

Manasquan River Group of Artists

Established 1938

Newsletter



MRGA, P. O. Box 614, Manasquan,

www.mrga38.org

New Jersey 08736 February, 2024

Letter from the President

Welcome to February! The holidays are over and it's time to settle back into our routines, think about the resolutions we have made or didn't make and look ahead to the year ahead.

I can't help but revisit my 2023 message about **LOVE** and to focus on the nature of the theme as it relates to MRGA. Let's get to know each other better, especially the 8 new members who will be inducted at our February meeting.

Offer your talents and time to a committee such as Hospitality, or Publicity or by participating in future MRGA shows and fundraisers such a Stars for Charity. Be sure and read the heartfelt letter from Bill Bunting, administrator of this worthwhile charity in this newsletter.

Voice your ideas and suggestions at the meetings or in between to your At-Large Trustees Debra Herbster or Beverly Sirianni, or any other board member.

Enjoy our time together each month at our meetings and show receptions. The Point Pleasant Beach Library Winter Art Exhibit reception is February 24, 11-1.

Happy February! Happy Painting!

Barbara



Next Members Meeting

.The regular MRGA Meeting will resume on February 2 at 4-4:30pm , Refreshments and Business meeting to follow.

Manasquan Group of Artists 2024 Calendar of Events

ART SHOWS

January/February- Pt. Pleasant Beach Library Show

Sheila Soyster 732.674.2038

Pauline Mickle 732.892.5606

April-Brielle Library Show

Tracy Roccanova-Miller 732.822.2099

June- Spring Lake Art in the Park (Devine Park)

Susanna Anastasia 732.715.1555

July- Sea Girt Lighthouse Outdoor Show

Janice Collinson 908.489.7696

July- Brick Library Show

Margo Fletcher 732.259.7767.

July/August-North Hall Gallery Show

PT. Pleasant Presbyterian Church Pt. Pleasant Beach

Karen Norby 908.915.2301

ART CLASSES

Sponsored by The Manasquan Group of Artists

Tuesdays 1:00 - 3:00 PM at the Sea Girt Lighthouse

February 6 & 13

Melinda Saminski-pastel732.610.8626

February 20

Barbara Calvo-pastel.....732.996.0738

February 27

Karen Norby-origami.....732.996.0738

March 9 & 16

Pauline Mickle-watercolor.....732.892.5606

March 19

Tamara Woronczuk-book art.....732.998.8286

April 9

Tamara Woronczuk-book art.....732.998.8286

April 16 & 23

Leona Lavone-watercolor.....732.914.9941

April 30

Rose Sinatra-watercolor.....626.797.1213

May 7

Rose Sinatra-watercolor.....626.797.1213

May 14

End of Year Class

Instructed Classes \$6.00 Catch-up Classes \$3.00

Please call instructor before attending class for necessary information.

Any questions, please call Mona Kirk 732.223.2569

MEETINGS, DEMONSTRATIONS, TALKS

February 2, 2024

Karen Norby "Hands-On Origami Demonstration"

Using the ancient art of Japanese paper folding, Karen will teach how to transform a 2-D piece of paper into 3-D forms of a swan, a cat, a hopping frog and more.

March 1, 2024

David Levy

"What a Judge Sees or Should See and Where the Artist and Judge are Left in the Process"

David will discuss the "subjective" nature of judging, the qualities an "ideal" judge should possess, the criteria for excellence many judges use, how to think like a judge, and much more.

April 5, 2024

Vinnie Nardone

"The Victorian Art Scene at the Jersey Shore"

Vinnie will share some fascinating documents, wood engravings and highlights from Harper's Weekly newspaper of that era, a "show and tell" eye opener of the turn of the 20th century artists and a new look at our MRGA predecessors.

May 3, 2024

Jim Inzero "Painting with Encaustic"

Jim will bring in some of his paintings and explain his process of wax encaustic

June 2024

Potluck Dinner.

MRGA Executive Board and Committees 2023-2024

PRESIDENT

Barbara Calvo.....732.996.0738

VICE PRESIDENT

Vinnie Nardone.....732.903.7468

RECORDING SECRETARY

Jackie St. Angel.....732.216.8568

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Sheila Soyster.....732.892.7692

TREASURER

Laura Lutz.....732.528.8698

AT-LARGE TRUSTEES

Debra Herbster..... 908.380.7580

Beverly Sirianni..... 732.861.7354

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Barbara Calvo..... 732.996.0738

PHOTOGRAPHER

Melinda Saminski732.610.8626

DEMONSTRATIONS/SPEAKERS

Ellen Price732.223.4670

HISTORIAN

Janice Collinson..... .732.528.7179

WEBSITE

Sheila Soyster..... 732.892.7692

PUBLICITY/SOCIAL MEDIA

Your opportunity to serve MRGA with creative energy awaits you in this position.

NEWSLETTER

MaryAnn Goodwin.....732.539.4150

SUNSHINE

Mona Kirk..... 732.223.2569

HOSPITALITY

Margo Fletcher.....732.259.7767

Maureen Anderson732 306-7798

ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Mona Kirk.....732.223.2569

MEMBERSHIP

Mona Kirk.....732.223.2569

NOMINATING

Linda Hejduk..... .732.714.0854

ART CLASSES

Sea Girt Lighthouse... ..732.223.2569

2024 MRGA Dues

We know you have a lot to DO.....But **MRGA DUES** are **DUE by January 31**.

Why?

Because we have a lot for you to DO in the coming year. So DO send us your DUES!

After a 6-month moratorium, it's time to send your check for \$40 (Active Member) or \$20 (Inactive Member) made out to MRGA. Please mail your check to Laura Lutz

PO Box 614

Manasquan NJ 08736

Thank You!

Please visit the website for MRGA www.mrga38.org Our website is being updated regularly by Sheila Soyster. Please contact Sheila with any information: sheila624@comcast.net or 732-892-7692. Thank you Sheila.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION-

All submissions for the newsletter and changes to your address, phone or email should be sent by email to MaryAnn Goodwin at maryanngoodwinarts@gmail.com by the 20th of the month for the next newsletter. When announcing an award please give the title of your work. Photographs should include the names of the persons in them except for a large group. "Classifieds" will run only once unless you request a repeat.

February Art Musings

A Place for Everything and Everything in its Place

Where do you create your art? Do you use your kitchen table, your garage, a corner in the family room or do you have a dedicated studio space? I took a watercolor class from a renowned artist and she set up her paints in a spot on her kitchen counter! My counter space is so small, I'm lucky to have room to prepare my meals! No matter where you paint, I think it's important to be organized. Before I retired from teaching art, I visited many art rooms. Some were extremely messy and I found it hard to imagine that out of that chaos the teacher was able to teach, let alone the students able to focus enough to learn anything! When you're teaching five to six classes a day 20 to 24 in each class you need to be prepared with materials at your ready and the students work accessible. Organization is important! I think that experience translated into my own art practice. Who wants to spend time searching for a paint tube or a tool? Everything should have a place. Brushes can be stored in coffee cans, old mugs or jars. Paints can be in plastic bags, storage bins or boxes. Hobby Lobby and Blick both sell storage boxes and drawers that work for colored pencils, markers and pastels. Stacking bins from Lowe's or Home Depot meant for nuts and bolts also work for storing small things. Paper can be stored in flat files or in boxes with dividers.

Use organizing solutions that make the most sense to your situation. Shelves can hold books and reference materials. Schedule organization days to stay on top of chaos and if all else fails, do a purge. Assess what you really need to create and donate the rest.

Unencumbered, the area around you will free you from distractions. By allowing your mental and physical actions to flow more freely, your creativity will follow. BJC

Member News

Point Pleasant Beach Winter Art Exhibit

The Point Pleasant Beach Library reception is Saturday, February 24 from 11-1. The exhibit features the works of 33 artists. There will be a People's Choice Award and Recognition of Artistic Excellence!

Thank you to Show Director Sheila Soyster.

Stars for Charity 2023

William Bunting, administrator of Stars for Charity sent us a thank you which I will excerpt.

"I want to extend my sincere thanks for participating in this year's Stars for Charity fundraiser. The response was remarkable. This year we got a corporate donation and a 50% match from another donor through Feeding America. With these, we surpassed last year's proceeds. Early estimates have us providing 80,000 meals to those in need! I look forward to working with you again and if you have any ideas that would help us to grow SFC, feel free to email me at buntingart@yahoo.com."

Thank you for your hard work and participation in Stars for Charity

MRGA could not have made such an impact without the efforts of Linda Hejduk, our Stars for Charity champion and of course all of you!

MRGA Holiday Party



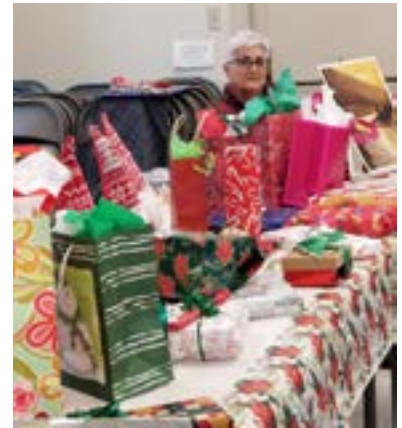
A big thank you from Jackie St Angel and me to all the those who contributed to the jolly jocularity at our MRGA Holiday Party 2023. There was a rather crazy shifting of gifts, a story reading, games played, and laughter filling the afternoon, as did lots of delicious food & treats! Tracy Rocanova was the lucky winner of the \$25.00 gift card donated by the MRGA. If there was a prize for the best holiday sweater, Karen Norby would have won! A special thanks to our Master Artist Lou Riccio for his wonderful donation of paintings that were auctioned off to benefit our MRGA kitty. Thanks to Ellen Price and Margaret Patterson who handled the raffle tickets. Another special thank you to Vinnie Nardon who donated his beautiful hand-made ornaments for us all to take

home to adorn our trees.

In the end we all had a very fun-filled Saturday afternoon, wishing each other a lovely holiday month ahead, lots of hugs exchanged & I heard it said..."and to all a very good night"!

Happy Healthy & Safe 2024!

MJ Fletcher



MRC&A Exhibit at the The Upper Room Gallery

The Upper Gallery, Spring Lake was a big success. Thank you to all who participated! We had 38 artists that exhibited works in all media. An impressive assortment of refreshments were provided by Sandy Denison who manages the gallery. Thank you to Show Directors: Pam Fisezi and MaryAnn Goodwin once again for all their efforts.

