



Newsletter: April 2018

President's Letter:

Hello All,

It is hard to believe Spring is in full bloom and is beckoning to all Plein Air enthusiasts to enjoy the outdoors! In the spirit of painting outside, four of our members displayed their Plein Air "gear" at our general meeting in April. As always, it is fun and fascinating to see the range of equipment that people use in their unending quest for the "perfect pochade"! We will look forward to our June Plein Air members paint-along. Date will be announced.

Many of our members will be participating in the Richard Mc Kinley workshop, May 7-11. We will take advantage of this opportunity to have the artist present a program at our general meeting. This is open and free. Please note that it will be in Hot Springs on Tuesday, May 8th at 6pm. Some may wish to carpool.

The Pastel Challenge that Lois Davis setup for us on APS Talks has gotten off to a great start. Members shared their paintings at the April meeting and it was so fun to see all the interpretations of the challenge photo. The next photo is posted so join in the fun and keep painting!

See you in Hot Springs on May 8th!

Cathy Nugent
Co-President, APS

April Meeting:

Our April 3rd meeting featured a pizza party, and opened with several reminders about upcoming events: **Our May meeting** will involve a change of date and location, to correspond with Richard McKinley's workshop in Hot Springs Village. Members will meet for Richard's demo on Tuesday, May 8 at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 403 Barcelona Road in Hot Springs Village. Members who plan to attend will need to let Shirley Anderson know in advance so their names may be added to the list for entry at the gate to the Village. Food will not be provided at this demo meeting, although there may possibly be some light refreshments.

It was also decided that Burns Park will be the location for our June plein air paint-out meeting.

Several members brought blank cards picturing their artwork to be used by our sunshine chair, Karen Jones, and other members are encouraged to bring cards of their art, which may be printed on home printers or ordered from sources such as Shutterfly.

Lois showed a collage she made of entries in the first challenge paintings for our new Facebook group, APS Talk. Several members also brought their paintings (one unfinished) to show the group. The collage and the paintings may be seen on the APS Talk page on Facebook.



Plein-air painting setups was the meeting theme, and we were treated to demonstrations of their setups by Debbie Stroebel, Shirley Anderson, Susan Hurst and Cathy Nugent.



Debbie uses a small Heilman box (sketchbook size) mounted on a telescoping easel. She paints on 5X7 paper mounted on a piece of foam core.



Shirley showed us how she sets up her easel, using bungee cords to attach the Heilman box to the easel. She uses an Easel Butler (shown below) to support the pastel box.

For air travel, she uses a bag from Magellan (pictured to left of Easel Butler) to carry all of her pastels and supplies on the plane. It fits below the seat in front of her.

Locally, she uses a scrapbooking carrier for this purpose.





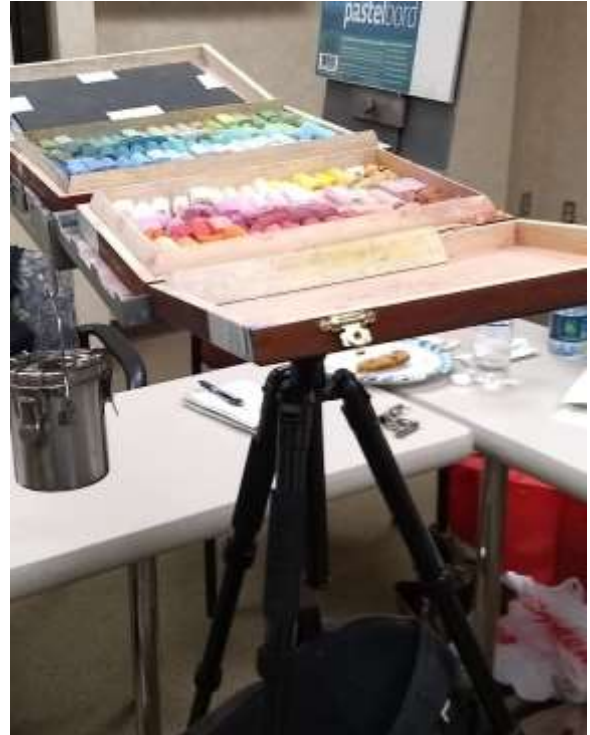
Susan uses a compact pastel box from Stan Sperlak, in which she carries one box of pastels, foam core for backboards and for travel storage, sheets for interleaving, and lots of rubberbands to hold everything together. She also likes to use Pastelmat pads (above) because they include interleaving between the pages. She uses a Raymor carrier for transporting several boards together.



Cathy Nugent uses a 3-part Strada tray mounted on an easel into which she places the wooden cigar boxes that contain her pastels.

Announcements:

Congratulations to Shirley Anderson for her recent first place award in the Lone Star Pastel Society's (pastel/watercolor) Juried Exhibit in Amarillo TX.



Susan Hurst has a display of plein air oil paintings at Thompson library on Rahling Road. They will be on view in the entryway cabinet for the month of April.



Vic Mastis was juried into the MVIS 7th Annual Art Show with her oil painting "Beauty Under the Tree" (left) at The Gallery 1516 in Leavenworth, Omaha, NE.

Mary Ann Stafford will be teaching a Pen and Ink drawing class at the Maumelle Center on Thursday afternoons beginning May 10. Instruction will also include ink washes and scratchboard drawing. Email her at www.pastelanne@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Mary Ann announced that her watercolor, "Unchained" was accepted into the Mid-Southern Watercolorists Annual Juried Exhibit showing at the Butler Center until June 30. She will also show work on May 12 at the annual art show and sale at Natural Impressions Studio, 4609 Aspen Drive North Little Rock.



Watercolor underpainting



Darker values added

Dates to Remember:

May 7-11, 2018	Richard McKinley Workshop Hot Springs Village
May 8, 6PM (note 2nd Tuesday meeting date)	Richard McKinley will present the program at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Hot Springs Village.
June 30 (tentative date)	Lois Davis mini-workshop based on Rita Kirkman's techniques from Rita's workshop in 2016
September 9, 2018	Entry deadline for our members only juried show.
September 15 (tentative date)	Babs Steward mini-workshop
October 19-November 10, 2018	Members Only Juried Show Argenta Branch Library
November 2018	Garvan Gardens Show, Hot Springs AR