



# Dust in the Wind

LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY

MAY 2013

## The Artist's Corner



What inspires and captures our creativity? My husband, Ken and I had the opportunity to see a performance by a dance troupe from New Zealand. I was captivated by their agility, their strength, the creative energy and emotion that was felt by this group of artists that call themselves "Black Grace". As Robert Henri states "We treasure these moments of greater living, fuller functioning and they inspire us to fuller living." As part of the creative process and as artists we are experiencing a deeper state of mind, a greater

functioning and our ability to share on a deeper level what feeds our souls.

The final piece performed that evening was called "Vaka" (which means canoe). The basis of "Black Grace's" work and the message they wanted to convey was focused on their creative process. They have realized that they are their "own vaka "(canoe) and they carry their own value and belief systems, experiences both good and bad, and their hope is that when they leave this planet they leave it in better shape than they found it. As visual artists, the world is our canvas and when we live in the moment our creativity is maximized.

### IAPS News

We have received news that Maggie Price passed away on April 4, 2013. The art world lost a master. She was Founder of the Pastel Journal, President of the International Association of Pastel Societies, Teacher, Mentor to many, and a wife and mother. As a society and member of IAPS, LCPS will be donating money to the IAPS scholarship fund in memory of Maggie Price.

### Website and Brochure News

We have formed a committee to make some exciting new changes on our LCPS website and brochure. Barb Bjornson and Elizabeth Strootman have been working very hard on this very significant project. Please be patient with this process and we can all look forward to seeing the fantastic changes that they will be making for both the website and new brochures.

### Fred Somers

On Thursday evening, April 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN., Paul Krause (a good friend of Fred's) shared a beautiful documentary film: "Genesis: The Art of Creation", which featured the artistry of Fred Somers. The film takes you through the process of developing this piece commissioned by the Sisters of Carondelet. This magnificent painting, called "Song of Heaven – Let There Be Light" is 6' 8" by 9' 6". The film tells of a journey of great beauty and symbolism from The Beginning into The Light.



### Board of Directors

Patricia Duncan  
President,  
651-797-4409

Bruce Koprucki  
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952-448-7559

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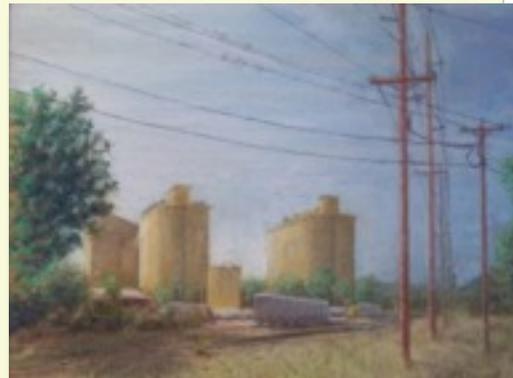
Elizabeth Strootman  
Newsletter Editor,  
763-427-0860



## Highlighting our members – What We Learn from each of our members

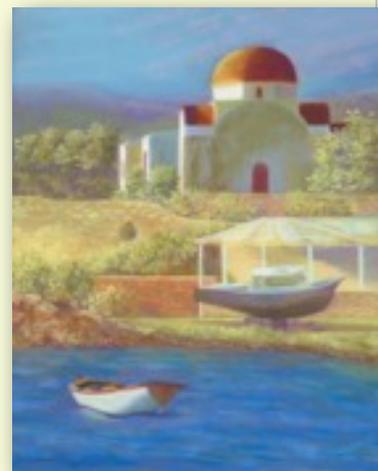
As a member of LCPS, I am very pleased to have the opportunity to introduce you to some of our member pastelists.

**Bruce Koprucki** joined LCPS last year and has come on board to help as Vice President. Bruce resides in Chaska, MN. He has spent a lifetime drawing using graphite, colored pencils, charcoal, studio markers and pen and ink. Since he started to use pastels back in 2004, his desire has been to “draw out” the beauty and drama in his railroad, architecture, landscape, and American West subjects. His passion includes capturing and preserving images of endangered and vanishing vistas. His studio and plein air works involve recreating bygone scenes and creating future visions. His Urban Planning degree program brought him much experience with drawing and architectural rendering classes. Bruce credits his skills from work with supportive art instructors, Christine Tierney and Mike Rada through Savage Art Studios. As he has continued pursuing his art, he has received much support from his grade and high school instructors, his family, friends, clients and practice. Bruce is married and has one son.



*Capital Cathedrals*

**Heather Hultgren** is secretary for our board meetings and her home is in Woodbury. She has been drawing and painting since childhood. In 2004, Heather began pursuing her art more seriously. At that time, she created a series of four coloring books for the Youth and Family Institute in Minneapolis. Under the tutelage of John Acosta, a St. Paul artist and mentor, Heather has continued to refine her skills in pastel, charcoal, watercolor and oils. Heather finds great enjoyment and is inspired to work from nature doing landscapes and still life. I was privileged to have Heather come to visit at ArtZ Gallery in Amery, Wisconsin. On a day when I worked at the gallery, Heather and I spent some time talking about her desire to pursue her art more seriously. She has a great website and she has added a newsletter that she sends out monthly. Her goal is to paint more when she finishes with her part - time job at her church. She thoroughly enjoys painting scenes from around her neighborhood and parks in Woodbury. Heather is married and has 2 sons.



*Mykonos Morning*

**Christine Tierney** is a member of LCPS and she currently has a working studio located in the River Ridge location in Burnsville. Chris was trained as a Graphic Designer/Illustrator and her early career years were devoted to creative work in the advertising field. She had a sixteen year career with the Star Tribune Newspaper in Minneapolis. Chris started her own advertising design business in 1989 and produced a vast array of print product, which included logo design, product illustration, textile design, children's book illustration, maps, magazine and newspaper advertising, show displays and many other facets of the print industry. Chris' business grew to a staff size of 5 employees and the responsibilities expanded to include composing, negotiating proposals and event coordinating, just to name a few.

Her fine arts education involved individualized study with local and national artists at the Mn. River School of Art in Burnsville. Chris received classical training and she continues to participate in painting workshops and art events. Chris has taught classes in drawing, perspective, color theory, Oil Still life (Flemish Method), Pastel still life and Oil Plein air workshops at the MN. River School, Savage Art Studios and she currently teaches at the Brushworks School of Art in Burnsville. Chris is married and she has 2 daughters, 1 son and a new son-in-law.



*A Little Surprise*

**MaryAnn Cleary** is one of our newer members and we are fortunate to have her talent as a chemist and artist to give us a demonstration on “how to make pastel”. Her demo will be given in November at a Members meeting. MaryAnn currently resides in a log home in Cambridge, MN. She grew up in Butte, Montana and attended college at Montana Tech and graduated with a degree in Chemistry. She is an accomplished Chemical Engineer, however, her passion is her art and she continued to develop her art passion, taking workshops and classes wherever she could. MaryAnn lived in many areas of the Rocky Mountain region, such as Wyoming, Colorado, Utah and Arizona. Her artistic studies included taking several art classes in developing her drawing and painting skills from many excellent teachers that were on staff at the Mesa Community College in Arizona. MaryAnn had an opportunity to locate to Cambridge, MN in 2002 and later her employer gave her an opportunity to do a work assignment in China for 2 years. Upon returning home in 2007, MaryAnn made a decision to fulfill her life long dream of being an artist. She enjoys painting in her Spirit River Studio doing still life and portraits and she enjoys the plein air opportunities to paint right outside her home near the Rum River.

MaryAnn has two adult children.

**Elizabeth Strootman** has been involved with Lake Country Pastel Society since 2007. She currently is our newsletter chair and she has done a wonderful job of putting the newsletter together for all of our members. Elizabeth has been drawing since her childhood and her training has been at the Atelier School of Richard Lack part time and she continued her studies at the new Atelier Studio Program of Fine Art. She thoroughly enjoyed this training and found the opportunity to study at the Atelier to be her greatest “good fortune” as an artist. As a pastelist, Elizabeth’s first love was painting the simple objects of everyday life in still lifes. Her recent venture into illustrating a poem as a memorial has rekindled her desire to do portraits and she will soon begin a portrait of her neighbor children looking forlorn and still dressed for our never ending winter. Elizabeth has 2 adult children.



*Fairy Wings*



*Needing Spring*



*Are They Gone Yet?*

*Judy Lieber...*



*The Place to Be*

Who  
says  
pastel  
paintings  
need  
to  
be  
serious?!



## Member News



### *Barb Bjornson...*

I have a new website! Please take a look:

[www.barbbjornson.com](http://www.barbbjornson.com)

I am building a new facebook illustration page and would love to have you "like" the page.

Just go to: <https://www.facebook.com/barb.bjornson.illustrator>

Thank you to all who have responded so far.

Barb



*Flavors of Fall*

### *Heather Hultgren...*

exhibited a collection of nine pastels at Central Park in Woodbury for the month of April.

Heather is pleased to announce that her pastel, "Flavors of Fall", won the Adirondack Pastel Society Outstanding Still Life Award in the 9th Annual Northeast National Pastel Exhibition in Old Forge, New York. The exhibition is May 4– June 29 and Heather will be traveling to New York for the Artist's Reception and Awards Ceremony. More information about this event, held at The View Arts Center and Gallery, can be found at:

<http://www.viewarts.org/index.php/exhibitions/upcoming/item/1-nnpe>



## *Cynthia Kath...*

just found out that she received Best of Show from the Plymouth Arts Council's "Primavera Springtime Celebration of the Arts" for: "Spring Break", a 3' x 4' oil painting. Yeah \$200.00!

*Spring Break*



## *Nancy Lamberger...*

Minnesota Senator Melissa Halvorson Wicklund (District 50 – Bloomington and Richfield) has selected Nancy's painting "Forest Meadow" for display in her office at the State Capital.

Nancy Lamberger  
Operations Manager  
Bloomington Theatre and Art Center  
952-563-8568 [btacmn.org](http://btacmn.org)

*Forest Meadow*



## *Dianna Shandorf...*

is very pleased to announce that she has been juried into

*Signature Membership*

in the Pastel Society of America!

She will have a solo show "From the Garden" from May 29 – June 26 at Robbin Gallery, in Robbinsdale, MN with a reception Saturday, June 1, 4-8 pm.

*July Lilies*



*Glory Over Waters*

## *Fred Somers...*

At the 2013 IAPS Convention in Albuquerque  
Fred will be honored as

### *Eminent Pastellist*

The Eminent Pastellist honor recognizes those artists who continue to have work accepted and/or awarded in IAPS juried competitions after achieving Master Circle level. Fred is only the second artist to receive this honor.

Fred will be the juror for awards at the IAPS Convention Exhibition. Encouraging LCPS

members to enter shows, he commented, "While Susan Voigt was LCPS president she encouraged me to pursue these opportunities and the resulting contacts have opened many doors for my career." This year he is also juror for the North Carolina Statewide Show.

Awarded a Minnesota State Arts Board Grant for 2013–14, Fred will be exploring the possible correlations between Japanese Nihonga techniques and his experiments with pastels. He will be applying what he learns to his paintings of flowing and falling water and is scheduled to share the outcome with art students at St. Olaf College and at the Minnesota Marine Art Museum in Winona. Truly this is already proving to be an opportunity to learn about the potential of the pastel medium.

Fred will be painting June 24 – 29 at the Red Wing Arts Association Plein Air Festival. Though the registration deadline to compete for prizes is past, it is possible to paint along and show your work. Contact Arlene: [info@rwarts.org](mailto:info@rwarts.org)



*Painting at the Grand Canyon*

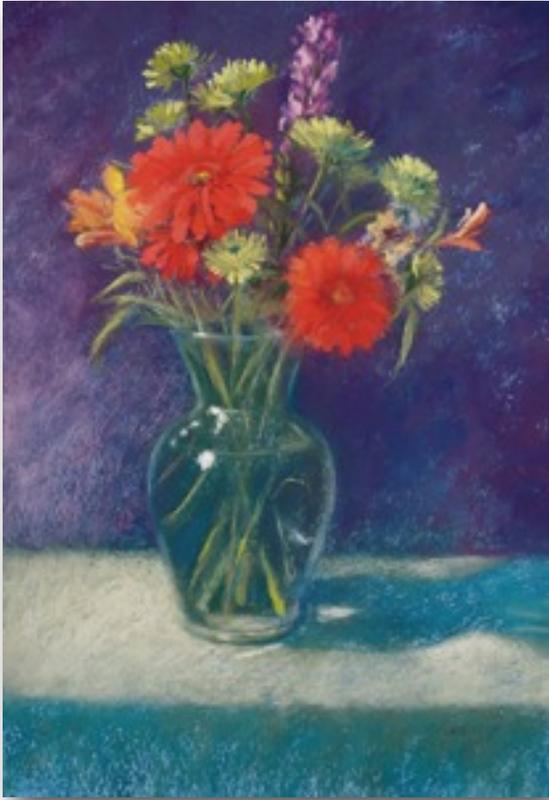
## *Lisa Stauffer...*

Sometimes we are fortunate enough to travel to a workshop, or just a new spot to paint or collect photo references and I think we all know how exciting that new information can be to the painter within! This April I was lucky enough to see a bit of Arizona again and the new palette and new subjects are fun to see. I got to paint at the edge of the Grand Canyon on our first day there; we had a blizzard the second morning so I am glad I made that first attempt! I got to see the California Condors that have been released in the park, also a thrill!

This May inspiration comes to us, no flight, no hotel bills— come to the meeting and travel the

world, at home, by seeing the paintings juried into the PSA shows. Hope to see you there! Lisa Stauffer

## Classes taught by LCPS members



*Red Flowers*

**Still Life Drawing & Painting** with Christine Tierney  
 You choose which direction you want to take your art. Christine will work closely with you at your individual level. Build your confidence and ability to see and draw shapes accurately. You will begin by creating a realistic drawing from life, then have the option to continue working on your drawing skills, or you may choose to take your drawing to the next level, which is to develop a painting. Your drawing or painting will have exceptional richness and depth and you will be amazed at the results!

All levels are welcome - you only need the desire to learn! You will receive lots of encouragement and direction, as well as helpful demonstrations and feedback by this award winning artist and fine art instructor.

If you have always wanted to draw OR paint in a classical style...

**This is the Class for You.**

**Ages 18+**

**Classes meet Wednesdays 9 am to noon**

**Brushworks School of Art**

**190 River Ridge Circle**

**Burnsville, MN 55337**

**Call 612-210-3377 or email [ctierneyartist@aol.com](mailto:ctierneyartist@aol.com)**

**THANK\$ A BUNCH!**  
 Rene Ellis' term as our LCPS treasurer has come to an end. She has contributed to our Society in many ways and her time and energies are greatly appreciated. Be sure to tell her thanks.



## Highlights from the March 2013 Lake Country Pastel Society Board Meeting

Spring is slow to arrive, but LCPS has some exciting events coming our way! We thank our members who contributed artwork to the Croixdale exhibit, and are excited to announce the upcoming exhibition, "Make Your Mark", which will be held at the Bloomington Theatre and Art Center, July 19-August 23, 2013. A prospectus is available and LCPS members are invited to create and exhibit pastels. Albert Handell will be our exhibition judge and the awards presentation will coincide with Albert's workshop in August.

Rene Ellis has stepped down as the LCPS Treasurer. We thank Rene for her time and dedication to our group and wish her well in her new journeys! As the Board seeks to fill this position, we also have an opening for a Program Co-Chair, as well as an invitation to members to write short reports on our programs for the newsletter. If you are interested, contact Pat or Bruce.

The Board continues to discuss results from the member surveys and brainstormed more ideas to reach members outside the Twin Cities area. Additional program ideas included: paint outs, mini-workshops led by members, a mentoring program, and theme-related workshops that can be covered in a weekend.

We look forward to our May 14 LCPS Program as Lisa Stauffer will do a presentation about the Pastel Society of America, giving us insight into this amazing organization and how we can be a part of it.

Our next board meeting is 5:30 p.m., May 14, 2013, at the New Brighton Family Center. All members are welcome to attend!

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Hultgren

## Inspiration!

Members requested that we bring back the kind of meetings when we viewed slides from other Pastel Societies and we have gone right to the top with that request- to the Pastel Society Of America 2012, 2011 and 2010. These images are ours to examine, and we will view as many as our meeting time and conversation allow. The amazing variety of subject matter and the many styles of painting are sure to get your own creative juices flowing.

May Program

## Planning Committee Update

The planning committee has been working on our meeting schedule. We are trying to plan activities that are fun and educational.

We feel it is important that we learn how to be of help supporting each other as artists, friends and co-mentors. Part of our mission is to support each other emotionally and help each of us to stay motivated and confident in our creative journey.

We think it is important to the LCPS to learn about each member, to listen to what we are up to as artists, what projects we are working on and how we can be of help to all members.

We are looking forward to hearing from our members to help fill our schedule with programs, demonstrations or any artist related activity. In particular we are looking for members who might be interested in doing a two-hour demonstration or sharing a technique:

Techniques  
how to make effective edges...  
learn more about values...  
receding greens, etc.

Marketing  
or speak on Marketing, i.e., Etsy, Facebook, etc... or about business related issues like reporting income and sales tax, etc.

If you know of someone who could do a Demo, we offer \$100.00 for each hour.

Paint Outs!  
We think it would be fun to schedule a few Paint Out/Plein air events throughout the year. Any ideas of where to go would be great. Would we like to visit each others studios?

Competitions!  
Could we plan a competition? One idea was to see how many one hour 5x7 or 8x10 each artist could paint in two months and offer a prize. What a great way to learn! Fast!

Car Pooling!  
We also want to discuss car pooling for members who can't drive at night or want to save on gas. Go green!

"Art A Whirl"  
We have planned a "Get Together" at "Art A Whirl" on **Sunday May 19th** at 1pm. We will meet at the Northrup King Building, 1500 Jackson Street NE Minneapolis 55413. For directions go to [www.northrupkingbuilding.com/directions](http://www.northrupkingbuilding.com/directions) choose hours and contact, then directions. We can meet at Studio 366 and go from there.

July Meeting  
At our **July 9th** meeting we will have a Pot Luck and paint out at the Tony Schmidt Regional Park. This Plein Air event/ Paint Out will begin at 2 pm. So spend a day painting at the park. For the Pot Luck, please bring a piece of artwork (preferably without a frame) or share the painting you just created at the park; and a dessert or appetizer to share. (Look for directions to the park in the July newsletter.)  
Question? Call Cynthia Kath 651-276-2662.

## Honoring the Internal Imperative

“I can’t even draw a stick figure!” Many a visual artist has heard this from an admirer commenting on what they see as the inherent talent this artist is endowed with. Although it’s this “inherent” talent that the viewer finds intriguing, even amazing, the truly fascinating aspect of that artist’s nature is that he or she is compelled to do this. As remarkable as the talent may be, it is this mysterious, compelling imperative that drives an artist that really evokes wonder.

Since our earliest beginnings, humans have “made art”. Hauntingly beautiful paintings by prehistoric peoples have been discovered throughout the world. Many theories abound as to the purposes behind these paintings. Links to hunting, myths, spirituality and star charts are a few. Interestingly, not one of the theorists studying this “art” mentions the sheer joy and awe of quietly observing and then carefully rendering the beauty of nature.

So what lies at the heart of this urge to create, this creative imperative? When several “artists” were asked “Why do you make art?” by Greater Good Magazine, James Sturm’s simple, honest statement seemed the most universal, “Depending on my mood, on any given day, I could attribute making art to a high-minded impulse to connect with others...or to understand the world... or a narcissistic coping mechanism... or a desire to be famous... or therapy... or as my religious discipline... or to provide a sense of control... or a desire to surrender control, etc., etc. Whatever the reason, an inner compulsion exists and I continue to honor this internal imperative. If I didn’t, I would feel really horrible. I would be a broken man. So whether attempting to make art is noble or selfish, the fact remains that I will do it nevertheless.”



Artist Gina Gibney says, “In life, we experience so much fragmentation of thought and feeling. For me, creating art brings things back together. In my own work, that is true throughout the process. At the beginning, developing the basic raw materials for the work is deeply reflective and informative. Later, bringing those materials together into a form—distilling and shaping movement, creating a context, working to something that feels cohesive and complete. That’s incredibly powerful for me—something that really keeps me going... it doesn’t need to explain or comment on itself....You can feel something and empathize with it on a very deep level, and you don’t have to put words to it.”

“I’ve always made things” says Carol Eisner. “I need to create. There has to be something in this world that wouldn’t have been here, except for the fact that I conceived and created it.” Although her “art” has been lauded by critics, Eisner says she creates art for her own satisfaction. “It’s nice to have approval, but it’s not necessary. An artist can’t help making art. My art is extremely important to me. It is who I am.”

Canadian artist, Brian Rice states, “We make art because there is something inside the creative person that needs to get out. The poet, musician, actor and visual artist all have a desire to express what they feel and to create something of great value. It’s a type of therapy or a form of meditation. Many do art for the pure joy of it.”

Kathryn L. Pringle says of her reasons for creating “i like to try on ideas and place myself.... because i’m not so good at speaking... and because i see things a certain way and want to tell you how i’m seeing things....of course, there is more... i feel compelled. it has been a lifelong compulsion.”



Christine Marsh claims, “A lot of my art spills out of me. There is not an option. I must create it. If I don’t, my soul pokes at me continuously until it gets created. Art is in my DNA. It brings me great joy and growth. I love it, and will always do it for myself, the world, and you.”

The art forms of the artists quoted here are: James Sturm: award winning cartoonist; Gina Gibney: artistic director of her New York based dance company; Carole Eisner: creator of large steel sculptures; Brian Rice: realist painter in acrylics; Kathryn L. Pringle: a poet; Christine Marsh: painter and sculptor.



(continued)

And in our own backyard we have Anthony Caponi, who, “crossed the ocean alone” from his native Italy as a spirited 15 year old, and spent his life as an artist and arts educator as director of the Arts Department at Macalester College. He is best known, however, for his public art, most notably Caponi Art Park. Located on his 60 acres of rolling wooded hills in Eagan, MN, this distinctive park is filled with the sculptures



and sculptural rock formations he has spent a lifetime tirelessly creating. “I wanted to bring people back to nature. It is the foundation of all the arts, the inspiration. From there, I could not only share what I have but remind people that creativity is not a restricted activity for the artist; it is for everybody. That is what makes art important to me; it makes better people. I can not help but do what I do and that’s why I do it.... that is me.”



We marvel at the remarkable works of art created by “gifted” artists who have honed their craft and given us works from the simple and prosaic to the monumentally genius. Possessed by their own inner motivations, they have been compelled to devote years of their lives to creating works that display the ingenuity and magnificence of their perspectives on life. In the end, when asked why they are compelled to create their art, most artists can describe the deeply personal effects and benefits they experience through their creative process, yet their eloquent accounts usually come full circle back to the original query and they say in essence, “I have to.... I simply must”.

Elizabeth Strootman

An inspiring Minnesota Original feature about Anthony Caponi can be found at this link: [www.mnoriginal.org/episode/406-anthony-caponi-storyhill/anthony-caponi/](http://www.mnoriginal.org/episode/406-anthony-caponi-storyhill/anthony-caponi/)

Art is necessary as a recording of the energy of life  
past and present. The viewer is its only future.

Joan Elan Davis



## LCPS 2013 Albert Handell Workshop!

Monday thru Thursday

August 5 - 8, 2013

9:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Bloomington Art Center

1800 West Old Shakopee Road

Bloomington, MN 55431

Our workshop with Albert Handell is full!

We are keeping a waiting list in case of cancellations and are looking forward to a great time painting with Albert Handell. Albert will be judging our 2013 member exhibit in conjunction with the workshop so paint up a storm! Contact Lisa Stauffer, [lksart@aol.com](mailto:lksart@aol.com) or 218-728-6046 with any questions that you may have.

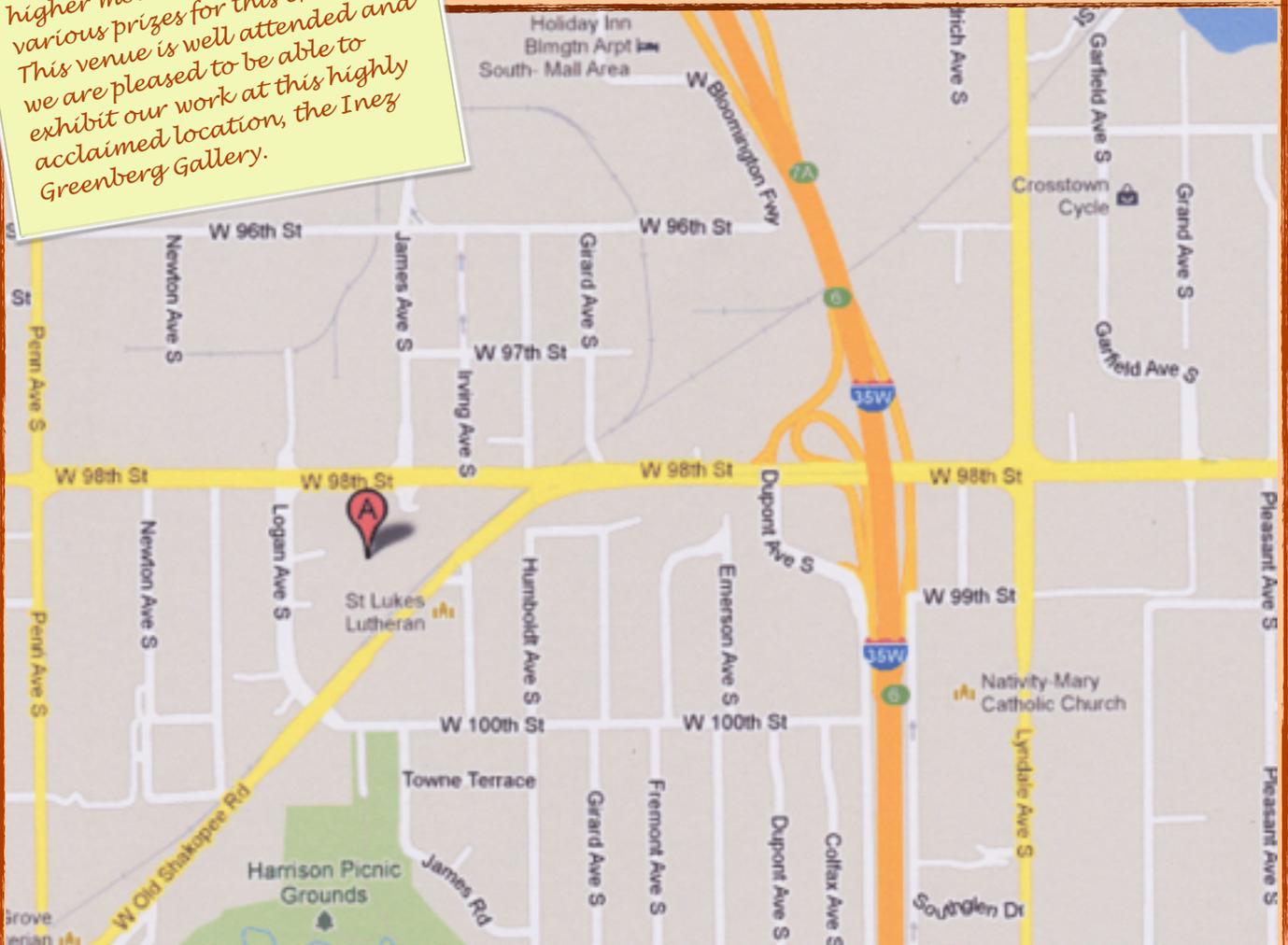
# The LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY 2013 EXHIBIT

— Make Your Mark —

July 19 - August 23

BLOOMINGTON THEATRE AND ART CENTER  
Inez Greenberg Gallery  
1800 W. Old Shakopee Road  
Bloomington, MN 55431

*The LCPS board has authorized higher monetary awards for the various prizes for this exhibition. This venue is well attended and we are pleased to be able to exhibit our work at this highly acclaimed location, the Inez Greenberg Gallery.*



# WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY

## ART IMMERSION AND RETREAT

This is no ordinary workshop.

This is a retreat for art lovers who want to immerse themselves in art and luxury... and pastel!!!!

This unique four-day event includes Sunday evening cocktails and art reception, 4-nights accommodations at **The Mansions** in Pittsburgh, breakfast, lunch, snacks and four full days of group and one-on-one instruction for all levels with Christine.

Special pricing for couples.

**Student limit 8**



Arrive Sunday July 21th - Artist Cocktail Reception  
Workshop Mon-Thursday 9:00 - 3:00

### Mansions on Fifth

5105 Fifth Ave.

Shadyside PA 15232

<http://www.mansionsonfifth.com>



# HAPPY SPRING!



Please let Pat know if you have any items that you would like added to the board meeting agenda.

**NEXT LCPS BOARD & MEMBER MEETINGS**

May 14, 2013

at the New Brighton Family Service Center  
Community Room B

Board Meeting: from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m  
just prior to the members' meeting.

If you are currently not on the Board and are interested in attending, please email Pat to indicate your anticipated presence. We'd love to have you join this dedicated group!

Member Meeting: follows at 7:00

**LCPS 2013 Calendar**

**TIMES:** 5:30 LCPS board meeting  
all are welcome  
7:00 Member meeting begins

- MAY 14 LCPS board & member meetings
- JUN 15 DEADLINE for newsletter
- JUL 9 LCPS board & member meetings
- JUL 19-AUG 23 LCPS Bloomington Exhibit
- AUG 5-8 Albert Handell Workshop
- AUG 15 DEADLINE for newsletter
- SEPT 10 LCPS board & member meetings
- OCT 15 DEADLINE for newsletter
- NOV 12 LCPS board & member meetings
- DEC 15 DEADLINE for newsletter



**Mission Statement:** We seek to unite artists interested in the pastel medium and to serve their needs by encouraging artistic growth and development through education and sharing. We also work to create public awareness of pastel as a unique and beautiful art form.