



NEWSLETTER – April 2025

Letter from the President

April showers bring May flowers except this year we got snow! It was an exceptional meeting in April, so nice to see everyone there. We have one more meeting in May until we take off for the summer. We will not have meetings in June, July or August and will resume in September.

However, we also still have Paddle and Pour in May and our annual picnic in June. This year we are meeting at Mendon Ponds. There is a sign-up sheet for both! I have included some information about our beginnings for PAG. I hope you enjoy reading about our founder.

MARGARET MITCHELL

Letter from the Newsletter Editor

Wow! Is it April already? The year is flying by. But the good news: With the weather getting nicer we can start getting outside to paint! My goal for this summer is to improve my Plein Air skills, especially painting clouds and skies. Do you have a painting goal this year? Please share with the group and include some of your paintings so we can include them in a future newsletter. It's a great way to get to know your fellow club members!

In this newsletter we include notices about several upcoming events. Please try to attend and participate. The more you put into a club like this, the more you get out of it. And don't forget the open Board positions as well. People talk about wanting some "fresh blood" on the Board. The current Board members could not agree more. We'd love to have fresh blood replace us in the roles of recording secretary, corresponding secretary, speakers, website, shows and even this newsletter! So, if you have an interest, please volunteer!

Mike Kamish

UPCOMING & CURRENT CLUB EVENTS

PAG May 1st Regular Meeting at The Pittsford Community Center

Speaker: Mike Kamish



Member Mike Kamish will be leading a landscape workshop for our May 1st Meeting.

We'll be providing:

- Small canvases pre-prepared with that weird rough gesso surface you've seen Mike use – so you can see why he likes it (and whether you do or not!)
- Some acrylic paint in basic colors – but feel free to bring your own with the colors you like to use
- Some brushes – the kind that come in a pack of 100 – so feel free to bring some of the brushes you like to use
- Some materials to use as a palette and to hold some water

So be prepared to do some work! Mike will walk you through a process using a photo reference – but you can take it from there and create your own masterpiece!

About Your Speaker

Most of you know Mike as editor of this newsletter so just a real brief biography:

Mike is a mostly retired engineer and business owner, having founded and run two medical software businesses over the past 40 years. A native of Chicago and graduate of Northwestern, Mike was “imported” into Rochester by Kodak where he met his arts-and-crafty wife of 46 years, Jan. From there the rest is history ... worked at Kodak a bit, earned his master's at UofR, started his first company, and raised one amazing daughter (also into arts and crafts). Now, being nearly retired (and a grandfather), Mike spends his time with friends and family and on his hobbies of painting and shipbuilding.

Paintings: <https://mikekamish.wixsite.com/artclub/mikespaintings>

Ships: <https://mikekamish.wixsite.com/artclub/mikesships>

HOLD THE DATE for the PAG Picnic!

PAG PICNIC: Saturday June 14th, 2025

Details with times and speaker will follow later – but HOLD THE DATE for the 2025 PAG Picnic.

To be held this year at the Hopkins Point Lodge @Mendon Ponds Park



Hopkins Point Lodge
Mendon Ponds Park

Say tuned for details on time and speaker!

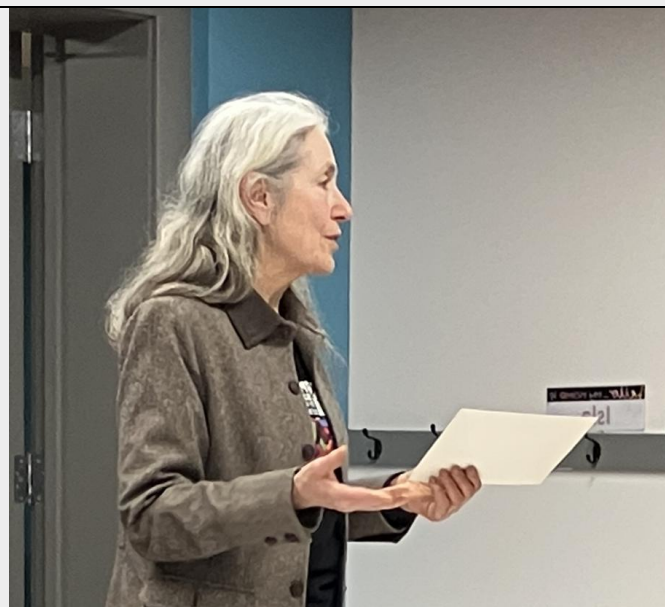
Upcoming Art Show at Paddle & Pour

Promotional flyer courtesy of Linda Vannozzi (Thank you Linda!)



Be sure to sign up as a volunteer and a participant.
You can find details and a link to the signup sheet in club emails sent by Club Secretary Joe Siriani.

RECENT EVENTS: April Speaker Victoria Brzustowicz

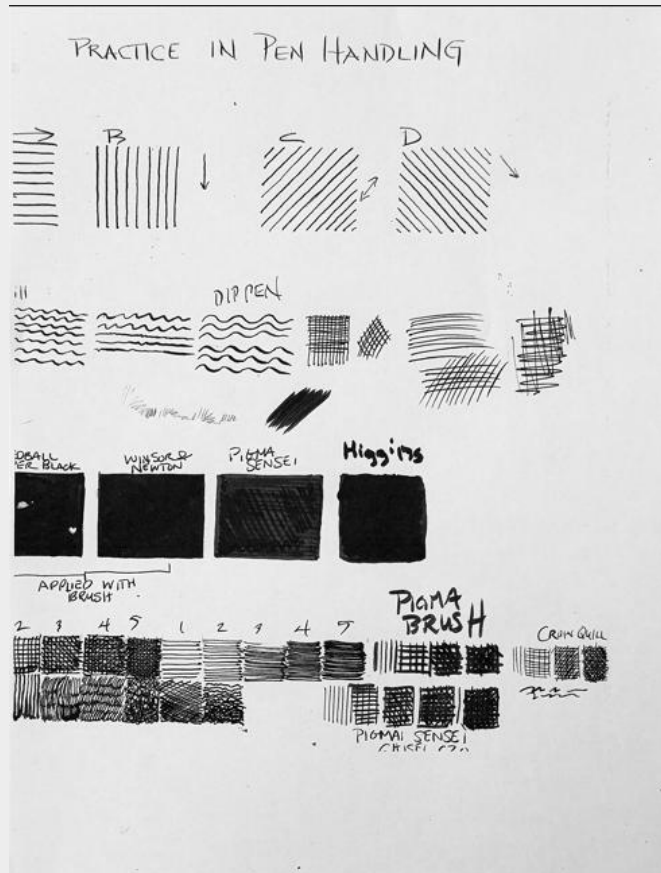


Victoria Brzustowicz was our speaker for April. We had a packed house as Victoria presented a super fun, engaging, and educational seminar about working with ink, the art and business of illustration, the “tools of the trade”. We all had a chance to try our hand at ink illustration as well, with a hands-on interactive demonstration and group exercise. On top of that we got to hear several anecdotes about Victoria’s artistic journey and career illustrating books and creating art just for the fun of it.

Thank you Victoria for a fun and engaging evening!

A full video and recording is available on-line. Just your emails from Club Secretary, Joe Siriani.

Refer to the photos below as well.



Biography

Victoria Brzustowicz knew from an early age that art was her calling. She has a BA in studio art from Wells College, where she studied with painter William Roberts. She also studied printmaking at Rochester Institute of Technology. Brzustowicz is a Signature Member of the Rochester Art Club, and the co-founder and current chair of Greater Rochester Plein Air Painters. She teaches at The Art Stop (Penfield, NY), Railroad Street Artworks (Fairport, NY) and Flower City Art Center (Rochester, NY). She has also taught plein air workshops for Cummings Nature Center (Rochester Museum & Science Center), Wood Library (Canandaigua), and Main Street Arts, Clifton Springs, NY.

Brzustowicz is also an illustrator, and her illustration portfolio spans a diverse range of projects. She's contributed to corporate videos by crafting backgrounds and stills, designed book covers and illustrations, created eye-catching poster art, and brought products to life through visual representation. Many projects are digital, but whenever possible, Brzustowicz steers her projects to traditional media.

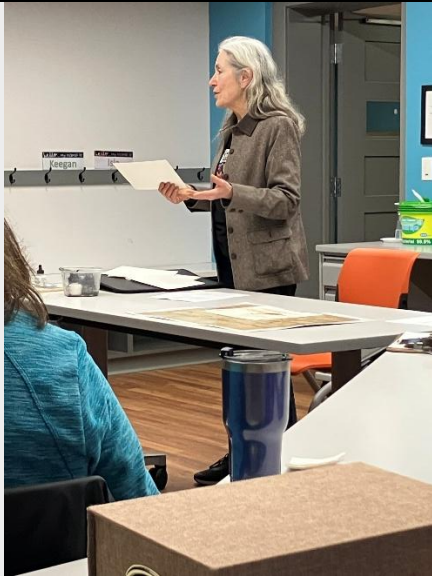
"There's a special kind of magic in watching ink flow and settle on paper — every mark feels alive and deliberate. When I draw with pen and ink, I slow down and savor every mark I make," says Brzustowicz.

You can view more of her work on her website: VictoriaBCreative.com , Instagram: @creativevictoriab, or Facebook: @VictoriaBCreativeArts.

Victoria Brzustowicz
fine artist | illustrator | art instruction
585 305 7350
www.VictoriaBCreative.com

Photos from The Meeting





Information on Victoria's Workshop

Victoria B

Victoria Brzustowicz
artist | illustrator | art instruction

Class Objectives

In this artist demonstration and mini-workshop, participants will be introduced to the expressive and versatile world of ink. The session will focus on two traditional mediums—india ink and walnut ink—highlighting their unique characteristics, behaviors, and artistic possibilities. You'll see a variety of techniques such as washes, line work and layering, and how each ink responds to different papers, brushes, and tools. You'll see how india ink's rich, deep black can create bold contrasts and sharp edges, while walnut ink's warm, transparent tones lend themselves to delicate layering and subtle atmospheric effects.

Then you'll have the opportunity to experiment with both inks in a guided mini-workshop. You'll explore the distinctive qualities of each type of ink through a series of small studies and exercises. Suitable for artists of all levels.

The Art of Ink: Pen and Brush Techniques

Supply Sources

Local:

Rochester Art Supply
www.fineartstore.com
150 West Main St, Rochester, NY 14614
585-546-6509.

The Art Stop

artstopllc.com
1822 Penfield Rd, Penfield, NY 14526
(585) 872-5710

Online:

Dick Blick dickblick.com

Jerry's jerrysartarama.com

Suggested Materials

- standard pencils (just everyday #2 pencils will work)
- erasers
- journal or sketch pad for conceptualizing
- Waterproof fine line or brush tip Pens
<https://www.fineartstore.com/p-13958-sakura-micron-pen-sets.aspx>
- India ink and dip pens (supplied)
- Paper – Bristol board or paper, smooth or plate finish or Mixed media paper
- Tom Norton's Walnut Ink (supplied)

Optional:

- Small jars or bottles with lids
- Rags/Paper towels
- Value strips
- Water media brushes
- Dip pens
- Old toothbrush
- Toothpicks, twigs, feathers, cotton swabs etc
- color marker pens
- Watercolors/gouache
- color pencils

Phone 585 305 7350 | victoria@victoriabcreative.com | VictoriaBCreative.com

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	Oct: Mike Kamish Nov-Dec: Show	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 & Maryanna Meuller
- 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 and distribute all outgoing information from members and the board. 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 4/3/2025

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

Twenty-nine members met at the Spiegel Center for the April General Meeting with Barb Horvath and Debi Bloom, Treasurer joining us online.

Board members present were Margie Mitchell, President; Joe Sirianni, Corresponding Secretary; Mike Kamish, Member at Large; and Carolyn Lobkowitz, Recording Secretary.

Business—7 pm

Margie reminded members to sign up for the Paddle and Pour festival to be held in Pittsford Village on May 25. This is not a juried show so members may submit any type of artwork and in the past small paintings, bookmarks and cards have been good sellers. The signup sheet is available online.

Laura Davis, who is in charge of local community exhibits, has arranged with the Henrietta Public Library on Calkins Road for PAG members to exhibit artwork during July. Artwork must be delivered to Jennifer Jacobs, Librarian in charge of the exhibit, by June 15. A signup sheet was circulated to the members.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm and was turned over to our presenter, Victoria Brzustowicz who did a mini workshop on exploring walnut and India ink.

Respectfully submitted by the Recording Secretary,

Carolyn Lobkowitz

MEMBER NEWS: Barbara Jablonski

Spring Plein Air Painting with Barbara Jablonski



Barbara Jablonski

Wednesday, May 7 through Friday, May 9, 2025

Barbara Jablonski invites artists using any painting medium

- Who are "new to" plein air painting,
- Experienced artists who wish to learn OIL PIGMENT or ACRYLIC painting as a medium,
- Studio artists who wish to learn new techniques to enhance painting of landscapes, waterscapes and architecture.

This workshop introduces elements and techniques including

- Composition, perspective: emphasize on architecture and structures such as complex buildings, boats, and vehicles,
- Value, temperature and mixing of oil pigment and acrylic colors,
- Drawing, perspective, line and painting techniques,
- The use of plein air materials and equipment

Registration Fee \$250

Early Registration by Monday, April 21 - \$235

Contact BARBARA JABLONSKI 585-749-5225

BJJablons@gmail.com for a full brochure and registration form or see the website:

www.BarbaraJablonski.com

webpage: *Plein Air Workshop*



Shrimp Boats I 14"x11" oil



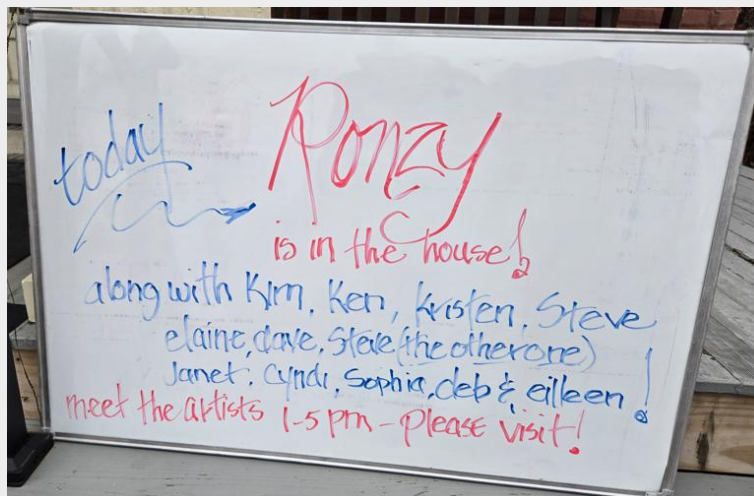
**African Lodge at Garden Route
Game Reserve 10"x8" oil**



Mendon Ponds 14"x5.5" acrylic

Member News: Ron Boehner

Ron Boehner just completed his successful show at the Country Lawyer Gallery in Phelps.

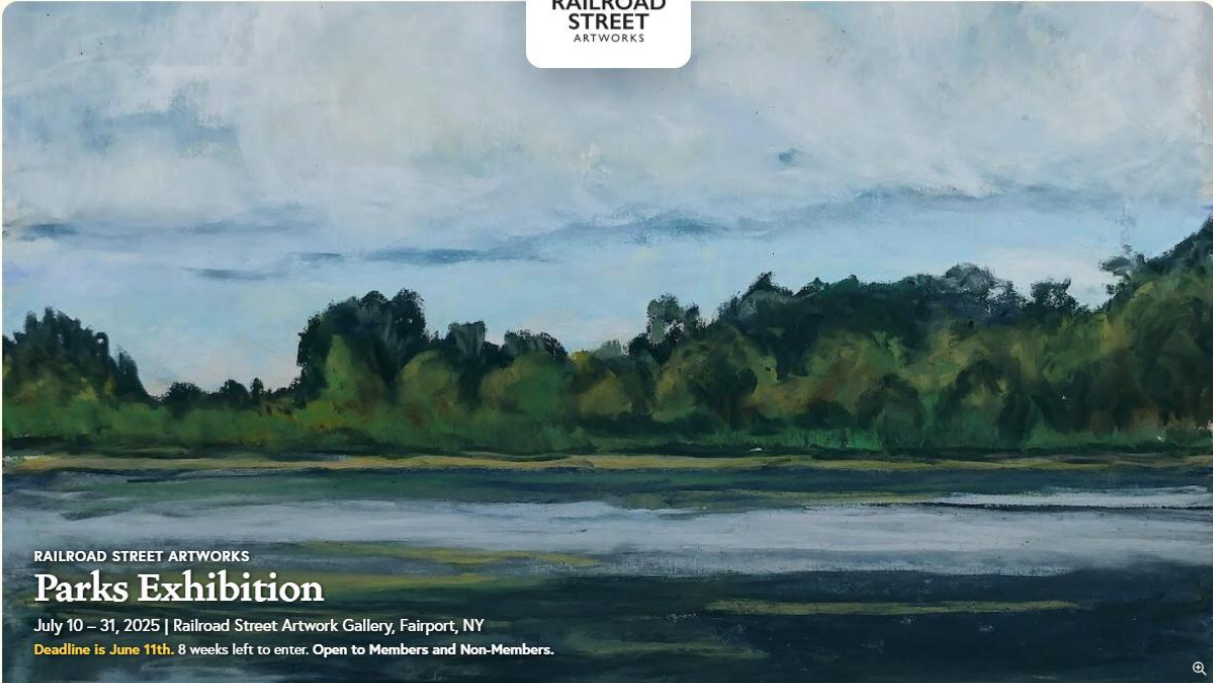





Community Events

[ShowSubmit](#)

Log inRegister



RAILROAD STREET ARTWORKS
Parks Exhibition
July 10 – 31, 2025 | Railroad Street Artwork Gallery, Fairport, NY
Deadline is June 11th. 8 weeks left to enter. Open to Members and Non-Members.

Storm Brewing Mendon Ponds by Lori Capron Galan

It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that the Railroad Street Artworks Gallery, in the Village of Fairport, NY, is having a juried exhibition this July.

The exhibition theme is "Celebrating Monroe County Parks." And, the opportunity for your organization's members to submit paintings, photography and drawings begins today, April 11.

Please share this email announcement with your organization's Members.

Here, for your Members' reference, is information about the exhibition:

Celebrating Monroe County Parks: Call for Artists to Join a Unique Fine Art Exhibition & Show

Railroad Street Artworks Gallery (Fairport, NY) is delighted to announce the upcoming juried fine art exhibition, *The Parks of Monroe County (NY): Nature, History & Community Through Art*. This exhibition will honor the beauty, history, and community spirit of Monroe County's parks through creative expression in two-dimensional mediums like painting, photography, and drawing.

Key Dates:

- **Submissions Open:** Friday, April 11, 2025
- **Entry Deadline:** Wednesday, June 11, 2025
- **Acceptance Notification:** Friday, June 20, 2025
- **Exhibition Dates:** July 10 – 31, 2025
- **Reception & Award Ceremony:** Saturday, July 12, 2025, 6–8 PM

- **Takedown & Pickup:** Friday, August 2, 2025, 10 AM – 2 PM

Location: Railroad Street Artworks Gallery, 3 Railroad Street, Suite G, Fairport, NY 14450

Gallery Hours:

- Thursday to Saturday: 12–6 PM
- Sunday: 12–4 PM

This exhibition is open to both members and non-members of Railroad Street Artworks Gallery. Artists can submit up to three works that portray or are inspired by Monroe County parks. Non-members pay an entry fee of \$30 for three works, while members submit their works free of charge. Submissions must adhere to detailed guidelines regarding framing, dimensions, and professional presentation to ensure quality and consistency. Accepted works will be displayed throughout the exhibition, showcasing the creative perspectives of local and regional artists. Awards will be presented at the Reception & Award Ceremony on July 12, 2025, and include:

- **Best of Show:** Three-day solo exhibition in the Main Hall + \$100
- **People's Choice:** Three-day solo exhibition in the Main Hall + \$100
- **Juror's Awards (3):** \$50 each
- **Merit Awards (3):** \$25 each

Artists interested in participating can submit their entries via ShowSubmit.com from April 11 to June 11, 2025. Full submission details, requirements, and image specifications can be found on ShowSubmit.org.

Contact Information: Questions about the exhibition, delivery, or installation can be directed to: Jeff Tokarz, Chairman, info@RailroadStreetArtworks.org. Join us in celebrating Monroe County parks through art and creativity! We invite artists and art lovers alike to be part of this unique showcase.

On the topic of “something different”: DaVinci

Just ran across information on this film by Ken Burns. It apparently talks a lot about his mazing painting s- and reveals some of the “under paintings” that have been discovered via x-rays and scanning of his masterworks.

Anyone seen it? Would you like to write a movie review for the newsletter?

