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**AUGUST 2024**

**OPENING RECEPTION—SEE EVERYONE THERE!**



MAAA  
MONADNOCK AREA  
ARTISTS ASSOCIATION



# ART GALLERY

OPENING RECEPTION  
& ART IN THE PARK PREVIEW  
THU, AUG 1, 4-6PM

*You are invited to a special late-afternoon reception in a unique setting to view the new exhibit in the **ART GALLERY** featuring twenty+ artists... In addition, join a special **ART IN THE PARK** preview upstairs overlooking Downtown Keene. Refreshments. Free and open to the public.*

**MAAA ART GALLERY** at Syds, St. James Street, Keene

serving wine and other refreshments. You will browse through the art exhibit and then stroll through the beautiful furniture rooms to get to the reception spot. It will be worth the walk! There is an elevator too.

Chat with other exhibitors, consider getting involved in the organization, or just come for the views! Whatever the motivation, we will look forward to warmly welcoming you. Please consider inviting your friends: the more visitors to the Gallery, the more word spreads about what a wonderful resource it is. The Opening Reception is open to the public.

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## COUNTDOWN TO ART IN THE PARK

Excitement is building for our big event at the end of August. It looks like will have nearly 70 exhibitors. We also have eight paid sponsorships! The Art in the Park Committee has been meeting regularly to be sure everything is on track for the weekend of Saturday, August 31, and Sunday, September 1.

## HELP, HELP, HELP

MAAA's 66th annual Art in the Park event is less than a month away. We desperately need volunteers to work a 3-hour shift in the main tent either Saturday or Sunday. If you have any free time that weekend, please consider helping us out. We will be forever grateful! Please contact Kris Stewart at [kristewartfineart@gmail.com](mailto:kristewartfineart@gmail.com).

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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS & REGISTRATIONS

We have switched over to the new MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL SYSTEM. You will receive notifications from [MonadnockAreaArtists@gmail.org](mailto:MonadnockAreaArtists@gmail.org) but you can login anytime and set your new password. Fingers crossed for a smooth transition.... If you have trouble please email [Ruth.Sterling@gmail.com](mailto:Ruth.Sterling@gmail.com)



Contact

[Register or Renew Membership](#)



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At the bottom of each page on our website, [MonadnockAreaArtists.org](http://MonadnockAreaArtists.org), is a link to Register or Renew.

## WONDERFUL WORKSHOPS- DEMO DAY 2024



Liz Winchester-Larson (above) and Kate Beetle went over the top to assure that participants had a Demonstration Day experience full of insights and instruction. The July 20 workshops were captured here by Wendi Hulslander who attended both. Between Mary Iseln's class in June and this day with Liz and Kate, MAAA has jumped back into educational offerings in a big, enthusiastic way. Jeanne Maguire Thieme's Critiques with Care are another major opportunity for art education; these will continue in September. With many of our members preparing for Art in the Park, as well as the Sunapee Craft Fair, a previously mentioned Pen & Ink Demonstration day for August has been postponed until the future. Our association owes tremendous thanks to members of the MAAA Workshop Committee—Kathleen Kennedy, Gail Shelley and Mary Kirk, as well as the instructors for jump-starting MAAA educational programming.

## MEMBER NEWS

Jeanne Maguire Thieme unveiled her mural on June 29th of the 11 horses that have lived in her barn the past 40 years. It is titled: TRIBUTE

Her grandchildren painted the background.

It can be seen from the road at 30 Hale Hill Rd. Swanzey.



## THE HEALING POWER OF ART

By some yardsticks, Jeanne Thieme and her husband Mike have it all. Jeanne Maguire Thieme is an award-winning artist whose watercolors have hung in major exhibits and now hang in delighted people's homes. Jeanne and Mike raised their two daughters in a charming New Hampshire town in a warm and welcoming home that their grandchildren now enjoy as well. In the barn and fields surrounding their homestead, horses were lovingly tended and for more than three decades the family's activities centered around their horse family and Pipe Dream Farm.

And then one day last summer when Jeanne was 72 years old, an unexpected fall off the back of her horse changed everything. Jeanne will express how grateful she is that the fall didn't kill or permanently incapacitate her. But it did cause a broken right collarbone and a broken left wrist, effectively straight-jacketing her for the summer and early fall. Mike, as a professional plumber and facilities manager, a jack-of-all-trades was there to help initially. But he too was decommissioned—by a scheduled knee replacement. In one quick tumble, the curtains on their life full of horses were closing.

The hugely emotional decision was made. The horses went to new homes. But they stayed in Jeanne's heart.

And here's how she handled it all.

When she could recover enough to paint Jeanne began creating a mural for the side of the barn where over the years eleven horses had resided. Her immense artistic gifts assured that this is no static, predictable scene. It is a full wall of

Jeanne recalls, "Poignant memories flooded back as I painted each horse. The connection to a horse was more than riding. I loved taking care of them, the physical work involved and building a relationship with a horse—we became a team."

The story of the mural has interesting side stories, for example: Her four grandchildren have painted the sky and background (see below). Notable artist Peter Granucci has consulted on the artistic execution of the work. Finish carpenter Ken Greatbatch crafted a frame enclosure. And Jeanne has compiled a 10-minute photo tribute to the horses. Jeanne's horses have brought joy to her family, neighbors and a larger community over many years. Friends and family were invited to the debut of the mural on June 29 at which the photo program was shown prior to the unveiling.

Recognizing the possibility that the healing power of art could benefit others, Jeanne is willing to share her story. She says, "I am an artist—the mural illustrates the healing power of Art. As I painted this mural, pain and loss turned into gratitude that I had 35 wonderful years with these horses—a Pipe Dream had come true for me. My story illustrates how animals can influence lives, change the course of a person's life."

The title of the mural sums it up: "TRIBUTE."



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Jackie Griswold will be exhibiting at the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen Annual Fair at the Sunapee Resort. She will also have 2 pieces in the Exhibition Tent. The dates are from Friday, August 2 until Sunday, August 11.

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## ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

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7th & 8th. The two venues are Summit Winery in Westmoreland and Branch & Blade Brewing in Keene. If you would like more information or an application, please contact: [rivervalleyartisanstour@gmail.com](mailto:rivervalleyartisanstour@gmail.com) or visit our website [www.rva-art.com](http://www.rva-art.com) for an application.

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## **Elevate the Arts Fest on August 11**

Arts Alive is excited to host their third annual outdoor community arts festival and fundraiser, Elevate the Arts Fest, on Sunday, August 11th from 11AM-4PM. The event will be held rain or shine in the Commercial Street lot on Gilbo Ave. in downtown Keene.

An afternoon full of artists, arts activities, performers, games, and music, Elevate the Arts Fest represents Arts Alive's mission of increasing access to art, culture, and creativity as a human right. Admission and all activities are free, enabling attendees to support local artists at the arts market and Arts Alive at the raffle fundraiser. Visit [monadnockartsalive.org/elevate-the-arts-fest](http://monadnockartsalive.org/elevate-the-arts-fest) for more information.

## **Arts Field Trip: Heritage Crafts and Morris Dance on August 25**

Connect with fellow artists, learn about morris dance, and explore heritage crafts! On Sunday, August 25 at 10AM, Arts Alive invites artists and arts appreciators to connect, enjoy, and learn more about the arts in their community at The Craft School at Mill Hollow Works in Keene. Hear the story of the craft school's beginnings as the old timber frame Elm Farm, current mission and programming, and different ways to get involved.

Participants will then be introduced to a local folk dance group, Firebird Morris, that often performs traditional English/Welsh molly and border dances in costume at festivals and community events. Finally, everyone will get the



All the while, short tours of the premises, which borders Cooper's Crossroad (and their farm animals!) will be available if desired. Weather-permitting, we'll be outside in the fresh air under tented shade. Registration is \$15 general and \$10 for Arts Alive members at [monadnockartsalive.org/artist-field-trips](https://monadnockartsalive.org/artist-field-trips).

[monadnockartsalive.org](https://monadnockartsalive.org)

[discovermonadnock.com](https://discovermonadnock.com)

## MARKETPLACE

From Kevin Whitfield - I plan to participate in the 2024 Art in the Park and would prefer to borrow a fellow artist's display panels or other equipment who isn't planning to exhibit at AIP this year so I can reduce the cost on my end. Please let me know if you would be willing to do this for me as soon as possible. It would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you! whitfieldkevin70@gmail.com

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Please send your news for next month by the 23rd of this month to bagel@tpdi.biz. Please send your news as you want it to read as I will not make edits. If you send photos, **please send as a jpg not a pdf** as Mailchimp doesn't upload pdf's and send as an attachment.

**Please do not send pdf's.**

Thank you

Carol

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