



Established
1938

Manasquan River Group of Artists Newsletter

MRGA, P. O. Box 614, Manasquan, New Jersey 08736

January, 2025

www.mrga38.org

January President's Message

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a nice holiday and is looking forward to a pleasant and productive 2025. Hopefully you all got some lovely art supplies from Santa and are planning on filling the dreary winter days ahead with creative pursuits.

In looking back on the past year, I think the MRGA is flourishing! Over a dozen very talented (and really nice) new members have joined our group, we've had beautiful and well-attended exhibits every month and enjoyed friendly and informative gatherings. We wrapped up the year with a very enjoyable holiday party in December, complete with great food, fun activities and outstanding vocals!

Looking toward 2025, we've got some planning to do! The MRGA Trustees and Show Directors will be meeting soon to finalize our upcoming exhibits, meetings and demonstrations, with a trip or workshop along the way. At our next membership meeting, February 7th, we'll present a listing of what's in store for our marvelous group. All MRGA members are welcome to offer any suggestions or assistance – just let me know what you have in mind!

Coming up this week – On Friday, January 3rd from 10 am – noon, is the set-up for our annual Point Pleasant Beach Library Winter Art Exhibit. Due to the small space and limited number of hooks, we can only accommodate 34 pictures, and all spots are now filled. However, everyone is welcome to view the show anytime and come to the reception on March 1st.

And now it's time for the Monthly Challenge. December's Challenge brought in many beautiful Holiday cards which were posted on social media and are also included in this newsletter. So, for our next challenge, since National Bird Day, and Penguin Awareness Day both occur in January, send in your favorite bird painting! Help raise awareness about birds and the need to protect them and their habitats. Email an image to mrga38cal@gmail.com any time in January, and you'll get some publicity.

Don't forget! There's no General Membership meeting in January, so we will all meet again on February 7th at the Curtis House.

Happy painting!

Sheila Soyster, MRGA President



ART CLASSES

Sponsored by the Manasquan Group of Artists
Tuesdays 1:00-3:00 PM
at the Sea Girt Lighthouse

2025		
January	7 – Janice Collinson – watercolor	528-7179
	14 and 21 – Bev Sirianni – watercolor	774-0014
	28 – Arlene Newman – watercolor	682-3397
February	4 – Arlene Newman – watercolor	682-3397
	11 and 18 – Melinda Saminski – pastel	610-8626
	25 – Tamara Woronczuk – book making	998-8286
March	4 – Tamara Woronczuk – book making	998-8286
	11 and 18 – Debbie Herbster -watercolor	908-380-7580
	25 – Leona Lavone – watercolor	914-9941
April	1 – Leona Lavone – watercolor	914-9941
	8 – Debbie Herbster – watercolor	908-380-7580
	29 – Rose Sinatra – watercolor	626-797-1213
May	6 – Rose Sinatra – watercolor	626-797-1213
	12 – End of Year Class	
Instructed classes		\$6.00
Catch-up classes		\$3.00
Please call instructor before attending class for necessary information.		
Any other information, please call Mona Kirk – 732-223-2569		

MRGA Executive Board and Committees 2024-2025

PRESIDENT

Sheila Soyster..... 732-674-2038

VICE PRESIDENT

Vinnie Nardone..... 732.319.1772

RECORDING SECRETARY

Jackie St. Angel..... 732.216.8568

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Susanna Anastasia..... 732.449.9287

TREASURER

Laura Lutz..... 732.371.6284

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 848.482.0166

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

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

MRGA Members' News

Valerie Marone (*Below*) recieved Juror's Select Choice Award for the oil painting "Tranquil Reflec-tions" in the Audobon Arts Annual Showand she juried into SCNY 15th Annual Sylvia Maria Glesmann Floral Exhibition for my oil painting "Evening Jewels". The show is at Salmagundi Club, Rockwell Gallery Nov 19 - Dec 6.



Jackie St. Angel (*Above*) won first place for professional water-color in the Ocean County Senior Citizens Art Competition and second place in the State competition. And recently received the Signature Member Award of Excellence in Garden State Watercolor Society's members show. The watercolor is titled "Street Eats"

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 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.

Happy Holidays

from the Manasquan River Group of Artists!



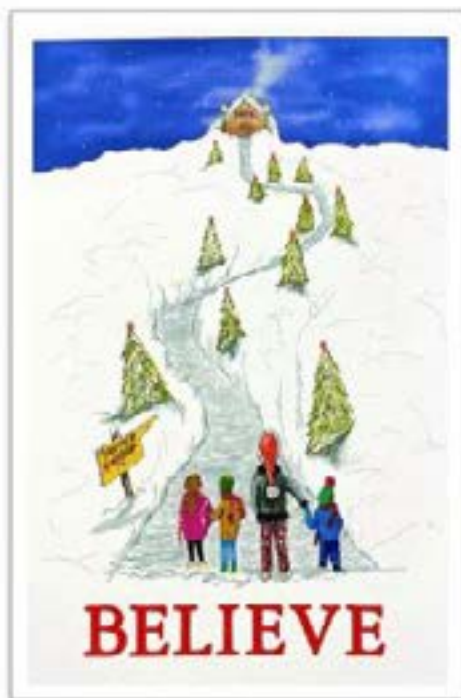
Laura Lutz



Nancy Robinson



Denise Cahill



John Troisi



Beverly Sirianni



Mona Kirk



Arlene Newman



Donna Ferris



Nancy Robinson



Barbara Crimaldi



Sheila Soyster

Turner Gallery Exhibit

"Paintings from the Brushes of the Manasquan River Group of Artists" were featured in a fall exhibit that filled the two rooms of the Turner House Gallery in Ocean Township. Artists and guests mingled as they viewed the artwork to the background sound of piano music and sampled delicious fare. Thank you to first time Show Directors Diane Greenspan and Mary O'Malley-Joyce!



December Members' Meeting

The Annual Holiday Party was held after our regular December meeting. Games, caroling and gift exchange all contributed to a festive atmosphere filled with Good Cheer and Camaraderie!



Mary Ann Smorra and Margo Jane Fletcher



Game card of Christmas Carols



Hard at work solving game



Hard at work solving game



50/50 winner: Mary Jo Austin



Checking winning game card. Tracy R, Robert, Margo



Vinnie and recipient Jim Carlson of Vinnie's mixed media piece



Arlene and her gift



Vinnie wearing his gift

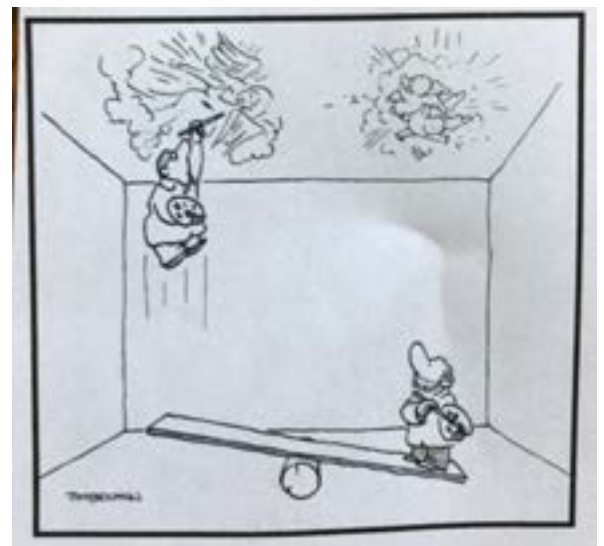


Bev displays her gift



Mona displays her gift

And Finally; A Laugh to Start The New Year!
Courtesy of Susanna Anastasia!



MRGA Point Pleasant Beach Library
Winter Art Exhibit
January – February – March 2025



Delivery of paintings – Friday, January 3rd, 10am - 12 noon

Reception – Saturday, March 1st 11am – 1 pm

Pick up of Paintings – Monday, March 31st, 1 - 4 pm

- ENTRY FEE \$15 – Check only, payable to MRGA Please send check and entry form to **Sheila Soyster, 53 Serpentine Road, Brick, NJ 08724** or bring to December meeting.
- ONE FRAMED ORIGINAL WORK - No larger than 24 x 36"
- NO PORTFOLIO PIECES
- WORK CREATED WITHIN THE LAST 5 YEARS
- PREVIOUS MRGA AWARD PIECES NOT ELIGIBLE
- ALL EXHIBITED & SOLD ARTWORK MUST STAY FOR THE DURATION OF THE SHOW
- SHOW LOCATION: Point Pleasant Beach Library, 710 McLean Ave, Pt. Pleasant Beach
- PUBLICITY: Local newspapers, MRGA Newsletter, Facebook Page & Website
- JUDGING: People's Choice Award & Recognition of Artistic Excellence

Questions? Call show Coordinators - Sheila Soyster-732-674-2038 sheila624@comcast.net
or Emily Beezley -917-859-5559 egilbeez@gmail.com

MRGA ENTRY FORM

POINT PLEASANT BEACH LIBRARY WINTER SHOW

ARTIST _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

TITLE OF ARTWORK _____

MEDIUM _____ PRICE _____

LIABILITY: MRGA Officers, Trustees and Members are not responsible for loss or damage of submitted artwork, however caused. Entry into this exhibit constitutes an agreement with these terms and conditions.