

Mt Pleasant Art Society Newsletter

Guest Artist: Mary Jean Davis

MPAS Demo Schedule Meeting Time: 2:00- 4:00 PM (first Sun of each month)

Feb 7, 2021

Artist: Mary Jean Davis,

pastel (still-life)

Refreshments: Marty Graves,

Velda Williams

Sm Gallery: Donna Monroe

March7, 2021

Artist: Barbara Hack – Oil

Head Study

Refreshments: Diana
Williams and Paula Hodge
Sm Gallery: Linda Hardy

April 11, 2021

Artist: Cecy Turner – Oil Refreshments: LaVerne

Arnette

Sm Gallery: Sueretta Todd

May 2, 2021

Artist: Bob O Brian Drawing

(Caricature)

Refreshments: Michelle Lawler and Sandy Hinds Sm Gallery: Carol Durrum

Dues are due in May!!

"It's in my blood, I can't help it! I have always wanted to re-create the beauty around me, even if it was something as simple as a feather in a parking lot or a mountain in the Grand Tetons. I know, there is no creator like God but acknowledging the gifts we have been given is essential to me. After retiring from the Texas Public School System, I have discovered my opportunity to create again. Finding joy in the expression of an old soul who may be a cowboy, young child or the way the light bounces off glass and items I've collected from the past, I am constantly vigilant of emotions provoked by my surroundings. Being able to express these glimpses of life has been a desire and a goal."

Mary Jean (Jeannie) Davis has over thirty years teaching experience in the public schools and has taught private lessons in her home, at Longview Museum of Fine Arts and the Marshall Visual Arts Center. She also gives workshops in drawing skills and pastels. Working primarily in soft pastels, she has had her work accepted in National and International shows from Cape Cod, MA., New York City, Sedona, AZ., Texas, to Santa Fe, New Mexico. She even has collectors as far away as India.

She grew up in Shreveport, Louisiana and earned her BFA in Art Education with Cum Laude honors at Louisiana Tech University. Retired from public school teaching, she currently lives in Texas, but loves to travel and is constantly learning. Carrie Ellen Montgomery, her great grandmother, studied under Grant Wood while she attended the Stone City Art Colony in Chicago, III. Mary Jean's 'gifts' as an artist have often been attributed to her.

Condolences

Keep Louise Loggins and her family in your thoughts and prayers. She lost her son in Jan.

President's Letter

Greetings Everyone!

I hope all is well with you and your family. I appreciate many of you attending the program featuring Melinda Morrison. I found her to be very informative and interesting. She offered a great deal of information about the egg tempera painting. I think she may have lost some of us when she said she may have hundreds of layers on a painting. I think I heard some gasps in the crowd! She approached her painting by spending a lot of time making sure her drawing was exact and gave some good information about how we can approach our own drawings. Her subject was not the typical portrait and I wish she had been able to complete it for us. She is very accomplished in drawing and I am hoping we may be able to get her for another demo on drawing if there is enough interest in that topic. She talked about drawing by thinking in surface planes. There is always something else to learn and I enjoy learning!

I want to thank our hostesses for the wonderful refreshments provided in a COVID 19 approved format! Thank you, Deborah Carr and Ann Glaess, for your creativity as well as delicious food. Your efforts are appreciated!

I also want to thank Velda Williams for displaying her work in our Small Gallery. If you missed it, you missed so much! She provided us with a variety of subject matter and I'm impressed with her eye for the subject and her control on the canvas. I can tell you that she is not afraid to manipulate the paint on the canvas until she gets exactly what she wants. I know that she can paint in any medium and is an accomplished teacher as well. Thank you so much for sharing your work with us Velda.

I know some of you have hard decisions to make about what to put in the membership show this March! Some of you have created a great deal of art work and I know the decisions are hard to make but your participation in the art show is appreciated. It will be held at the Whatley Center on the NTCC campus again this March 6^{th} through 25^{th} . I hope everyone can participate.

I am going to call a business meeting after our upcoming program this February. I want to keep the meeting limited to about 30 minutes; we have several matters to discuss. I will provide an agenda on our meeting date. I would like for all members to participate as well as our officers and committee chairs. I really appreciate your input and your willingness to work for our organization's continued success. I look forward to seeing you February 7th

Sincerely, Shirley Clay

Backroom Artist: Donna Monroe

As a child I could sit for hours and do paint-by-number painting. I guess that was the start of my interest in painting. It intrigued me just to lay color beside color and see what emerged. That fascination still holds today (except it all seems to get mushed together). When my daughter was in elementary school she brought home a flyer that had been passed out at school about the local recreation center. It listed all the classes that they offered. I made the comment to my husband that I would like to take the oil painting class. His comment was 'go do it'. Little did he know!!!! That class was a tole and decorative painting class working on wood, tin and other material, but not canvas. I was so naive to painting that when I went to get the paint I was shocked that it was in tubes. I guess I thought it would be in the little plastic tubs like the paint-by-numbers. As the class advanced I soon learned of other instructors that were teaching landscape painting on CANVAS. I started exploring what the other local instructors were offering. Through my art I have learned to see not just look at all the beauty God has given us. It just amazes me. I hope that through my paintings I can give someone else just a glimpse of what I see and it inspires someone to pick up a brush. Some of the paintings that are the back room are older paintings, some are newer.

April 2021 Workshop

Cecy Turner will be doing our Spring workshop this next year. We will be attempting to paint snow. I don't know many instructors that even attempt teaching it but Cecy's snow scenes are just great.

Workshop Dates: April 12, 13 and 14. Fee: \$350 with a \$100 deposit.

Limit: 15

January's Meeting

If you missed the meeting you missed a very interesting one. Melinda Morrison worked in Egg Tempera. Below is a sample of her work but not the demo piece.

