



## Maryland Pastel Society Summer Newsletter

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### MPS Board & Volunteers

**Pres:** Dawn Capron

**VP:** Bob Borrell

**Treas:** Mary Anne  
Warner

**Corr.Sec:** JoEllen  
Murphy

**Rec.Sec:** Barbara  
Steinacker

**Membership:** Maria  
Marino

**Workshops:** Joyce  
Lister

**Web:** Deborah  
Maklowski

### Planning Calendar

**Jul 20:** MPS Summer  
Members' meeting

**Jul 27:** Arts Barn show  
closes

**Jul 31:** Fall deadline to  
apply for Signature  
Membership

**Aug 1:** Deadline to apply  
for the 2013 *Shades of  
Pastel*

**Sep 14:** Fall Executive

July 2013

Dear Deborah,

### From the President's Easel

Hello, fellow artists, and here's hoping you have a cool area in which to paint during Washington's infamous summer months. Sharing in our misery of humidity and high temps is the Pastel Society of Virginia (PSV), which recently initiated a generous award donation for *Shades of Pastel*, our biennial national juried show. We reciprocated in kind to a cause of their choice. The PSV now joins the Connecticut Pastel Society and the Pastel Society of America in maintaining reciprocal award programs with the MPS.

Speaking of donations, Diana DeSantis, who demonstrated painting a landscape at our spring meeting, shipped the finished painting, framed, back to the MPS as a donation! (See the image under "Next Meeting" in this newsletter.) I believe this very generous gesture is a first for us. So if you would like to own an original DeSantis pastel, the painting will be on display at our summer meeting on July 20, for a silent auction. You don't have to be there to bid: instructions for sending in a proxy bid will be sent out in mid-July.

There is also a donation of time to acknowledge. Barbara Hails has agreed to serve on our jury committee, filling the vacancy left by Daniel Wise who had other, over-riding obligations. Barbara, we are very grateful, and welcome you to the committee! And Daniel, we thank you sincerely for a job well done.

To see the effect one man can have by donating a slew of materials, you should come to the July 20 members' meeting. Jack Richeson, always a generous supporter of pastel societies and pastel artists, has donated 60 5x7 panels that we will be using that day for a light-hearted, limited palette painting competition. Jack has also donated the prizes! We're keeping mum about them for now, but I can promise that you will want to put your best foot forward. It will be lots of fun, as well as a chance to challenge your skills.

Finally, just a few words about the IAPS (International Association of Pastel Societies) convention. It was located in Albuquerque, June 5-9, and several MPS members attended, including six Board members. We participated in workshops and demos with a lot of the nation's finest pastel artists and returned with ideas for future opportunities for MPS members. Each of us was glad for the experience.

**See you at Glenwood on Saturday, July 20!**



Board meeting  
**Sep 23-27:** Lorenzo Chavez workshop  
**Oct 26:** MPS Fall Members' meeting  
**Oct 31:** Winter deadline to apply for Signature Membership  
**Nov 2:** *Shades of Pastel* opens with artists' reception and awards ceremony (3-5pm) and demo by juror Jimmy Wright (noon to 2pm)  
**Dec 1:** *Shades of Pastel* closes  
**Dec 14:** Winter Executive Board meeting

#### Directions to Glenwood

[Directions to our meetings at the Gary J. Arthur Community Center at Glenwood](#)

#### Dawn

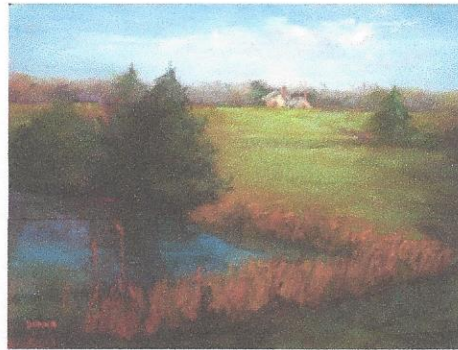
(A rather shaky) photograph of Dawn Capron, Joyce Lister, and Cathy de Lorimier after dinner (and margaritas) in Albuquerque



#### Next Meeting

##### Paint Challenge and Prizes! Saturday, July 20, noon to 4pm

We will start with a business meeting and then hold the painting challenge. To participate, you will need to bring: a photo reference to work from; 12 (that's **TWELVE**) pastels, and no more (so choose wisely!); masking tape and something to cover your work with to take it home; and whatever other painting tools you may want to use. Remember, it's only 5x7, and all of the panels have a warm-colored ground; none are white. Prizes will be awarded based on a vote of all members present that day. You'll also want to bring a recent painting to show, and snacks will be available as usual... 'cause you'll be bringing 'em!



##### Silent Auction of Diana DeSantis' Demo painting from our April meeting

The painting will be present and the silent auction sheet will be available for bids until after the painting challenge has concluded, at which point the winner of the auction will be announced.

#### Upcoming Workshops

The **Lorenzo Chavez** 5-day plein air workshop scheduled for September in Baltimore County is almost full! If you want to secure one of the remaining spots, you need to do so **before July 15**, when we will open registration to non-MPS members. Details and the registration form are posted on our website: just click [here](#)!

#### Upcoming Exhibitions

The **August 1** deadline for entering our biennial national juried show, *Shades of Pastel*, is rapidly approaching. Our juror this year is the extraordinary pastel artist, [Jimmy Wright](#), PSA, who will bring his unique vision to the task of selecting the included works and judging the awards. He will also provide a demo on the day of the opening reception, **November 2**, from noon to 2pm, and give a related talk. Information on how to secure tickets for Jimmy's presentation will be available starting at the July 20 Summer members' meeting. The show will be at the Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, 40 S. Carroll St., Frederick, MD, through December 1.

And there's still time to catch the excellent **MPS Signature Members' show** at the Arts Barn, before it closes on July 28. The address is 311 Kent Square Road, Gaithersburg, MD: hope you can stop by!



## Website Changes!!

### We've been busy:

#### **1. Change to our Website's homepage:**

In early 2013 we were having difficulty finding Signature Members who felt ready to be a Featured Artist. While we certainly didn't want to force anyone to volunteer, we were concerned about what we would do with the website's home page if no one came forward. At the March board meeting, therefore, we decided to take a different approach for our home page, one that did not depend on there being a volunteer for Featured Artist. We have instructed our webhost to set up our home page so that each time someone opens our site, an image is randomly selected from among those posted in the Signature Members' gallery and is displayed on the home page. Not only will this solve the Featured Artist issue, but it will also keep our home page fresh and changing with every new view. We expect this change to go into effect in July.

#### **2. Clearer site navigation:**

If you've been to the website recently, you may have noticed that the left-hand navigation pane has been updated. "Events" is now "Workshops and Exhibitions"; "News Update" is now "Newsletter"; "Exhibition Gallery" is now "Past Exhibitions"; and "Volunteers" is now "Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and Volunteers." We hope this makes it a bit easier to find what you're looking for!

#### **3. On-Line membership renewal:**

We are in the final stages of setting up a secure, password-protected page where current members may sign in to update their own personal information and renew their annual membership. You will still need to send in your dues check via the U.S. Postal Service — we chose not to use our members' dues to pay transaction fees to an on-line payment service (like PayPal) — but you will be able to start the process and at the same time make any necessary changes to your personal information on our website. Of course, you may also choose to continue to renew and make changes the old-fashioned way! We just want to offer our members an option. Look for more information and instructions in the near future.

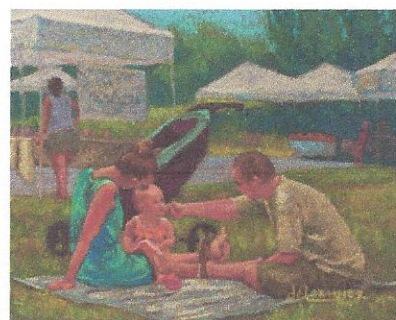
## Be Informed Before You Share

The summer edition of *To The Point*, a magazine published quarterly by the Colored Pencil Society of America (CPSA) for its members, contained an article that, with the permission of author CJ Worlein, we are excerpting here. She writes about a Facebook application called "Photos At My Door," offered by Wedding Details, Inc., dba WD Web, a Michigan corporation. In their press release, WD Web states that the application "allows anyone to browse their friends' albums and create photo products. Facebook hosts billions [of] photos!...Now anyone can use those images to create prints, coffee mugs, mouse pads, iPhone cases, and more; using images...uploaded by a person's friends." As CJ puts it, if one of your Facebook friends "selects an image from your Facebook album and orders a coffee mug with that image, WD Web makes money. You don't. And apparently you aren't notified...either." CJ goes on to detail her own research into the app's and Facebook's user agreements, but her bottom line, as she states it, is that "any time you upload an image to the internet, there is some risk involved. Be proactive. Do your own research. Make informed decisions about what kinds of risks you're willing to take versus the potential rewards for sharing your artwork with the rest of the world." Excellent advice, to which we would add, make sure you know who your Facebook friends are!

## Featured Artist

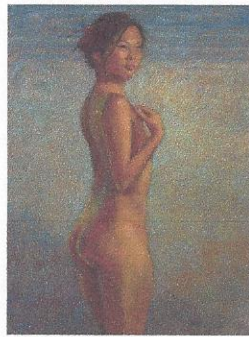
### **Meet MPS artist Cathy de Lorimier, in her own words...**

**Why do I create art?** When I was a young adult with young children, I exercised my creativity by sewing quilts and designing and making stained glass windows and mosaic



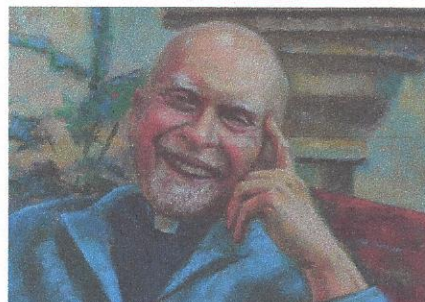


hangings. Then when they were about middle school age, I decided to return to school myself to pursue artwork more formally. I began with excellent core classes in 2D design, several drawing classes, figure drawing, and color theory. Then I took several watercolor classes and loved them, though I always wanted to achieve brighter intensity in color than I could with watercolor. When I was introduced to pastels, I think it was the immediate satisfaction of using the saturated pigments that got me hooked. It's not surprising that I have gravitated toward creating things, as I come from a long line of creative people. In my family I have had multiple wood workers, a goldsmith, seamstresses, and award winning gardeners. I have many a relative who can cook up a storm without a recipe, just a little imagination. I also fall into this category. The ONE THING in common that we all have is that we love to **SHARE our CREATIONS**. Making the art is one thing, and it definitely brings satisfaction. But the even better part is actually sharing it with others, because it creates a bond between us which is unique. Each piece of original art is a little part of the artist, and as with any gift bestowed on us, it is meant to be enjoyed and shared.

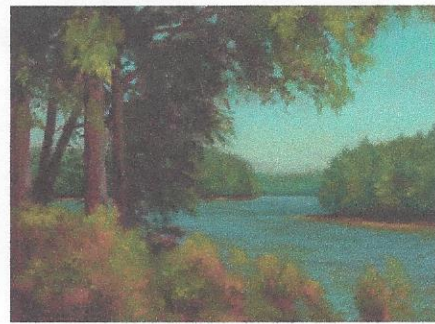
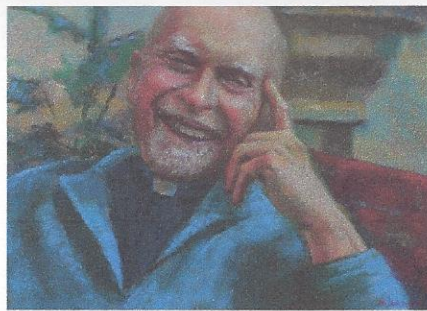


**"Savor Your Moments by Sharing Art."** This is my core belief when creating a painting for people to enjoy. Paintings, like a good meal, are created to be savored and shared, bringing people together. For me, the creative process is a very deliberate lifestyle. During each step of creating a pastel, from the very first concept and decisions about design, color and mood, through each stage, I enjoy the process. I attempt to give complete attention to my work and fully live in the moment. Then, when people are able to connect with the subject, colors, or theme within my painting, we are able to form a connection of likemindedness that for me is compelling! Some people use photographs to jog their memories of a moment on their life journey. For me, when I see something I created, I immediately recall that time in my life...how I felt, how old the kids were, and who my friends were in that part of the world. The artwork is a concrete reminder that I am on a life journey, and if I am doing anything right, it had better improve over time. Being an artist allows me to SEE better, and I don't mean just visually. I find I have become more sensitive to life's nuances through 3 things: experience (age), enriching my faith, and practicing my artwork. The inherent beauty in many things practically jumps out at me now. For this reason I absolutely love to paint the human figure in candid situations, capturing a little slice of life. It doesn't matter who they are...sometimes I paint strangers. My kids can all attest to the "characters" I take photos of in random situations, and they have come to accept it, even aiding me in capturing that elusive shot. Every person has dignity, and I wish to show it. Still life and landscapes are also part of what I paint, because I love the challenges each one presents. I guess I'm a little ADD. But why should I have to choose just one subject matter? Don't we all enjoy variety in what we eat: spicy, salty, or sweet? So it is with my art. As long as I can **SHARE** it with you, **I am fulfilling my need to connect**, and that enriches my life. My hope is that sharing art enriches yours too!

Visit my website: [deLorimierStudio.com](http://deLorimierStudio.com).





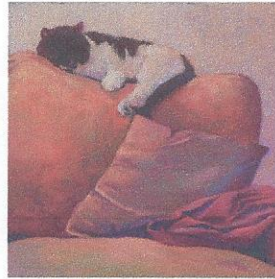


**Don't forget!** Signature Members may sign up to be a Featured Artist by sending an email to [JoEllen Murphy](mailto:JoEllen.Murphy).

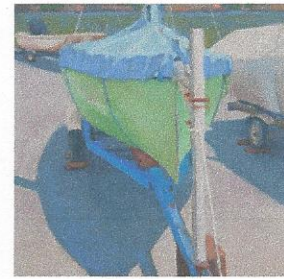
### Member News



**Michael Gaudreau** was awarded the Judge's Choice Honorable Mention Award for a pastel landscape in this year's Northeast National Pastel Exhibition.



**Jean Hirons** had two paintings in the juried exhibition at the recent IAPS convention in Albuquerque. Her paintings "Fog Study in Blue" and "Gracie" were in the open juried exhibition, of which only 75 of 750 paintings were accepted. While she didn't get an award, "Gracie" sold on the last day!



**Greg Johannesen** won an Honorable Mention award at the 2013 Paint Annapolis Plein Air Show for his painting "Wassabi." The painting is 12x12 on UArt 400 and mounted on museum board.



**Joyce Lister's** pastel painting, "Couch Potato", was selected by judge Liz Haywood-Sullivan to receive the Award of Honor at the Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod's annual National Show, "For Pastels Only 2013."



**Deborah Maklowski's** "Red Barn at Massey" won Best in Show at the "Paint the Town" plein air event in Chestertown, MD, in April, and she sold both the pastels she painted at the annual Barnstormer's Tour and Paint Out in Frederick County in June.

In June, **Diane Artz Furlong** taught a week-long class at the Summer Arts Academy for area students. She says it was a lot of fun teaching a class in pastels to a group of 16 kids, ages middle-school through high school. They were provided with a set of soft pastels and sheets of sanded pastel paper. She talked a bit about how pastels



are made and why she enjoys using them. She also did a short landscape demo. The students practiced making strokes and then everyone worked on a painting using some references photos she brought along. This is the second time she has been invited into the schools to teach pastel and she really enjoys the kids. Hopefully, some of them will fall in love with the medium. See Diane's work at <http://dartzfineart.com/category/gallery/>.

**Desiree Holmes Scherini** will offer painting classes at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts and the Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) this fall. At Maryland Hall she will be teaching two workshops: "Plein Air Painting in Pastel," October 5th and 6th, 10am-4pm; and "Design Secrets for Painting and Drawing," October 19th and 20th, 10am-4pm. Her class will be "In the Studio-Landscape Painting in Pastel" on Mondays, 9/30 to 10/28, noon-4pm. For more information and registration visit: <http://www.marylandhall.org/classes>. At the AACC Arnold campus, Desiree will be teaching "Oil and Acrylic Painting, History and Practice" (adults), 9/23 through 11/11 Mondays, 6:30-9:00pm. She is also teaching oil and watercolor painting at local senior centers through AACC this fall. Desiree also has a solo Exhibit titled "Dawn to Dusk" featuring pastel landscapes. The paintings are on display June 26th until July 14th at the Holley Gallery, Maryland Federation of Art, 18 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401. A reception will take place on Sunday, July 7th, from 4 to 6 pm. For more info: [www.artistdesireescherini.com](http://www.artistdesireescherini.com)

**JoEllen Murphy** came in first place this year at the annual Barnstormer's Tour and Paint Out in Frederick County, Maryland on June 8th for her painting "Morning at England Farm."

**Regina Price** has a show with fifteen paintings at Bohrer Park Activity Center, Rt 355 Gaithersburg, MD, until July 22nd. She will also have some works at Glenview Mansion in Rockville for the month of September. Lastly, she won an award at the CCWC in Chevy Chase.

**Mary Ellen Simon's** pastel painting "Sparrow's Point in Mist" placed second in the Landscape category at the Montgomery Artists' Association judged exhibit at Friendship Heights Village Center in June.

### Welcome to New Members

We're thrilled to welcome new members Judy Stevens and Ludmilla Kosenko!

### Past Events

#### Diana DeSantis' Landscape Demo at our April Meeting

We had a special treat at our last members' meeting in April, as Master Pastelist Diana DeSantis gave us a demonstration on her methods of doing a landscape painting, working from a photograph. She stressed the importance of editing the photo to achieve the best composition, moving and/or deleting objects and being selective about the amount of detail you include, before you start painting. She looks for a good abstract design, plans the positive and negative shapes, and then starts with the large shapes, establishing the whole design in the first layer. Next she lays in the shadows, which she makes sure are colorful, and begins to refine to smaller shapes. DeSantis follows the familiar approach of working from hard pastel to soft, and from darks to lights, using the sides of her pastels. She establishes her initial values and overall composition with Nu-Pastels, using her fingers to blend the sky. This is followed by increasingly more detail using Rembrandts, and then the final layers of softer pastels, such as Sennelier and Terry Ludwigs, create drama and emphasize the center of interest.



Diana prefers to make her own painting surface on Gatorboard, which helps limit the

weight of the finished painting, and she can get eight or more layers of pastel using the following formula: 1 cup acrylic gesso, 4 tablespoons of FF-grade pumice (double fine), and ¼ cup of water. She then tones this mixture with acrylic paint, using a color that depends on the subject matter. For landscapes and still lifes, she often uses a mix of orange and burnt sienna; for a portrait she likes a light green-gray which she achieves by mixing ivory black and cadmium yellow.

Diana is most noted for her portrait paintings, but both her portraits and landscapes have received many awards and accolades worldwide (Google her name and you will be captivated by her amazing pastels). She was very generous and frank in answering our questions about her methods and what works best for her, but her most generous gesture was the donation of her completed demo painting to the MPS, to help us raise funds. We'll be holding a silent auction at the July 20 members' meeting; scroll back up to the "Next Meeting" section for more about this!!

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