

PJ's (Plein Janes/Joes) LAA Plein Air Painters – July 2021

PJs artists should observe local guidelines related to COVID. Please wear mask if you are not vaccinated and keep physical distance from others. We paint mostly within Boulder County, which has recently loosened restrictions. As always, you need to determine if weather conditions are suitable for you to paint. We won't usually announce any cancellations for weather, though we may formally cancel if it's a major weather event. We will paint from 9:00-12:00 unless otherwise specified, but you are encouraged to come and go according to your own needs.

July Schedule

July 2 –South Boulder Creek Trailhead West. Located 1 mile south of Greenbriar Ave. stoplight intersection on Hwy 93(Broadway), on the right (west) side of 93. If coming from Marshall Rd., turn north on 93 and go ½ mile. Look for sign set back a bit from the road on the west side of 93. Park in designated parking area. This spot has 2 shaded picnic tables, restrooms, panoramic views of the mountains and open space between road and mountains. A short walk on the main trail takes you to a different vantage point for the mountains, and there's a grove of large cottonwood trees there. Near the parking lot is a small pond currently full of weeds and scum, but you can use your artistic license to make it prettier. As of this past week, the landscape is still green. Sometimes there are horses, and there are always birds.

July 9 – Cottonwood Park/Lake Park, Via Appia and S. Boulder Rd., Louisville. These two parks are attached. You can park in Cottonwood Park parking lot, which is directly east of Via Appia on S. Boulder Rd., south side. From there, walk past the kids' play area, through the trees to the pond. Or park closer to the pond in the residential area off of Via Appia on W. Harper St. Walk across Via Appia where there's a trail connection directly across for this street. The shelter and pond are right there. There are large cottonwood trees, a nice pond full of cattails, ducks and a fishing platform. There is a shelter by the pond and bathrooms.

July 16 – Varsity Pond, CU campus, just west of Old Main, Boulder. Head north on Broadway, past Baseline, past Regent Dr., past the UMC and the Hill, to University Blvd. Turn right on University and you'll see back-in, paid parking on the right side. Walk southeast on paved paths toward Old Main and Mackey Auditorium. Between them is Varsity Pond with its iconic footbridge, plus frogs and turtles, abundant goldfish in the water, lots of trees and flowers. For those into urban sketching, you could include any of the old scenic campus buildings nearby. Restrooms may be available in Old Main or in McKenna or Mackey, all nearby. Shady spots available and some benches for sitting. Student presence is light these days.

July 23 – Waneka Lake, Lafayette. Take S. Boulder Rd. east to Lafayette, past Centaurus High School. Turn north on Centaur Village Dr. and at the T intersection, turn left on Caria Dr. At Waneka Lake Park, turn left into the parking lot. Meet by the boat house and go from there. There is the large, beautiful lake plus a small, marshy pond called Greenlee Marsh. There are

boats, people fishing, lots of good water scenes. Greenlee Marsh has cattails and lots of big trees. Bathroom available in the boathouse near main parking lot.

July 30 – Coot Lake, 6247 63rd St., Boulder. From the Diagonal Highway (Rte 119), head north on 63rd, which is a short distance out of Boulder, near Gunbarrel. With mountain views in the distance, Coot Lake offers a 1.2 mile walkway around the lake, shade trees, public restrooms, picnic tables, a kids' art walk, a parking lot (with overflow parking in the big lot right across 63rd), abundant wildlife, birds, and plants. Some days it is filled with people walking dogs and letting them swim in the lake.