



## VPS Newsletter April-June 2026

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### Spring Newsletter April-June, 2026

**Welcome to Spring...and Summer!**

Apologies for the lack of an ontime April Newsletter, glitches happen. Soooo...hope you all have been taking in Hub Happenings which have been outstanding this spring! News from the HUBs is important as it inspires our artistic growth. Kudos to all contributing artists and your endeavors! Onward...

A recap on the list is our wonderfully displayed Spring Juried Show at the South Burlington Art Gallery on 180 Market St. There were 58 paintings to enjoy at our reception, on Thursday, April 9. Thank yous go out to Ann Wickham, our Exhibitions coordinator, for organizing the event as well as Phyllis, Maggie, and Lisa for all their hard work that went into making this show such a lovely success. Our VPS is certainly a 'well oiled' machine courtesy of your committed Board Members.

Our thoughtful and talented judge was Daryl Storrs who offered excellent critique and reasons for her choices of First through Fifth place artistry, admitting that judging artistry is a subjective study and that there can always be differences of opinions. With that, here are the Juried Show Results: **FIRST PLACE**, Cris Kossow: *Green Bowls*; **SECOND PLACE**, Maria Riley: *Silent Snow*; **THIRD PLACE**, Judy Albright: *Peaceful Moments*; **FOURTH PLACE**, Wendy Soliday: *Splash*; **FIFTH PLACE**, Maria Ianello: *Not Van Gogh-the Other One!*

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#### **SPRING BOARD MEETING**

Our spring Board Meeting centered around discussions of keeping VPS in a stable financial place which is getting more difficult with workshop costs to VPS rising. We are trying to give reasonable prices to our membership with a bit lower W/S prices. FYI, they are not income makers for VPS. Discussion centered upon the possibility of raising slightly our member fees, though this has been tabled. Talk to your HUB leaders and give your opinions with feedback to any or all Board Members. We are trying our best to give you great opportunities while keeping these costs down.

Additional discussion centered upon obtaining an updated website platform as the one we are using is very outdated with frequent issues needing resolution. This will be a costly endeavor but necessary in the very near future.

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## 2026 EVENTS CALENDAR WORKSHOPS

**May 1-3:** Lyn Asselta at the Meeting House in Colchester

**Oct 2-4:** Marlene Wiedenbaum, at the Monument Art & Cultural Center, Bennington

At present there are no planned workshops for 2027.

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## EXHIBITIONS

### **Juried/ Member Shows**

April 1-May 28: hosted by the Champlain Hub, at the South Burlington Art Gallery on Market Street.

Our Members' Exhibition will be hosted by the Upper Valley Hub at Artistree in Pomfret from August 28-September 26.

In 2027 the Members' Exhibition will return to Southern Vt Arts Center in August and September with the Juried Show sometime in the spring of 2027.

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## ELECTIONS

Some Board positions come up for renewal or new members to be voted upon yearly. The Board has voted and endorsed Andrea McSweeney Stoehr, from the SW HUB as a candidate for Vice President followed by an electronic vote for Andrea. Our welcome and many thanks to Andrea for putting forth her name to help out on the Board!

**Beyond VP:** In October VPS will have these Board offices vacant due to retiring members: President, Secretary, Workshop Coordinator, Exhibitions Coordinator (Ann Wickham would like to renew her board participation in this capacity), and HUBs Coordinator. ***PLEASE consider putting a little bit of extra effort into VPS for its continued success!*** Terms are only 2 years. New blood is needed this year and we can't do all that we do to support YOU without YOUR supporting VPS. Speak with your HUB leaders – PLEASE step up, none of these jobs are full-time or require lots of effort. And you will have retiring members available to answer any questions as well as guide you along the way! Soooooo.....time to answer the VPS call! Please step up!

Shirley Carlson  
VPS President





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