



# Brush Strokes

**The newsletter of the Suburban Rochester Art Group**  
**May 2016**

**Officers for 2015-2016**

President: Laurie Caraballo, Vice President: Ed Howe, Treasurer: Karen Arieno, Secretary: Aggie Windig(temp) Directory and Labels: Nina Rupp, Membership Secretary: Juanita Link, Sunshine: Pat Bushart, Historian and Librarian: Judy Soprano, Program: Nina Rupp

**Board Members:**

Terry Brooks (Chairperson), Laurie Caraballo, Deb Verhulst-Norris, Pat Zukatis, Aggie Windig, Willem Windig. Colette Savage

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*All the meetings are held in the Greece Town Hall, meeting room "B" usually the second Wednesday of the month unless specifically stated, (see the calendar). Starting at 6:00 for a social get together, followed by a general meeting at 6:30. And the scheduled program at 7:00 until 8:30.*

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## **Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup>. Greece Town Hall, Room "B"**

6:00 – 6:30 pm. Informal gathering and preparation  
6:30 - 7:00 pm Business meeting  
7:00 pm. Pastel landscape demonstration by Kathleen Hanney

### **Kathleen Hanney**

I was born in New York City and raised in Rochester, New York. The beauty of New York State has been a continuing inspiration for my painting. I graduated from Nazareth College with a degree in Art and a minor in Education. I now have more than forty years experience as a fine art painter and teacher.

While raising my daughter, I painted in oil and also worked in film production as a set designer. The job in film was an important influence in using light to tell a story or convey a feeling.

Eighteen years ago, I discovered pastel painting and have been enthralled since I first picked up a stick! I studied with several master pastelists and I am passionate about my favorite medium. I paint both plein air and in the studio. I am inspired by natural light and interested in how it transforms instances of ordinary life into magnificent compositions that communicate essence and meaning to the view of the painting. In both my urban and rural landscapes it is important to me to reveal the art in the every day.

I love to teach pastels and do so regularly in my city studio. I am a member of The Pastel Society of America, The Pastel Society of Western New York, The Rochester Art Club, The Genesee Valley Plein Air Painters, and the New York Figure Study Guild. I exhibit throughout the Northeast and have been juried into many national and local exhibitions, garnering numerous awards, including Best of Show in the Northeast National Pastel Exhibition of 2012.

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### *Kathleen Giles Workshop April 16, 2016*

*17 Artists participated in a very informative and fun workshop given by Kathleen Giles of Lockport. Her paintings have an inner glow. Her instruction will help us with our watercolors and you can view pictures of the workshop at our website [suburbanrochesterartgroup@weebly.com](http://suburbanrochesterartgroup@weebly.com).*

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### **Possible Show Venues**

SRAG has the possibility of having a show in the future at 1570 Gallery at Valley Manor or at My Sister's Gallery at the Episcopal Home. There is need of a Chairperson and helpers. Diane Cotton who is in charge of the Gallery will give the chairperson the guidelines for those locations. This will be brought up at the March 9th Meeting. Considering volunteering as getting your name out to gallery owners can help you market your own work.

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### **Assistant Needed**

**Nina** needs some help with the programs. SRAG has many interesting programs lined up to be presented by area artists. Nina needs an assistant to help with this. She can do this for many of the meetings but there are times when she cannot be there. Duties would be to meet the guest artist and help them set up. One member has offered to help but can't be at every meeting either, so we need another member to help. Most of the program is complete through November 2016. Please contact Nina Rupp, at 424-4327 or email at [nmrupp@yahoo.com](mailto:nmrupp@yahoo.com)

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## Coming up

### **The Summer Barnes & Noble Show**

The following dates have been confirmed for the Barnes & Noble Show this summer:

Sunday, June 26 - Drop-off at 9:30 AM

Wed., July 6 - Reception 5-7 PM

Saturday, July 30 - Pick Up at 9:30 AM

As usual, I will need some help taking in artwork, hanging and the reception.

Application and entry forms have been mailed to the membership.

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## Calendar

### **SRAG MEETING DATES FOR 2016**

**May 11 Kathleen Hanney, a pastel demo. She is doing exciting new work.**

**May 25 Board Meeting and Work Night: A follow up from the 5/11 demo**

**June 15 Picnic at Pat & Terry Brooks House**

**June 22 Paint out or paint in. Details to be announced later.**

**July 13 Jan Davidson demos encaustics**

**July 27 Work meeting. If you have encaustics, please bring them.**

**Aug. 10 Anne McCune and Colette Savage do Zendoodles.**

**Aug. 24 Members do Zendoodles or paint from flowers.**

**Sep. 14 Pamela LoCicero paints in watercolor**

**Sept. 28 Work meeting. Bring your watercolor**

**Oct. 12 Sari Gaby portrait**

**Oct. 26 Draw a portrait from a photo**

**Nov. 09 Judy Soprano talks about a workshop she attended**

**Dec.? Christmas Party**

## **2016 SRAG Spring Art Show winners.**

### **Judges' comments:**

#### **Best of Show                      Judy Soprano                      Feed and Seed, Hemlock**

This piece is fresh and well done. A skilled artist can focus on any subject and render it well. Can the artist successfully pick the perspective most deserving of their focus? Here, we see both. The building which captured the attention of the artist is well rendered, AND the Judy built greater interest in the site by emphasizing the light through composition and palette. The angles are not neat and square. The natural colors are harmonious. You could even say the building is a good excuse to examine or enjoy the landscape.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Place                      Juanita Link                      At Sunset**

Here is a small work with big power. The beautiful curve of the watery diagonal is alluring. The color scheme is a stunner, arresting.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Place                      Bobbi Prince                      Cherry Delight**

A fanciful design so well-orchestrated, I can imagine the music on the radio. (Let's say 1957's Sam Cooke hit, "You Send Me") Add a pint of ripe cherries from a nearby tree, a Coke float to share. The elements say romance etched in memory. There is a crispness of line, a richness of color, a perfect table setting; a wonderful memory has been set in time. What a nice story piece.

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Place                      Nina Rupp                      Catskill Barn**

Watercolor impressionism at its best. So light and airy. Where the sunlight is so bright, white is a major color on the palette. Where a purple brush stroke can set-in the shadow of a chimney, or drench the shadow of the roof-line grape-y coolness. This is part of the magic of the artist's touch.

#### **The SRAG Award (Theme Display)                      Karen Arieno                      Poppies II**

Here's a great example of why I love abstracts! Here abstraction says more in style than a careful rendering of poppies. It's a great scale for the concept. It has palpable red intensity, with the movement of a non-stop dance.

### **Honorable Mentions**

Al Bergerson                      Prickly Pear                      This study of contrasts is rich and delightful. A smoky green, a brilliant red. The spines are stylized in such an effective way; they emphasize the texture of the fruit.

Tatyana Bletsko                      Poppies                      Absolutely compelling--over the top with attention and color. These poppies are seen from every angle. They cover nearly the entire ground. They're swollen with color and life. They're showing off, flaunting their confident blooms. And they're wonderful.

Dave Braun                      Taughannock Falls                      Well done, well done. Nicely rendered. Good composition. Challenging.

Terry Brooks                      Racing 1924                      You let watercolor do its job. Through its abilities to move and run, you let us feel movement and running, and some mud!

Patricia Bushart                      Summer on the Lake                      The mood is right. Here I feel what the lake brings to us: clarity, vista, reach. It's the entire world—seen at once, in limitless blue. The trio of birds is a nice touch. I'm calling them symbolic seagulls; flying between heaven and earth bringing messages to us mortals.

Barb Case                      Near the Glen                      I love the intimacy and glowing palette of this gem. I'm sure you can see water cascading down a hill. Can you see snow cascading down a majestic spruce? Crowned by a heavenly light.

Ed Howe                      Girl on a Swing                      Nice portrait of youth. The facial expression is the attractor for me—soft and pensive. Is she a tentative swinger? New to the swing? Is she afraid or sad for some reason? Is there a strange dog just out of our vision? We swing between confidence and timidity, right/wrong, old/young, knowing/uncertain. Youth bursts forward and glides back into familiar territory. What better symbol than the swing itself?

Carole Leicht                      Tapestry #17                      Much of the joy of life is connected to the mundane factors we experience up close and personal. I love my modernist salt shakers but the café profiles are the ones of my memory. Since looking at this tapestry I've looked more carefully at salt shakers wherever I see them! This work points to the joy which blankets the world around us, if we're open to it. Even the simplest kitchen tool can become a talisman of spirituality.

Anne McCune                      Spirit                      This piece says perfection with economy of line and space. Strong yet delicate characters. Superb expression through simplicity. The background suggests a pillow, or pure light, where the spirit rests, or perhaps hovers? Evocative. Though I was drawn to more complex techniques by this artist, the Spirit wouldn't let go!

Deb VerHulst-Norris                      Teddy Bear Sunflowers                      While the format is crisply defined in a series of botanicals, this piece shows greater amplitude in its strokes. I love the boldness and vibrancy. I believe the artist has stretched her repertoire from simple exploration to examination. Here the treatment is carried far forward.

2016 SRAG Spring Art Show winners;



Best of Show "" oil by Judy Soprano



1<sup>st</sup> Place "At Sunset" oil by Juanita Link



2<sup>nd</sup> Place "Cherry Delight" oil by Bobbi Prince



3<sup>rd</sup> Place "Catskill Barn" watercolor by Nina Rupp



The SRAG Award "Poppies II" alcohol inks by Karen Arieno

Honorable Mentions;



^ "Poppies"  
oil by Tatyana Bletsko



^ "Prickly Pear"  
oil by Al Bergerson  
1



^ "Racing 1924"  
watercolor by Terry Brooks



^ "Tapestry #17"  
Watercolor inks by Carole Leicht



^ "Taughannock Falls"  
Watercolor by Dave Braun



^ "Teddy Bear Sunflowers"  
Colored pencil by Deb Norris



^ "Summer on the Lake"  
Pastel by Pat Bushart



^ "Spirit"  
Watercolor by Ann McCune



^ "Girl on the Swing"  
Oil by Ed Howe

A water fall pastel "Near the Glen" by Barb Case

Congratulations to all our winners and a thank you to our Judge Sally Winslow. As she has done in the past her efforts to look at each painting with honesty and integrity was evident.

This show had 19 members participating with 34 items sold at a total of \$1,364.59. 4 items sold from the Journey Home panels at a total of \$145. There was \$240 used for monetary awards and \$71 in expenses.

We would like to thank everyone who participated and a special thanks and get well to member Pat Zukatus who couldn't do the show but found a replacement Deb Verhulst-Norris to fill her spot.

After so many shows we have chaired together and all our changes you put up with we want to say thank you for your patience and understanding. With bittersweet thoughts it is time for us to step down and hand the reins to someone else. Anyone who is interested in chairing or co-chairing this show can call on Al or Bobbi for aid and assistance in this transition process.

Note: If anyone has a space and is willing to store our club racks contact Ed Howe or Terry Brooks.