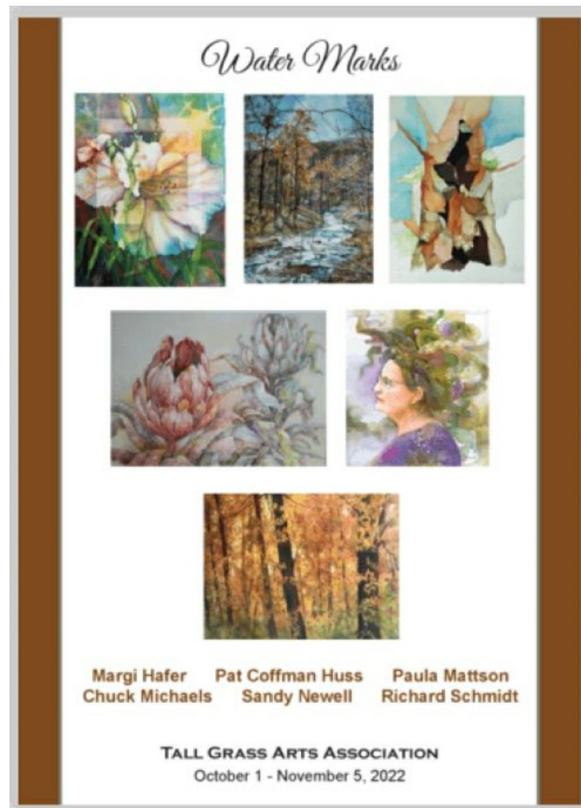


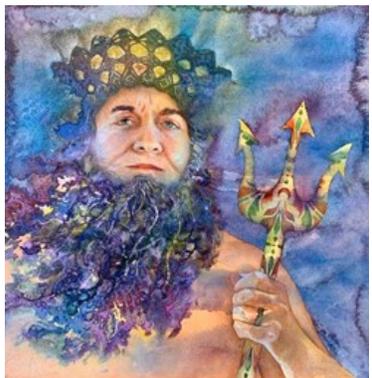
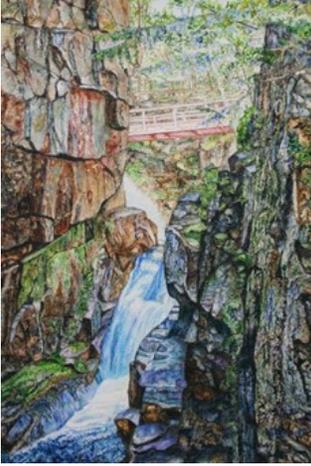
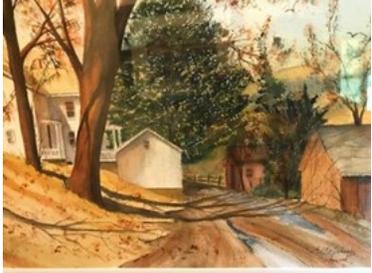
## *Water Marks*

**Tall Grass Arts Association will present the works of six outstanding artists in this new exhibit that opens on Saturday, October 1 and runs through November 5, 2022.**

**All are welcome to attend the Artists' Reception on October 1, from 1-3pm.**



**The artists included in Water Marks – Margi Hafer, Pat Coffman Huss, Paula Mattson, Chuck Michaels, Sandy Newell, and Richard Schmidt – are all highly-respected painters who have shown and received awards for their works in numerous exhibits, galleries, and museums around the country. They have been included in books, magazines, and various other publications, and many have spent years teaching in schools and universities, and are members of a variety of art organizations.**



Their subject matter ranges from portraits to still life, mountain landscapes to city architecture, whimsical animals to complex abstractions. Many are based on traditional handling of transparent watercolors, while others are experiments with various papers, surfaces, and everyday objects to create unusual textures and patterns, along with layering, stenciling, and lifting paint.

The artists have commented on how they find watercolor the most challenging and exciting medium they have worked with; how they enjoy the process of capturing a moment in time, or the essence of topics and objects that provide richness in their lives, or of being able to share a memory with others of a particular place. They share that they find joy and peace when they are painting.

8



### Margi Hafer

Art has always been a part of my life. Even as a small child I would spend hours drawing and creating fanciful "objects of art." I enjoy exploring and reinterpreting the forms, colors and composition as the work develops. Often the artwork will take on a direction of its own that is completely different than what I originally conceived. While painting, sculpting, or creating various mixed media objects of art in my studio I let my inner spirit take flight and capture the fantasies that are aroused in me through music, and meditative contemplation of the art materials. My work often has a spiritual quality that relates to my inner feelings as a woman with the roles of daughter, wife, mother, and grandmother feeding my visions and energizing my spirit. I usually work "full palette" when painting or using colorful materials to create art. Flowers are one of my favorite subjects, but I also enjoy figurative and abstract painting.

### Pat Coffman Huss

My paintings capture a moment in time or on occasion, a memory shared by others of a particular place. That is the case with my painting, *"Lunch at the Drake."*

Were the plates monogrammed or were there cymbidium orchids in the table vase? No, but these details were added to portray a shared lunch at an elegant, historic restaurant with old Chicago charm.

As I capture these moments using watercolors, I am always joyful when

I am painting yet a little sorrowful when the art is complete. However, the memories stand the test of time.



### Paula Mattson

I needed a focus, a direction for this show. I chose subject matter that reflects things that inspire me. Nature, in general, but specifically fossils, my beloved Southwest and the Northwest.

My work tends to be my attempt at capturing the essence of the places, topics and objects that provide richness in my life. Things that move me emotionally and speak to my soul.

The negative space is just as important as the positive imagery. I am at peace when I paint. It keeps me focused and grounded.



### Chuck Michaels

In all my years of painting, I found watercolors to be the most challenging and exciting medium to work with. Watercolors continue to challenge my ability to express many art forms and colors, while also giving me pleasant surprises. These surprises are very exciting to obtain, along with attention to details that you need to be aware of when working with watercolors.



### Sandy Newell

Sandy Newell's watercolor technique began as an experiment when she poured paint over feathers to see what would happen. Shortly thereafter, "Beauty Queen" the ostrich was born. Now she uses all kinds of everyday objects including bubble wrap, coffee filters and doilies to create unusual textures and patterns. It is a fun and unpredictable process that keeps her coming back with more ideas.

Most recently, Sandy has been painting on black paper. The combination of transparent and opaque watercolors makes for yet another way to obtain unexpected and dramatic results.



### Richard Schmidt

I have been always fascinated with painting nature and those things quite not permanent. I personally see spiritual significance in the density and feel of matter - there is something timeless, immortal about it - whether a rock, tree, water, a bowl of fruit, or an old barn falling down on itself. These things have texture, dimension, and a soul. Trying to express the three-dimensional world on two-dimensional canvas is a daunting challenge. This is my aim with every new painting.

My most satisfying results come from losing myself in the subject that I paint. In a sense, becoming the subject. Capture that color, see the sunshine, walk into those woods, feel the cold, the texture of the rock, hear the music of the babbling stream, the warmth of an autumn day.



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**Water Marks** will include nearly seventy paintings, and curators Claudia Craemer and Debbie Craemer invite everyone to attend the Opening Reception on Saturday, October 1, from 1 to 3pm, to welcome the artists and view all their wonderful works.

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Tall Grass Arts Association, 367 Artists Walk, Park Forest, IL 60466  
[www.tallgrassarts.org](http://www.tallgrassarts.org) 708 748 3377

Gallery Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 11am - 4pm each day.

***WE HOPE YOU WILL VISIT US SOON!***

Tall Grass Arts Association | 367 Artists Walk, Park Forest, IL 60466

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