



May 2024 Newsletter

Mary K. Hammond - President

nbalpresident@gmail.com

**Hello Everybody,
I LOVE MAY!**

I mean, how can I not love it with the temperature so mild, my plants all planted and starting to bloom, the pool is uncovered and heating up. What is there not to like? It is also my birth month. I have always counted it as my favorite month; but, let me tell you that my outlook on birthdays has really changed from when I was younger. Gone are the days when I looked forward to turning a year older so that I could reach the next level of adulthood. Now, I just say, "Well, I survived another one." It makes my head spin with how fast the year goes by and how much change takes place with each passing year.



Our organization is also maturing and is facing changes. Change is unpreventable, sometimes painful, and always challenging; but, the good news is that most often, it is for the best.

Changes to Team and General Meetings

1st change happened in January when we reworked how NBAL Team Board meetings will be held. We divided the team positions into smaller, workable groups so the Executive Board can sit down with the team leaders in a face-to-face, brainstorming session that will hopefully help us to meet the needs of each position as well as *OUR* organization and members.

Please keep in mind that when I say ours, I mean *YOURS* as well as mine. Anyone who is a member of NBAL has the right and is encouraged to come to these Team meetings. They are open to whoever wants to come. You may pick a group that you are interested in or have experience with or come to all of the meetings because you want to ask questions or make suggestions. Join in on the discussion.....WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

Team Board meetings are scheduled as follows:

- **January – All Team Board members to prepare for the coming year.**
- **March - Building group (physical building maintenance)**
Housekeeping/Maintenance, Gallery Assistant, Gallery Appearance/Display, Purchasing, and Library
- **May - Electronic Connections and Advertisements**
Digital Communications Coordinator, Social Media, Webmaster, and Photographers
- **July - Community Outreach and City Connections**
Community Art Reach – Youth, Community Art Reach – Adult, Greater NB Arts Council, Chamber of Commerce, and Downtown Assoc

- **September - Scheduled Activities and Membership**
Room Scheduling, Submissions Team, Receptions, Special Events/Demonstrations, Workshops, Membership/Yearbook, Gallery Staffing, and Docent Training
- **November - All Team Board members to prepare for coming year and review schedules**

2nd change is that as of this month we will be stopping the bi-monthly meetings for general members with demos. This is due to the lack of participation of members at these meetings and the demos that we spend \$100 each on. Information is now sent out to members with the NBAL Newsletter, Constant Contact, and emails. So, there is no longer a need to have monthly or bi-monthly meetings to pass information to the overall membership like we did in the past.

General Meetings (all members including the boards) will be 3 annual meetings:

- **January** – Brainstorming, review of schedules for the coming year, and the sign-up of volunteers to work yearly events.
- **August** - Potluck, book sale, and art exchange, with updates on activities at the gallery.
- **November** - Election of Board members, voting for any changes to Constitution or Bylaws, and an end of year get together. We need 20 members to attend so that we have a quorum to vote.

3rd Change is that we do not want to totally get rid of the DEMOS; but, we need your input to decide where to move them to. Please send me a note about what day and time you think will work best for you to attend these events. **Our next demo** will be on the 1st Friday of June; the artist to be announced.

Answers to Suggestion Box notes will be posted on the bulletin board above the docent work desk.

See you guys in the gallery,
Mary Hammond
NBAL President

Volunteer Needed!

We are looking for a volunteer to serve as workshop chairman. Duties include scheduling/coordinating the workshops held at the gallery. The primary skills required are:

1. experience using Word, Excel, and email programs
2. attention to detail and calendar deadlines

This position qualifies for the required work day if you are a displaying member. It is perfect if your lifestyle makes it hard to commit to a specific day each month to work. Most tasks can also be handled remotely if you are a traveler. We have a list of prospective instructors, so you do not have to know everyone in the art world. Email nbaltreasurer@gmail.com for more details or to express an interest.

2nd Vice President Needed!

The position requires you to come to the Executive and the Team Board meetings, work with Diane Parker who runs the receptions and Gerlyn Friesenhahn who runs the submission days for the special shows and jury days. Come and help us make plans for next year's schedule.

Treasurer's Report February 2024

Marcie Helmke, Treasurer

nbaltreasurer@gmail.com

Top ten sellers: Joe Meyer, Diane Parker, Cheryl Wooten, Brent McCarthy, Mary Shepard, Karen Stephenson, Misty Brever, Padi Civello, Robert Woolley, Elizabeth Ferriby

Total Sales:	March 2024	\$ 6644.69
	March 2023	\$ 6391.17

A detailed financial report of the Art League balances is furnished to the Board monthly and is available to anyone upon request.

Docent Tip of the Month

Please remember that you MUST record all sales on the artist's inventory sheet when you process a sale. Artists think their work has been stolen when it is not on display and has not been marked as sold.

NBAL Special Show News

Teen Show Numbers

12 Schools participated, with 99 pieces of art.

Current Special Show

“All Creatures Great or Small” will be with us until June 8. The reception is on Friday, May 3rd from 6pm - 7:30pm. Art pickup day is Sunday, June 9. Remember gallery hours on Sundays are from 12:00pm - 5:00pm.

Upcoming Special Show

The next show is “Texas” - big show for a big state. Submission day is Monday, June 10, 9am – 12pm. The Show opens on June 11. Mark your calendars for the reception on Friday, June 14. Father's Day is June 16. What a great opportunity to shop for a lasting Father's Day gift.

Upcoming Jury Day

The next Jury Day is Saturday, June 1, 10am to 12pm.

2024 Schedule of Workshops!

Larry Johnson, Workshops

drjohnson@gmail.com

We kicked off 2024 with a bang, thanks to Vie Dunn-Harr, who put on a fabulous session in January followed by Joan Fullerton's sold-out workshop at the end of February! Robin Cheers will return in May with her excellent workshop on impressionism and her novel and productive ways of approaching it.

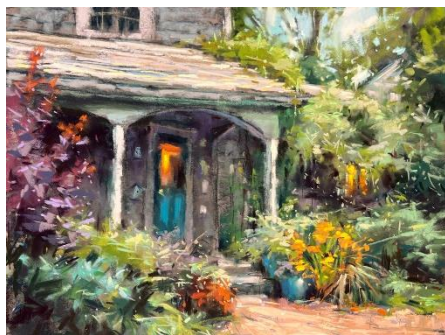
That makes seven workshops so far for 2024, and two already signed up for 2025! You can learn full details about any workshop on the [NBAL website](#), and online registration is available.

Here is the spring schedule!



Robin Cheers: Impressionist Oil/Acrylic Workshop

There are still seats available for this fun and informative workshop with Robin Cheers, to be held May 10-12, 10am - 5 pm! In this workshop, Robin will introduce movement and abstraction as the foundation for any subject matter. She will do group demos and work personally with each participant, encouraging them to realize new strengths and expressions. [Discover more about Robin and her work here.](#) [Register Now!](#)



Marla Baggetta: Loosen Up Your Pastels!

There are still seats available for this amazing workshop with nationally acclaimed pastel artist, Marla Baggetta, that will be held Sept 6-8, 2024, 10am - 5 pm! In this 3-day workshop, Marla will guide you through a series of exercises that will unlock the keys to painting with a bolder, spontaneous and joyful approach. This workshop will push you past the ordinary to expand your creative language. [Discover more about Marla and her work here.](#) [Learn more about the workshop & register here!](#)

Coming next fall, we have a fantastic lineup! Click on any of the listings below to see complete information about these fall workshops.

- [David Lobenberg, Oct 25-27, 2024.](#)

- [Elizabeth St. Hilaire's Oct 18-20 session](#) is waitlisted.

Our most recent booking is Master Pastelist, Teresa Saia, coming March 28-30, 2025.

You can register for any of these sessions right now via the online form at:

<https://form.jotform.com/230390334096150>

NBAL Gallery Information

Vicki Houston, 1st VP
msravenhouston@gmail.com

Docents Wanting to Change Workdays

Docents, if you are wanting to change the day you currently work each month, please contact Ellen Glisan at eglisan@swbell.net

Artists Garage Sale

Want to explore a new medium but hesitate to invest \$\$\$?

Friday, May 17, NBAL will have an artist-to-artist sale to be held in the kitchen area. This event is designed to sell artist materials to other artists.

All sales will be handled by each seller. **No sales** will go through the docent desk. Bring your own change and credit card processor (if needed). Again, no sales/charges will go through NBAL.

You know you need to Spring clean – so bring your artist items to our Garage Sale. To reserve a table, contact Lynn Gabenski at gabenski@mac.com or text with your name in the message at 830-837-9327.

The tentative time schedule is 12:00pm to 6:00pm.

Items Available for a Donation to NBAL

Barbara Blaschke has the following tools available for a donation to NBAL. Email Barbarablaschke6@gmail.com or call 830 513 3928.



- Jewelry finishing tumbler with media, 2 barrels
- Acrylic Dust cover for grinding operations



- Various displays
- Set of 4 bezel mandrels, oval, round and 2 triangles, large and small

Barbara also has cabochons and beads remaining in her inventory for sale (not as a donation).

Got Hot Funds? Help Us Get More!

Gretchen Goode, 3rd VP
goodecreative@gmail.com

Docents, Memberships, All ... next time you are in the gallery, look for this sign posted throughout NBAL. Please encourage customers to use the QR code or sign in book at the front entrance so we can capture their zip codes. The city may reward us with additional HOT funds!



**Please Tell Us
Where You're From**

As a Non-Profit, the City
rewards us with extra funding
when we capture this info

Your NBAL Library!

Myra Knapp, Librarian
kattknapp@sbcglobal.net

In this new world of AI, we can barely tell what has been created by human hands or what has been generated by the processing of electrical impulses. Technology is moving along at such a clip that we find the need to update our equipment often just to keep the information coming to us.

There IS something wonderfully safe about the world found in your NBAL Library — the information is right there in black, white and color and you will not need to change or update a single thing to enjoy more information on art than you can find anywhere else.

Recently we received a wonderful anonymous gift of 25 + DVD's - all on the ways of watercolor. Artists such as John Lovett, Hazel Soan, Brenda Swenson, Janet Rogers, Andy Evansen are just a few represented in this great collection. A total treasure trove at your fingertips.

Come to the library upstairs and check out these new DVD's — that is if you still have the “old technology” of a DVD player to use. See what I mean about updating our devices? — A book is still a book. Come and enjoy!

NBAL Membership Accolades

 ShowSubmit

IAPS 44th Open Division
From office@showsubmit.com
To vickiportersmith@aol.com
Today at 12:01PM ✓



Dear Vicki Smith,

We are pleased to inform you that your work, **referenced below**, has been accepted into the **2024 IAPS Juried PastelWorld – 44th Open Division**.



Hurrah! for our very own Vicki Smith!!! This is a copy of her acceptance letter from IAPS 2024. We are unable to share the accepted piece until IAPS opens in June.

If you have an accolade to share (story and/or photos) with membership, please send to Nanette.scranton@live.com by the 24th of each month. Format preferred is a word document and photos as JPGs.

Fabulous Facebook Fun!

By Vickie Merchant

Vickie.moonmerchant@gmail.com

The New Braunfels Art League Facebook page - We are so excited to announce that we have 2,818 Followers. Many posts reach over 7,000 pages and in the last month, 32 new followers have joined. This is a TRIBUTE to YOU! when you LIKE, LOVE, or SHARE our page.

Friends of the New Braunfels Art League has 173 members. For the NBAL Members who have not joined this group, this is a perk of NBAL Membership. You can post on this site IF YOU ARE A MEMBER – general or displaying. What can you post? Anything art related – Anything that you think our members would be interested in. We hope to have more people join this group to share techniques, tips, laughs, what didn't work...just good information.

HELP NEEDED! Do you use Instagram? If so, please join our team – no meetings required. Just repost what's on our Facebook page. We do have 2,300 Instagram followers, but I'm unable to publish easily on this social media site. We need to contact a younger clientele so they will come to NBAL and see what wonderful art is available. Let me know if you are interested by contacting me at vickie.moonmerchant@gmail.com.

Hope to see your comments on Facebook!

May 2024 Photography Classes



NBAL's Photography courses have been expanded recently to include both shorter timeframes and customized training to meet a photographer's very specific interests. Now there are 4-week, one-day, and even 4-hour classes designed for every skill level, from beginner to intermediate to advanced!

[Learn more here!](#)

- **Essentials of Photography** If you are giving (or asking for) a new camera this year, consider adding an Essentials of Photography class with it! This class is perfect for anyone who loves taking pictures, but wish they really felt confident in how to get consistently good results! [Find complete details and cost/registration info here!](#) **The next class starts Wednesday, May 1, 2024!**
- **Photo Editing in Lightroom** is a highly individualized one-day photo-editing workshop held on a Saturday each month that is guaranteed to help you produce better images. The next class is planned for May 18, 2024. The topics and strategies we will learn are ideas common across all the major editing platforms. Using them, a few minutes of editing can take an average picture to entirely new levels! [Find complete details and cost/registration info here!](#)

- **One-on One or Small Group Classes Sessions** may be held in a fully equipped photographic studio at the Art League; or at a variety of other locations, depending on the student's interests. The goal is to help both new and confident photographers rapidly learn new techniques or skills they want to have, help them expand their photographic range, or solve recurring issues in their images that are limiting what he or she can achieve. [Find complete details and cost/registration info here!](#)

If you or someone you know is interested in getting up to speed with your camera or finally mastering manual mode and exposure, those topics can be done nicely in a small group or private class format. For more information on these or to discuss details, contact Larry at the email or phone below. (Send a text for fastest reply.)

For more information on photography classes, especially our fastest growing category, private one-on-one or small group classes, please contact Larry Johnson at drjohnson@gmail.com or 512-740-6205.

[Learn more about Larry's work here](#)

[See what students had to say about Larry's classes](#)

You can register for any of these sessions right now via the online form at:
<https://form.jotform.com/230390334096150>

2024 Board of Officers

President – Mary Hammond
1st VP – Vicki Houston
2nd VP
3rd VP – Gretchen Goode
Secretary – Jeanne Balkman

Treasurer – Marcie Helmke
Asst. Treasurer – Chase Willett
Parliamentarian – Robin Roberts-Walker
President Emeritus – Elaine Felder

