

SWA January Notes 2013

Hello to Friends of SWA & Members

Happy
New Year!

This is my favorite season of the year. I love the lights, the smiles, the parties, the sharing and (of course) the food! I received some artful Christmas cards and thought I would share some with you in the newsletter. These are from our SWA members. We have amazing talent in our membership!



"Angels-A Joyous Celebration" by Jo Ann Durham and "Christmas Jalopy" by Margie Whittington

January brings with it a different excitement...one of renewal and the challenge of a new year. Two years ago I set a New Year's resolution for myself—paint 52 paintings during the year. I almost painted enough last year (47) and this year I came close again (46). The exercise helped me to make decisions and not agonize so much on my paintings. It loosened my style a bit and I find myself mixing colors on the paper instead of the palette. If you haven't set your resolutions for the year consider the following ideas.

2013 Artsy Resolutions for Myself

- One-painting-a-week challenge!
- Support artist friends by attending their receptions!
- Don't miss a single SWA meeting. They inspire you to paint
- Plug into your SWA association. It only takes a little from many volunteers to make us EXCEPTIONAL!
- Bring food to the meetings. Robin can't do it alone... Sign up so she can expect your help.
- Bring a friend/new member to a meeting! Growth is good and new ideas are better!
- Join us for SWA field trips, parties, exhibitions & workshops. They grow the spirit.
- Get a watercolor techniques 'how-to' book and work each exercise...you just might learn something new!



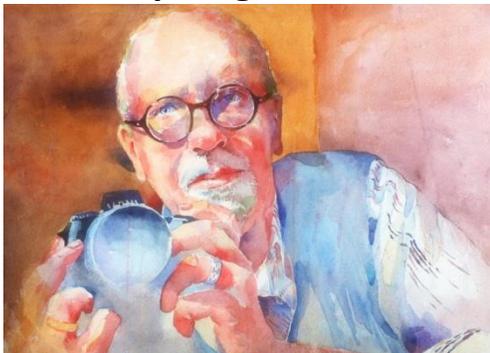
"Early Snow" by Charlene Baker

With great anticipation for the new year,
Darla Bostick
President (and newsletter editor)

IMPORTANT NOTICE: JANUARY MEETING MOVED UP ONE WEEK TO 14 JANUARY **[call your friends to be sure they got the word!]**

Due to a scheduling conflict with UNTHSC on Martin Luther Day, our January meeting is one week earlier. Please be there at 6pm on Monday, 14 January for the Pizza Party and meeting/demo. Read on for details.

Member Spotlight and January Demo Artist...Michael D Holter



"Self Portrait"



"Farm Hand"



"Urban Cowboy"

I have been an artist all of my life. Haven't we all? I didn't realize that I could actually apply my calling to the functional aspects of living (things like buying groceries) until I was in my twenties. At that time I had a spiritual experience which set me on a course toward earning my Bachelors Degree in Art.

With that degree in hand I soon discovered it was not easy to find a paying job in anything related. Fortunately, the path of least resistance when earning my degree was to get a teaching certificate. Within a couple of years I landed a job teaching secondary students in all facets of art. During those seven years, I learned more that I taught.

It was during those years that I began entering art shows and selling my work. And after moving to a small resort town, my wife and I opened a seasonal art gallery and broadened our exposure and sales.

After those great years, I made a conscious decision to take my art skills into the commercial realm and earned a MA in Visual Communication. This redirection landed me in leadership roles in a college, two direct response agencies and in my own business...all while continuing to paint. As a designer and creative director, I was able to earn multiple awards and recognition.

It wasn't until about two or three years ago that I began entering juried shows. That is when I joined SWA—and honestly—to enter one of the shows. The experience of being involved with other like-minded artists has been beneficial to my growth. I worked with SWA to help obtain sponsorship for the 2012 member show, and I have been getting to know the wonderful people who are members. I am a member of several watercolor and oil painting societies.

I paint in oils as well as watercolor. I think of my work as impressionistic. I like to represent people or places and allow the painting to flow from the framework of the recognizable. The challenge for this kind watercolor painting is to balance the care needed to make the representation interesting... and perhaps believable, with the freedom, looseness and painterly quality that makes watercolor so special.

My wife, Cyndy and I grew up in North Dakota and came to Plano, TX by way of Minnesota and then Virginia. We often travel to see our seven grandchildren (and their parents too, of course). I am currently working on a series of painting influenced by a recent trip to Istanbul and the Mediterranean regions of Turkey.

My website is www.michaelholter.com

Welcome to New Members

Our website is: www.swa-watercolor.com



Debbie Ford of Benbrook, TX <mike185@charter.net>

We like new members...invite your friends!

Asel Artist of the Month Competition Resumes in January



All SWA members are invited to bring a completed, framed piece to our monthly meeting. Any art work that has previously appeared in a SWA exhibit is not allowed. Your name and the title must be on the back. All art is shown anonymously and members vote once during the break for their favorite. After an artist wins 1st place, they retire from the competition with a \$25 gift certificate. In November bring that same piece back for the Artist of the Year vote. Those who win 2nd place win a \$15 certificate. They can return with new art in subsequent months to snag a 1st place, but if they win another 2nd place, their gift certificate will go to the 3rd place winner to insure circulation of the certificates. This system is at par with other art groups in the Asel program. Be sure to thank Asel Art Supply any time you shop their store at 825 Foch Street, Fort Worth. **Lucy Oppermann is retiring as leader of this fun activity after 3 years of service to SWA. Can you replace her? She will give you instructions. Let your officers know! We need help for the January contest!**

Members in the News

Sharon Giles has her work on display through January 12 at the new net zero energy West Irving Library, 4444 W. Rochelle Road in Irving. You can catch her monotypes during the library hours: 10-6 Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat or from noon-9 Tues & Thurs or 1-5 Sundays. Sharon created the monotypes using acrylics or Akua inks. Monotyping is a type of printmaking made by drawing or painting on a plate and printing on paper. Her one-of-a-kind designs are frequently embellished by drawing, painting or collage.

Suzanne McNeill invites artists this weekend to her Clearance Warehouse Sale, 2425 Cullen St, Fort Worth. She is moving her arts publication business to another location and must sell art samples, furniture and more. Don't miss it Saturday, December 29, 9-4:00. She is also bribing the first 100 customers with a free cookie! The building is located just a few blocks from Angelo's BBQ so... a great place for lunch. On Sunday from 9-1 anything left is half price.

Darla Bostick also has work in Irving. Her "Images of China: Paintings and Photographs" will fill the Focus Gallery from 8 Jan-24 Feb. This exhibit is in conjunction with the "Black and White: An Exhibition of Paintings and Flowers" in the Main Gallery presented by The Association of Oriental Arts. Darla's work chronicles a trip to China while her daughter lived there with the Peace Corps. The Irving Arts Center has a reception planned Sunday, 13 Jan from 2-4 with demos by the Oriental Arts members at 3333 North MacArthur Boulevard, Irving.

SWA 2012 Membership Exhibition & Workshop by Juror, Joyce Hicks

Watch for our ad in the February issue of Watercolor Artist Magazine. The workshop details and prospectus are available online www.swa-watercolor.com

Entries must be complete by March 1 to Diane Petrushka

Our juror, Joyce Hicks, is presenting a workshop Tuesday, 16 April-Friday, 19 April. Registrations have begun.

Transforming the Landscape in Watercolor Workshop by Joyce Hicks



Highlights of the SWA Holiday Party

Our Christmas Party at Macaroni Grill was a big hit! The food is always terrific and the gift exchange was very lively, especially for Shirley Nichols who had about a quarter of the gifts pass through her hands at one time or another during the swap. It seems everyone went home happy with paintings of Prague, florals, wildlife and landscapes. The highlight of the party was a beautiful rendition by Laurie Lindemeier as she sang "I Wonder as I Wander," an Appalachian carol arranged by John Jacob Niles. She dedicated the song to the families of the slain children and teachers in Newtown, Connecticut. Incidentally, Laurie has recently been chosen to sing soprano in the chorus at The Bass Concert Hall in "La Boheme" on April 20, 28 and May 3. She shared, "You can purchase tickets at <http://www.fwopera.org/> If you only want to go to that one in their festival that's a good choice, because it's a lovely Puccini opera--romantic and enthralling." She is a freelance writer and lyric Spinto Soprano along with being an artist! If one of your New Year's resolutions includes learning to sing, Laurie is looking for private piano and voice students. Blog: <http://LLLOpera.wordpress.com/>



InVision, Hulen Mall Exhibition Space Available to SWA Artists

Dr. Jan Dao (pronounced "Dow") has a beautiful office between Eye Masters and Dillard's on the second level (ground level to parking lot) in the Hulen Mall. Her office requested a rotating exhibit of art by our members. Dr. Dao's office has gallery lighting and art work is visible from the mall walkway. Mary Stitt will be handling the rotation of SWA artists who wish to exhibit in the space. There is room for 6 large paintings. Currently, Darla Bostick is installed and remains until mid January when our next artist will install for two months. If interested, contact Mary Stitt msmaryps@aol.com.



Our Volunteer of the Month: Shirley Nichols

It's easy to presume things "get done" in an organization. Shirley has been a member since 2005 and has volunteered as our Membership Chairperson since 2009. She records all the new members, reminds people to pay dues *and* edits/prints the Membership Directory. And if that isn't enough of a commitment, she also assists during times of exhibit entries. She checks our records to see if entering artists are members. Since we initiated our new website Shirley has organized the membership contact emails so we can more easily send out email blasts to our members, friends and contacts as reminders of upcoming deadlines, monthly demos and even sad news of member deaths. Don't you wonder where she keeps her cape? Like all true super-heros she does it single-handed! (But, like Batman and a few others, she wouldn't mind having a side-kick.) We would like to lighten the load for Shirley and since Judy Huebener came on as secretary, she has been working toward sending out the emails. If you always wanted to be a super-hero, or even a side-kick, Shirley can fit you with a cape and welcomes exhibit assistance and directory help.

Treasurer's Report: Current Balance as of 19 November: \$11,573.16 Bank CD Total: \$15,252.17

We NEED a Treasurer for 2012. Mary Stitt was elected but has tendered her resignation so she can be the non-juiced exhibition chair.

Monthly Critiques

Dave Maxwell has skillfully led our monthly critiques at 6pm before each general meeting for years. Due to health issues, Dave has requested a few months off. Jo Williams, SWA member from Denton and well-known art instructor is leading the monthly critique. Artists are invited to bring one painting at 6pm. This will resume at the February meeting!

GIVING BACK TO THE ARTS



At the November meeting it was agreed by our membership to sponsor an art competition at one of the Fort Worth high schools and encourage the art students with art gift certificates as prizes. Jane Schneeberger is looking to put together a small committee of interested SWA members...perhaps former art teachers? That committee can work with the art teacher/ coordinator at one of the more disadvantaged campuses and come up with some guidelines for a contest. The art work will be exhibited at the school and the committee will act as jurors. We hope to bring the winners to a SWA meeting to present their awards and view the winning pieces. It was voted to fund 3 prizes in the amounts of \$100, \$75 and \$50. It was also suggested any SWA members wishing to donate privately may do so. If you are interested in serving on the committee or sponsoring a prize, contact Jane at 817.557.3239 or email at jlawberger@att.net.

January Meeting is a Pizza Party!



Last January we had a pizza party...instead of the critique. Many asked if we could repeat that event...and your officers listened. We will have fun, games, announcements and PIZZA all complements of SWA. We ask that members bring 2-litres of soda pop, tea, desserts and maybe some salad or side-dishes. We are giving Robin Brown, our extraordinary hostess the night off, so we need napkins, paper plates, forks. The games last year got quite boisterous. Let's bring that energy with us this year and see if we can channel some of it to our Society of Watercolor Artists! So, pizza and fun at 6pm...Michael Holter's demo will begin promptly at 7.

If you know members who do not receive emails, please call them to let them know of the date change for this meeting! It is one week earlier than normally scheduled.

Upcoming 2012 SWA Meeting Events & Demos:



14 Jan: Michael Holter

18 Feb: James Tennison

18 March: Nancy Standlee

15 April: Joyce Hicks

20 May: Barbara Millican

Break until 16 Sept meeting

2013 SWA Officers and Members Extraordinaire

These dedicated members give their talent and time to keep SWA alive! We need YOUR name on the list!

President: Darla Bostick

President Elect: *(position open for 2013)*

Recording & Corresponding Secretary: Judy Huebener
EDUCATION:

Monthly Programs: Darla Bostick

Workshop Chairpersons: Shubha Mantri & Lynne Buchanan

Monthly Critiques: Jo Williams for Dave Maxwell

MEMBERSHIP: Shirley Nichols

EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition Chair: Diane Petrushka

Sponsorship: Michael Holter

Hanging: Jo Williams

Entry Requirements: Judith Huebener

Certificates: Mary Stitt

SWA Signatures: Norma Lively

Catalog/Postcard: Eloise and Ray Sears

Catalog Mailing: Judith Huebener

Purchase Prize Coordinator: Diane Petrushka

Exhibit volunteers needed for notifications, processing, hanging, certificate printing, labels and strike--please contact Diane Petrushka

Non-Juried Exhibitions Chair: Mary Stitt

FUNDRAISING:

Japanese Gardens: Robin Brown and Marie Coerver

Silent Auction: Mary House

FANTastic Fans: Mary Stitt

FINANCE:

Treasurer: **OPEN**

Professional Standards: (Yearly Audit) Brenda Morgan

PUBLICITY:

Website: Mary Stitt

Website Technician: Sharon Giles

Newsletter: Darla Bostick

Photography: Lori Atwell

Local Resources & Advertising: Jane Schneeberger

MEETINGS:

Greeters: Shirley Nichols, Diana Littlejohn, Lynda Robinson, Dee Casstevens, Jackie Stengle, Jane Schneeberger, Mary House

Hospitality: Robin Brown

House & Properties: **OPEN NOW**

Painting of the Month Asel Competition: **OPEN NOW**

Assistants to Demonstration Artist: Collette Jones, Pam Fritz, Jackie Stengle, Marjorie Ross, Diana Littlejohn and Lynda Robinson

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

High School Liason: *open as new position!*

OUT AND ABOUT:

Field Trip Organizer (s): *open for FUTURE TRIPS!*

Do you have a program or event idea?

How do YOU contribute to YOUR SWA?