

# Manasquan River Group of Artists

Established 1938

## Newsletter



MRGA, P. O. Box 614, Manasquan,

[www.mrga38.org](http://www.mrga38.org)

New Jersey 08736

May, 2024

### *Letter from the President*

The month of May brings a newness to our surroundings as nature transitions from tones of sepia and umber into the greens and pastels of spring. As artists, the painting opportunities are endless and I hope you have the chance to capture many new vistas in your painting.

As opportunities go, MRGA has two exhibits coming up, one in Spring Lake, Art in the Park, an outdoor venue and indoors at the Brick Library which will be judged with awards to be given. The details will be in this newsletter.

The Brielle Library exhibit is hung thanks to Show Director Tracy Rocanova- Miller and her volunteers. The reception is on June 29 but be sure and stop by with your family and friends between now and then. Congratulations to Sheila Soyster who will be taking over as MRGA President and Susanna Anastasia who will take Sheila's position as MRGA Corresponding Secretary beginning July 1, 2024, and continue through December 2025. The rest of the Executive Board Members and the At-Large Trustees will remain the same. There will be another brief membership survey distributed at the May meeting. Your input will be much appreciated to plan the remaining months in 2024, and the 2024/25 year for MRGA.

May's meeting on May 3 will feature artist Jim Inzero to speak about his process of encaustic painting and share some of his work with us.

Happy May and Happy Painting,  
Barbara



### **Next Members Meeting**

The regular MRGA Meeting is on May 3 at 4-4:30pm. Refreshments and Business meeting to follow.

# Manasquan Group of Artists 2024 Calendar of Events

## ART SHOWS

### **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**

#### **April 30**

Margaret Patterson-pastel.....626.797.1213

#### **May 7**

Debra Herbster-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

### **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 Saminski .....732.610.8626

### **DEMONSTRATIONS/SPEAKERS**

Ellen Price .....732.223.4670

### **HISTORIAN**

Janice Collinson.....732.528.7179

### **WEBSITE**

Sheila Soyster.....732.892.7692

### **PUBLICITY/SOCIAL MEDIA**

Terri Groark.....732.859.8566

### **NEWSLETTER**

MaryAnn Goodwin.....732.539.4150

### **SUNSHINE**

Mona Kirk.....732.223.2569

### **HOSPITALITY**

Margo Fletcher.....732.259.7767

Maureen Anderson .....732 306-7798

### **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



## Member Spotlight Ellen Price



*Ellen*

Ellen Price grew up in Fords, NJ and has been drawing and painting since the age of 11. Her dad was an artist and a musician. He tried to teach her how to play the guitar but calloused fingers ended that! After high school, Ellen pursued a career in law enforcement and was promoted to sergeant with the Middlesex County Prosecutors Office working in the white-collar crime, drug and sexual abuse divisions. She retired at age 46, then did a lot of photography especially for the Seaweeders Garden Club of Bayhead and Mantoloking. Ellen then decided to pursue her passion for art. She prepared herself as an artist by attending Middlesex County College and Rutgers University with a concentration in printmaking, photography and painting.



*Buddies*

Ellen studied with Mel Stabin, Frank Webb, Arnie Westerman, Ron Ranson and Vincent Nardone. Guided with a keen imagination, Ellen works in her favorite media of watercolor, mixed media and photography in the company of her beloved Goffins Cockatoo "Powder".

Ellen's exhibition credits are impressive: Koryo Watercolor Institute in New Brunswick, Art Works in Princeton, Audubon Artists, the Modern Watercolor Exhibition at the Nagoya City Museum in Japan, to name a few. Ellen has been recognized with awards on a regional and national

level including the "2014 Michael Engle Artist Founder Award in Collage and Mixed Media" and the 2020 John Antonucci Memorial Award in Collage and Mixed Media" with Audubon Artists Inc.



*Birdland*



*Finding Nemo*



*Shattered Chaos*

## “A Visit to Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge MA” by Laura Lutz



We recently spent some time in Manchester Vt at the Equinox and on the way back we decided to go to Grandma Moses Museum in Bennington, VT and to the home of Robert Frost in Shaftsbury, VT. Unfortunately, both said “Closed-See you in the Spring”. So, we were very happy when we arrived in Stockbridge, MA and found that the Norman Rockwell Museum was open.

The museum holds the largest and most significant collection of Rockwell’s art as well as his contributions to illustration, popular culture and society. It is well worth the trip to Stockbridge, which is a charming community with a welcoming Main Street to stroll down and feel what he felt about the town and its people. He and his wife, Mary, and their three boys lived in Stockbridge just off this Main Street and in 1986 his art studio was uplifted, put on trucks and moved to the museum campus. We came home with a beautifully framed print of Main Street “Home for Christmas” (Shown below, left).



*Studio on the Museum Campus, right*

Norman Rockwell, as most of you may know, produced many covers for the Saturday Evening Post publication and many other publications and was commissioned to paint the portrait of every major presidential candidate from 1952 to 1972. He was known as “the people’s painter”. Here is Rockwell with his portrait of Dwight D Eisenhower and Adlai Stevenson and (6) plus his first of the 323 Saturday Evening Post covers. There is one room at the museum dedicated to just cover pages.



Norman Rockwell was born in NYC Feb.3, 1894 and later moved to Mamaroneck, NY. He could draw at a young age and at the age of 16 left high school to study art full time attending National Academy of Design and then enrolling at the Art Students League in NYC. He moved to New Rochelle and set up a studio with cartoonist Clyde Forsythe. In 1916 he had his first cover on the Saturday Evening Post (see above Boy with Baby Carriage) and the rest is history. I guess he was a young man who knew what his future was to be. He passed away November 8, 1978, at the age of 84. A good life.

*“I showed the America I knew and observed to others who might not have noticed.”*

*“I think I’ve always wanted to be an artist. I certainly can’t remember ever wanting to be Anything else.” -Norman Rockwell*



"Golden Rule" Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.



"Christmas Homecoming". The whole Rockwell family appears in this 1948 painting, even Grandma Moses did a cameo appearance. She's not hard to find



"The Girl in the Mirror " 1954 The study for this painting (above)  
The final cover for Saturday Evening Post Rockwell commented that he "should not have added the photo of movie star Jane Russell. The young girl is not wondering if she looks like the star, but just trying to estimate her own charms"



"Coming and Going" (left)  
Two sequential panels showing a post war afternoon family out for a drive. One of excitement and anticipation and one of exhaustion and fulfillment. Note: only one character remains stalwart throughout, providing continuity throughout. Can you guess who?



Portraying the integration in communities in the 1960's, Rockwell expressed his belief in humanity and the wisdom in children. With much in common, it appears likely that these young subjects will soon be playing ball with each other.....baseball mitts in hand.

So many more of his works I could have shared. It's an amazing exhibit in a beautiful setting. I guess you will just have to take a ride to Stockbridge and see for yourself.  
Road Trip!

**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](mailto: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.

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

## Member News



Member, **Susan Penn**, is shown with her mixed media piece; "Honey I'm Home" from the AHArts Council exhibit in collaboration with Wild About Atlantic Highlands. Artists were asked to respond to the theme "Wild Pathways" to honor the intersections of our lives with the natural world around us. A Juried show running from April 6- May 11.



Congratulations to **Linda Hejduk** who received a First Place Award for her watercolor "Happiness is...." in the NJWC Associates Exhibit.

## Art Show and Sale in Memory of JoAnne Zezula

The Havens Homestead at 521 Herbertsville Road, Brick, will honor **JoAnne Zezula**, a former MRGA member who passed away last year with an art show and sale on May 4th and 5th from 10am-2pm. JoAnne's paintings will be joined by the work of her friends, Mary Jo Austin, Janice Collinson and Valerie Morone.



**MRGA YEAR END SUMMER  
BEACH BINGO, ART TRIVIA  
PARTY AND  
POT LUCK DINNER**

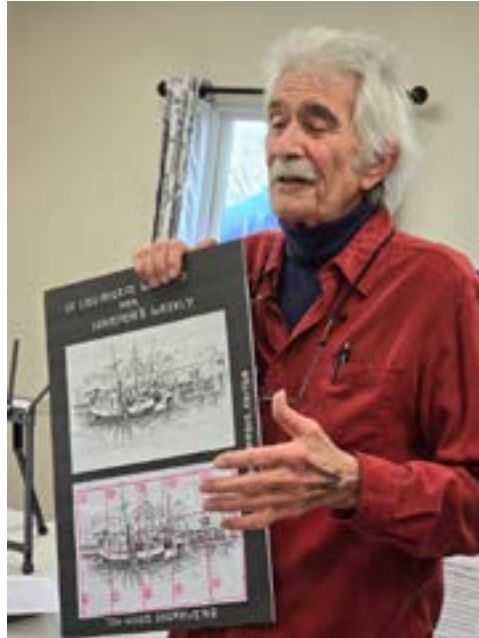
**FRIDAY JUNE 7TH 4:00**

**PLEASE SIGN UP FOR REFRESHMENTS AT MAY 3RD MRGA MEETING  
REFRESHMENTS to CURTIS HOUSE BY 3:00/3:30  
MARGO FLETCHER 732 259 7767**

Thank You  
Margo Jane

## *April Member Meeting....*

Vinnie Nardone impressed his audience at the April meeting with his presentation of Victorian Art Scene of the Jersey Shore. His collection of wood engravings was fascinating to see especially the 1878 centerfold of Harpers Weekly featuring scenes of Asbury Park and Ocean Grove. Vinnie also shared an interesting fact: For more than 100 years, Yellow Fever killed thousands of people but the Jersey Shore there wasn't affected because the ocean breezes kept the mosquitos at bay.



## **Gary Erbe at the Monmouth Museum**



Some members of MRGA and others visited "Gary Erbe's Magical World" and artist discussion at the Monmouth Museum on April 27. Gary treated all to lunch and gave all the guests a signed lithograph "Today's Special". The exhibit closes on June 2.



The Mission of **Ocean's Harbor House** is to provide shelter, support and services to vulnerable youth and families, empowering them to build successful pathways, relationships and futures. This has been the cornerstone of our work for over 35 years.

We are again hosting "**A Starry Night Art Auction and Reception**" on June 6, 2024 – this year at The Rebecca Finn House in Toms River to support that Mission. This celebratory event will be held indoors and outdoors with art displayed throughout the house. This historic building, with a wrap-around porch overlooking the Toms River, is a precious gem in our community and a perfect host to celebrate and support our youth and families. **We are honoring the service and contributions of Sid Colvin, past Executive Director of Ocean's Harbor House, and celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The SHORE House, our supervised transitional living program for youth 16 – 21 years of age. Culinary delights, wine and music will be part of the evening's festivities.**

This annual event features a variety of art created by our youth and our local community artists, raising much-needed funds to support our Mission.

We kindly ask that you support our efforts by donating a piece of art. Your tax-deductible donation will be gratefully acknowledged at the event. You will also receive a thank you letter and can attend the event as our guest!

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Title & Type of Art: \_\_\_\_\_

Value \$ : \_\_\_\_\_

We are a non-profit organization. Our Federal Tax ID is: 22-2672209. Our New Jersey Charitable Registration number is CH0351700.

Please email this form to [admin@oceansharborhouse.org](mailto:admin@oceansharborhouse.org), We will gratefully provide you with a copy for your records.



MANASQUAN RIVER GROUP OF ARTIST  
ART EXHIBIT PROSPECTUS 2024  
BRICK TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

**\* RECEIVING SATURDAY JUNE 22nd... 12:30 to 3:00 \***

**\*\* RECEPTION & PICK UP WEDNESDAY JULY 31...1:00 to 3:00 \*\***

**Entry Form Must be Filled Out with a \$15.00 Entry Fee**  
**\*CHECKS Only & Received Prior to June 22nd \***

ONLY ONE HANGING ORIGINAL WORK: **PROPERLY WIRED**

1. ARTWORK Including Frame: Size Maximum 24" x 30"
2. WORK DATED: Within the **Last 5 Years**  
**Not previously shown at the Brick Library**
3. ALL ART WORK: Must be for **SALE**
4. NO Portfolio Pieces: Library can **Not** Accommodate
5. Sold Art should remain for the **ENTIRE EXHIBIT**,  
unless there is an extenuating issue such as buyer is not local!
6. Brick Library advertises in their Newsletter  
MRGA Newsletter & Website
7. Awards will be Announced & Ribbons Awarded on July 31<sup>st</sup>  
**Cash Prize for Best in Show**

Art Exhibit Judge: DAVID LEVY

**Liability:** MRGA Officers, Trustees & Members will not be responsible for loss or damage of submitted artwork however caused!  
Brick Library Insurance Coverage will not exceed \$500.00  
Your entry constitutes an agreement with these terms and conditions in this Prospectus

MRGA Show Director: Margo Jane Fletcher, [margo812@aol.com](mailto:margo812@aol.com)  
**"YOU CAN BRING YOUR ART TO MY HOME FOR DELIVERY TO LIBRARY"**

**MANASQUAN RIVER GROUP OF ARTIST**

**BRICK TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**\*\* ENTRY FORM \*\***

**SATURDAY JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup> TO WEDNESDAY JULY 31<sup>ST</sup> 2024**

**RECEIVING SATURDAY JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup>....12:30 TO 3:00**

**PICK UP & RECEPTION WEDNESDAY JULY 31<sup>ST</sup> 1:00 TO 3:00**

**ARTIST (PRINT).....**

**SIGNATURE.....**

**TITLE.....**

**MEDIUM.....**

**PRICE: \$.....**

**CELL PHONE #.....**

**E-MAIL.....**

**PLEASE USE MRGA EXHIBIT LABELS**

**SIGN OUT SIGNATURE.....**

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING**

**MARGO JANE FLETCHER 732 259 7767**

# **ART IN THE PARK - Spring Lake, N. J.**

**Open Air Gallery Exhibit for:**

**Original Art Work only (no crafts or reproductions)**

**When: June 1, 2024 Rain date June 2, 2024**

**Where: Spring Lake – Divine Park at the Lake**

**Time: Set-up 8 am**

**Show Time: 10 am – 4 pm**

- **Members of MRGA only**
- **Fence will be provided (approx. 12 ft) No Tents!**
- **Open spaces for personal display racks permitted**
- **Bathrooms will also be available**

**Entry fee: \$20.00**

**Please send check to: Susanna Anastasia, Chairperson**

**4141 W. 18th Ave. Wall, N. J. 07727 (non refundable)**

**Payable to: MANASQUAN RIVER GROUP OF ARTISTS**

**Call Susanna: 732 449-9287 for more information**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_