



rochester art club

March/April 2026 newsletter

established 1877



a message from the president

Hello Rochester Art Club Members and Friends,

I hope you are enjoying our increasingly light and bright early spring days. It's almost time for our lovely area parks to burst forth in color!

Throughout the very cold winter this year, our club activities continued as we thoroughly enjoyed our Winter White Challenge in January facilitated by Marleen Van Aardt. It was inspiring to see the many ways that our club members interpreted the theme "White". Thanks to everyone who shared their work! Our newsletter editor, Lori Capron Galan, was the lucky winner of the Rochester Art Supply gift certificate. Congratulations, Lori!

Many thanks come from the Rochester City School District art department for our very generous donation of art supplies including colored pencils, crayons, paints, canvases, markers, paper, scissors, glue and other items. The lives of our young creative neighbors in the RSCD will surely be enriched by the donations from RAC.

Our Annual Signature Members' Spring Exhibit is currently happening at the Railroad Street Artworks' multi-purpose room. The opening reception and awards ceremony was held on March 5. Award winners are listed here in the newsletter. Artists' talks will be held on Third Thursday, 3/19, 5-7 p.m. Other upcoming events include a contemporary still life workshop taught by nationally recognized artist, Trish Coonrod on March 21-22 & 22 and a presentation by Ron Haas on his mesmerizing, large scale colored pencil drawings on April 7. Please see details in this newsletter and also on our website.

The board is currently searching for new officers to be elected in May. My three year term as President concludes in June, so please consider volunteering some of your time for a leadership position in our historic club! If you are interested in learning more about how to support the continuation of the Rochester Art Club, please contact me or any board member. On the ballot in May we will need to elect a new President, Vice President, Exhibit Chair, Education Chair and Webmaster. We are hopeful that members will step up and participate. Presently, we have a solid blend of our valued veteran board members along with new board members who have added vitality and positive energy to our leadership team. Please consider joining them. You will expand your world in surprising ways!

Melanie

Melanie Rinn Martinek
President, Rochester Art Club

Masthead: Irises, Vincent Van Gogh, 1889.





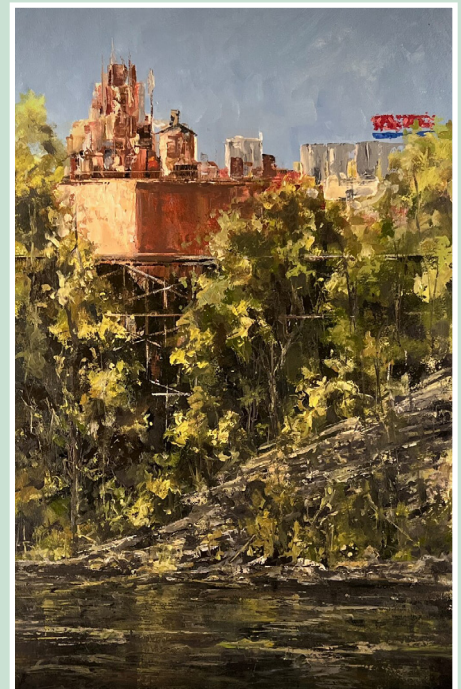
2026 spring signature show



Tim Winter



Laurie T Maddalina



Scott Nost



Matthew Sinacola

Best in Show

Tim Winter

Warming up the Kitchen

Rochester Art Supply Award

Laurie T Maddalina

Wait for the Signal, I'll Meet You After Dark

Rochester Picture Framing Award

Matthew Sinacola

Last Day in Rome

Don Grieger Landscape Award

Scott Nost

Genesee Brewery From Pont du Rennes Bridge

Juror's Award

Kathleen Bolin

Scenic Route

Debra Becks Cooper

Shelf Life in the Studio

Joan D Dwyer

Summer Bouquet

David B Gardner

Art Patron

Barbara Jablonski

Genesee Beer and Ale Brewery

Dick Kane

Pennsylvania Trip

Merit Award

Fran Bliet

Safe Harbor

Victoria Brzustowicz

Houghton Hill Farm

Ruth Haas

Winter Scene

Nancy E Lane

Winter Spruce

Kirt Lapham

Shagbark in Goldenrod

Karlene VanDeusen

Wren

Participating Signature Members

Fran Bliet

Kathleen Bolin

Victoria Brzustowicz

Debra Becks Cooper

Tracie L Doerner

Joan D Dwyer

Lori Capron Galan

David B Gardner

Ruth Haas

Barbara Jablonski

Dick Kane

Nancy E Lane

Kirt Lapham

Laurie T Maddalina

Melanie Rinn Martinek

Rebecca Maynard

Anne B McCune

Scott Nost

Rosemary A Pergolizzi

Yuliia Poraiko

Matthew Sinacola

Jean K Stephens

Jeffrey J Tokarz

Karlene VanDeusen

Ted Wetherbee

Tim Winter

RAC recent events



RAC members and friends listen while Melanie Martinek and Kelly White announce award winners at the opening reception for the Spring Signature Show.



Best of Show winner, Tim Winter, is all smiles with his new ribbon.



On Sunday, February 15th, local art historian, Sarah Hart, gave a fascinating lecture on the discovery of Brockport artist Helen Hastings' work. While warming up with coffee and cookies, attendees heard about Helen's education at The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and her famous teachers William Merritt Chase, Howard Pyle, and Cecelia Beaux.



The RAC Board wishes to thank everyone who helped to relocate our club's historic records to our secure climate controlled storage space. We believe that all of our records are fully insured and in the same location now. Special thanks to RAC treasurer Kelly White, club historian Carlos Perez, and Signature Member Suzi Zefting-Kuhn for coordinating the project!



upcoming RAC events



**Register now-
Filling up fast!**

A workshop that will wind you up!

If you are up for a fun challenge, join us for **Trish Turkildsen Coonrod's** two-day oil painting workshop. Pick a wind-up toy from Trish's vast collection to paint from life, using tips from a nationally-recognized artist.

March 21-22, 2026

9:00am - 4:00pm

**Railroad Street Artworks,
3 Railroad Street, Suite G
Fairport, NY 14450**

Tuition includes continental breakfast, lunch and snacks.

Members: \$250,

Non-members: \$275.

Checks or Paypal to:
Rochester Art Club

**Come for a playful
workshop that is bound to
be a lot of laughs!**

**Register at
rochesterartclub.org**



AN EVENING OF EXPLORATION:

Where Science and Art Collide

April 7, 2026 | 6- 8:00pm

Railroad Street Artworks,
3 Railroad Street, Suite G, Fairport, NY 14450

Ron Haas holds degrees in the Sciences from Alfred University and the Rochester Institute of Technology, which form the foundation for his artistic practice—a life's long journey dedicated to the visual exploration of perception. His meticulously rendered color pencil works, known as "Perspections," investigate the mind-bending concept of "strange loops"—the recursive systems found in the works of Escher, Gödel, and Bach. Haas proposes that these artistic and scientific principles point to a fundamental truth: that our consciousness is structured in layers, and to shift it is to cross into a deeper, more integrated reality. Ron will be showing us his process for these large scale colored pencil drawing that integrate art, science and math.

Please RSVP at rochesterartclub.org

member news



Karlene VanDeusen

Karlene VanDeusen is exhibiting *Adirondack Train Station* in the 75th Central Adirondack Art Show, VIEW Arts Center, Old Forge, from March 20 through May 9.



Long time Genesee Valley Plein Air Painters member, **Paul E. Martin**, 86, passed away peacefully on February 16, 2026. A graduate of the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, Paul was a gifted watercolor artist whose paintings brought color and life to the homes of friends and family. He cherished camping trips and fishing adventures, sharing countless memories with those he loved. Paul was also a former semi-professional baseball player who carried his love of sports and creativity throughout his life.

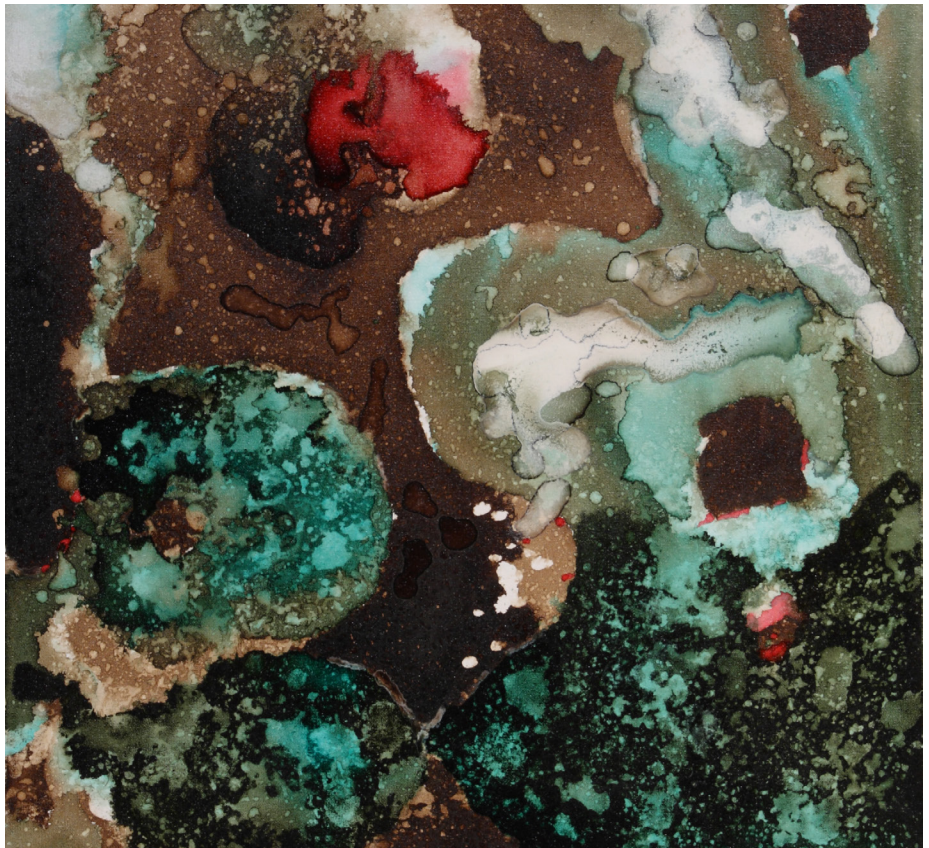
new members

Welcome to new Associate Members: **Patricia Gately** and **Roger Rouse**.



Barbara Jablonski

Barbara Jablonski won Best of Show at the Pittsford Art Group March Show at B&N with *Lunchtime at the Shrimp Boat Docks II* a 20"x16" oil painting of the fishing boats and "luncheon patrons" in Apalachicola, Florida.



Stu Chait

Stu Chait's watercolor painting *Primitive Lichen* is currently on exhibit in the 2026 Abstract National Exhibition Biennial at the Mark Arts Center in Wichita Kansas through March 21. Stu Chait will be teaching his popular Non-Traditional Watercolor Course at the Chautauqua Institution this coming summer.

member news



Victoria Brzustowicz

Victoria Brzustowicz pastel, *Gully, Green Light* was accepted in the Red Rock Pastel Society of Nevada's Green 2026 International Online Exhibition, judged by Tony Allain.

Victoria is a featured artist (along with Pat Bacon) at The Arts Center of Yates County *Looking Out My Window* exhibit, March 3–April 18, 2026.

From April 28–May 26, Victoria's work will be exhibited at the Little Theatre Cafe, with a reception scheduled for May 17, from 2–4pm.

Victoria continues to teach at Flower City Arts Center and the Art Stop. She also offers private lessons. For her latest class listings (including the plein air workshops she will be co-teaching with Colette Savage), visit her [website](#).

Signature member, **Marleen Van Aardt**, (*right*) is currently enjoying six weeks in New Zealand with her husband. She has been capturing the landscape in both oil and watercolor with her plein air setup that she tucks into her bag while hiking. You can follow her adventures on Instagram @marleen_van_aardt.

© Kat Cramer | acrylic

Submission
Deadline:
**MARCH
28**

OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS

**“BLOOMING” — A Special Spring Exhibition at
RAILROAD STREET ARTWORKS**

What does Blooming mean to you? This open call welcomes all interpretations of spring — from flower-filled still lifes to landscapes just waking from their winter slumber. All subjects, styles, and mediums that reflect the spirit of spring are welcome. This is a non-juried show. Prizes will be awarded.

RSA Members: 1st entry free, then \$10 each, maximum 4 entries
Non-members: \$10 per piece, maximum 4 entries

Visit our website for more info and to enter
railroadstreetartworks.org/blooming-spring-art-exhibit

Railroad Street Artworks | 3 Railroad Street, suite G | Fairport NY | 14450



Marleen Van Aardt enjoying a plein air adventure in New Zealand

member news



Kathy Houston

Kathy Houston had her mixed media painting juried into the Penfield Art Association Winter Show in the 2nd floor community room of Barnes & Noble at Pittsford Plaza. The show runs through Saturday February 28th. The title is *Roses in the Snow* and is a mixed media painting of watercolor inks, watercolor gouache, and Caran d'Ache watercolor crayons. The painting is based upon her photo of red silk roses that she stuck in the snow and photographed at eye level with the roses at twilight.

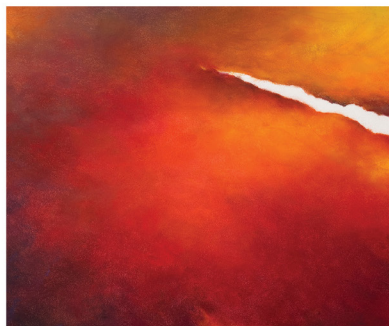


GA Sheller

GA Sheller received an award in the 35th Members Exhibition at the Rochester Contemporary Art Center for her multimedia painting, *Chairs*. The piece was created using light and an emulsion containing a light sensitive water-based pigment.

Hidden Connections

Robin McCondichie
Soft Pastel



Jean Stephens
Mixed Media Collage



The *Dove* Block Project

Closing Reception Saturday, March 28 from 5-7 pm

Artwork on view through Sunday, March 29

Gallery Hours: Wednesday - Sunday 12 - 4 pm

465 Exchange St, Geneva, NY 14456 315-325-8160 info@thedoveblockproject.org

Reminder: When shopping at **Rochester Art Supply**, let the cashier know that you are a member of Rochester Art Club. The owners donate a percentage of your purchase toward gift certificates used for show awards!



Looking for a little exposure? We need Signature Members for our *Spotlight* series! Send your name, short bio/artist statement, website, social media contacts, and 3-6 photos of your work to: galanlori@gmail.com with *ARTIST SPOTLIGHT* in the subject line. Featured artists will be chosen at random.

learning opportunities

PLEIN AIR WORKSHOP

with
BARBARA JABLONSKI



Wednesday, May 13th – Friday, May 15th

Barbara Jablonski invites artists using any painting medium as well as artists who wish to learn OIL or ACRYLIC painting as a new medium to register for this plein air painting workshop

This 3-day workshop introduces elements and techniques including:

- Composition, perspective, value, temperature and design
- Drawing, line, and painting techniques
- The use of materials, equipment and mixing of oil and acrylic colors
- Learn to paint landscapes, architecture and waterscapes.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EARLY REGISTRATION FEE

REGISTRATION FEE IS \$235 UNTIL APRIL 21ST
REGISTRATION FEE IS \$250 AFTER APRIL 21ST

HOW TO REGISTER Go to Barbara's website: WWW.BARBARAJABLONSKI.COM and then to the Webpage: '26 WORKSHOP EN PLEIN AIR Print out workshop information and complete the registration form. Mail Registration For and check to Barbara Jablonski.



Gelli Plate Printmaking with Botanicals

Instructor: Jean Stephens

Saturday, April 25th from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Cost is \$100.00

Let nature be your muse! In this class we will be using "flora" gathered from your garden or yard to print with on a Gelli Plate. Please bring freshly picked leaves, flowers, soft stems, grasses, feathers, etc. The more variety, the better. You'll be encouraged to consider the importance of color and value while printing. This medium is fun and invites experimentation, expect plenty of time to play!

Suitable for beginners and for those with some experience in Gelli printing.

You'll need to bring to the workshop:

- freshly picked foliage, flowers, grasses etc
- a soft rubber brayer (Speedball 2.5"-3")
- a Gelli Arts printing plate (8" x 10") or whatever size you have
- any special papers you'd like to print on
- an apron and something to drink

The Mill Art Center provides paint, basic paper, paper towel and baby wipes.

Please register in advance to reserve your place: millartcenter.com, click on classes

The MILL
Art Center
& Gallery
Cultivating Creativity!

The Mill Art Center
at the Lower Mill
61 North Main Street Honeoye Falls, NY 14472
millartcenter@gmail.com millartcenter.com

Pastel Plein Air Workshop

with Colette Savage
and Victoria Brzustowicz

If you've ever wished or wondered how to paint a beautiful scene directly outdoors but just aren't sure how to get started, then please join PSWNY for a day of learning, confidence building and fun with local expert artists Colette Savage and Victoria Brzustowicz as they unwrap the mysteries of painting with soft pastel in Plein Air!



Devils Bathtub Shelter, Mendon Ponds Park

County Rd 45, Mendon, NY 14467, USA

June 13, 2026 | 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM

More information and registration can be found [here](#).