

Manasquan River Group of Artists

Established 1938

Newsletter



M. R. G. A., P. O. Box 614, Manasquan,

www.mrga38.org

New Jersey 08736

March 2020

President's Message

We are almost done with Winter, although snow is still possible, but Spring is not far away (says "The Groundhog") and another summer at the Jersey shore will be here with all its fun, tourists, traffic, and hopefully art enthusiasts. It is a good time for our members to plan for summer art show participation. Please try to enter as many MRGA sponsored shows as you can as I would like to have MRGA members showcase their work and our organization. Unfortunately, we were notified the Avon Pavilion will not be available this summer from Memorial Day through Labor Day except for town events and we are actively seeking a location to replace that August show. Covered beach side locations are not abundant in our area of the shore and constant traffic that those locations offer is vital. Please email me (rstetz2@verizon.net) if you have any suggestions.

Also, I am looking for at least three (3) people to form a Finance Committee. If you have any experience working in the financial area (budgeting, accounting, community finance board, etc.) contact me. The committee's tasks will be looking at formulating a budget for our fixed expenses, managing our revenue, spending recommendations, etc. So, get ready for Spring, Daylight Saving Time, (March 8), and WARM WEATHER; it's coming.

Bob Stetz
President

NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY FRIDAY MARCH 6TH, 6PM-REFRESHMENTS; 6:30-MEETING

Please visit the website for MRGA www.mrga38.org Our website is being updated regularly by Sheila Soyster. Please contact Sheila with any information: sheila624@comcast.net or 732-892-7692. Thank you Sheila.

Nobody tells you these things.....

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We Artists Need Protection

Suppose you were walking in a mall and glanced into one of those art and framing stores and saw one of your works displayed for sale. You never ventured into the store before, never had a sales agreement with them, the owner is not your long lost brothe-in-law, (although that doesn't make a difference), and you can clearly see that it is a copy of your work with your signature. **What do you do?** The fact is there is little you can do other than confront the store owner, ask where they got the work, demand that they remove it, or, demand they sign an agreement to give you a piece of the sale. But you probably would need to take legal action to do any of that. People that pirate artwork for re-sale usually copy work of artists who are not famous relying on the fact they probably are not among those who will spend the money it takes to pursue legal action.

Did you know that there are Chinese companies that copy artwork from various publications, publicity photos, website photos, etc., reproduce them; publish them in a catalogue, distribute the catalogue to art store dealers from which the dealers order their sales inventory? There are some things you can do to protect your work that may dissuade those who wish to pirate it for illegal profit.

Photograph your work. **Catalogue** the picture with the date you created it, what inspired the composition (a photo you took & keep it, en plein air, etc.) and other pertinent information. Then store it on your computer, on a separate portable hard drive, or your phone, camera, or CD.

Copyright it. For little cost you can register your work (individually or in bulk) with the US Copyright Office (<https://www.copyright.gov>) and receive a copyright certification. Although the US Copyright Office does not have jurisdiction in foreign countries.

When signing your work, you can add the little copyright symbol © at the end of your signature. Although most sophisticated editing systems can remove your signature, it is easy to detect a modified signature on a copy and by adding the symbol, you are making it plain to all that you retain the copyright.

If you place your work in a gallery, it is important to have a written agreement specifying the details including, your minimum price for the work, (the gallery may have its own idea of the value and how much they can sell it for); what is the % you will receive from the sale if it is on consignment; what area of the gallery it will be displayed (if that is important to you), the length of time the gallery will display it; insurance requirements, and anything else including any reproduction rights, etc. If the gallery should file for bankruptcy your work may become part of the gallery "estate" and subject to the galleries creditors sell-off to reclaim their investment. There could be difficulty getting your work back in your possession if you don't make your agreement state that in that event of bankruptcy, litigation, or default involving the gallery, the work gets returned to you.

Another common form of plagiarism unfortunately is done by artists themselves. Instructors commonly find their painting done during a class instruction, copied, and submitted by the student to galleries, art shows, and exhibitions. An instructor must make it specific during the class or demonstration, that if a duplication of the instructors work being used is found to be exhibited, action will be taken by contacting the venue, show or gallery and advising them that the work is plagiarized, and possible further action will be taken.

There is another way to protect your works originality. You can complete the cataloging indicated above for all your work, make a copy, mail it certified to yourself and keep the received postmarked envelope, unopened, in a safe place. It can be opened when needed to prove the works originality, with the postmark providing its being created before the mailing. In the litigious society of today we all go to great expense to protect our lives, homes, income, property, and those possessions we deem irreplaceable. Your artwork should also be protected to a reasonable degree.

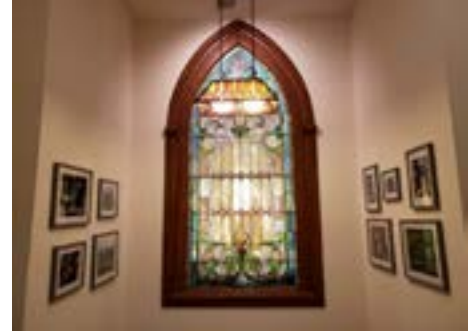
Some simple steps and uncomplicated agreement of sale or exhibit can protect someone from profiting from your hard work. There are many publications available with forms that pass the legal test, and provide advice for artists available online or in bookstores to help craft what you need.

And if you do find yourself in a situation similar to that in the first paragraph, and you encounter an uncooperative ownerI know a guy!

MEMBER NEWS

Several MRGA members are showing at the North Hall Gallery, **June Coles, Donna Ferris, Debra J. Herbster, Karen Norby, Jackie St. Angel, and Beverly Sirianni**. The exhibit is on display until March 19, 2020 The North Hall Gallery is at Point Pleasant Presbyterian Church. 701 Forman Avenue, 732-899-0587 www.pointpresbyterian.org.

Hours are Monday to Thursday 9:00 a.m to 12 Noon & 1:00 p.m to 3:30 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon.



SUSANNA ANASTASIA, President- NJWCS received the Best In Show Award :“

Cat on the Wicker Rocker” displayed at the MPAC - Art Upstairs Gallery, Morristown, N J in the Annual Elected Members Show and Sale.

Elected Members of the NJWCS included:

NANCY ROBINSON, who received An Award of Merit for“ Sikorsky - Steel Warrior” and

MONA KIRK- NJWCS Corresponding Secretary “June”

Susanna’s Watercolor: “Pisces” was accepted to the 123rd Annual Open Exhibition- Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club at the National Arts Club, NYC **Susanna’s** Oil Painting:“ By the Sea, Avon N J” was juried into the Ridgewood Art Institute Annual Juried Exhibition, Ridgewood, NJ

Susanna is also showing her watercolor “Raindance” at the Annual Essex Water Color Members Show, Chatham NJ

MaryAnn Goodwin juried in two watercolors: “Morning Light” and “The Woods Are Lovely” in the “Landscapes” Exhibit at The Gallery in the Thompson Park Creative Arts Center



Elaine Donovan’s “Andalusian Storks” Oil, (right) and Margo Jane Fletcher’s “Weather” Alcohol Ink (above) were sold at the MRGA Spring Lake Community Theater Show in December, Curated by Susan Carr. The Show runs to the end of February.

February Meeting

Vincent Nardone presented a video on acclaimed portraitist Roberta Carter Clark



NEWSLETTER INFORMATION-PLEASE NOTE

All submissions for the newsletter and changes to your address, phone or email should be sent by email to MaryAnn Goodwin at maryanngoodwinarts@gmail.com by the 20th of the month for the next newsletter. Newsletters are prepared the prior month for September, October, November, December, January/ February (Single issue in Feb.), March, April, May, and June. When announcing an award please give the title of your work. Photographs should include the names of the persons in them except for a large group. “Classifieds” will run only once unless you request a repeat.