

*Mt Pleasant Art Society Newsletter**John Cook*

Sept Guest Artist:
John Cook
Oil
Sept 1, 2019
2:00pm-4pm

Refreshments:
Louise Loggins and
Ann Glaess

Backroom: Mary
Hodges

MPAS Demo
Schedule

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

Oct 6, 2019
Clinton Broyles – Oil
Refreshments: Yvonne
Hyatt, Donna Monroe
Backroom: Diana
Williams

Nov 3, 2019
Beverly Boren-Watercolor
Refreshments:
Backroom:

Workshop
Clinton Broyles
Oct 7, 8, 9, 2019
\$275
Brush or Knife

Texas artist John Cook paints with a passion, compelled to capture Impressionist images on canvas or watercolor paper. "I see beauty in God's creation, and I strive to capture a glimpse of that perfection in paint."

Cook began his fine art career in 1990 at the age of 49, inspired early by the paintings of Russian- American artist Nicolai Fechin. Later influences include artist John Singer Sargent, Frank Brangwyn and Winslow Homer, as well as the still life and florals of Henry Fatin Latour.

By drawing with a brush rather than a pencil, Cook achieves the loose and free style that characterizes his work. Never belabored, each painting reflects his passion to catch a mood with interplay of light and shade. Nothing is too large or small to attempt, as reflected in his diverse range of subject matter: from still life to portraits to landscapes, architecture and native Texas-Western imagery. "A kind of impatient realism," is how Cook describes his paintings. Action and energy permeate his canvases and there is a spontaneous nature to his work that retells the artist's need to quickly achieve the essence of light as it dances, pierces, careens, and bounces to find its way throughout the subject. Cook states, "as for my style, if I could do a painting in less than sixty seconds I would be pleased. Sometimes I feel the urgency to attack a canvas and capture the intensity of my mind and emotions without respecting the necessary effort for the image to be valued as fine art." Trips to London, Paris, San Francisco and Belgium also produced many of Cook's paintings.

Born in 1941 in Dallas, Cook grew up near Highland Park and attended school at the University of Arlington and the Art Center School of Los Angeles. In his initial career as an illustrator, Cook's work was in demand by advertising agencies and their high-profile clients, including American Airlines, CBS, Neiman Marcus and Disney Epcot Center. In 1990 he put aside his illustrator pens and inks and pursued his heart's desire: a career as a painter. Married to a school teacher for 31 years and a deeply religious, devoted family man, Cook says, "painting is not the most important thing in my life, but it's a close second."

Thanks to Ted Clemons for the newest gallery painting

2019-2020 Officers

President – Steve Corbell
 1st VP – Carol Durrum
 2nd VP – Shirley Clay
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 Corresponding Secretary – LaVerne Arnett
 Webmaster/Administrator – Donna Monroe

Presidents Letter

Hello MPAS!

Hope you had a great summer vacation. Here at the Art Center, things have really been going on!! The building has a new coat of paint, and many of the rotten boards have been repaired. Shirley Clay has been working on the directory and it is new and improved. I took a little time off and went to Oklahoma City to see the Prix de West show for 2019. It was a great experience and very humbling. I have been painting this summer in oil and watercolor. Another humbling experience! I have worked in watercolor with the great group that meets at the Mt. Pleasant Library every first and third Friday.

Everyone working at the Titus Co. Fair is requested to meet with Shirley Clay at the Art Center on Sept.8th at 2pm. This is to get schedules and shirts, and caps. This year the County Fair promises to be better than ever.

The Sept. membership meeting is going to start this 2019-2020 year with a real bang! Mary Hodges will be our little gallery guest artist in the back room. Mary is a talented water colorist that won a ribbon at the membership show last year with a beautiful floral. Louise Loggins and LaVerne Arnett will be serving the refreshments, which promises to be very tasty. Our guest demo artist will be John Cook. I don't know about you, but I'm looking forward to a great fall!!

See you at the Meeting,
Steve Corbell

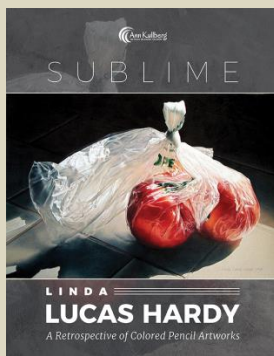
Welcome New Members

We want to welcome two new members, Allan Rosen and Carmen Ferrer

Sick and Sad

We have lost some of our members and some of have lost loved ones. Let's keep all in our thoughts and prayers as they begin their healing.

Karen Gatherer's husband and member, John, Linda Pepper lost her sister, Ann Glaess lost her mother, Yvonne Hyatt lost her father. Member Mariguinn Butler passed away as did a long time previous member Pat Cavender.



Congratulations to Linda Lucas Hardy

Linda has had book published and is available for purchased from annkullberg.com. "SUBLIME A Retrospective of Colored Pencil Artworks". I have seen a copy it is beautifully done with some amazing work. Maybe she will bring a copy for us to see.

BACKROOM ARTIST
Mary Hodges

I've been called a naive painter for good reason: I have no formal art education and would not make a good student. I still abhor having to fill in little boxes or circles with a No. 2 pencil or black ink, preferring to just strike through them. I paint for pleasure and if others admire my paintings for some reason, that only adds to that pleasure. I have learned from watching many seriously-educated and dedicated painters, using some of their techniques, if I can remember them.

I grew up in a small 1900 house on the side of Lookout Mountain in Chattanooga, Tennessee in the 1940's. An area at the tail end of Southern Appalachia rich in history, a national forest surrounded our house and was the playground of generations, including mine. It was in the woods that we learned about trees and wildlife and to appreciate the beauty and wonder around us. This was the most influential time of my life, the formative years which led to my desire to capture the things that are meaningful to me today. Early art education consisted of grade school Crayolas, assorted-color packages of construction paper, and pointless scissors that created report covers, paper chains, turkeys, and Christmas decorations to tape to classroom walls.

Before moving to Mount Pleasant, I again lived in a rural setting in South Arkansas. It was here, in retirement, I had the time and resources to attend workshops by Conway artist, Sheila Parsons, and painted with a group of like-minded artists at Ann Downs' Blue Moon Gallery in Magnolia, Arkansas. The workshops began as a fun-time with my sister, Ann Claxton, who paints, sews, and cooks with fantastic and enviable results. Valuable time together gave us the opportunity to re-unite after years of raising our families elsewhere. The loose quality of Sheila's work and the two Anns taught me that it was all right to paint how I wanted to, not because someone else said something was right or wrong.

I love watercolors. I might dabble in oil, acrylic or pastel on occasion, but seldom have the satisfaction that watercolors produce. Typically I paint from my own photos and imagination and keep things simple. Results are sometimes dramatic and many times boring but usually colorful, at least. I like the unpredictability and convenience of watercolors. You don't know what you'll get until the paper dries.

I found the Mount Pleasant Art Society when house hunting. Today I enjoy seeing the outstanding talents of the members and those who demonstrate each month. And I'm especially appreciative of the informal painting group that has formed outside of the Society, where we each bring something different to the gathering and often leave with more than we anticipated.

Workshops

We have some really promising workshops coming up in the future. Our next one is coming Oct 7, 8, 9, 2019 with Clinton Broyles. He is proficient with both brush and knife and he welcomes the use of both in the workshop. Fee is \$275. Don't miss it as there are only a couple spots left. Check out the flyer on the back table or visit his website. www.clintonbroyles.com