



NEWSLETTER – MAY 2024

Letter from the President

I want to start with a HUGE thank you to Nina Varon and Joanne Andrews for picking up and taking back the metal racks for Paddle and Pour! We got there early in the morning and the sun was shining. Mike and Ron set up the metal racks for our paintings and did a great job. They actually used all of the pieces, so we had more room than usual. Everyone arrived and we hung all the paintings, we also had several items that people had brought for sale. Joanne Andrews brought Stained Glass and flowery tiles, we had pottery from Debi Bloom, we had bookmarks from Sylvia Ball, me, and Paula Fahy. We had cards from several people as well. Rohma Khan also brought some very well-done cards as well and we had a few prints. The hard part about Paddle and Pour is that people don't come always to buy expensive items. But once in a while, they do! the weather was threatening throughout the morning, I have to say we spent a good amount of time together just talking and enjoying each other's company getting to know each other a little bit better. And to me, that's well worth the time and effort that's put into these events despite the fact that we had to pack up and go home because of the rain and the weather. All in all, I really enjoyed the day and want to once again, thank all the volunteers that helped.

I hope you all had a nice Memorial Day weekend and will have a great summer. See you at the picnic!

Take care, Margaret Mitchell.

Letter from the Newsletter Editor

It's May 2024! Hard to believe, but this is the last newsletter of the 2023-2024 Season.

It's been a lot of fun being your Newsletter Editor this year. I hope to share that fun with more of you in the next year! For all of you budding authors, we are always interested in your articles, insights, photos of your work and sharing more about your artistic experiences.

In this issue, I have a new member profile (Me!) and a summary of some recent events as well as a recap for the season. I hope you have enjoyed these newsletters and look forward to seeing all of you at the Picnic in a few weeks and then at meetings starting in September.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

PAG Summer Picnic – Saturday June 8th, 10:00AM to 4:00PM **At the Devils Bathtub Pavilion at Mendon 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.

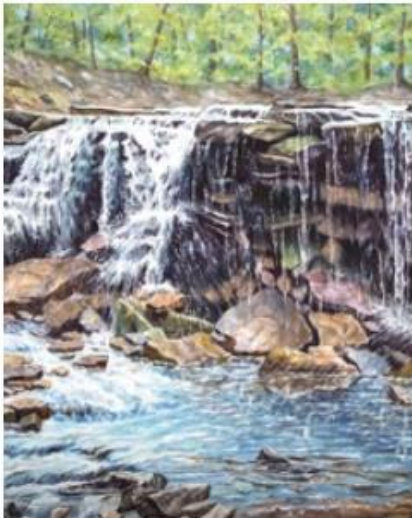


Please bring
a dish to
pass!

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!

PORT of PITTSFORD Plain Air Event – Saturday June 22nd

Dear PAG members,

I hope we can paint as a group outside this summer. Margie is organizing an event at the Pittsford Arboretum. I am organizing an event at the Port of Pittsford. Please see below.

Plein Air painting at the canal. Saturday June 22 9am-12pm.



I have reserved the pavilion on the west side of the canal at the Port of Pittsford Carpenter Park in Pittsford for June 22. It can be easily accessed via the library parking lot, and there is stair access down to the pavilion. All are welcome!

If you are going to participate in PAG Paints Pittsford exhibition this fall (Sept. 5 – Nov. 7) this would be a fun way to get your creative juices flowing. If you are not going to participate in this exhibition, come out anyway and paint with your fellow members!

Please bring painting supplies, a chair, easel, sunscreen, hat, and a beverage. If you don't want to bring a chair, you can sit on a stone wall or one of the nice benches along the canal.

Please email Linda Vannozi at lindavannozi@gmail.com if you'd like to participate on Saturday June 22. Do not reply to this email. I will lock in our reservation if I have at least 5 members to paint with me. I do not have proficiency in plein air painting, but I have lots of enthusiasm. If you would like to give tips at this event or even facilitate us, that would be super. Let me know. I will hold this event regardless of whether we have a facilitator. I will also bring a sign-up sheet to the June 8 picnic.

Thank you for considering!
Linda

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	L. Vannozzi
Jul - Sep '24	L. Sciortino/ D. Johnson	S. Zimmerkidd	S. Culbertson	H. Jusko
Oct - Dec 24	R. Boehner	A. Limbeck	K. Herman	N. Varon

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 Vannozzi
- Newsletter, Mike Kamish

CLUB LEADERSHIP for 2024-2025

There were no new candidates for club President, View-President, or Treasurer, so the Board has resubmitted this year's team as its's slate and by default they will be the officers for 2024-2025.

- President, Margaret Mitchell
- Vice-President, Mike Kamish
- Treasurer, Debi Bloom

There are two open positions remaining where we need support:

- Recording Secretary (Previously Carolyn Dey Lobkowitz)
- Corresponding Secretary (Previously Joe Sirianni)

Can you help us?

Both Carolyn and Joe will be able to provide coaching and Mike, Debi, and Margie can provide support as well. This club can only survive with volunteers – so please help out if you can!

To put your name “into the hat” for one of the above positions, please contact Mike at mike.kamish@gmail.com.

RECENT EVENTS

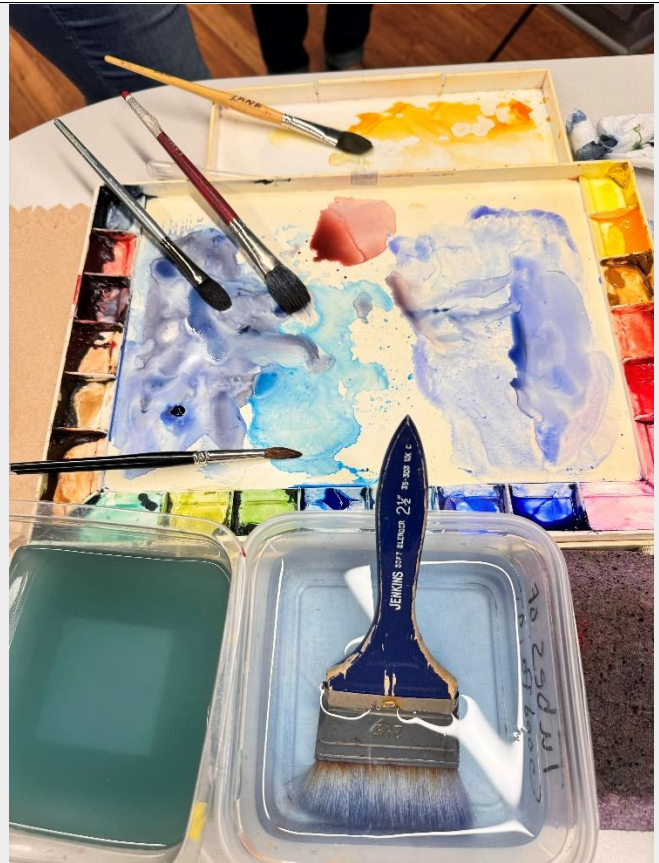
May MEETING

Speaker **Nancy Lane**

The May Meeting featured speaker Nancy Lane. **Website:** <https://www.nancylanestudio.com/>



Nancy produced a watercolor landscape of a seacoast at sunset. She demonstrated how color and brushstroke can be used to add motion to the evening sky – and then how color and reflections can bring out the drama of the scene.



Note the brush sizes and how Nancy utilized as big of brushes as she could, saving the small brushes for details later. You can also see in the photos above how Nancy utilizes two tubs of water – one for a “ciarse wash” of the brush and the second for a clean wash.

You should also note the color guide on the upper-right corner of the painting. This technique is a great way to remain true to your colors when mixing additional pigment on your palette.



For her paints, Nancy used Winsor Newton Professional Watercolor, including this shade of “sky blue” (**Indanthrene Blue**). Note that this is also available in Acrylic by Winsor Newton.

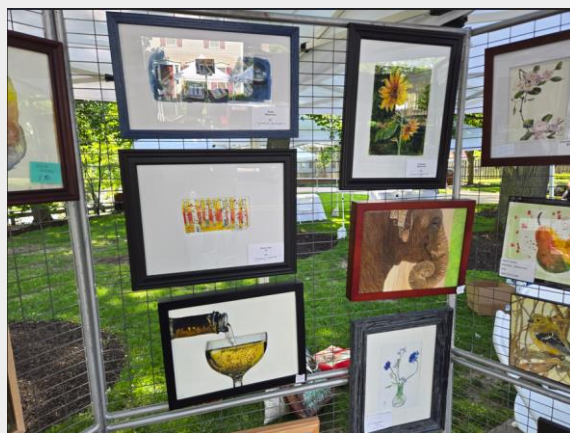


PITTSFORD PADDLE & POUR – Saturday May 25th

Pittsford Paddle & Pour was held on Saturday May 25th ... at least for a while! 😊

The day started out great with sunny skies and our display looked great. Several volunteers set up the booth, hung the paintings, laid out the cards and pottery and prepared the signs.





But then ... something like this ... Hopefully we'll have better luck next year!



MEETING NOTES – General Meeting 5/2/2024

**Pittsford Art Group
General Meeting
Spiegel Community Center
35 Lincoln Avenue
Pittsford, NY 14534
May 2, 2024**

Twenty-three PAG members met at the Spiegel Center for the May General Meeting; Margie Mitchell, PAG President, and Debi Bloom, Treasurer joined online. Barb Horvath and Denise Johnson also joined online.

We welcomed Debbie Ingenck as our guest.

Board members present were Joe Sirianni, Corresponding Secretary and Carolyn Lobkowicz, Recording Secretary.

The PAG Business Meeting opened at 7:05 pm, May 2, 2024. PAG members introduced themselves as we have some new members, and this helped connect faces with names.

April Notes—PAG Newsletter

The Recording Secretary asked for any changes or additions to the April Notes, and none were requested. The Notes were approved by voice vote.

Publicity

Linda Vannozi, PAG Marketing Chair, has created advertising posters for the Paddle and Pour Show on May 25 and they have been distributed electronically to all the area art groups. She also provided paper copies for members to distribute.

Painting Pittsford Show at Spiegel Center, September-October

Linda asked that we bring our “Pittsford paintings” to the September 5th General Meeting; we are responsible for hanging our artwork using the hanging system on the second floor of the Spiegel Center. Linda is looking for volunteers to help with the artwork display.

Members may pick up their artwork at the General Meeting on November 7.

Pittsford Plein Air Paintout

If members are interested in painting Pittsford scenes from the pavilion behind the Pittsford Library, please let Linda know. The pavilion rents for \$30 for 3 hours and she is happy to arrange if there is interest.

Generous Gift to PAG members

Sylvie Culbertson generously donated 300 lb. sheets of Arches watercolor paper to PAG members. It is from the estate of a family member artist. Many thanks for this gift and our condolences on your loss, Sylvie.

The Business Meeting closed at 7:20 and was turned over to our presenter, Nancy Lane, who paints in watercolor and in oil and is well known in our community.

Respectfully submitted by the Recording Secretary,
Carolyn Lobkowicz

Recording Secretary
PAG General Mtg 03/24

MEMBER PROFILE

MEMBER: Mike Kamish



Born in Chicago as the middle child of a family of 5, I have always had an interest in creative things ... including science, model ships, painting, and writing. Between my chemistry lab in the basement, my science fiction and detective “novels” and my “Frank Frazetta style” fantasy art drawings – I was always working on some project or another.

I suppose I inherited that from a family of very active people with diverse interests. My father was a “jack of all trades”, working as a plumber by day, fixing TVs and electronics at night, and among his many projects, somehow managing to build a darkroom where we worked together on photography. My mother was an accomplished piano player and dabbled in oils and painting murals on the side. Somewhere in there they were scout leaders as well. I guess none of us ever slept ...

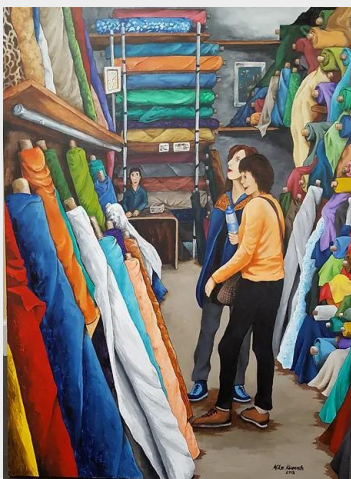
The exposure to many creative fields led me to major in engineering in college and eventually move to Rochester for a co-op position as an engineer at Kodak. There I met my soon-to-be-wife Jan, and before long Kodak offered me a full-time position. Kodak was booming at the time, and I landed in a place where I had the unique opportunity to work on a vast array of things, travel to Kodak sites worldwide, and learn how to work independently.

After getting my Master’s, my wife and I then took the next step, and started our own software company, producing manufacturing systems for places like Kodak and Xerox, security systems for museums like the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Getty Museum, aircraft testing systems for the FAA, and ultimately health care and clinical research systems for the Veteran Administration and health systems like UPMC. It was a busy and exciting time for us creating and building the company while raising our daughter Jen, and as you’d expect, hobbies were not a priority.

But as the business and the daughter both matured, we had more time and before long I was building model ships again and started to dabble again in painting. Ship building was the hobby of choice for about 25 years, and I built over a dozen models and to this day, am still an active member of a model ship club “Model Shipwrights of Western New York”

(<https://www.modelshipwrightguildwny.org/>). We finally sold the software business about 5 or 6 years ago, and even though we started another one (once you’ve had a business it’s hard to stop), painting has risen to the top of my list of hobbies and as I cut back more and more on working, I have been able to spend more and more time on painting.

As part of my painting “rebirth”, I started by creating paintings of photos of friends and family, like these below (the one on the right is my self-portrait!)



But I soon started to experiment with landscapes. I always enjoyed the look of paintings with texture and at one point, reached out to a Canadian artist, Miguel Freitas, to ask him how he achieves the texture in his paintings. He graciously shared with me how

he used Impasto Gel and other similar materials to thicken the paint. I experimented with that technique, then at some point started to play with Heavy Gesso, and ultimately came up with my current method of precoating the canvas with a thick layer of gesso. I like the texture and the sometimes-fortuitous effect of the bumps and puddles the gesso forms when dry.

Currently my work is primarily landscape (though PAG member Ron Boehner and I have been discussing once again experimenting with producing some “Frazetta like” paintings to shake things up a bit! For those of you that do not know the artist, he is considered the “father” of fantasy art, with some paintings selling in the millions of \$. Here are thumbnails of a couple to give you an idea).



A few of my recent works are shown below. I also have a little “for fun” web site for my art and ships, and those of a few friends and family members. Feel free to check them out at <https://mikekamish.wixsite.com/artclub/mikespaintings> (It’s one of the free Wix sites. We can work on that as group project next year and you can all create one!)



Canal Trail – Pittsford



Desolate (Frazetta-ish)



Sunset (Terbush-ish)



Unnamed



Foggy Cabin



Port of Pittsford

Summary of 2023-2024 Speakers

The goal for this year was variety! We hope you enjoyed our speakers this year and we hope to find similarly engaging and interesting speakers for next year as well!

September 7, 2023 – Kathy Armstrong [in person]

Watercolor



October 5 – Brian O'Neill [in person]

Portraits in Oil



November 2 – TeeJay Hatch [in person]

Creativity in all media



December 7 – Dale Terbush [Online presentation]

Journey to becoming a professional artist



January 4, 2024 – Kevin Feary [in person]

Landscapes in Oil



February 1 – Nathan Fowkes [Online presentation]

Composition, storytelling, and life in the animated film industry



March 7 – Jim Williams [in person]

Local and rustic scenes in acrylic



April 4 – Richell Castellón [in person]

Cityscapes in acrylic



May 2 – Nancy Lane [in person]

Landscapes in watercolor

