

SWA June Notes 2012

A Note From the President



Summer is officially here according to the SWA calendar! Although we are finished with our demo meetings for a few months, we still have plenty of opportunities to meet as artist friends. In fact, just save 2 of your Saturdays for SWA and throw in a Monday, too! No lazing around for this group!

First, we are happy to present a workshop by SWA member, Debbie Downing, on **Saturday, 9 June** in our regular lecture hall at UNTHSC. It isn't too late to sign up. Come and learn how to make your computer an art asset...and you will leave with the program disc!

Second, there is the summer field trip by bus to see four amazing art exhibits--all in the same gallery! Marie Coerver has planned a wonderful day to see the traveling National Watercolor Exhibit on **Monday, 11 June**. (More details follow) This exhibit has 3 other exhibits in tandem: one is our SWA First Annual Invitational Exhibit showcasing the art work of our volunteer staff. The other two are the SWS Signature Show and the Grapevine Art Project Show. This building opened in March and is a beautiful addition to Main Street. Come along, sit back in a comfy bus and enjoy the company of friends.

Pre-registration is required for both and details follow in the newsletter.

Third, don't forget to pick up your art work at the library downtown on **Saturday, 23 June** from 10am-noon! I'd like to just take a moment to thank Davilla Harding for an outstanding job as our Exhibit Chair these past 2 exhibits. Learning on the job can be daunting, but she pulled through as a shining star. Many, many thanks to her!

~~Darla Bostick, President (and newsletter editor)

May Meeting Highlights with Sarah Graham



The attendance for Sarah's demo was equal or perhaps exceeded that of the Burrige workshop in April...a pretty good indicator of the talent she possesses at such a young stage of her career. Sarah Graham is no stranger to SWA and won an award in her first exhibition with us last summer. She lives and paints in Dallas and is known for her sensitive touch with watercolors, especially her portraits. Several were asking if she might give us a workshop, so perhaps that is on the horizon. She paints with layers of transparent watercolors paying attention to first a warm layer, then cool and

returns to the warm colors. Though she apologized for the quality of her paper, it was not a factor in the beautiful portrait she painted using her reference photograph. For the demo Sarah worked with a limited palette blending colors before application to the taped paper. Blending colors from skin tones to hair colors she was ever conscious of 3 values throughout the composition. See her website for more:
<http://sarahgrahamartwork.blogspot.com/p/watercolor-portraits.html>

Welcome to New Members

We had six visitors at the May meeting, all from different communities! This year has been a challenge as we transitioned our membership calendar to coincide with the by-laws calendar. Thank you all for your patience. If you have still not paid your 2012 membership dues, it is not too late to pay and participate in the 2012 Membership Exhibition in August. Remember, your 2013 membership dues is due in **October**.

Welcome to Judith Huebener, Fort Worth jkrmt2000@yahoo.com

If you are a new member and have not been properly mentioned in this column, please let me know!

~Editor, Darla Bostick <darlabostickart@gmail.com>

Members in the News: (email <darlabostickart@gmail.com> with your news!)

Bob Cook, Dave Maxwell and Soon Warren were all included in the Louisiana Watercolor Society's International Show, juried by Dean Mitchell. The New Orleans show had over 500 entries from which 70 paintings were juried for inclusion.

Gaylord O'Con is the incoming president of SWS. He won 2nd place and **Michael Holter** won 3rd place in the water media division of the Texas and Neighbors Exhibition. **Colleen Erickson** won 2nd place in mixed media.

Carolyn Buchmann, Michael Holter, and Gaylord O'Con were all participants in the 37th Annual Western Federation of Watercolor Societies Exhibition in Las Vegas.

Darla Bostick has 2 pieces juried into the Visual Arts of Cedar Hills, 5-16 June and is still taking registrations for her Aug/Sept Ghost Ranch Art Workshop/Retreat.

Jim Evans and Jackie Stengle were accidentally left off the list of participating artists in the First SWA Invitational Art Exhibit in Grapevine. (My apologies to both! The corrected newsletter is online~~editor)

The Richardson Civic Art Society honored several of our SWA members with honors in their recent show:

John James won 2nd place mixed media with "The Envelope Series Ancient", **Dave Maxwell** won Jack Richeson Award II for "Interior Mobility" and **Muriel Mimura** got the Windsor Newton Award for "Peaches and Glass."

Margie Whittington was invited to paint during a garden party at a home in Southlake. The Southlake Art Guild hosted a fundraiser with silent auction and monies raised went to a children's summer art program. Margie painted the floral below as guests had refreshments, watched her paint and listened to a string quartet in the garden! Margie's donated painting sold for \$350 and she donated another to the hostess.



Membership 2012 Exhibit Scheduled for August/September

The Annual Membership Exhibit will be held at the UNTHSC Atrium Gallery. Entry deadline is 1 July, notification 15 July, hand deliver work 4 Aug. Diane Petrushka has graciously volunteered to mail exhibit prospectuses to members who do not have emails and request this service. Check online for the prospectus.

Calendar

Sunday, 1 July: Entry deadline. All entry materials due to Mary Stitt. Any entries arriving after midnight are ineligible.

Sun, 15 July: Notification sent

Wednesday, 1 August: Shipped entries are due

Saturday, 4 Aug: 2-4pm HAND DELIVERED WORK DUE

Monday, 6 Aug: SHOW OPENS

Sat, 8 Sept: 3-5pm RECEPTION and AWARDS

Saturday, 29 Sept: 2-4pm PICKUP WORK

Delivery, Reception and Pickup: University of North Texas Health Science Center, Atrium Gallery, 3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard at Montgomery Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76107

Note: Since our next general meeting is after our Membership Exhibit in August, we are unable to conclude a decision on proposed changes to our prospectus. Although not officially voted upon, most of those present at the May meeting agreed to extend the frame size to 42" and keep the required mat white or off-white as well as requiring all work be done on paper or yupo. We did not have time to fully explore our options. The greatest debate centered on the issue of floating art work when framing. Until the term "floating" is clarified, all work should be simply matted (single or double, white or off white) with no deckle edges exposed, and flat between the matt and backing. This issue along with others will be voted upon at the October meeting (unless we do an email canvas for votes this summer and save time for our demos at meetings). Until then, no floating of any kind will be accepted.

Painting of the Month for May



May Winners are 1st:
Judy Huebener with
"Cactus" and 2nd: Bettye
Reece with "Carnival"

All 1st place winning
pieces will return in
November for Painting
of the Year.



Saturday, 9 June, 9-noon, SWA Twigs Art Software Workshop

Come to our regular lecture hall at UNTHSC on Saturday, 9 June from 9-noon and learn how to use your computer for art show entries and more. This is the premier presentation of this program presented by SWA member and husband team, Debbie & Vernon Downing. Details are found in the May newsletter online. Price is \$60 which includes a software package. For each workshop registrant \$10.00 will be donated to SWA. If planning to mail in the check, it must be postmarked by June 2. However, registration can be done online up until June 6. To register online go to: <http://www.twigssoftware.com/workshops/>

Members to Think About

Condolences to Colleen Erickson on the passing of her husband Eric. We have missed Colleen at our monthly meetings this year. He died 29 May surrounded by family at his bedside. A private memorial service is planned on 6 July. SWA members are invited a special celebration of Eric's life on 7 July. Details appear on the email blast to members.

Dave Maxwell had surgery which was followed by 8 days in the hospital. He is recovering at home. His wife, Mary, is also still in recovery due to a previous procedure.

SWA Field Trip: 92nd National Watercolor Society Exhibit in Grapevine



The show runs May 18-June 15. Last summer SWA chartered a bus to take us to Waco for the AWS Traveling Exhibit. Marie Coerver has coordinated a great field trip to Grapevine for the NWS Traveling Exhibit. The trip includes bus transportation, lunch on Main Street, viewing 3 fabulous exhibits (one has the work of our 23 volunteer SWA artists) under one roof of the new Grapevine Visitors Bureau and a couple of local art galleries.



We will need to fill the bus to keep our costs down per person~~it's the perfect time to *invite a friend or family member for an outing!*

When: Monday, 11 June, 9:15am-3pm

Where for Bus: Same place as last year: the corner of Target parking lot on West 7th in Fort Worth, between 9-9:15.

How Many: Our figures indicate with 25 people on the bus the cost will be \$23 each (plus a tip for the driver at your discretion). We take up to 30 passengers.

Breakfast: Marie has promised some of her famous home-baked blueberry muffins for breakfast.

Lunch: Farina's Italian Restaurant in Grapevine where we have a room reserved (this cost is additional).

Admission to NWS/SWS/SWA Invitational is \$3 ahead of time online or \$5 at the door. You are responsible for your own ticket.

Cost: (Based on 23 participants) **\$25 each for bus (plus optional tip), your lunch at Farino's, entry to exhibits \$3 or \$5**

Questions and reservations: contact Marie at <mariesoloncoerver@sbcglobal.net> 817.377.4211

NOTE: We need 23 people minimum. DEADLINE TO RESERVE IS FRIDAY, 8 JUNE. By taking the bus rather than driving, you are allowing those in our membership unable to drive to Grapevine to participate in this fun outing.

Volunteers of the Month: [Sorry, no photos available]

Robin Brown & Marie Coerver are an unbeatable team! It's hard to list everything they do for SWA. Robin was the newsletter editor for a time then became our hostess extraordinaire for the monthly meetings as well as organizing the exhibit receptions. Marie has been helping Robin with the refreshments (we all benefitted from that at the May meeting when she pretty much single-handedly took on snacks!) and also helped plan our field trip last summer to Waco. She has stepped into those boots again to plan our SWA Field Trip to Grapevine in June. For 8 years Marie and Robin have been organizing and promoting the Japanese Garden at the Fort Worth Botanical Center. The Japanese Garden Festival is twice a year, April and October (usually the last weekend of the month). Robin explains we usually have 7 or 8 tables (one for each artist) to display art work, note cards, etc. The Japanese Gardens charge \$50 to each artist. According to Robin, paintings were originally preferred to be Japanese influence but now landscapes, flowers, etc are acceptable. She shares the insider tip "Few Festival goers buy paintings but they do love cards, small framed paintings, etc. and we all price very reasonably. Artists must have business cards to hand out. Marie and I must review the new potential artists' work. They have to be savvy about printing their cards, etc."

SWA artists contribute hand-painted bookmarks which sell at the Gardens and those have brought in a nice addition to our treasury. The addition this year of our painted bamboo paddle fans has been a great hit also. New fans will be available at the Sept meeting. Many thanks to these friends...of each other and to SWA!

First Annual SWA Invitational Exhibit in Grapevine

Volunteers are too often the unsung heroes...but not this time! The Grapevine Art Project group invited SWA to exhibit concurrently with the NWS visiting exhibit and the SWS Signature Show. We were offered enough wall space for 26 paintings--in fact, just enough space to showcase the work of our volunteers. Congrats to the following SWA member/volunteers: Lori Atwell, Kristine Becker, Darla Bostick, Robin Brown, Lynne Buchanan, Dee Casstevens, Marie Coerver, Bob Cook, Jim Evans, Pam Fritz, Sharon Giles, Davilla Harding, Collette Jones, Diana Littlejohn, Norma Lively, Sharon Markwardt, David Maxwell, Brenda Morgan, Shirley Nichols, Lucy Oppermann, Diane Petrushka, Lynda Robinson, Marjorie Ross and Janet Southern and Ann Winchester. Also thanks to Lynne Buchanan, Dee Casstevens, Marie Coerver, Mary House, John James, Mary Stitt, Mary Leffler, Robin Brown and Jo Williams who graciously bowed out to provide space for other volunteers. To continue the Invitational Exhibit in the future we need a special volunteer committee. Below are some of the entries. We had 23 entries, some of which are not shown here because the artist submitted an image different from that of the one submitted in the entry process. Congrats to Pam Fritz who sold her piece the first day! A reminder to those in the exhibit: Pick up is June 16, 1-5pm.



Leadership Positions Filling...You Still Have an Opportunity to Pitch In!



The membership vote at the May meeting solidly placed Mary Still as exhibit chair and workshop co-chairs as Shubha Mantri and Lynne Buchanan. Also Eloise and Ray Sears are going to produce our summer catalog for the Members Exhibition! There are many more places needing volunteers (look at the last page of this newsletter). Most urgently we need to begin planning our 2013 demos and we need a program chair to take that on.

Member Spotlight...Introducing Bettye Reece

I grew up in the East Texas oilfields and came to North Texas to attend Texas State College for Women ...now TWU. My background was in music but my plans were to major in Costume Design and Fashion Illustration! It was soon evident that without some background in art, this was a mistake and I changed my major, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. A teaching job kept me in north Texas where I later met my husband, married and had our family of three sons and one daughter. This halted my teaching career for some years. I decided to not return to the classroom but did continue to teach piano for some time and kept my position as church pianist for about 10 years.



I have been creative for as long as I can remember in some form or another...particularly interested in color and design. I tried to pass this on to my children, giving them music and art lessons. We frequented museums and galleries and I was always drawn to the drawings and the watercolors...someday I would do this! I took continuing education courses at TCU, UTA and TCC...most of them art related. In the early 1980's, when SWA was forming, I was referred to local artist, Dan Brown, for beginning watercolor lessons. After a couple of years I began a new job as manager of a travel agency and put my painting on hold, vowing to paint again one day. For 20+ years I traveled at every opportunity and helped other people travel...the most fun job I ever had. All the time, taking photos and collecting memories "that I would paint some day."

After retirement and caring for my elderly mother, I began my watercolor painting again. I read everything I could find--studying books for beginning artists and painting on my own. I had an early book of Tom Lynch's and I liked Zoltan Szabo's work. I think I tried to copy everything they ever did. I did this for several months until I discovered Mary Stitt (who was Pres-Elect of SWA) sitting behind me in an Italian class at TCU...what timing! I expressed an interest in watercolor painting and she jumped at the chance to steer me to SWA which I joined in April of 2007.

Joining SWA was the best thing I could have done at that time. It has offered me opportunities I would never have had otherwise. The demos at meetings have been so helpful and I have taken advantage of workshops offered with Sterling Edwards, Steve Rogers, Joe Fettingis, Tom Lynch and Rick Dentinger and studied with talented artist/instructor, Ann Winchester. Now I have been able to combine a passion for watercolor painting and travel as I travel a couple of times a year with Flying Colors Art Workshops. To date I have traveled with this group twice to Italy, to Switzerland and San Migeul de Allende--all with Mel Stabin as artist/instructor. Barbara Nechis was artist/instructor in the south of France and Don Andrews most recently in Guatamala. My very favorite is Mel Stabin, a purist, humorist and philosopher all in one. I am scheduled for his workshops in Amsterdam in July, 2012 and Cornwall in July, 2013. I always learn from the instructors and thoroughly enjoy the comraderie of other artists as well as the destinations.

I have represented SWA twice a year at the Japanese Gardens and there seems to be a market for my "round the world" paintings (I include a commentary on the back telling the location and what special meaning it had for me). At the Lockheed Martin Group my greatest accomplishment in art was winning Best of Show for my "Laundry Day in San Miguel."

Starting this late in my life, I will never be where I would like to be with my painting....this I regret very much. It is, however, a most enjoyable and satisfying way to spend my retirement and I will always strive to achieve my goals. I am writing stories of my travels and illustrating them specifically for my grandchildren, calling them "GG's Journals."

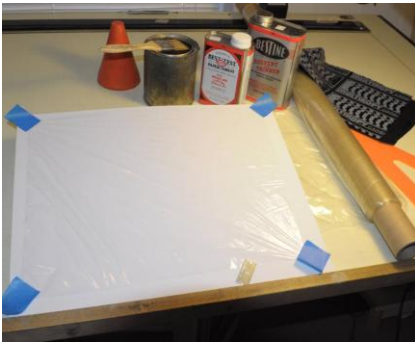
~~GG is for all the things I am called...Grandmother, Grammy, Grandma, and Gallopin' Grandma

Techniques and Tools

How about something new to try during the summer months? Robert Cook shared some interesting information using frisket. His article follows here:

Frisket (masking) Techniques for Watercolors by Robert W Cook

Materials: Best-Test rubber cement, Bestine thinner, air tight can for mixing, roll of shrink-wrap, carbon paper, razor blade, and straight edge.



This technique is used to mask large areas with frisket. I make my own frisket because the "ready-frisket" doesn't stick tightly and the paint bleeds under the edges. It's OK for airbrushing but not painting. I buy Shrink-Wrap online in 20"-30" rolls (the stuff used for meat). Get the 60-75 gauge available through a restaurant supply, or online at <www.webstaurantstore.com>. A 20"x1000' roll is \$14.99, enough to use for years.

I prepare the film by rolling it out on a piece of old matt board, cut it with single edge razor blade to fit approx. 1" inside the mat board edge and tape the four corners with masking tape so the film is stretched tight on the board.

Rubber Cement Mix: In a well-ventilated area using a coffee can with a top (or similar) mix two parts Best-Test rubber cement and one part Bestine rubber cement thinner (I use a housepainter's thinner). Using a 1/2" paint brush, mix in the can. With your solution mixture, paint the Shrink-Wrap film with overlapping strokes, very quickly, as it dries in about 15 seconds. Now you're ready to prepare your painting surface.

The piece of frisket is taped to the mat board ready to prepare. (see written detail)

1. Draw your subject on a piece of paper. Then use a sheet of graphite to transfer your drawing onto your paper, illustration board, etc. Next you paint the whole area of the painting surface with your prepared rubber cement mixture. Make sure BOTH surfaces are completely dry. To lay the frisket film on the painting surface, pick up the mat board, turn it over film-side down, and bend the board so that the center of the frisket touches the center of the area you want to cover, and lay it down. Rub all over the back of the matt board. This will stick the film to the surface over your drawing. As you pick up one corner of the matt board at a time remove the masking tape from the matt board and discard it. Now you have the clear frisket all over the drawing. Burnish, or press down, the frisket with a paper towel wrapped around your finger. If you get a bunch of wrinkles all over it, don't worry. Use a hair drier and blow all the areas with wrinkles and the film will shrink tight as you are burnishing down again. You are now ready to cut out the areas you want to paint first ie; the sky, foreground, windows, doors etc.



Step One: **Transfer drawing to watercolor paper**



Step Two: **Use a razor to cut through the film**

2. The frisket material is cut away to paint just the sky, background and foreground, leaving the boats, and people covered. You can continue to use this first frisket to paint most of the areas you want as you go. You can cut very small areas if you wish as long as there's some film left between each area you're painting. If you don't like what you do you can wash off the paint with a little sponge (Mr Clean Magic Eraser) and repaint it. To remove the frisket, use a razor blade tip under the frisket edge with your thumb on top, pull off the remaining frisket. Use a Rubber Cement Pick-Up to remove the cement in the open areas.

One technique to keep from tearing the film before painting is to push down on the pickup over the cut areas. By rocking it slightly back and forth you "walk" it across the area and it kind of seals the remaining film while removing the rubber cement in the open areas. This leaves you with a crisp clean edge on everything you've painted. You can put more frisket over the painted area to paint new areas using the same technique making sure you paint the rubber cement over everything you've already painted as it tends to darken the color a small amount. I prefer using only one frisket and painting all I can on that first one.

3. Using the razor, cut on the line between the hull and upper boat, remove frisket, and paint the lower hull shape leaving the two workers covered.

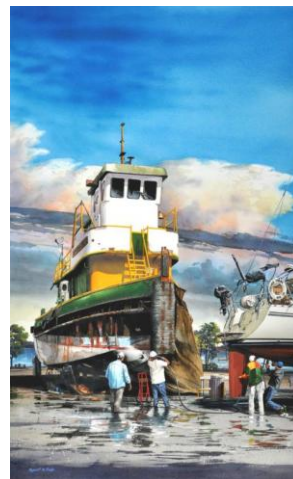


Step 3: Cut around the hull leaving people and upper ship covered Step 4: Remove frisket and paint the upper boat

4. Remove the frisket from the upper tug boat area and the sailboat bottom. Paint those areas using parts of the frisket to do the windows and yellow painted area. Be careful to leave the pure white of the paper clean for the upper boat areas.

Step 5: Remove remaining frisket and finish "Brown Gulf"

5. After the main parts of the painting are completed you remove the rest of the frisket and paint the people, more wet deck reflections in the foreground, and any small details to finish the painting. "Brown Gulf" is now finished.



Good luck, and go try it. I've used this technique successfully for 30 years.

The other products I use are the liquid mask. "Fineline" Masquepen and the "Supernib" are the neatest application devises that my friend, Laurin McCracken, turned me on to. I can actually paint with these little plastic bottles. They are capped with a hollow wire that you squeeze and apply directly for your highlights. When you're finished there is a fine wire that slides into the larger hollow wire and caps it off air-tight. You remove the mask with the same rubber cement pick-up. My friend Larry suggested getting the "Shiva Liquid Masque" and using it in the Cap-Wire system because he doesn't like the blue color fluid that comes in it (although it doesn't bother me).

This shrink-wrap technique was developed and used in my architectural rendering studio for many years. You may think it slows you down with all that cutting, removing, and cleaning up, but in the long run it speeds up the painting process and keeps you under total control of the outcome.

If you have any questions contact Bob Cook <www.prelim@sbcglobal.net>

2012 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: open

Recording & Corresponding Secretary: Kristine Becker

EDUCATION:

Programs: Darla Bostick ***the programs for 2013 should be lined up now--need a new Program Chair***

Workshop Chairpersons: Shubha Mantri and Lynne Buchanan

Purchase Prize Coordinator: Diane Petrushka

Monthly Critiques: Dave Maxwell

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership Chair: Shirley Nichols

Website Mailing List: open

EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition Chair: Mary Stitt

Hanging: Jo Williams

Entry Requirements: Judith Huebener

Certificates: Mary Stitt

SWA Signatures: Norma Lively

Catalog/Postcard: Eloise and Ray Sears

Catalog Mailing: Judith Huebener

Volunteers needed for notifications, publicity, sponsors, processing, hanging, labels and strike.

To continue or head up a group, please notify Mary Stitt.

FINANCE:

Treasurer: Janet Southern (***position open for 2013***)

Professional Standards: (Yearly Audit) Brenda Morgan

PUBLICITY:

Website: Mary Stitt

Website Technician: Sharon Giles

Newsletter: Darla Bostick

Photography: Lori Atwell

Local Resources: Jane Schneeberger

MEETINGS:

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

Hospitality: Robin Brown

House & Properties: open

Art of the Month Asel Competition: Lucy Oppermann

Assistants to Demonstration Artist: Collette Jones, Pam Fritz, Marjorie Ross and Lynda Robinson

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE: Mary House

OUT AND ABOUT:

Japanese Gardens: Robin Brown and Marie Coerver

Field Trip Organizer (s): Marie is currently doing one...

Do you have a great idea for a program or event?

Do you have a great friend in SWA to team up with you?

What are you waiting for?

Let us know how you want to plug into YOUR organization!