



## NEWSLETTER – January 2025

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### **Letter from the President**

Hello Everyone,

Here are two artists' views on art to ponder as you go about your daily thoughts, before you stand or sit and create your world of painting, brush in hand and off to another dimension!

1. *"Every artist was first an amateur."* – Ralph Waldo Emerson
2. *"Painting is poetry that is seen rather than felt, and poetry is painting that is felt rather than seen."* – Leonardo da Vinci

When I decide I want to spend some time in my studio, I put on some music, or listen to a book, just to have background noise. As I go through the motions of painting I get lost in the paint and the way it makes me feel to be there.

On these bleak days of winter when colors seem so dry and dark, painting a scene with bright colors and sunny days is very uplifting! Pull out some favorite photos from the summer vacation or a walk on the canal, find yourself with spirits lifted, you'll find the days won't seem so long! Snow can also be just as beautiful and exciting to paint and challenge yourself to create a winter scene or two.

Our Barnes and Noble Juried show will be here before you know, and dates will be set up soon. Happy Painting!

Margaret

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

Hi all,

Welcome to the January newsletter! As always, we've tried to include some interesting articles and photos – but as I ask every month, the newsletter can be so much more. So, please, send me photos and articles that you think might be interesting to your fellow club members.

Our next speaker will be another really good one. Carolyn made the introduction, and Pat DeLuca will be demonstrating her encaustic techniques. It should be a special evening. See you there!

Mike

## UPCOMING & CURRENT CLUB EVENTS

### PAG February 6th Regular Meeting at The Pittsford Community Center

Speaker: Pat DeLuca (<https://www.patdeluca.art/>)



Pat DeLuca is an encaustic artist. For those of you unfamiliar, encaustic painting, also known as hot wax painting, is a form of painting that involves a heated wax medium to which colored pigments have been added. The molten mix is applied to a surface—usually prepared wood, though canvas and other materials are sometimes used.

Unlike an oil painter, water colorist, or acrylic painter who mix colors on a palette. In contrast, the “palette” of an encaustic artist is a hot plate, the “colors” are pigmented encaustic.

Another difference between encaustic and traditional painting is that encaustic paintings have many layers of encaustic applied to the surface, one on top of the other, with each layer being separately fused in. This technique results in a depth and luminous translucency that is unique to encaustic art.

Pat describes herself as follows:

**Like so many creatives and makers I know and love, I’m an artist because I don’t have a choice. My paintings are there, waiting for me, floating at the edges of everything I hear, I see, I sense, and I dream. I listen in color.**

**I’m often caught staring because I get distracted by the shape of a cupid’s bow or**

**the shadows dancing across a person’s face. And yea, that could be me along the side of the road because a cloud is too interesting to pass by.**

**You might notice that I tend to work with the color blue. Blue is the color of life and hope. Every hue and shade of blue inspires me. I’m equally taken with the properties of water and sky that make those colors possible.**

**What excites me the most though is the wonderful wavy, sometimes obscured edges between earth, water and sky. I think about blurred lines and shifting edges - a lot. That work and the ongoing exploration of them is what you’ll find here.**

**My mantra. As an artist - remember that no one will ever be able to put together exactly those colors or make that same stroke or line but you! It’s kind of a miracle. It’s humbling. It’s my gift to the world to be able to share it.**



Some examples of Pat's work



## NEXT SHOW @ Barnes & Noble: Chairpersons Needed

The next big group show is at Barnes & Noble in the spring. Debi & Mike have chaired the last few shows with the assistance of

- Joanne (wall cards)
- Nina (prospectus)
- Sylvia & Margie (Certificates)
- Debi (also Ribbons in addition to being co-chair)

Plus, multiple volunteers for setup, takedown, and the award reception.

We're all willing to help again – but are looking for two new co-chairs to lead the effort (with Mike & Debi's support).

The specific responsibilities and activities performed by the Show chairs are:

- **Show Preparation**
  - Confirm show dates with Barnes and Noble coordinator and determine with the coordinator what we need for the reception (its usually the store manager who confirms the dates – a super nice guy)
  - Identify a judge (this is the most challenging item but also can be a lot of fun too). In previous years we:
    - Looked at local clubs and galleries and identified some well-respected artists as candidates
    - Reached out to the top candidates – and in each case they said “yes”.
    - We then confirmed dates and expectations and had our judge.
  - Prepare the prospectus by copying the old one and updating it with:
    - Show dates, drop off and pick up times, reception date, the Judge, and other changes as needed
  - The Secretary (currently Joe but hopefully another soon) will send out the Prospectus and create a blank paintings document on the Google shared drive.
- **Artwork Submissions Stage**
  - As Chair you will answer any questions and assist people as needed to enter their submissions and direct them to send payment to Treasurer Debi Bloom.
  - Once the final submission date is reached, the Chair will provide the submissions to the person creating the Wall Cards (now JoAnne) and the person creating the show booklet (now Nina).
  - The Chair will also collect names of volunteers for inclusion in the show booklet and do the work of hanging and preparing for the show and cleaning up after.
- **Judgment Day**
  - On the day of Judging, the Chair will meet the Judge at B&N to get them oriented and then when the judging is complete, will give the Judge their payment and guard the secret list of winners and get it to Sylvia for Certificates.
  - When the Judge finishes their critiques, the Chair will refine the document for distribution after the awards are given out.
- **Awards Reception**
  - At the Award reception, the Chairs will assist in giving out the certificates.
- **End of Show**
  - The Charis will assist with take-down and clean up, and then make sure that the exhibit area is left ready for the next show.

Mike & Debi also want to make sure we say directly that being a show Chair is also a great way to meet people in the club and make new friends. You are forced to associate names and faces as you check artwork in and out, arrange for the booklet and manage the awards – so if you want a way to quickly be engaged doing a fun thing – being a chairperson is the way to go!



## RECENT EVENTS: January Speaker

### Michael Tomb and Marcia Zach, Studio Michaelino



Michael and Marcia presented a very unique, educational and inspirational talk about their unique “Organic Collages” and both the way they are created and the history behind their interest, expertise in the entire field of botanical art and the significant role that Rochester played in the evolution of that art.

First the art work... Michael and Marcia shared some videos and explanation about how they conceptualize an art piece based on real world experiences (such as a meteor shower or a particularly stunning sunset) and then combine that with their in depth knowledge of herbs, fruits, and vegetables and the many colors and textures of their leaves and seeds and fruit and combine that into unique collages that may be a design or may be an actual scene.

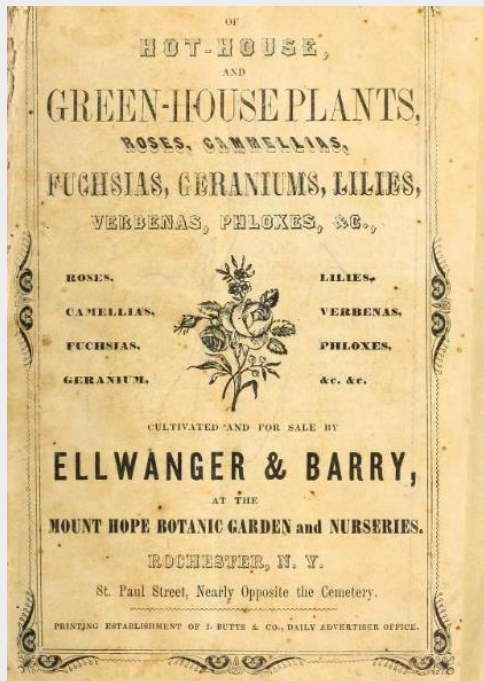
For most of us, the range of our knowledge might be the vegetables and fruits we see in the bins at Wegmans ... but for Michael and Marcia, it's a much bigger playing field. Michael spoke of over 500 different kinds of tomatoes – varying in size, shape, color and taste. Similarly, 200 kinds of Pears and many more. The two gather seeds for these diverse plants by searching the world, receiving some seeds from collectors in Eastern Europe, sources in Africa, tropical islands and beyond. They then grow and nurture these plants in their own home garden – and it is these plants that eventually become part of their organic collage art.

Next the history ... Michael and Marcia shared information about the history of botanical and seed pack art and the major role that Rochester played in that field.

The names were familiar ... Ellwanger, Vick, Harris, Chase, to list a few. But their role in the seed and garden field and how they made Rochester an international center for flower and vegetable seed distribution was fascinating. I never even knew the many flowers named after Rochester! Here is a link to some of those historic catalogs that Michael spoke of:

<https://www.sil.si.edu/DigitalCollections/seednurserycatalogs/collection.cfm>

<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/creator/88127#/titles>



Thank you Michael and Marcia for a great presentation!

For further details and links, check out the Studio Michaelino at:

<https://studiomichaelino.com/>



## NEW MEMBER PROFILE: Marion Haley



### Introducing MARION HALEY!

Marion is a multi-talented artist that paints in multiple media, sculpts, creates jewelry, does printmaking and more. Please welcome Marion to our group!

Marion is originally from Long Island where she taught art but moved to the Gulf coast of Fla. upon retirement.

During my time on Long Island, Marion was very involved with printmaking of all forms. She was involved with many community shows and events, including the Town of Oyster Bay's rotational juried art shows showing her monoprints at various locations in the Township Marion also held a couple of private shows.

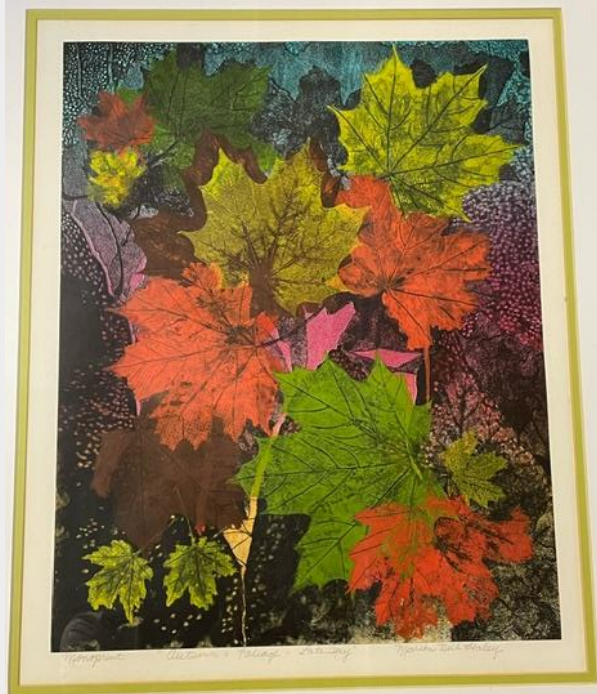
Upon moving to the Gulf Coast of Florida Marion joined the Bonita Center for the Arts now called "Arts Bonita" and took part in workshops for stone sculpture, fused glass, and jewelry. At this time, she also continued painting and showing her watercolors and oils.

But that wasn't all. Retirement gave Marion the time to really enjoy the arts and get more deeply involved in art related activities and organizations and she made use of that time! Marion taught classes on jewelry, fused glass, and printmaking at the art center as well as serving on their board as assistant treasurer.

Marion moved to the Rochester area in 2023 after living in Florida for approximately 25 years.

Here are some examples of Marion's work:







## 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!

	Town Hall	Friendly Home	Star P.T.	Presbyterian Church
Jan - March	Barbara Jablonski	Debbie Ingerick	Paula Fahy	Katherine Herman
April - June	Sylvie Culbertson	Niesdri Walsh	Denise Johnson	Laura Davis
July - Sept	Debi Bloom	Margaret Mitchell	Sylvie Culbertson	
Oct - Dec	Ann Limbeck		Ron Boehner	Karin Wallin

## 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 is going on and to watch our wonderful demonstrators. Please let Carol Schott or Margie Mitchell know of any guests in advance so that we can welcome them to the meeting.

### 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.

## CLUB LEADERSHIP 2024 – 2025 Positions

### Current 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
- Speakers, Margie Mitchell & Mike Kamish

### Open Positions

We are now seeking new Board and Committee Members to replace leaders that have been at it for years. This is your club – please be part of it by participating on the Board or a Committee. Open positions are listed below. Current leaders will “show you the ropes” so we can make this very easy. Everyone who has participated in this way says they get a lot more out of the club – and make new friends – when they actively participate in this way. Please participate!

#### Open Executive Board Officers

- Recording Secretary
- Corresponding Secretary

#### Standing Committees

- Website
- Speakers

#### Description of positions:

**Corresponding secretary** - To receive all outgoing information from members and the board to be sent to members. Any information for the group as a whole is only to be shared through this person.

**Recording Secretary** - To attend all members meetings at Spiegel center and record all Business meetings and presenters' information as well as meetings with the Board.

**Presenters committee** - This volunteer position can be held by up to 3 members. To find new and interesting presenters for general meetings and the picnic.

**Website Manager** - To update our website and add new information as it becomes available.



## MEETING NOTES – General Meeting 1/3/2025

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

A General Meeting was held on Thursday, January 3rd, 2024, at the Spiegel Community Center, Pittsford, NY. The board members present both in person and remote were Margie Mitchell, Mike Kamish, Deborah Bloom, Joe Sirianni, Carolyn Dey Lobkowicz.

The meeting was called to order at 7pm and an estimated Twenty-five members were in attendance, both in person and remote.

Debi Bloom provided the treasurer's report, and several officers described their position and the need for "new blood" in group leadership. The need for co-chairs for the Barnes & Noble show was explained (more details in this newsletter). The business meeting closed at 7:15 and the floor was handed over to Michael and Marcia, local artists who presented Rochester's art history and shared some of their collage work.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Dey Lobkowicz

## MEMBER NEWS

### Laura's "Orthopedic Tree"

When a local Orthopedic surgeon decided to move to California to open a new practice, he reached out to Laura to commission a painting of what is called an "Orthopedic tree" so that he can hang it in his new office.

The tree is inspired by a drawing in a book by Nicholas Andry, the father of orthopedic care, published in 1741. The tree represents people in need of treatment for bone disorders. It is tied with ropes to a sturdy post representing orthopedic surgeons. The surgeon's initials are on the post. (JSL: Jason Scott Lipof). The hamsa symbol on the lower right stands for our hope for his success, happiness, and protection from harm. The surgeon will hang it in his office at Stanford University, where he will continue his career teaching orthopedic techniques and performing surgery.

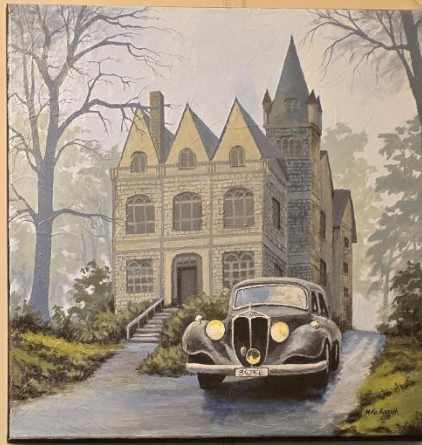
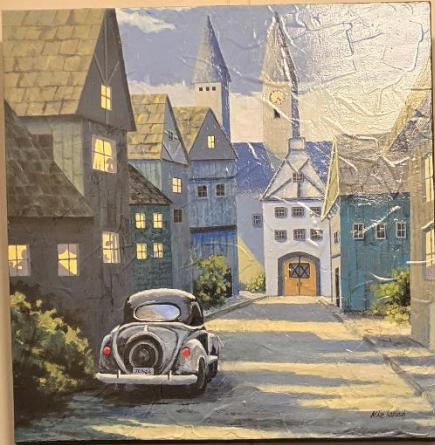
The custom wooden frame was designed and built by Laura's husband Ed.





## Mike's "Victorian Series"

A fan of Sherlock Holmes style mystery stories set in Victorian times and especially London, Mike decided to take a stab at some paintings related to that. The hope is to someday get good enough to illustrate a Sherlock Holmes story. The result was a series of six 24x24 paintings of various "moody" scenes that might fit with that kind of story.



## Frazetta Art from Ron

Members Ron Boehner and Mike Kamish are big fans of an artist named Frank Frazetta. To many, he is the unchallenged “master” of Comic and Fantasy Art, with his own museum and paintings that sell for millions.

Frank Frazetta's painting *Dark Kingdom* (1976) sold for \$6 million at Heritage Auctions in 2023, becoming the world's most valuable work of comic book or fantasy art. It broke a record that stood for three years—set by the same artist at the same house. That one was “*Egyptian Queen*” that sold for \$5.7M. See the details here <https://news.artnet.com/market/frank-frazetta-record-comic-book-fantasy-art-2329104#:~:text=Frank%20Frazetta's%20painting%20Dark,artist%20at%20the%20same%20house>.

Frank's painting “*Silver Warrior*” has always been a favorite of mine and I am happy to say that Ron tracked down a poster of that painting for me to hang in my studio. I was hoping he'd get me the original 😊 ... but this will work too. He and I both think it's a pretty neat painting and wanted to share with the group. Enjoy!

