

# Pastelink

The Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod  
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## *“Beat the Winter Blahs” Workshops for 2008 in Full Swing!*

### **JANUARY**

**with Carolyn Caldwell**

“Simplifying For More Powerful Paintings” with Carolyn Caldwell, held at the CCAA on January 19 and 20 was so well received, she will be returning to teach with us again next May 2009.

The class consisted of a talented, energetic group that enjoyed working together. Day one focused on planning composition

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*January with Carolyn Caldwell*



*February with Carol Chisholm Garvey*

### **FEBRUARY**

**with Carol Chisholm Garvey**

On a cold mid-winter's weekend in February, Carol Chisholm Garvey led an inspiring pastels workshop at the Cape Cod Art Association in Barnstable. A dozen artists attended the workshop, titled 'New Perspectives'. Carol provided information in lecture format, supported by examples of her own work, as well as that of others.

The workshop's theme reinforced a 'keep it simple' approach, as Carol emphasized simplicity in overall composition, including simple subjects, simple perspectives, and simple shapes.

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*Spring2008*



Judy Ver Plank-Elliot  
and Sherry Rhyno



Robina Carter  
and Joan Ledwith



## January with Carolyn Caldwell

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and value studies, which paid off when students applied skills learned to their paintings. Carolyn's ease with the group and accessibility to answer questions added to this insightful experience. The great camaraderie fueled by a dedicated instructor is a significant part of what "Beat the Winter Blahs" is all about. To top off this delightful experience, Barbara Stone hosted a dinner social at her home on Saturday!

Some comments from class participants:

"It was really helpful to do the basic composition exercises. The feedback and help from the group was great. Carolyn provided really helpful insights."

"I enjoyed working with shape, value, limited palette, and Carolyn's personality and approach."

"More than met my expectations."

"I appreciated the discipline of working with composition and values. I think I'm reformed."

— Sue Carey, Workshop Coordinator

## Last Call for "Beat the Winter Blahs" Workshops 2008

As of this writing, we still have space left in the Pet Portraiture workshop with Anne Heywood, April 5 & 6 at the CCAA (Barnstable), and Photographing Your Work with Doug Long, May 10 at CAC (Chatham).

Check the website for details or call Sue Carey at 508-790-5711.

## February with Carol Chisholm Garvey

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Some of Carol's top composition tips included:

- Let your camera find the essence of the subject
- Limit color, palette, and composition to lend more impact to your painting
- Use shape, contrast, or color to lead the viewer's eye through the painting, and identify a true focal point
- Use a 'hot spot' (which can be cool or warm) in your painting to add stronger visual interest to the composition
- Step back about 6 feet every so often to get a new perspective on what you have painted
- Brand your painting with your own personality to truly make it 'sing'

Each painting session was followed by an instructor-led group critique. During the workshop, Carol shared many extraordinary composition examples, as found in a few of her favorite reference books:

- From Sea to Shining Sea; A Reflection of America
- Wolf Kahn Pastels (Wolf Kahn)
- Gustav Klimt Landscapes (Gustav Klimt, Stephen Koja)

Images from these books reinforced the simplified composition approach Carol recommended, and inspired the attendees to create several well-designed sketches and paintings during this successful and enjoyable two-day workshop.

—Wendy Boston, PPSCC Member



# Letter from the President

Dear Members,

As we March into spring ~ my witch hazel is already in full bloom ~ check out our many upcoming activities highlighted in the pages of this newsletter.

This will be our LAST printed *Pastelink*. We are going "green". We are very excited about our advancement into the "techy" era. The *Pastelink* will look exactly the same but it will arrive

in your email box where you may chose to "save it" or to print it out. You also may have noticed, we are now sending more PPSCC notices via email, so if you change your email address ~ or haven't given us one ~ please let us know where we can find you by email so you won't miss out on anything.

In the coming months you will also be receiving ~ by snail mail ~ our new MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE which will have all PPSCC members listed, our by-laws, a calendar of events and many more things we hope you will find useful.

Don't forget to send in your entries on CDs for our 13th Annual For Pastels Only show by May 15. You can download a prospectus directly from the website. As always, this is a truly incredible show offering a look at some of the best pastel work being done in the country. Judged by Al Lachman and Terry Ludwig this year - they will also both be offering workshops for members and non-members. Al's will be in conjunction with the For Pastels Only show (July 31 – Aug 2) and Terry will be giving the five-day Master workshop on September 20 – 24.

One of the goals of PPSCC is to bring pastel artists together by offering instruction and opportunities to explore this most alluring art medium. PPSCC (thanks to Sue Carey)has



PPSCC President Dale Wade

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offered wonderfully diverse topics for our 2008 Beat the Winter Blahs series and we have 2 more workshops scheduled before June. So think about joining us in refreshing your attitude toward your painting and sign up for a workshop to stimulate or renew your thinking.

Thinking of stimulation ... I ask all PPSCC members to consider becoming more active in PPSCC. YOU can help us grow ... we have had so many recent occasions that have proved more heads are better than one. Are you interested in lectures, one-day or multiple day workshops, road trips to exhibits or plein aire opportunities? We would love to have your input in any way you can offer it. Please contact us thru our website [www.pastelpainterssocietyofcapecod.com](http://www.pastelpainterssocietyofcapecod.com).

— Dale Michaels Wade  
president@

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## Spring 2008

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