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## NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2024

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### **Letter from the President**

Hello all-just a reminder that May is the last meeting for the summer months. There are no meetings in June, July, and August. We will resume our meetings in September.

We do have two events to look forward to

- 1) Paddle and Pour May 25th.
- 2) Our Picnic on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Information for both these events are in the newsletters.

Please sign up for both these events

Both events are a great way to get to know the members better. They are also an easy way to volunteer! If you have anyone you would like as a presenter for the coming year starting in September, please let either myself or Mike know!

Have a fabulous summer and see you in September!

Margie Mitchell

### **Letter from the Newsletter Editor**

Welcome to the April 2024 Newsletter! This one is special because it includes the profiles of two of our members!

For some of us, involvement with a group like PAG is simply a way to participate in a few shows a year ... but for many of us, PAG is much more. It's a way to engage with and make friends with like-minded people, interested in art, interested in learning, and enjoying the camaraderie of being in a friendly and mutually supportive group. For those of us with that mind set, meetings and speakers and events are a way to connect. The member profiles in the newsletter aim to support that connection as well.

Please get to know members Rohma and Carolyn who have profiles in this issue, but then help all of us by providing your profiles as well. If you don't feel you are a good writer, then just provide a bulleted list of things about who you are, your artistic and life "journey" and the things you like to do. We'll take care of the rest!

Mike

## UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

### May 2nd Regular Meeting at The Pittsford Community Center

Speaker: Nancy Lane

**Website:**

<https://www.nancylanestudio.com/>



**Biography**

As a lifelong nature lover, I find most of my ideas by being outdoors. I develop what I have seen and experienced into a painting to express a feeling or share beauty. Sometimes, the way light falls on the land suggests an emotion that I want to recreate in a painting. Other times, I'll suggest a story in the way subjects are arranged in a scene. My paintings explore a deeply felt connection to nature-- and hopefully encourage that impulse in the viewer.

I have been involved in the arts all my life. I spent 30 years as an illustrator of award-winning picture books that celebrate the human-animal bond. Several years ago, I returned to oil painting and began painting outdoors. Whether in the field or in the studio, the subjects I choose to paint are about empathy for nature and animals.

If my work sparks a feeling or new perspective for you, I'd love to hear from you. Or you can sign up for my occasional newsletter to hear about my latest paintings, shows, classes or other fun art-related things I'm doing!

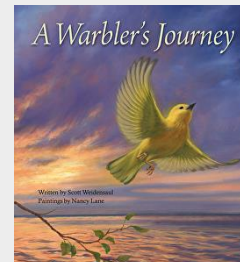
**Curriculum Vitae**

Fine artist, 2007-present

Drawing and painting instructor, 2011-present

Picture book illustrator, 1987-2022

Art Director, Korshak Hensley & Assoc., Houston TX, 1983-1987



Nancy will be presenting in-person, and the meeting will also be shared via **Google Meet**.

## Save The Date: Paddle and Pour

At the Port of Pittsford



The club will have a booth and we expect each person to be able to bring THREE (3) paintings each. Check your email for sign-up information.

We will also be looking for VOLUNTEERS to set up and take down the booth and greet and assist visitors throughout the day.

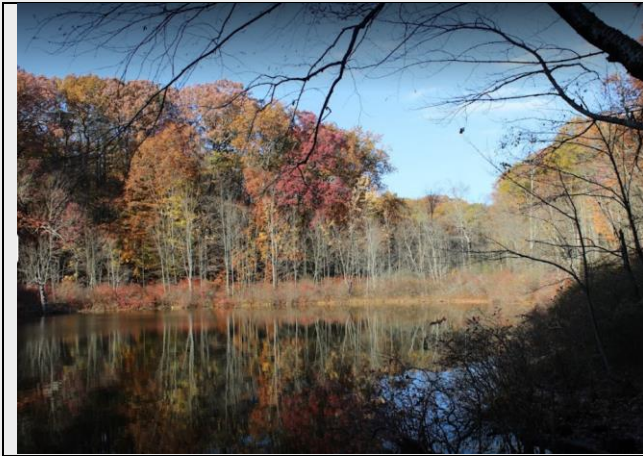
Photo from Paddle and Pour 2023



## Save The Date: PAG Summer Picnic – Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM to 4:00PM

At the Devils Bathtub Pavilion at Mendin Ponds Park

This year's summer picnic will be held at the Devil's Bathtub in Mendon Ponds Park. Mendon Ponds Park is on the National Registry of Natural Landmarks because of its geologic history and presence of significant geological features left from the ice age — including Devil's Bathtub, which despite its polarizing name, is a fascinating, rare phenomenon in nature. It is a meromictic pond, meaning that the layers in the water do not mix nor do they "turn over" like most ponds do each spring and fall. This is due to the depth — roughly 47 feet at its deepest point — and protection by the geologic features around it. We have reserved the pavilion at the top of the hill by the stair way to the Bathtub.



### And ... the PICNIC SPEAKER will be Kathleen Giles

Kathleen Giles is a fabulous water colorist. You can see more of her work on her web site: <https://www.kgilesstudio.com/>

A few samples are provided below. We are still working out the details, but you can plan on a great event and opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, the camaraderie of being part of PAG, and a great learning opportunity.



We will also be looking for VOLUNTEERS to assist with set-up and cleanup. Watch for more details in emails coming soon!

## NEW MEMBERS

**PAG currently has 55 members!**

Please invite your artist friends to join us as we are starting to plan out a great new season!

## OTHER REMINDERS

Check the PAG website for a list of all upcoming events and meetings. <https://pittsfordartgroup.com/>

### Guest Policy

GUESTS interested in joining are welcomed and encouraged to join us at our monthly meetings to hear and see what's going on and to watch our wonderful demonstrators. To help with rising costs it would be appreciated if a \$5.00 donation was made to the group for in-person attendance. Any donation amount made will be applied to the joining fee.

### Sunshine Committee

Sylvia Ball will send occasion appropriate cards to members or their families. If you know of someone who is ill or a member that has passed, please contact Sylvia.

## ROTATING EXHIBITS

The rotating exhibits are an opportunity for members to display their work at various locations around town. If you have questions about this schedule, please contact **Laura Davis**. Remember - you can share any of these exhibit spaces with other members!

Venue->	Pittsford Town Hall	Friendly Home Main	Star P.T.	Presbyterian Church
# pieces->	10 to 15 medium	22	16	3 large, 7 small
Oct - Dec '23	S. Hyatt	H. Jusko	J. Andrews	P. Fahy
Jan- Mar '24	B. Jablonski	C. Schott	L. Davis	S. Simpson
Apr- Jun '24	R. Khan	M. Kamish	S. Zimmerkidd	<b>L. Vannozi</b>
Jul - Sep '24	L. Sciortino/ D. Johnson	S. Zimmerkidd	S. Culbertson	H. Jusko
Oct - Dec 24	R. Boehner	A. Limbeck	K. Herman	<b>N. Varon</b>

## CLUB LEADERSHIP 2023 – 2024 Positions

### Executive Board Officers

- President, Margaret Mitchell
- Vice-President, Mike Kamish
- Treasurer, Debi Bloom
- Recording Secretary, Carolyn Dey Lobkowicz
- Corresponding Secretary, Joe Sirianni

### Standing Committees

- Membership, Carol Schott
- Refreshments, Paula Fahey
- Rotating Exhibits, Laura Davis
- Sunshine, Sylvia Ball
- Website, Joe Sirianni
- Publicity, Linda Vannozi
- Newsletter, Mike Kamish

## **CLUB LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS**

If you wish to run for office or for a Board or Committee Leadership position, please let Joe know as soon as possible.

Positions that are open or requiring re-election are:

- Corresponding Secretary (Currently Joe)
- Secretary (Currently Carolyn)
- Webmaster (Currently Joe)
- President (Currently Margie)
- Vice-President (Currently Mike)

## RECENT EVENTS

### APRIL MEETING

Speaker Richell Castellon

The April Meeting featured speaker Richell Castellon. **Website:** <https://www.richellart.com/>



Richell shared his unique life story with us – how we immigrated from Cuba to the US, continued to train and grow as an artist, and how he has launched his career, displaying his work at multiple galleries throughout the Eastern US.

Starting with a lightly toned canvas, Richell showed us how he uses a photo as a guide, but takes artistic license in adding, deleting, and changing what he sees into something that is a better composition, more dramatic in color, and more aesthetically pleasing. He no longer feels a need to sketch on the canvas and gets right to painting with broad strokes and lots of pigment.

He noted that he does not mix colors on the canvas because he feels that makes them cloudy. Instead, Richell squeezes out his paints (from plastic ketchup containers) right onto a plastic sheet on a table and mixes there. If paints start to get dry, he mists them with water (somewhat like how Dale Terbush showed us he did it).

Richell paints confidently and since acrylics dry quickly, he can paint layer after layer on the canvas without a lot of color bleeding between layers. He paints throughout the canvas, first in rough blocks of color and then subsequent layers in which the lines become sharper and the image starts to emerge in more detail. The lines of the sky are added near the end, helping shape the buildings and sharpen their lines. The final stage is adding highlights and details such as the car and bus headlights, streetlights, and reflections off window glass.



Richell shared that he uses all sorts of canvases for his paintings – ranging from low-cost retail store canvases to hand-stretched canvases. It all depends on size and availability. He also uses a variety of paint brands and brushes. The paints get transferred into ketchup style squeeze bottles for ease of access while painting (he just squeezes some out). He avoids the use of the color black and instead uses Paynes Gray and mixes other dark blues for his darks.



To see more samples of Richell's work, refer to his web site and check out one of the local galleries that carry his work (list is on web site).



## Spring Juried Art Show at Barnes and Noble

Article by Mike Kamish

The Spring Art Show has been completed and this year we have two “People’s Choice” award winners!

**Karen Wallis**  
*Off to the Races*



**Ron Boehner**  
*Storm Over Long Island Sound*



## MEETING NOTES – General Meeting 4/4/2024

**Pittsford Art Group**  
**General Meeting**  
**Spiegel Community Center**  
**35 Lincoln Avenue**  
**Pittsford, NY 14534**  
**April 4, 2024**

Eighteen PAG members met at the Spiegel Center for the April General Meeting; four members and Margie Mitchell, PAG President, joined us online.

Board members present were Mike Kamish, Vice-President; Debi Bloom, Treasurer; and Carolyn Lobkowitz, Recording Secretary.

### **March Minutes—PAG Newsletter**

The Recording Secretary asked for any changes/corrections to the March notes, and none were requested. The Notes were approved as they stand by voice vote.

### **Barnes and Noble Show**

Mike Kamish remarked on the show's success with a tie for the People's Choice award. The winners are Karin Wallin, "Off to the Races" and Ron Boehner, "Storm Over LI Sound".

### **PAG Officers Election**

Mike presented two PAG Board positions that are open, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary and requested that members make nominations. Voting will occur at the May General Meeting.

### **Paddle and Pour Event, Saturday, May 25**

Joann Andrews volunteered to pick up the panels used to display artwork. Members may sign up online to enter artwork and to volunteer.

### **Marketing Opportunities**

Linda Vannoizzi, Marketing Chair, has been in touch with Alison Burchett, Assistant Recreation Director, at the Spiegel Center and they are interested in having PAG members exhibit artwork in the building. They have a preference for paintings of the Pittsford area but will also accept other works. Linda circulated a signup sheet for members to indicate interest in this project. This would be a non-juried show with room for about 20 paintings.

Linda also suggested that PAG might consider having a plein air event to paint Pittsford

Another publicity possibility is contacting the *585 magazine* to do an article about PAG.

### **Fund Raising**

Debi Bloom, Treasurer, presented the idea of creating T-shirts or other clothing using a PAG-generated design that could be sold to raise money.

Betsy Liano suggested that a member survey should be done to determine interest in this activity.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm and was turned over to our presenter, Richell Castellon from Syracuse.

Recording Secretary  
PAGGeneralMtg03/24

## MEMBER PROFILE

We are lucky enough to have two member profiles this month! Enjoy!

### MEMBER: Rohma Kahn



I was born in Teaneck, New Jersey, and was raised there for several years before my family moved downstate. My parents immigrated from Pakistan (though my father had first migrated to Canada in 1972) and my first language was Urdu. In Kindergarten, I learned English as a second language and fell in love with reading- and art! During any sort of downtime, I was either reading or drawing. If you asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, my immediate answer was “an artist.”

Creativity has always been at the heart of my work. My parents were not particularly creative (sorry, mom and dad!), but my uncle was a Professor of Fine Art in Karachi. He lived and breathed art by crafting decor with wrought iron, cast metals, glass, hand-painted marble, and much more. He was

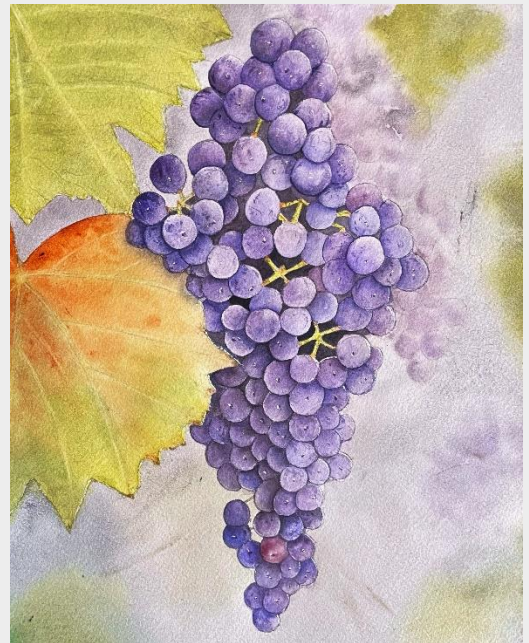
a TV set designer for eighteen years, had his own showroom, and painted and instructed in watercolor and oil. Knowing I shared blood with a successful artist was inspiring. I thought, “maybe I can do this one day.” I had a funny college experience, as I studied pre-medicine for three years, but also took history classes on the side. History allowed me to read, debate, and craft convincing narratives to my heart’s content. I felt creative again- so I ditched the STEM field and graduated Rutgers University with a Bachelor’s in History and Sociology. After graduating in 2014, I moved to Rochester to pursue a PhD in History at the University of Rochester.

I defended my dissertation in March 2020- it was one of the last “in-person” defenses for a long while. I had started painting in watercolor before the pandemic, but I really buckled down on the hobby when the world shut down. Working remotely certainly helped with that. Currently, I am completing a postdoctoral fellowship and I have a book contract, so I am still reading and writing. But I am sort of a master of my own time these days and can dedicate a lot of time to painting. I started with landscape paintings, but now I also enjoy painting still life. YouTube has been an incredible learning tool! My goal is to start plein air painting when the weather is nicer. Initially, watercolor was frustrating. I couldn’t manage to control how my paints reacted to water at all. And now, that’s the reason I love it. Life is full of challenges, and these past few years have been incredibly trying. Watercolor reminds me that you can control only some variables, and sometimes, “letting go” produces unexpectedly beautiful outcomes.

***Editor’s note: Be sure to check out Rohma’s article on Watercolor Painting in last month’s March 2024 edition of the PAG Newsletter***

See samples of Rohma’s work on the next page!

Samples of Rohma’s work:



## MEMBER: Carolyn Lobkowitz



As a child I remember loving my crayons, coloring books and especially picture books with colorful illustrations but otherwise my artist's journey did not begin until much later in life.

In high school, I was the art editor for my high school yearbook, and I enjoyed that a lot, but my career path did not go in that direction. Then there was college, marriage, work, and a family so drawing and painting were no longer in the picture. However, as my family grew up and I had some discretionary time, I started looking for other creative outlets. It was then I discovered classes at the Memorial Art Gallery and that began a long and happy association. I tried watercolor and loved the transparency and the ability to layer colors but alas, I liked that medium more than it liked me, so I tried oil painting and fell in love with the tactile pleasure of mixing colors and of pushing color into a canvas. Oil is my primary medium, but I also work in charcoal and am now learning gouache, an opaque water medium.

After my husband's death in 1998, I relocated to Royal Oak, Michigan to be near my daughter and to work part time in a school for children with dyslexia and other related learning challenges. Both my professional training as a librarian and the skills developed in previous work experiences were useful in that setting and I loved my work there.

And to my delight, I discovered a wonderful not-for-profit art center near my home that offered many different drawing/painting classes in beautiful studios. I took many painting classes and worked primarily on learning still life and portrait drawing and painting.

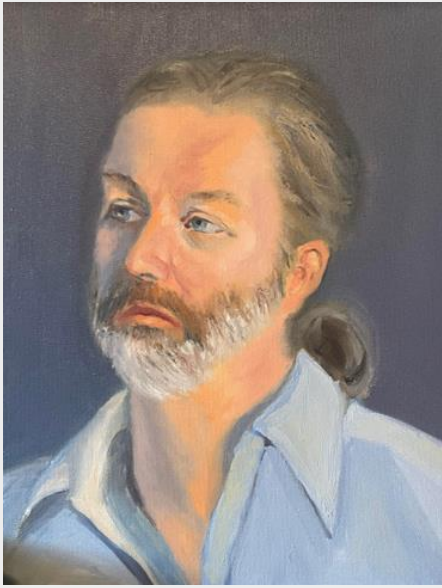
After 11 years in Michigan, I moved back to Rochester in 2012 settling in Brighton and once again returned to the MAG for art classes. I then went to study at Steve Carpenter's studio for about 6 years and found a wonderful art community to hang with there. Sadly, Covid and health issues forced Steve to close his studio and I still miss that wonderful community of painters.

Online classes with Chris Kolupski during Covid were a terrific way to pass those mostly homebound days. I prefer painting in person to online but those weekly online sessions with Chris who uses a process-driven approach made a huge difference in my life.

I enjoy finding and learning from painting demos and related information online. One that I refer to often is the 15-minute, topic specific painting demos by Ian Roberts. His demos cover many subjects, composition, value structure, color mixing, painting shadows and many others. And for me fifteen minutes on one topic keeps me focused and able to remember the message. Of course, applying it is another story!






His book, *Mastering Composition* presents many how-to examples and is a favorite. Other books that I learn from and enjoy are: *The Landscape Painter's Workbook* by Mitchell Albala; *Essential Techniques of Landscape Drawing* by Suzanne Brooker; and *Carlson's Guide to Landscape Painting* by John F. Carlson.

Here are some samples of Carolyn's work:



# UPCOMING COMMUNITY COURSES & EVENTS

Will you be offering or attending any classes? Is there an art show coming up that may be interesting to remember? Let us know and we can share the information with the club.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Upcoming Course</b> Member: Barbara Jablonski May 14 - 16</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Upcoming Art Show</b> IRONDEQUOIT ART CLUB JURIED SHOW May 4 - 11</p>
<div data-bbox="129 493 820 1260"><h2 style="text-align: center;">Spring Plein Air Painting with Barbara Jablonski</h2><p style="text-align: right;"><b>Barbara Jablonski</b></p><p><b>Tuesday, May 14 through Thursday, May 16, 2024</b></p><p><b>Barbara Jablonski invites artists using any painting medium</b></p><p>Who are "new to" plein air painting, Experienced artists who wish to learn OIL PIGMENT or ACRYLIC painting as a new medium, Studio artists who wish to learn new techniques to enhance studio painting of landscapes, waterscapes and architecture.</p><p><b><u>This workshop introduces elements and techniques including</u></b></p><p>Composition and design Value, temperature and mixing of oil and acrylic colors Drawing, perspective and painting techniques The use of materials and equipment</p><p><b>Registration Fee</b> \$250 Early Registration by Tuesday, May 23: \$235</p><p><b>Contact</b> BARBARA JABLONSKI 585-749-5225</p><p><b>BJJablons@gmail.com</b> for a full brochure and registration form or see the website.</p><p><b>www.BarbaraJablonski.com</b> webpage: <i>Plein Air Workshop</i></p><p style="text-align: center;"><small>Shrimp Boats I 11"x14" oil</small></p><p style="text-align: center;"><small>Hamilton Mansion 18"x24" oil</small></p><p style="text-align: center;"><small>Mendon Ponds 14"x5.5" acrylic</small></p></div>	<div data-bbox="1055 493 1323 693"></div> <p>The Irondequoit Art Club (IAC) will hold its 64th Annual Spring Show &amp; Sale May 4 through May 11 at the Summerville Presbyterian Church, 4845 St. Paul Blvd., Irondequoit, NY 14617. IAC members Judy Peterson, and Barb Petro are Co-Chairs. Admission is free. Credit card sales will be accepted.</p> <p>This year's judges are Nancy and Bill Holowka. Nancy Anne Holowka, a potter and fine arts photographer, who earned a B.S. in Art History &amp; Studio Art, Nazareth College. William Holowka is an acrylic painter and carousel animal restorer, who earned an A.A.S. Monroe Community College and a B.S. in Studio Art, Nazareth College.</p> <p>Artist awards will be presented during the Opening Reception on Saturday, May 4 from 2 to 5 PM. There will be a "Meet the Artists Day" on Saturday, May 11, beginning at 11 AM.</p>

## On-Going Series: AN ARTIST YOU MAY LIKE

### ARTIST: Salvatore Garou

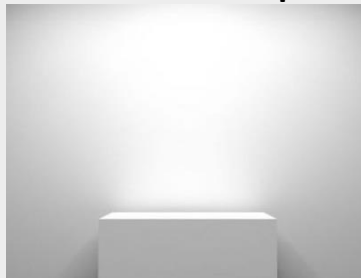
Inspired by an article on ARTNET News : <https://news.artnet.com/art-world/italian-artist-auctioned-off-invisible-sculpture-18300-literally-made-nothing-1976181> by Taylor Dafoe, June 2021

This is an artist story that I find quite interesting and wanted to share. Its inspiration for all of us that have struggled to sell our paintings to perhaps think about skipping the paint part next time ...

### An Italian Artist Auctioned Off an ‘Invisible Sculpture’ for \$18,300. It’s Made Literally of Nothing

“It is a work that asks you to activate the power of the imagination,” Salvatore Garau said of his sculpture.

#### Photo of the Sculpture



From the department of “They sold that for how much?!” comes today’s story, about an Italian artist who, for the cool price of €15,000 (\$18,300), recently auctioned an artwork that is... well, nothing. Last month, the 67-year-old artist Salvatore Garau sold an “immaterial sculpture”—which is to say that it doesn’t exist.

To be fair, the artist might disagree on conceptual grounds. For Garau, the artwork, titled Io sono (which translates to “I am”), finds form in its own nothingness. “The vacuum is nothing more than a space full of energy, and even if we empty it and there is nothing left, according to the Heisenberg uncertainty principle, that nothing has a weight,” he told the Spanish news outlet Diario AS. “Therefore, it has energy that is condensed and transformed into particles, that is, into us.”

The lucky buyer went home with a certificate of authenticity and a set of instructions: the work, per Garau, must be exhibited in a private house in a roughly five-by-five-foot space free of obstruction. Because the piece does not exist, there are no special lighting or climate requirements.

If you’d like to “see” more invisible artwork, refer to this article on Wikipedia that lists several.  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_invisible\\_artworks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_invisible_artworks)

