



PASTEL SOCIETY OF MAINE **PSME**

## 2023 PSME HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

PSME Website: [pastelsocietyofmaine.org](http://pastelsocietyofmaine.org)

### 2023 PSME Board Members

**President, Juried Show CoChair Chair**

MaryBeth Morrison, [pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com](mailto:pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com)

**VicePresident, Terrilynn Dubreuil,** [pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com](mailto:pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com)

**Treasurer, Susan E.Cunniff,** [treasurer.pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com)

**Recording Secretary, Juried Show Cochair, Liz Hunter,** [chameleonfiberworks@gmail.com](mailto:chameleonfiberworks@gmail.com)

**Membership Chair, Laura Beckering,** [membership.pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com](mailto:membership.pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com)

**Member at Large, Sharon Gorman,** [sharongormans@gmail.com](mailto:sharongormans@gmail.com)

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**Scholarship Chair, Barbara Farchione,** [farchionebc@yahoo.com](mailto:farchionebc@yahoo.com)

**Zoom Program /Workshop Co Chair, Polly Castor,** [PollyCastor@gmail.com](mailto:PollyCastor@gmail.com)

**Librarian, Kay Etheridge,** [ketherid0110@gmail.com](mailto:ketherid0110@gmail.com)

**Hospitality Chair, Sara Ostrov,** [sarapots626@gmail.com](mailto:sarapots626@gmail.com)

**Spring Retreat, Ruth VanDine,** [RuthsPiano@gmail.com](mailto:RuthsPiano@gmail.com)

## President's Message 2023

The holidays are upon us, with the attendant traditions, expectations, and exchanges. I hope that your holiday season has the joy of giving and receiving, in safety and prosperity.

**For your support** of Pastel Society of Maine **Big thanks to our volunteers on committees, on the board, and those who contributed help and donated** in 2023. **Thank you, members who have renewed your memberships for 2024.** Memberships should be in for the new year by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

You are the reason for the Society, and in the coming year we wish to reflect your interests in 2024 events.

Your **voted slate of officers** includes me as president, Terrilynn Dubreuil as vice president, and Elizabeth Hunter as secretary.

**Our treasurer position is open - We need someone, by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Your consideration is greatly appreciated. Here is treasurer Susan's message:**

*The Treasurer position time commitment varies according to Society activities but does require year-round focus. Monthly duties include monitoring banking transactions (checks, PayPal, SquareSpace, Stripe), recap to bookkeeper at month's end, Treasurer's Report prepared from the bookkeeper's monthly workbook, forwarding that report to the Board. Familiarity with Excel is extremely helpful.*

*Generally, in conjunction with shows and workshops, duties include handwritten checks, bank deposits from registrations, refunds as needed, and processing sales commissions. Tax returns, 1099s, and requesting and sending five reciprocal Pastel Society awards in the Spring are needed. Bookkeeper Mary McVey will flag if something is missed. Susan will train ensuring a smooth transition. If you have questions, email Susan at [treasurer.pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com)*

**Calendar 2024-** Watch PSME website and your inbox for updates and details on coming events. In changing the dates of our Open Juried Exhibition, we seek less overlap of shows and workshops.

**January – April,** Wine and Watch Demos, Wednesdays, TBA. Check the website for dates, and your email for Zoom link just before the events.

The first one, January 10, 6-8pm, features Mark Ivan Cole. See <https://www.markivancole.com/>.

**April – May**, VIRTUAL 24<sup>th</sup> Open Juried Exhibition, Pastels Only. Online only.

**June** – International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS) Biannual Convention, Albuquerque, NM. A few PSME members will attend that weeklong pastel party.

**June 12-16**, PSME Spring Retreat, Warren, ME

**July – September**, Plein air paint outs/studio tours, by registration. Events by email notice to all members; registrations must be taken to accommodate the limitations of each place. Free.

**September – October**, In person workshop, 2 -3 day, TBA

**November - December**– Members Show, Topsham Library

**November and December** – Pastel classes and workshops, Kids and Adults, ongoing at The Brick Store Museum in Kennebunk.

As your president, I consider our members to be our greatest assets! Please consider where you might help in 2024. We need a treasurer, we need help organizing two main art shows, hosts for 6 -8 seasonal paint outs, teachers for pastel classes, and workshops, and for Zoom support. We need letter writers for thank you's, condolences, and solicitation.

Also, what artist would you like to attend a workshop with, or who's demonstrations do you want to see? Where would you like to paint in this state or beyond?

What opportunities do you seek in furthering your art?

What exhibits or museums would you recommend?

What venues in your area might work for a workshop, class, or a longer-term art show?

What products have you found useful in your studio?

What are your art plans for the coming year?

What is engaging you on your easel?

Yours In Pastel, Mary Beth

## PSME Welcomes New Members

**Joanne Boisvert**, Notre-Dame-de-Pontmain, QC, Canada, **Carol Guiel**  
Dallas, TX & Rangely, ME, **Sally Fortin-Francis**, York, ME, **Lisa Greenleaf**,  
Chelsea, ME

## PSME Annual Membership Dues for 2024

**\*\***(Please disregard this appeal if you have already completed your renewal for 2024 & thank you! )**\*\***

*The mission of PSME is to encourage and raise public awareness of the pastel medium, while giving our members an opportunity to exhibit, acquire new skills and to support and share ideas with fellow artists.*

**PSME dues are \$40 annually and renewals are due in January.**

The renewal deadline is March 31, 2024. After the renewal deadline, prior members who have *not* renewed will be removed from the membership roster.

**PSME** dues provide members with the quarterly newsletter, membership in the International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS), opportunities to accrue points toward a PSME Signature Member status, reduced application fees for PSME shows & workshops, benefits of our website link, some art supply store discounts and the great fellowship of pastel artists!

New\* or renewing members\*\* may pay dues through the PSME website ([www.pastelsocietyofmaine.org/join](http://www.pastelsocietyofmaine.org/join)) for online payment - link to 'PURCHASE' with a credit card.

Or snail mail a check to the PSME Membership Chair, Laura Beckering, PO Box 133, Lincolnville Center ME 04850.

\*/\*\* If possible, ***please*** include the membership application which can be downloaded from the PSME website. Mail(*address above*), email a copy or photograph of the application to [membership.pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com](mailto:membership.pastelsocietyofmaine@gmail.com).

Please be sure that PSME has your current name, address, phone number, email address and personal website (if applicable).

Thank you for paying dues in a timely fashion! It helps keep our records current and you don't miss what's happening.

Best Regards, Laura Beckering PSME Membership Chair

## PSME Lending Library

The PSME Library Website for books and CDs about pastels is [www.pastelsocietyofmaine.org/lending-library](http://www.pastelsocietyofmaine.org/lending-library).

In order to access lending privileges, your membership must be current and you must pay a one-time registration fee of **\$10.00** and fill out request form from the PSME Website. [pastelsocietyofmaine.org](http://pastelsocietyofmaine.org).

Librarian, Kay Etheridge, [ketherid0110@gmail.com](mailto:ketherid0110@gmail.com)

## Member News

From **Terilynn Debreuil**..My greatest honor yet was being awarded the First Prize for the IAPS 43rd Open Edition Exhibit. <https://showsubmit.com/gallery/iaps-43rd-open-division>

I still have trouble believing it! This painting, "Her Hands", was painted the week after my Mother passed. I painted it just for *me*, to help me process all that comes with the death of a loved one.

She was my first art teacher, my mentor, colleague and best critic. We would spend weeks each summer on Monhegan Island painting together. The painting is raw emotion and, surprising to me, seems to speak to many other people. I was elated and shocked when I found I had been awarded this prestigious award .. and in the next moment, my heart plummeted to the depths when I had the impulse to call my Mom to tell her the news and with a shock realized that I could not.



My lesson learned is to allow emotions to pour into our paintings. There's no guarantee that I will ever acquire any other such award, nor that I'll be juried into the next show, but I will continue to submit those paintings which speak to ME. I encourage everyone to keep submitting to shows, because .. you never know .. the next judge could be the one whom your painting touches deeply!

[TravelingArtista.com](http://TravelingArtista.com)

From **Carol Abitabilo Ast**...

I am currently having an exhibition of my pastel paintings at the Miles Memorial Hospital in Damariscotta. The exhibition is in the main entrance hall of the main building of the hospital, which is open 24 hours a day, 7 days each week, until December 29th. The exhibition was described, and included a photo, in the November 23rd edition of the Lincoln County News.



Breakers #2

From **Bernadette deCesare**...My pastel "In the Spin" received: First place in the PSME member's show with an outstanding comment from the judge, Ed Higgens. ♥

IAPS online exhibit included me in their latest show with my pastel "Waiting for Lunch".

These recognitions keeps my creative choices hopeful and challenging. I find experimenting keeps me fresh and curious. Creating my paper surface is one way to find new marks and Pastels carry the spark of light through numerous layers ...I do enjoy the gritty surface. Also revisiting a finished painting offers me

a looser touch and my story gets refreshed, with clarity. HAPPY PAINTING and ..HAPPY HOLIDAY to Everyone.





From **Charleen Knight**...

I had my very first juried acceptance. A portrait of my mother, was accepted into the NH Pastel Society National Show held in Portsmouth this past month. The painting was created with the set of pastels my mother herself used.



## PSME Annual Spring Retreat

PSME's Annual Spring Retreat, June 12-16, features a nice balance of Plein Air time and gathering time. We have rented a home at 1370 Western Rd, Warren on private North Pond. The home has eight rooms, \$458.00 for a 4-night stay (rent it for your own or share the room). Whether you stay at the house or nearby on your own it promises to be a great home to tuck away in the evenings or in case of foul weather. The registration fee of \$55pp will include all evening meals.

The quiet town of Warren, blueberry fields and the coastal views Birch Point Park and Owls Head Light house inspire us for wonderful painting experience. Plan to reconnect with your artist friends and enjoy shared evening meals and camaraderie which will make this an event all can enjoy.

Registration will open on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

## Website, Social Media

**Website, Social Media** Occasionally visit the PSME Website @ [PastelSocietyofMaine.org](https://www.pastelsocietyofmaine.org) - it's a great source of info. We do our best to keep everything up-to-date: the Membership page, Events Calendar, Retreat and Exhibit information, rotate a variety of member images, and the resource link has the newsletters, how to prep images for submission to exhibits, the lending library and info on our sister societies and companies that donate prizes for our exhibits. Facebook and Instagram have been posting regular images of our members' paintings and promoting the society as a whole. Our exposure on these venues has been growing. Please occasionally email us high resolution photos of new work to [PastelSocietyOfMaineMedia@gmail.com](mailto:PastelSocietyOfMaineMedia@gmail.com) for promotional use on these visible sites.

## Group Painting Opportunities

### **The Plein Air Painters of Maine**

...has a **blog** where the dates and locations of painting opportunities will be listed by the various chapters: [pamelocations.blogspot.com](http://pamelocations.blogspot.com)

**If you are an organizer for any of the regions, you need to send an email at least a week ahead of the event with the Date, Location, Directions, Information and Contact (Organizer's name/phone/email). I will post this information to the blog as soon possible.**

Diane Dubreuil will be listing our free events on the **Plein Air Painters of Maine Facebook Page**.

A reminder that PAPME is a volunteer organization, with a goal of providing **free painting opportunities** in various regions of the State. We are always eager to know about new places to paint that have parking and bathrooms nearby. We welcome anyone who is willing to be a "monitor" for a day of painting, as well as anyone who wants to start a new group/chapter. No experience necessary and great benefits.

### **The UUC Church Friday am Arts Group, Kennebunk, ME**

The doors open at 10am.

Request donation of \$5.

All medias.

Parking in Kennebunk Library Parking Lot.

If anyone wishes to be put on the groups email list, send your email address to [jinspec@icloud.com](mailto:jinspec@icloud.com) and I will pass it on to the group.