



Established
1938

Manasquan River Group of Artists Newsletter

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

May, 2026

www.mrga38.org

Greetings MRGA members!

Finally, we rounded the corner and got into Springtime. And with the nicer weather comes all sorts of art opportunities (along with yard work, spring cleaning, etc. but we won't talk about those...) In this newsletter, you'll find information on many different art adventures – indoor and outdoor shows, a workshop with the amazing Tom Rutledge, action-packed meetings, and several local art opportunities. There's lots going on!

Our Springtime art adventures start this Thursday, April 30th, with the closing reception of our beautiful "Blossoms and Wings" exhibit at the Eastern Branch of the Monmouth County Library. Stop by the library on Rt. 35 in Shrewsbury from 1:30 – 3:00 pm for the reception, followed by pick-up of paintings.

And then on Friday, it's May 1st and our next general membership meeting. We'll have our usual delicious refreshments at 4, our business meeting at 4:30, and then a demonstration and presentation by Christopher McKinnon, who will share his skills and knowledge of acrylic painting.

Our next major show is at the Brielle Library, with painting drop-off on Friday, May 8th. Sorry for the changes and confusion regarding this date, but now it really is Friday, May 8th, from 1-3 pm. You may bring one framed picture for hanging and up to three portfolio pieces. This great show will run through June 27th and will be judged by Jo Guscott.

Our Spring Lake "Art in the Park" show will be held on Saturday, May 30 (rain date May 31). This outdoor show will feature original artwork only- no prints, reproductions or crafts. Artists must bring all set-up gear – tables, racks, chairs, etc. No tents. Please send in your \$20 entry fee by May 20th to Susanna Anastasia.

On June 5th, we'll have our "Welcome to Summer" meeting, with a pizza party and interesting activities. And then we take a break from meetings in July and August. Brick Library's MRGA Art Show is next, running from June 9th to July 31st in library's all-purpose room. Painting drop-off is Tuesday, June 9th, from 11 am – 1 pm. More details to follow. The prospectuses for the Brick Library show, Brielle Library and Spring Lake Art in the Park, are included in this newsletter.

Don't miss the "Art Opportunities" page! There are some really cool shows/art walks in Allaire, Manasquan and Spring Lake, and a semiquincentennial art competition for Allaire Village (that's 250 years!) And sometime this spring or summer, the Point Pleasant Beach Plein Art Competition, which had to be cancelled due to inclement weather, will be rescheduled. Stay tuned!

We've had so much going on! As summer approaches, we will wrap up our very popular Sea Girt Lighthouse classes, and don't forget the watercolor workshop on May 23rd. I hope to see you all at our various events!

Happy painting!

Sheila

MRGA Executive Board and Committees 2025-2026

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

Barbara Calvo..... 732.996.0738

HISTORIAN

Janice Collinson..... .732.528.7179

WEBSITE

Sheila Soyster..... 732.892.7692

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

Membership News:

Susanna Anastasia's watercolor paintings: "Lady in Red" and "The Shell Seeker" were accepted into the 2026 Members Exhibition of the Philadelphia Water Color Society.

Art In The Park - Outdoor Gallery -

MAY 30, 10am to 4 pm:

Rain Date: SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026 *

Contact Susanna Anastasia for more information (732)715-1555,
or check this Newsletter for the Prospectus.

All members of MRGA are welcome.

A former member of MRGA Joanne Nelson has watercolor paper, paint, and assorted art supplies for sale. She is moving and is willing to take offers for the supplies. Please contact her by phone (732) 610-9833 for more information.

MANASQUAN RIVER GROUP OF ARTISTS

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 7 – April 30

“Blossoms & Wings: A Spring Reverie” Art Exhibition

Monmouth County Library Eastern Branch, Rt. 35, Shrewsbury

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

Pick up: April 30 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Friday, May 1 4:00 pm

MRGA General Membership Meeting

Curtis House, Brielle

*Hows, Whys & What-nots of Acrylic Painting
Presentation & Demonstration by Christopher McKinnon*

May 8th – June 27th

MRGA Brielle Library Art Exhibit

Brielle Library, 610 South St. Brielle

Receiving: Friday, May 8 1 – 3PM ← date changed from May 1

RECEPTION: Sat., June 27th 12 – 3PM

(Awards: 2 PM; Pick-Up Art: 3PM)

Saturday, May 30 10am – 4 pm

Spring Lake Art in the Park Outdoor Show

Divine Park, Spring Lake

Original Artwork only – no craft, prints or reproductions

Rain date – Sunday, May 31

Friday, June 5 4:00 pm

MRGA General Membership Meeting

Curtis House, Brielle

June 9 – July 31

Brick Branch, Ocean County Library Art Exhibit

Brick Library, 301 Chambers Bridge Road, Brick

Receiving: Tuesday, June 9th 11 am – 1 pm

Pick up: Friday, July 31, 11 am – 1 pm

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-

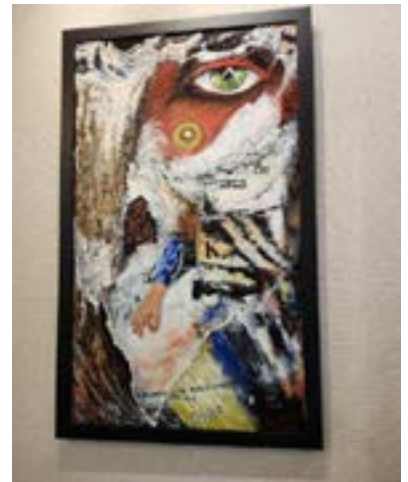
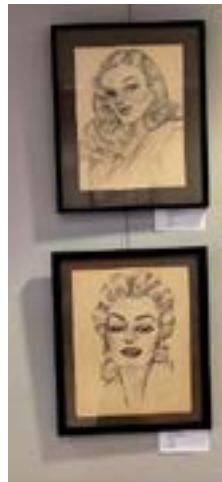
All submissions for the newsletter and changes to your address, phone or email should be sent by email to MaryAnn Goodwin at maryanngoodwinarts@gmail.com by the 20th of the month for the next newsletter. When announcing an award please give the title of your work. Photographs should include the names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

MEMBER SHOWS

John Troisi – Red Bank Library through April 30



Margo Fletcher & Robert D'Imperio - Turner Gallery, Ocean Township



Tracy Roccanova Miller – Point Pleasant Beach Library May through June



Hey MRGA Members! Please send info about your shows & artistic accomplishments to: mrga38cal@gmail.com

MRGA WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

Limited spaces available!

Contact Barbara Calvo
by May 15 to reserve your spot.

732-996-0738

Barbara@creativeexpressionsartstudio.com

Watercolor Workshop
With
Tom Rutledge
Saturday, May 23
10 am - 2 pm
\$35 per person
The Curtis House, 644 Union Lane,
Brielle, NJ



FREE TO GOOD HOME!

MRGA member Karen Norby was “gifted” this painting by someone who didn’t want to display it but couldn’t bear to throw it away. Karen is offering it to anyone in our group who might want it for the frame or to paint over the canvas. It’s 34 x 62”. If you’re interested, send an email to mrga38cal.org. and it will be brought to the May meeting

APRIL 10th GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

In addition to getting information on our upcoming events and enjoying delicious refreshments, we were pleased to present Pauline Mickle with an MRGA Honorary Membership Plaque and were treated to a very informative presentation by Bob Stetz. Congratulations Pauline and Thank you Bob!



Spring Lake Art in the Park 2026

Saturday – May 30, 2026 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

(set-up 8:00 am)

Rain date: Sunday May 31, 2026

Divine Park at Lake

(Town side of the Lake)

___ Regulations ___

- Original Artwork only – no crafts, prints or reproductions
- Your original artwork must be suitable for public viewing.
- Approximately 12 x 12 ft. of fencing or open area.
Bring your own tables, modules, chair, - no tents.
Bathrooms will be provided.
- Cars may drive close to the vicinity of your display area.
- After unloading, move your vehicle to street parking.
- \$20.00 entry (no refunds) Members only and dues paid.

Send Check (made out to MRGA) to: Susanna Anastasia
4141 W. 18th Ave. Wall N J 07727

Phone: 732-715-1555

Checks must be received by May 20th

MRGA BRIELLE LIBRARY 2026

SHOW PROSPECTUS

SHOW DATES: MAY 8th – JUNE 27th

RECEIVING: Fri., May 8, 1 – 3PMrevised 4/10/2026

RECEPTION: Sat., June 27th, 12 – 3PM (Awards: 2 PM; Pick-Up Art: 3PM)

1. \$15 Entry Fee: Check Only (NO CASH) Payable to “MRGA”
2. One original work, properly framed and wired, Maximum Size: 20”x 24” (including frame)
3. MRGA-provided labels must be attached to front of originals and portfolio pieces.
4. Portfolio Works: 1 to 3 matted and wrapped pieces, Maximum Size: 16”x 20”
5. All pieces must be priced to sell; Judged artwork must be new to this venue and not a previous award winner of any MRGA Show
6. 20% Library Commission will be taken for duration of show except on Reception Day and all sales will be handled by library staff
7. 20% Buyers Discount will be offered only on Reception Day with no library commission
8. Publicity: Media Coverage in local papers; MRGA & Library Newsletters, Signage in Library

Library Hours: M/W/F: 10am-5pm; Tu/Th: 10am-7:30pm; Sat:10am-1pm; Closed Sunday
610 South St., Brielle, NJ 08730 ...Tel. # 732-528-9381

9. Awards Judge: Pending

10. Awards given to: Best in Show, Best in Medium and theme Categories to be determined

MRGA Show Director: Tracy R. Miller (732)822-2099; tracyrock@comcast.net
Assistant: Vinnie Nardone (732)319-1772; nardoneart@comcast.net
Brielle Library Director: Maribeth Pelly; mpelly@monmouthcountylib.org

Library hrs: M/W/F: 10am-5pm; Tu/Th: 10am-7:30pm; Sat:10am-1pm; Closed Sunday

**MANASQUAN RIVER GROUP OF ARTISTS
BRIELLE PUBLIC LIBRARY SHOW AND SALE 2026**

*****ENTRY FORM*****

SHOW DATES: MAY 8 TO JUNE 27th

RECEIVING: FRIDAY MAY 8 1-3 PM

PICK-UP: 3 PM on Reception Day (June 27th)

ARTIST (print).....

SIGNATURE.....

**TITLE of
ARTWORK.....**

MEDIUM.....

PRICE \$.....

PHONE

E-MAIL

**UP TO THREE (3) PORTFOLIO WORKS: Reproduction Prints and/or Originals
– Maximum Size: 16”x20” – Matted and Wrapped**

1. TITLE.....

MEDIUM.....

PRICE \$.....

2. TITLE.....

MEDIUM.....

PRICE \$.....

3. TITLE.....

MEDIUM.....

PRICE \$.....

MANASQUAN RIVER GROUP OF ARTISTS
ART EXHIBIT PROSPECTUS 2026
BRICK TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

*** RECEIVING TUESDAY JUNE 9TH... 11:00 to 1:00 ***

PICK UP FRIDAY JULY 31ST...11:00 to 1:00 **

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

1. ARTWORK Including Frame: Size Maximum 24" x 30"
OILS FINISHED ALL the AWAY AROUND ART
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 purchaser is not local
6. Brick Library advertises in their Newsletter
MRGA Newsletter & Website
7. ***ARTWORK CAN NOT EXCEED \$500.00***

Liability: Brick Library & MRGA Officers, Trustees & Members will not be responsible for loss or damage of submitted artwork

Your entry constitutes an agreement with these terms & conditions in this Prospectus

MRGA Show Director: Margo Jane Fletcher, margo812@aol.com

**YOU CAN BRING YOUR ART TO MY HOME, 397 CLARK DR. BRICK
PRIOR TO JUNE 9TH
732 259 7767**