



Established
1938

Manasquan River Group of Artists Newsletter

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

March, 2026 www.mrga38.org

Hello MRGA members!

It seems like forever since I last saw you! I hope everyone has made it through this harsh winter weather and got some artwork done during that “stuck indoors” time! The MRGA has many interesting things lined up for the upcoming months, starting with our Point Beach Library Reception on Saturday, February 28th, and our March meeting. We hope the weather will be in our favor!

The Point Pleasant Beach Library exhibition has drawn rave reviews, and the 33 pieces will be on display in the library’s meeting room until March 30th. Our reception is this Saturday, from 11 am to 1 pm - all members and the public are welcome to attend. Awards will be given for artistic excellence and Peoples’ Choice, and refreshments will be served.

On Friday, March 6th, we will hold our general membership meeting at the Curtis House. There will be lots to discuss, including our schedule of shows, meetings, workshops, etc. for the next few months. We will be welcoming some new members, which is always exciting, and we will recognize three long-time members with a special MRGA Honorary Membership. In January, the Trustees voted unanimously to honor Mona Kirk, Pauline Mickle and Louis Riccio for their noteworthy contributions to the Manasquan River Group of Artists. Each is well known for the creativity and technical skill of their artwork, their informative and inspirational classes, and their many contributions of time and talent to the MRGA and the community over the past decades. We appreciate you, Mona, Pauline and Lou!

Following our business meeting, legendary Artist and Art Historian David Levy will be giving a thought-provoking presentation on *The Italian Renaissance – Myth or Reality?*

Also at the March meeting, members may submit their entry forms for our first-ever “Blossoms and Wings” Art Exhibit at the Eastern Branch, Shrewsbury of the Monmouth County Library. The drop-off for this show is Saturday, March 7th, 9:30 – 11 am, at the library. There will be two public events associated with this show – On Thursday, March 19th, from 7 - 8 pm, Environmentalist and Educator Joshua Gant will present a program on the “Birds of Spring”, many of which will be depicted in the show. After this engaging program, artists from the MRGA will share reflections on their paintings of birds. An “Artist Meet and Greet” reception for the Blossoms and Wings Show will be held on Thursday, April 30 from 1:30 – 3:00 pm, with pick up from 3 – 4 pm. The prospectus is included in this newsletter.

Many of our members have been quite involved in art activities beyond the MRGA, as you will see in the upcoming pages. Congratulations to all! And to anyone who would like some acknowledgement for your artistic accomplishments, please send me the info – and pictures too! – www.mrga38cal@gmail.com.

See you soon!

Sheila

Sheila Soyster, President, Manasquan River Group of Artists

MRGA Executive Board and Committees 2025-2026

PRESIDENT

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

VICE PRESIDENT

Vinnie Nardone.....732.319.1772

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PHOTOGRAPHER

Melinda Saminski.....732.610.8626

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HISTORIAN

Janice Collinson..... .732.528.7179

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PUBLICITY/SOCIAL MEDIA

Claudia Simes..... 732-288-3739

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

Birds of Spring

**Presented by Environmentalist and Educator
Joshua Gant**

**Each spring, billions of songbirds secretly
pass overhead and this fascinating program
reveals how they migrate, navigate, and amaze
in ways that will change how you look at the sky.**

**Thursday, March 19
from 7:00 - 8:00 pm**

Program funded by the Manasquan River Group of Artists,
committed to the development and support of artists in
Monmouth and Ocean counties.



Monmouth County Library - EASTERN BRANCH
1001 Route 35, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702 - 732-683-8980
MonmouthCountyLib.org - @MonCoLibrary



**IN PERSON AT EASTERN BRANCH
REGISTER TO GUARANTEE SEATING**

MANASQUAN RIVER GROUP OF ARTISTS

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2 – March 30

MRGA Winter Art Exhibition

Point Pleasant Beach Library

McLean Avenue, Point Pleasant Beach, NJ

Reception – February 28, 11 am – 1 pm

Painting pick-up – March 30 1-3 pm

Friday, March 6 4:00 pm

MRGA General Membership Meeting

Curtis House, Brielle

“The Italian Renaissance - Myth or Reality?”

Presentation by David Levy

March 7 – April 30

“Blossoms & Wings: A Spring Reverie” Art Exhibition

Monmouth County Library Eastern Branch

Route 35, Shrewsbury

Receiving: Saturday, March 7 9:30 – 11 am

Reception: Thursday, April 30 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Pick up: April 30 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Friday, April 10 4:00 pm

MRGA General Membership Meeting

Curtis House, Brielle

Preparing your Art for Exhibition – from Creation to Hanging

Presentation by Robert Stetz

ART CLASSES

Sponsored by:
The Manasquan River Group of Artists

Tuesdays 1:00 – 3:00 pm
At the Sea Girt Lighthouse



2025

December 2 & 9 – Karen Wachter – watercolor 732-202-8417
16 – Janice Collinson – watercolor 732-528-7179

2026

January 6 - Janice Collinson – watercolor 732-528-7179
13 & 20 – Bev Sirianni – watercolor 732-774-0014
27 – Arlene Newman – watercolor 732-682-3397

February 3 - Arlene Newman – watercolor 732-682-3397
10 & 17 – Melinda Saminski – pastel 732-610-8626
24 – Tamara Woronczuk – collage 732-998-8286

March 3 - Tamara Woronczuk – collage 732-998-8286
10 & 17 – Leona Lavone – watercolor 732-914-9941
24 – Barbara Calvo – pastel 732-996-0738

April 14 & 21 – Carol Ann Oporto – pastel pet portraits 732-504-7217
28 - Debbie Herbster – watercolor 908-380-7580

May 5 - Debbie Herbster – watercolor 908-380-7580
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

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.



MRGA Sea Girl Lighthouse Art Classes



Pastels with Melinda Saminski



February 10 – Birds

February 17 - Old Master Reproductions



Member News



Congratulations to MRGA award winners at the Ocean County Artists Guild Members Show



Animal/Wildlife – Sheila Soyster



Abstract/Experimental – Robert D’Imperio



Honorable Mention -Melinda Saminski



Arlene Newman had a marvelous exhibition of her paintings at the Spring Lake Community House for the month of February.

PROSPECTUS

Manasquan River Group of Artists' Art Show and Sale "Blossoms and Wings: A Spring Reverie"

March 7 - April 30, 2026

Monmouth County Library Eastern Branch, 1001 Rt. 35, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

(This Prospectus and Entry Form are also available at www.mrga38.org)

IMPORTANT DATES

Entry Form due: by March 6th (at the monthly meeting at the Curtis House) or mail the form before March 6, to Elizabeth Grimaldi, 43 Winchester Drive, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724 **Receiving:** March 7, (Saturday) 9:30 - 11 a.m.

Reception and "Artist Meet and Greet" with the public: April 30, (Thursday) 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Pick up: April 30, 3:00 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Eligible Work: This is a themed show. Works must represent a floral, botanical subject, bird or local landscape with florals in view*

For this show, your title should include:

Birds: The name(s) of the bird species (if can be determined)

Flowers: The name of the flower

Landscape: A specific reference to a florals in view and the location in Monmouth/Ocean County

Open only to members of MRGA. Entries are limited to the first 40 artists registered. The show director reserves the right to refuse artwork that it deems inappropriate or does not conform to the criteria.

Entry Rules: Artwork must be for sale and remain on display for the duration of the exhibit. An artist will be notified of a potential buyer. It is the artist's responsibility to manage the sale and to forward a 20% commission to the library. Sales tax remittance is the responsibility of the artist.

Criteria: Original work only. No reproductions. Art must be properly framed, wired and ready to hang. No sawtooth hangers. No works larger than 24"x 30", including frame. No photography, sculpture, or digital art.

*By entering the show, artists agree that their name, likeness and image of their work may be used for publicity purposes. Artists are encouraged to insure their works, as the MRGA are not responsible for damage or loss of artwork during the Exhibit.

There is no submission fee associated with this exhibit.

Show Director: Elizabeth Grimaldi, at elizagrim1@gmail.com or text my cell at 732-718-0379

ENTRY FORM

**Manasquan River Group of Artists' Invitational Art Show and Sale
March 7 - April 30, 2026 ▪ Monmouth County Library, Shrewsbury**

This completed Entry Form is due March 6, 2026.

Mail to: Elizabeth Grimaldi, 43 Winchester Drive, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Entry Title _____

Medium _____ Size, including frame _____

Price \$ _____

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

MEDIA RELEASE: MRGA may use my name and likeness and/or images of my art for publicity purposes.

Name (print) _____

Signature _____ Date _____



Attach this form to the back of your art.

Title _____
Medium _____
Price _____
Artist _____