



VOLUME 55

March 2010

VISUAL INTEREST

The Society of Watercolor Artists' Newsletter



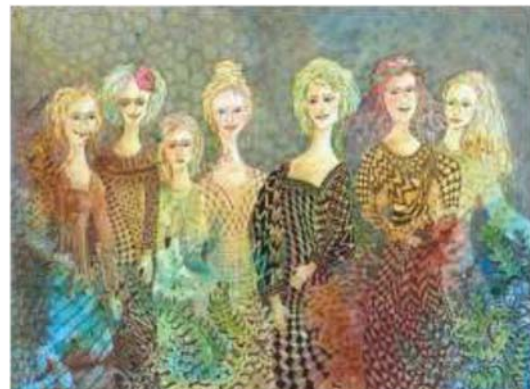
The Presidents Message

As I announced in our February meeting, it is with regret that we accept President-Elect Judy Marlar's resignation due to health and personal reasons. We wish Judy the best and hope that she will soon be able to consider returning to some role on our Board.

Our By-Laws call for the Board to establish a Nominating Committee to seek volunteers for vacant positions. This committee will be contacting some of you to discuss the possibility you might be willing to step in and fill one of our critical vacancies.

In the meantime, I will be glad to continue as President until someone else wants to take over. I may pretend otherwise sometimes, but I thoroughly enjoy working with this group of talented and dedicated artists. This year has been a learning year for several of our new Board members, but our new group has proven to be very effective and cohesive and I think we've had a wonderful year.

Lots of fun spring activities include the Tom Lynch workshop and plans for the SWA tent in the Japanese Garden at the Botanic Gardens. And we'll soon be going on another Paint Out somewhere in our area. Keep on painting and entering our shows. See you at the meetings!



Suzanne McNeill - Demonstrator for March

Suzanne will show how to combine Zentangle®, a meditative style of drawing with colorful watercolor techniques.

Suzanne is dedicated to hands-on creativity... painting, quilting, beading and working with her hands. Her paintings are known for happy colors, folk-art inspiration and details. She has a degree in art and is a signature member of SWA.

Suzanne's watercolor and Zentangle painting 'Beauty in Blue' won the Award of Merit at the AVAA show. In March Suzanne will have a one-woman show at the Petroleum Club and in April she will be a featured artist at Eclectic Expressions Gallery.

Visit Suzanne at blog.suzannemcneill.com.



February Demo - Sharon Markwardt



Congratulations Painting of the Month Winners



First Winner
Connie Sevsen



Second Winner
Diane Petrushka

Featured Artist - Colleen Erickson



Clockwise: "Rodan", "Peaches",
"Ryder", "Bushytail",
"Grand Canal"



Colleen Erickson was born in Fort Worth and currently lives on Lake Weatherford with her husband. Her mother painted as a hobby and they studied Saturday mornings with Josephine Mahaffey. During this time Colleen had enrolled at Tarrant County Junior College and was studying Art. Colleen's husband was in the Air Force and transferred to Guam. She joined him there and continued to paint and draw, learning on her own through books. She found a retired Illustrator, Chad Beaubien and studied with him while on the island. It was there on Guam that she experimented with watercolor. She traveled to many of the beautiful locations on the island and painted what she saw. Eventually, her husband transferred back to Fort Worth and she went back to college studying art and computers. She completed her education at Texas Christian University, majoring in secondary education with two teaching fields of Art and Computers. After 3 years in the teaching profession, she left to work for General Dynamics and retired in 2005 from Lockheed Martin as a System Engineer. During these years art took a backseat to her family and work.

It was in 2001 that a friend encouraged her to come to a meeting of SWA. This introduction to watercolor "kick started" her desire to take up the brush again. She liked what she saw and joined the organization. Colleen has been an active member of SWA since joining in 2001 and held the President position in 2004-2005. She has been an integral part of both the national and membership shows. She maintains the internet and keeps members informed of ongoing art items. She has taken on doing the catalog for SWA.

Colleen continues to study art and has taken numerous workshops sponsored by SWA. Her paintings are derived from photographs that she takes and include a wide range of subject matter. She has received several awards in the SWA shows. She is very active in the Weatherford Art Association, holds the Vice President position for workshops and classes and has won several awards in the WAA shows and the Peach Festival. Other hobbies include quilting and woodworking.

Artist Statement: "Sometimes we can fulfill the dreams we have as a child and sometimes they remain just that, dreams. Being an Artist has always been a dream for me and creating has always been second nature. Whether it is fabric, wood, canvas or paper, I have always enjoyed designing and creating as well as building and painting. Studying art teaches an individual to really see. It is always easy to see the world that surrounds us, but the real test is seeing within."



Last Chance to meet Robin and Marie

...at the Japanese Gardens - they have a great deal of information and inspiration to pass on to you!

This will be to gather photos or quick sketches for small paintings you will do at home for the April 24th and 25th Japanese Garden Festival. No charge (other than the \$4.00 admission to the garden) just meet us there. The festival is a lovely event. Your art work will be purchased and appreciated. Work small - you will be shown how to reproduce your work for Gift Cards, Post Cards and small paintings.

WE WILL MEET YOU SATURDAY, MARCH 20th, AT 10:30 IN FRONT OF THE JAPANESE GIFT SHOP (by the tall Pagoda - Japanese Garden parking lot)



Our Festival space (tents and tables) are filling up - we have to know if you will join us - it's important !

Please call or E-mail Robin Brown

817-927-7888 robinredux@netzero.net



SWA Artist Aprons **are you interested?**

SWA will be selling aprons with that beautiful Paintbrush Logo on the bib. The aprons should be ready by May. You can wear them for summer painting and inspiration! The cost will be around \$20.00. We will have a sign up sheet at our next meeting - (sign in table)... this is to let us know approximately how many we need to order...also a picture of what the aprons look like. Everyone needs an apron...order an extra one for friends and family members - they are proud of the artist in the family!

Questions, comments? Robin robinredux@netzero.net

The Issue of Yupo

As you know, we must present a proposed rule change to the group for three meetings before taking a vote of the membership. Our March meeting will mark the 3rd time the issue has been presented to the membership. We will vote at our April meeting. All comments are welcome. Send them to me via email msmaryps@aol.com or snail mail at 6655 Shady Glen Circle, Benbrook, TX 76132.

Here are the rules which affect our making this decision, which can be found on pages 11 and 12 in your Membership Directory:

Note, we are striving to "encourage growth and creativity in the individual members" AND "establish a standard of ethics and cooperation among the membership."

ARTICLE XIII AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote provided the amendment has been read and recorded at the previous meeting or by notifying the membership by mail.

SWA Statement of Professional Ethics

A statement of standards for a Professional art society must not be restrictive, but should define goals which:

1. Encourage growth and creativity in the individual members.
2. Establish a standard of ethics and cooperation among the membership.

STATEMENT OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR EXHIBITIONS

Paintings submitted for exhibition must be original in concept and not copies of work by persons other than the artist. Work must have been completed during the last two years. Work executed under supervision of an instructor or copies from any source is considered student work and not eligible for entry. Work shall not have been accepted in any previous SWA show. Paintings must be at least 80% water medium on paper.

PROPOSED CHANGE OF LANGUAGE: *"Paintings must be at least 80% water medium on paper or yupo."*

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Is the change of wording to include yupo sufficient?
- Should we also include unstretched watercolor canvas? Should we include clayboard?
- Should we consider being much more specific, such as the full definitions used by the Utah Watercolor Society?

We will discuss the wording of the proposed language change at our March meeting. Then we will present the proposed change in our April newsletter and hold our vote at our April meeting.

I hope this exercise has stimulated discussion and thought and that everyone will come to our April meeting for the vote.

The Issue of Yupo (Continued)

What the Other Societies Say...

National Watercolor Society: Membership Show Prospectus says: "Work must be water-based media on paper."

NOTE: The following is an email I received last year from the past president of NWS in which she states her very personal opinion, which you may find of interest:

Dear Mary, I will try to answer your questions, but my answers are not official. Several years ago the consensus was not to accept Yupo. Past president, George James, was upset about this decision since he is actively pushing artists to use Yupo. The strict answer includes the word "paper." Now Yupo is advertised as "paper." This is not true. There is not one speck of paper in this "plastic" product. NWS states in every prospectus that surfaces must be paper. NWS will not accept watercolor canvas either. Illustration board is definitely made out of paper and is acceptable. All our entries must be framed with acrylic over the art work. We know artists manage to sneak in with Yupo. I feel the framed piece should be opened up and examined. Artists should not enter commercial reproductions of their work. Those cheap prints when suspect should also be examined. It is hard to hold to high standards when so often artists feel they have to push the restrictions. There are thousands of art groups throughout the country that will accept almost anything. I say let these people enter those societies. You can see I have strong feelings about this situation. Sincerely, Loa Sprung - NWS Past President

American Watercolor Society: Open to all artists working in water soluble media: watercolor, acrylic, casein, gouache and egg tempera on paper. Canvas is not accepted.

Texas Watercolor Society: Paintings must be primarily water media on paper. If collage or pastel is used, for example, it must be in conjunction with the water media and not be the dominant element.

Southwestern Watercolor Society: All work must be original water media on paper or Yupo. Water media includes watercolors, acrylics, inks, gouache, casein, egg tempera, watercolor pencils and watercolor crayons.

National Watercolor Society: Work must be water-based media on paper.

Western Federation of Watercolor Societies: Must be water media on paper or yupo presented in a primarily aqueous manner. Water media includes watercolors, acrylics, inks, gouache, casein, egg tempera, watercolor pencils and watercolor crayons. Collage materials must be painted by the artist with water media. Non water based media may be integrated into a primarily aqueous painting as a minor element (20% or less of the surface).

Watercolor Art Society-Houston: Artwork must be at least 80% watermedia on paper, clayboard, or yupo.

New Mexico Watercolor Society: Acceptable work for juried exhibitions shall include aqueous material defined as transparent and opaque watercolors (gouache), acrylics, egg tempera, casein, watercolor pencils, crayons and water soluble ink. No water-based oils. Collage is acceptable using plain white papers painted with water-based media. All paintings shall be executed on approved paper. Approved paper is defined as cotton rag paper, cotton rag paper-mounted board, Yupo, watercolor canvas and Oriental papers. All other supports that are NOT approved include: clayboard, Masonite, canvas and wood. All finished artwork will remain unvarnished, framed and matted under plexiglass.

Utah Watercolor Society: Must use water media: transparent watercolor, acrylic, gouache, acrylic inks, tempera, casein, water media-treated collage paper, water-based monotype, may use minor amounts of other media (ink, pastel, graphite) All supports acceptable: (WC canvas, clayboard, etc. Framing under glass or plexi not required.)

Western Colorado Watercolor Society: Limited to water media with the appearance of watercolor on paper, Yupo or unstretched watercolor canvas."

Southern Arizona Watercolor Guild: Only original works in watermedia on paper, watercolor canvas, or yupo will be accepted.

Welcome New Members

Lynda Ballard hicohilton@yahoo.com
3817 CR 265
Dublin, TX 76446 254-796-4491

Cliff Kinsey craftercliff@sbcglobal.net
7516 Northfield Drive
North Richland Hills, TX 76182 817-658-2113

Ralf Postulka ralf@lakegranbury.com
7615 Ravenswood Rd.
Granbury, TX 76049-4746 817-579-6817

Debra Sutton suttonbabygirl@yahoo.com
139 Country Vista Circle
Burleson, TX 76028-7879 Cell: 817-308-4269

Dick Taylor kk5pj@aol.com
5409 Merry Wing Circle
Austin, TX 78730-1439 512-343-1250

Devin Van Horn devinvh@yahoo.com
5701 Sandshell Dr. #701
Fort Worth, TX 76137 817-917-5104

Changes

June & Hugh Chavern
1600 Texas Street #21404
Fort Worth, TX 76102

SWA Notables

- **Tom Lynch's workshop is scheduled for April 20-22, 2010. St. John's Episcopal Church Parish Hall has been secured for this event and will be from 9:30am til 4:30pm Tues -Thurs. Check Tom out at www.tomlynch.com**

Contact Carolyn Jehring for additional information
at 817-263-8183 or E-mail c.jehring@att.net



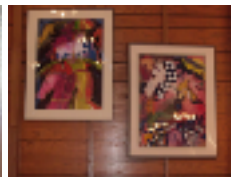
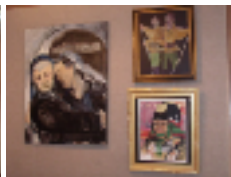
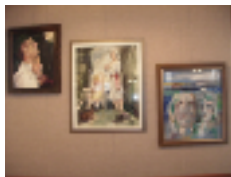
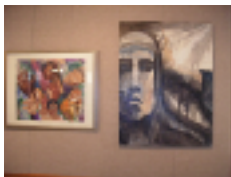
- **Darla Bostick is currently lining up participants for an art retreat/workshop in Sedona, AZ for April 18. She has some spaces still open but must commit by March 9. There will be creekside cabins/houses reserved.**

Darla's annual Ghost Ranch Art Retreat/Workshop at Abiquiu, NM will be Aug 31-Sept 6. www.darlabostick.com

Darla can be contacted by e-mail at darlabostickart@yahoo.com.



- **Betsy Milligan-Maloney has a 25 piece exhibit on display at the Clark Hall of the First Christian Church in Huntsville until the end of March. Betsy was a member of SWA for many years and says she misses everyone very much.**



If you have information for this segment please send it to George Grant at...

gagrants36@yahoo.com
or call 817-246-3239

For some who have not been to our meetings lately....

When you drive into the parking lot of UNTHSC, the Research and Education Building building to the right houses Everett Hall. When you are facing the building, located left of the center of this building is a handicapped entrance. Take this entrance and when you enter turn right. Everett Hall's entrance is the first room on your left.

*SWA meets the third Monday of every month
(except June, July, & Aug) at...*

**UNT HEALTH & SCIENCE CENTER
EVERETT HALL**

Research and Education Bld., First Floor

3500 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth, Tx 76107

Board Meeting: Monday, March 15th 5:15 pm

Critique Group: Monday, March 15th 6:00 pm

General Meeting: Monday, March 15th 7:00 pm

- As always, you can bring your paintings to critique at 6pm before our regular meeting.

REGISTRATION FORM

SWA DUES ARE DUE JANUARY 1, 2010

\$40 Single Membership \$30 Seniors (65+)

\$5 Extra Family Member

(Dues are delinquent as of March 1, 2010)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** ____ **Zip (9 digit)** _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Make check payable to: SWA and send to :

Shirley Nichols

2525 Ryan Place Dr, Fort Worth TX 76110-2506

Phone 817-247-9091 senichols@flash.net

OFFICERS 2009 - 2010

President: Mary Stitt
Past President: Dave Carpenter
President Elect: TBD
Vice President: Ann Winchester
Secretary: Diane Petrushka
Treasurer: Janet Southern

Directors

Administration: Mary Stitt
Budget, Finance: Janet Southern
Development: TBD
Education: Ann Winchester
Marketing: TBD
Membership: Shirley Nichols

International Show: TBD
Membership Show: TBD
Painting of the Month: Sharon McGlasson
Signature Members: Norma Lively
Cultural Activities: Robin Brown & Marie Coerver
Community Involved Arts: (Open)
Critiques: David Maxwell
Plein Air: George Grant
Workshops: Carolyn Jehring
Catalog: Colleen Erickson
Prospectus: Colleen Erickson
Internet / Web: Colleen Erickson
Photography: Colleen Erickson
Newsletter: George Grant
Telephone Committee: Mary Stitt & Carolyn Jehring
White elephant Sale: Mary House
Greeters: June Chavern
Hospitality: Marie Coerver
Historian: (Open)

**Please consider volunteering for one of our
"Open" positions**

If there are changes not noted in this newsletter, please contact...

George Grant @ 817-246-3239 or

E-mail gagrants36@yahoo.com

SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

www.swa-watercolor.com

- PO Box 471571 Fort Worth, TX 76147 - 1400
- SWA is a 501 c (3) organization ● Gifts and donations are tax deductible

Society of Watercolor Artists, Inc. Founded in 1981