhile, but they do change the composition to make it their work. Fred suggested that painting still lifes will go a long way in teaching you to see color. Additionally, he recommended a book that shows how to correct photographic distortions – Johnnie Liliedahl's book *Photo-Imaging for Painters* (however, read the fine print to make sure it works with your version of Photoshop or PS Elements).

Next he introduced CHARLIE, a 3 dimensional plaster head with prominent chin, cheek bones and nose

When Fred shone a warm light on Charlie, the shadows became cool hues. When Fred reversed the color of the light from warm to cool, the shadows became warm tones. Even landscape painters could take this to heart – warm sun on treetops mean cool shadows under them.

Prior to the meeting, Fred had made a charcoal sketch of a lumberjack. He said he would have preferred to have a live model like Bud Edmondson, who was in the audience, pose for him. But, often you have no choice but to work from a photo.

Fred worked standing on the stage facing his easel, but moved away from time to time so that the audience could see the actual steps as he worked. Fred likes the Girault brand pastels for most of his painting because they suit his way of working. The surfaces Fred prefers are Canson, Art Spectrum, and boards he prepares (a mixture of gesso, pumice, and acrylic paint for tinting).

Fred starts painting with his darkest values like many oil painters do. He admitted to using black at times, but never without mixing another color with it. Then he works up the value scale. His final touches are the lightest colors.

As he painted, Fred answered questions from the audience. Someone asked what he thought was a face's most important feature. (Many people say the eyes reflect the soul.) Fred also pointed out the eyes and nose form a triangular shape from which you can build the rest of the features. Of course, the mouth presents its own challenges. As John Singer Sargent said, "A portrait is a painting that

continued on page 4

Photos of Fred's demonstration courtesy of Terry Rafferty



continued from page 3

has something wrong with the mouth.” With the lumberjack’s beard, the mouth was nearly hidden so that problem was eliminated. Fred said, “When painting a beard, avoid drawing a lot of individual hairs – massing and a few lines will do the trick.” He suggested taking a photo of a half finished portrait and placing it over the original photo to see how closely the features have been duplicated. Fred said, “Measuring and comparing the model’s features with length and width of those features on the portrait help.” The common problem of making the model’s nose too long can be eliminated this way – “Paint SHAPES of eyes, nose, and mouth we SEE and *not* what we think we know”, was Fred’s sound advise.

It was a great hour spent learning from a Master Portraitist! To see more of Fred’s paintings, go to his website: <http://web.mac.com/fmiller505>

To find out about Fred’s portrait classes, contact him at 505-450-7585 or by email at: fmiller505@yahoo.com

Fred will also be teaching a workshop at Starlight Ranch this spring. Please see the listing on page 6.



Member News

Barbara Clark and Deborah Secor both had artwork selected for the 2009 Bernalillo Water Authority calendars. Sky Dog the Art Space was honored to host this year’s Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority’s calendar reception. Sky Dog the Art Space is located at 7103 4th Street NW, Building M, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, NM 87107.

Barbara also will be in a two person show at the First Unitarian Church in Albuquerque from February 15th through April 4th.

Margi Lucena was the cover artist for the Dec., Jan., Feb. issue of Steppin’ Out, a bi-monthly magazine distributed from Santa Fe south and at state Welcome Centers. Inside, there was an article about her as well, including another image of one of her paintings.

Terry Lawson Dunn has been named the new curator of art for the New Mexico Cancer Center. Shows are changed every three months. If you are interested in being considered for future shows, contact Terry by email at: Dunn27@juno.com or call 505-821-8901.

Jakki Kouffman has an image of her acrylic painting “Canyon Overlook, Late Day” in the winter issue of Artspeak, a publication of New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs.



Note: *If you would like to improve your skills in drawing and painting people from life, there are many open sessions held around Albuquerque, including the Wednesday & Thursday morning groups at The Artist Studio in the Hoffmantown Shopping Center held from 9:30 - Noon. For more information, contact Marilyn Drake.*

Workshops

LISTING POLICY: All new announcements will be published with as much detail as space will allow. Repeat listings will be abbreviated. Deadline for submissions is 15th of month preceding next issue.

Please send your listings for classes, events, workshops, or news via email to: Alice Flitter - awflitter@aol.com

To find out about other workshops, shows, etc. check magazines and online sources. Use Google to search for additional information.

TAUGHT BY PSNM MEMBERS

NEW! Vasili “Bill” Katakis Workshop

February 28 & March 1 • Albuquerque, NM

“Painting from Your Artist Core” — A two-day journey of discovery and play with Vasili Katakis, an award winning New Mexico artist, with 15 years of teaching experience. “I shut my eyes in order to see”, Paul Gauguin. “Only when he no longer knows what he is doing, does the painter do good things”, Edgar Degas. “There is no must in art because art is free”, Wassily Kandinsky. This course is for artists who would like to experience painting from their artistic center, and learn how to access that state of mind more frequently. Learn to recognize the difference between the struggle for control and the freedom of playing. Explore ways to connect with your subject and approach it without getting hung up on technique. Ordinary paintings are transformed and become extraordinary paintings. See shapes, light, color temperature, blending, edging from an inner perspective. Soft pastels will be used for this class. Held at The Artist Studio in Hoffmantown Shopping Center. All levels are welcome. Bill’s work can be seen at: www.vasiliart.com \$150 for PSNM members, \$175 non-members.

Specialized paper is required - available from Bill for \$12. To register, email: vasiliart@aol.com or call 505-255-0313

Michael Chesley Johnson, MPAC, PSA, PSNM Plein Air Workshops

January - March • Sedona AZ, (pastel or oil, mentoring workshops - see www.PaintSedona.com)

March 23 - 27 • Sedona, AZ (pastel only)

April 20 - 24 • Springfield, IL (pastel only)

May 4 - 8 • Old Forge, NY (pastel only)

May 28 - 30 • Albuquerque, NM - IAPS Convention

Summer/Fall • Maine Coast, Campobello Island (NB) • New Hampshire (pastel or oil) • Vermont • Florida
Michael is a longtime contributor to *The Pastel Journal* and *The Artist's Magazine*. Author of *Backpacker Painting: Outdoors with Oil & Pastel*, he teaches *plein air* workshops throughout North America.

Check www.MichaelChesleyJohnson.com for full details, e-mail: mcj@sff.net or call 575-267-2450.

Mike Mahon Workshops

February 25 - 27 • Odessa, TX

May 25 - 27 • Santa Fe

June 1 - 3 • Santa Fe

July 13 - 17 • Cloudcroft, NM

August 3 - 7 • Santa Fe, NM

Sept 28 - Oct 2 • Taos, NM

November 2 - 6 • Hot Springs, AR

For info, contact Mike Mahon at: art@mmahon.com or phone: 806-359-5130

Lee McVey Workshops

February 25 - April 22 • Albuquerque, NM

8 weeks, Wednesdays, 6:30 - 9:30 pm — No class

March 11. At New Mexico Art League

February 26 - April 23 • Albuquerque, NM

8 weeks, Thursdays, 1 - 4 pm — No class March 12

At The Artist Studio in Hoffmantown Shopping Center.

For beginners with some pastel and drawing experience through intermediate levels.

Experience lots of one on one attention as you develop your painting skills while working from landscape reference photos. Improve your ability to see and to extract the information from photographs needed to create a successful painting.

\$175 tuition includes tax.

To register and for more information, contact Lee at: 505-884-5566, or leemcvey1@msn.com

To register for the NMAL class go to:

www.newmexicoartleague.org OR call 293-5034.

Maggie Price Workshops

April 3 - 5 • Merriam, KS; indoor, landscape from photographic reference

May 28 - 31 • Albuquerque, NM (IAPS Convention); indoors sessions and 2-day *plein air* post-convention workshop (June 1&2)

June 15 - 19 • S. Freeport, ME; indoors and *plein air*

June 22 - 26 • Marshfield Hills, MA.; indoors and *plein air*

July 10 - 12 • Denver, CO; indoor, landscape from photographic reference

continued on page 6

Workshops

continued from page 5

Maggie Price Workshops

July 27 - 31 • Kimberly, WI; indoor and *plein air*

August 23 - September 2 • Scotland (Highlands), all *plein air*, materials furnished and shipped to/from

September 18 • Santa Fe, NM (Artisan Art Expo), indoor sessions

October • Juzcar, Spain (dates to be announced)

Details at www.MaggiePriceArt.com or call 505-294-7752

Lorenzo Chavez Workshop

April 26 - 28 • Albuquerque, NM

3-day Intermediate to advanced landscape workshop.

Held in conjunction with MasterWorks. Cost: \$250

\$100 deposit will reserve your spot. Make check

payable to PSNM and send it to Lyle Brown,

8813 Brandywine Rd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111.

For more information contact Lyle at: 505-797-9642 or email: lhbrownart@msn.com

Fred Miller Workshop

May 7-10 • Edgewood, New Mexico

Portrait Painting (Oils & Pastels)

Thursday - Sunday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Accommodations available.

Cost: \$355, includes tax, lunch and model fee

Starlight Guest Ranch

680 State Road 344, Edgewood, New Mexico

More Info and to Register, call Deb at 505-281-6839

or go to www.starlightranchnm.com

Deborah Secor Workshop

June 1 & 2 • Albuquerque, NM

Held after the conclusion of the IAPS Convention, the

Special Techniques in the Landscape workshop shows

how to structure a painting in the studio, gives you a

chance to paint and have a group critique. This is the

only workshop I have scheduled for this year and it's also

an incredible bargain. Thanks to my host, Harwood Art

Center in Albuquerque, the total cost is ONLY \$75!

Enrollment is beginning to fill already, and there is a

maximum of 18 students.

Call Harwood at 505-242-6367 to enroll.

As we get closer to the actual event, enrollment materials

will be sent to you. Please list your e-mail address with

the office when you enroll.

TAUGHT BY OTHERS

Pastels in Umbria

June 27 - July 11 • Italy

La Romita School of Art is offering a class taught by Mariya Zvonkovich (www.bluecanyonart.com) from Colorado Springs, where she also teaches drawing and painting. Information at www.laromita.org

Painting & Sightseeing in Portugal

June 8 - 20

Daily plein air demonstrations and instruction with Donna Yeager – award winning Kansas City artist; Nightly critiques and get togethers; Round Trip airfare from Newark, NJ to Oporto; Land Transfers; Hotel room (double occupancy); Daily breakfast buffet; Tours of Oporto, Aveiro, Obidos, Evora, Monsaraz, Lisbon, and Sintra, with entry into Pena Palace. Stay 3 days in Oporto, then trip continues through the countryside to final destination of Cascais, a beautiful seaside fishing village.

Cost: \$2750 Non-Painting traveler cost is \$2595

Airport tax/fuel surcharge of \$399.00 not included.

\$600 deposit needed immediately to reserve your spot.

Balance due 7 weeks prior to departure.

For more info, contact Donna Yeager at:

donna4873@hotmail.com or 913-232-8470

Greg Biolchini, PSA Workshop

June 12 -14 • Kudzo Art Zone, Norcross, GA

Painting with Pastels, as both a wet and dry medium from photography.

\$225.00 for Southeastern Pastel Society members,

\$250.00 for non-members. Contact Marsha Savage at

(770) 926-3623 or marshasavageart@yahoo.com

You are invited to visit the SPS website:

www.southeasternpastel.org

Gallery Opportunity

Artistas de Santa Fe

Artist-owned gallery in Santa Fe is looking for a professional artist/partner to complete the team.

More Info: Call the gallery at 505-982-1320.

Call for Entries

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please send an email to Alice Flitter at awflitter@aol.com with complete information about any shows that will be of interest to your fellow PSNM members. Submissions must be received by 15th of the month preceding the issue in which you'd like the show mentioned.

Remember, there are many shows and competitions listed on the internet, as well as the art magazines. So do some exploring on your own to see what is coming up.

Digital OR Slide Deadline: March 2, 2009
Arts Center/Old Forge Fifth Annual Northeast National Pastel Exhibition • June 13 - July 12, 2009

Juror of Selection: Maggie Price, PSA; Juror of Awards: Michael Chesley Johnson, PSA, MPAC (both are also PSNM Signature Members)
To download a copy of the prospectus and learn more about The Arts Center/Old Forge in Old Forge, NY, go to: www.artscenteroldforge.org

Slide Deadline: March 19, 2009

IAPS 13th Exhibition • June 4 - 8, 2009

Ventana Fine Arts Gallery on Canyon Road, one of the finest and most prestigious galleries in Santa Fe, NM, will host the exhibition. The exhibition will be pre-juried by Doug Dawson, PSA and juried for awards by Albert Handell, PSA. Prospectus available on the IAPS website: www.pastelinternational.com

Digital Deadline: April 30, 2009

Revealing Culture - An International Juried Exhibition by Artists with Disabilities • June - September, 2010

Selected works shown at the Smithsonian Institution's International Gallery, or alternate spaces throughout Washington, D.C. during the 2010VSA arts International Festival. For more information, visit: www.vsarts.org or www.vsartsfestival.org

Digital Deadline: May 1, 2009

Marin Society of Artists • August 2 - 30, 2009

National Juried Exhibition. Juror: Scott Shields, Associate Director and Chief Curator of the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento, CA. Gallery is situated in a prestigious location in Marin County, CA.
For prospectus go to: www.marinsocietyofartists.org

Digital Deadline: Ongoing!

Steppin' Out Magazine Cover Competition

If you haven't seen a copy, you can view or download a copy from: www.SoNewMex.com
Contact the magazine for more details about entering work for the cover. Email: pengwen@SoNewMex.com or pengwen@zianet.com or call 575-835-2127

Deadline: February 2, 2009

Las Vegas Arts Council (NM) • Mar 23-May 15, 2009

19th Annual National Juried Art Exhibition, "Faces of Woman". Entries must be two or three dimensional original works depicting the celebration of the feminine or symbolic representational form.

More info and Entry Form: Call 505-425-3019 or go to www.lasvegasartscouncil.org

AIPP (Art in Public Places)

New Mexico Arts and sponsoring organizations are looking for public art pieces.

Deadlines in bold:

Feb 26: Prospectus #195 at Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso Branch Community College

March 12: Prospectus #198 at the New Mexico Court of Appeals, Commission Project.

April 16: Prospectus #197 at San Juan College-Outdoor Learning Center

For info about all these, go to: www.callforentry.org.

Deadline: March 20, 2009

Scottsdale Artists' School

Submit work based on the theme: Spark! Igniting the Power of Art, to celebrate environmentally friendly energy resources. \$5,000 cash prize for winner. Open to all artists 18 years and older.

Entry Fee: \$35 first entry, \$25 additional entries.

Go to www.callforentry.org and look for Scottsdale Artists School.

For more info, email Heather Grant at:

hgrant@scottsdaleartschool.org

Deadline: April 1, 2009

Nevada Arts Council

Seeking artists to serve on Artist in Residence roster. Open to artists living outside Nevada and all disciplines. To serve during 2009-2011. An arts education program that provides students, teachers and communities with direct hands-on arts experiences through personal interaction with working artists.

More Info and to Apply: Call 702-486-3738 or go to www.NevadaCulture.org