



## Society of Watercolor Artists June Notes 2013

Hello to Friends of SWA & Members!

The lazy days of summer will soon be upon us. We have put aside monthly meetings until September but we still have some fun events ahead of us. On June 9 we have our Awards Reception for the 2013 International Exhibition. We need all hands on deck to bring refreshments. Please contact Marie Coerver [817.377.4211] to let her know what you can bring...paper goods, punch, finger foods and desserts! The exhibit is a wonderful display of the power of watercolor. Each artist has presented an exciting vision through our favorite media. Sadly, we had 3 pieces disqualified because they did not follow the prospectus guidelines. Please pay attention as you enter and frame your work! Details follow on the article about the exhibition.



I missed our May meeting because of a 3-week adventure in Europe to visit 10

cities and had a marvelous time. It is amazing to see what is left behind by ancient civilizations. Pompeii is the main reason for the trip. If you have never been, it is a time capsule in every sense of the word. The ash and gas from the explosion of nearby Vesuvius literally carpeted the entire community and preserved every detail—right down to hair brushes and bread at the bakery. It makes me think about what we leave behind in our lives. As for me as your president, I want to leave SWA even better than before. For that to happen, we need involvement from each and every member. We are looking at vacancies in 3 important positions: president, treasurer and exhibition chair assistant with Mary Stitt. When I write the Member Spotlight I am ever amazed at the talent in our group. This month John James is featured. He was a former president of SWA and is still involved! We have a large, talented membership. Why are we struggling to fill leadership positions? Some are positions that can be handled at the convenience of home. We need to have all hands on deck in some way. How can YOU make SWA better?

Darla Bostick  
President (and newsletter editor)

## No Summer Meetings

In June, July and August we take a break from our meetings, but you can watch for a monthly newsletter to keep you up on SWA news. Members, please continue to send your news of awards, exhibitions and publicity!

During the time off, you might want to paint a few bamboo paddle fans. Our September meeting is when we bring them in for our fun FANTastic Fans contest. You can get fans from Mary Stitt, and we will have them available for \$1.50 each at the Exhibition Reception 9 June. Our website is: [www.swa-watercolor.com](http://www.swa-watercolor.com)

## InVision, Hulen Mall Exhibition Space Available to SWA Artists

Dr. Jan Dao (pronounced "Dow") has a beautiful office between Eye Masters and Dillards on the second level (ground level to parking lot) in the Hulen Mall. Her office is hosting 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 7 paintings half sheet or larger. Shubha Mantri is installed and remains until mid July when Ann Winchester will install for two months. Who wants to go next in Mid-September? If interested, contact Mary Stitt [msmaryps@aol.com](mailto:msmaryps@aol.com).



## Our Volunteers of the Month: Eloise and Ray Sears

Last year for the 2012 SWA International Exhibition Eloise and Ray Sears "learned the ropes" of catalog production. For the 2013 show they took the bull by the horns and did a beautiful job of working with our printers, Eagle Press in Denton. Many thanks to Eloise and Ray for contributing their time to this effort. We all enjoy seeing the finished catalog and it would not be possible without our Volunteers of the Month. Not only do they prepare the materials for the printer, they proof and pick up the catalogs. At the reception they make them available to those who entered, and sell some to those who did not. Finally to cap off the process, they pass the materials to our secretary who makes sure they are inserted into the mailing cartons or made available at the end of the exhibit as artists pick up their works. Judy Huebener, our secretary, also mails catalogs to each sponsor with a note of thanks and sends one to our juror. Many hands make light work!

## Asel Artist of the Month Contest



*April 2013 Winners: 1<sup>st</sup> place, Hugh Heaton with "London Commuter" and 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Iok-Hou Pang with "Floral Flame"*

All SWA members are invited to bring a completed, framed piece to our monthly meeting. (Any work brought in that is incomplete or unframed will not be allowed to compete!) Any art work that has previously appeared in a SWA exhibit is not allowed. Your name and the title must be on the piece. Art is viewed anonymously and members vote once during the break for their favorite. After an artist wins 1<sup>st</sup> place, they retire from the competition with a \$25 gift certificate. In November all 1<sup>st</sup> place art returns for the Artist of the Year vote. 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners get a \$15 certificate. It was decided it is too confusing to allow only one 2<sup>nd</sup> place certificate per artist during the year. So, for those who have won 2<sup>nd</sup> place, they can return with new art in subsequent months to compete. Be sure to thank Asel Art Supply any time you shop their store at 825 Foch Street, Fort Worth.

## Who's Our Next Treasurer AND President?



We STILL need a treasurer! Janet Southern has more than fulfilled her multiple terms. It is time for someone to step up and take this position. Janet will train her successor. Our addition of pay pal to the website has simplified the effort of handling checks for dues and exhibit entries. Can you help? We also need someone to serve as President Elect and take over as president for 2014. Darla has served for 2+ years and will be turning her energy to producing the newsletter. Currently we have no President Elect to learn the ropes. During the summer we will have a board meeting to plan the next year. This is the perfect time for our next Treasurer and President to come and see how we operate!



## Members in the News!

**Hugh Heaton** had a piece accepted in the NWS 2013 Member Exhibition!

**Sharon Giles** is one of 21 artists participating in The Bibliophile Art Exhibit: *Books, Libraries & Literature* April 27 – June 29, 2013 at the West Irving Library. Closing Reception and Artist Demonstrations will be held Saturday, June 29 11 am – 1 pm in the Meeting Room sponsored by Irving Art Association. The West Irving Library is located at 4444 W. Rochelle, Irving TX. Sharon is also an award winner in the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Irving Art Association Members Juried Exhibition on exhibit through 31 May at the Jaycee Park Center for the Arts. Winning artwork will then be honored with a traveling exhibit 7 **June–8 July 8** in the Focus Gallery at the Irving Arts Center on MacArthur. Her "Green Mansions" took first place in the Water Media Division.

**Mary Keller** had 5 paintings in the Trinity Arts Guild Exhibition and won Honorable Mention on her "Desert Skull."

**Darla Bostick** has an installation involving 51 pieces at the Elm Street Studio in Keller. You are invited to the "Garden Meditations: An Exhibit of Color" reception Thursday, 20 June from 6-8pm. A one-day workshop, "Watermedia Batik Flowers" is also being conducted in tandem with the last day of the show on Saturday, 29 June from 9-2 at the gallery for \$95.

*If you have news to share, notify Darla Bostick before the last week of the month <darlabostickart@gmail.com>*

## Upcoming 2013 SWA Meetings, Events & Demos:



9 June: SWA International Reception 2-4 pm at the Fort Worth Central Library Atrium Gallery & Auditorium

15 June: pick up work from International

**Possible Summer workshop details to be announced in the next newsletter!**

## Our Members are Teaching Watercolor Classes and Workshops

Since our monthly meetings take a hiatus during the summer months, many members have inquired about SWA members who are teaching classes. Perhaps there is something close to you!

**Margie Whittington** is teaching at the Upstairs Gallery with "WATERCOLOR WEDNESDAYS" May and June. She is also instructing a class to learn the basics of acrylic painting on canvas. Beginners are welcome and get special attention getting started. Dates: June 21, July 26, Aug. 30 from 9-4 pm. FEE: \$40 each class [mawhittington@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mawhittington@sbcglobal.net)

**Ann Winchester** is teaching at Hobby Lobby in Arlington @ 4628 S.Cooper. Her schedule is:

Wed: Watercolor @ 1:30; Thur: Oils @1:30; Fri: Watercolor in Alvarado; Sat: Watercolor @ 11 & watercolor pets and portrait's @ 1:30 <annwinn4324@charter.net>

**Jo Williams** is teaching watercolor classes at the Denton Visual Arts Center. She is also presenting a plein aire painting workshop in Taos June 24 -28. There is one space available. For more information: [texjo@msn.com](mailto:texjo@msn.com)

**Darla Bostick** is teaching watercolor classes at Hobby Lobby in Denton on Fridays and has a one-day workshop at Elm Street Studio in Keller 29 June from 9-2. Her workshop/retreat at Ghost Ranch in NM is 13-19 October and another weeklong workshop/retreat will be in Branson, MO 1-8 Sept. [darlabostickart@gmail.com](mailto:darlabostickart@gmail.com)

## SWA 2013 Juried International Exhibition Reception Saturday, 9 June, 2-4pm

During the past year we have spent a good deal of time at our meetings discussing and voting on framing requirements, etc. We had a piece slip by last January at our 2011 Membership Exhibition. This prompted further investigation into our process. The prospectus is as clear as we can present it concerning the exhibit guidelines. Unfortunately when entries arrive as electronic images, the framing of the piece is not evident until it arrives at the day of installation. We have 3 disqualified pieces taken from the walls in the current exhibition. When a piece is not entered on time or arrives framed incorrectly or is painted on a material not covered by the prospectus, it is clearly disqualified. Two of the three disqualified pieces were painted by SWA Signature Members. The last piece was not a signature member and will not, unfortunately, count toward signature status for that artist. To preserve the integrity of our exhibits, we have implemented a quality control volunteer who will hopefully prevent complications in the future. We always have the juror select one additional piece as a safeguard in case a prize-winning piece is disqualified. With better news, at the time of writing the newsletter we have had a buyer for the entry by James Tennison! Does it get better than astonishing art, unbelievable food and great artsy friends? You won't want to miss the International Reception at the Fort Worth Central Library! We plan to have the awards ceremony in the auditorium, the yummy part of the reception in the room to the side of that, and the atrium gallery is filled with almost 50 of our art works. Many thanks to Maire Coerver for her work as the hostess. Of course, she needs your help! If you can contribute to the reception with special items please contact Marie Coerver 817.377.4211. Thank you to members who are able to bring appetizers and dessert finger foods! We have six new signature members who will be celebrating this special accomplishment! Because it is on a weekend, street parking is free and if you part in the parking garage adjacent to the library they will validate your ticket at the front library desk.



**Treasurer's Report:** Current Balance as of 20 May is \$20,006.92      Bank CD Total: \$15,252.17

## A New Leadership Position Created—One Volunteer Needed as Co-chair



Your current leadership group has been working on several goals that can only be met with membership participation:

1. Involve more of the membership as leaders
2. Break down responsibilities of current positions into more manageable commitments for volunteers
3. Provide good continuity from each position to the next leader.

There are two critical positions we are currently working to improve. We want to divide the position of Membership Chair and Exhibition Chair. The membership position hasn't had any response, so here it is again:

Membership Director: Shirley Nichols has held this position since 2009...that's a LOT of members who had Shirley as their first contact. We certainly could not expect more from her and she has been consistently diligent in her duties. Shirley is presenting a plan to split the duties in half (and she will continue with one part!)—one to process new members and the other to edit/print the membership directory. The Membership Director will maintain the roll of membership. Specifically this person would be available at meetings to accept membership applications, add them to the Membership Roll and send the secretary and president names as they join so new members can be properly welcomed and added to the email list. At times of exhibitions, the Membership Director also checks to see that those claiming membership are up to date. Our new Membership Director could sit with Shirley at the meetings and learn the ropes--then take over in October 2013 as our members renew for the next year. Contact Shirley if you are interested: 817.247.9091. The second position is Membership Directory Editor. This position involves compiling, printing and distribution of the yearly Membership Directory. Shirley has generously offered to continue as Membership Directory Editor through 2014. At that time she hopes to train her successor to take the position for 2015. Since this will require a change in our bylaws the membership will need to vote on this proposal.

Speaking of membership, we have 52 delinquent memberships out there but 152 of you who are paid for the year. Did you know ***you can catch up now for 2013 dues or pay ahead with the touch of a button?*** Just go to our web page [www.swa-watercolor.com](http://www.swa-watercolor.com) and each time you hit the pay pal button to pay dues, you are paid for one year.



## Member Spotlight...John James



John James and his works: "Closing the Divide", "Butterfly Effect\_Chinese Paper" and "There's A Lot Going On"

John James is a familiar face at SWA. He has lived in the DFW area for 20 years, joined SWA in 1997-98 and served 2 years later as the Exhibition Chair for the 2000 National. He served the following year as president of SWA 2000-01. Since that time he has been a regular helping hand at the intake of art work and hanging for our exhibitions.

When asked why he joined SWA he shared, "I had been painting for a while and had entered the show a few times but had been rejected every time and I wanted to be around the other artists to learn and grow."

John describes his style of painting as "mainly experimental in nature but I started out wanting to be a realistic painter. It was very time consuming and I would spend hours upon hours on a painting but could never get it to look like a photograph or it would look like a different person had painted it each day. It was very disappointing but I kept going and found a style that works for me. However, it is still a work in progress with each painting having a life of its own. Some 'work' at the time I put the brush down and others need a little to a lot of help down the road."

His work seems to be everywhere at the moment. His painting "Closing the Divide" is currently touring the country in the National Watercolor Traveling Show. His work is now featured in the Watercolor Society of Alabama Exhibition and the 36th OK National Watermedia Exhibition. On a more local note, he has two paintings in the Richardson Civic Art Show. John has had his work published in *Splash 11* and *Splash 13*.

He is a signature member of the Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Kentucky, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Montana and Kansas Watercolor Societies as well as ISEA, SWS, and SWA. John is also a member of WAS-H, Southern Watercolor, an associate member of both the National and American Watercolor Societies, and Allied Artists of America.

"I would say that I am mostly a self taught artist but I worked with Hugh Templeton, an English artist/teacher for five years in the 90's to hone the basics of drawing, perspective, and watercolor. I have won awards in the National Watercolor Society 2012 Exhibit, Rhode Island Watercolor Society National, Philadelphia Watercolor Society National, WAS-H International, Watercolor Society of Alabama, Richardson Civic Art Show, Irving Art Association Texas and Neighbors, Trinity Arts Guild, Grand Prairie Arts Council, Knoxville Arts Alliance, Red River Valley Museum, SWA, and Farmington, NM Gateway to Imagination."

He states he loves the Masters "but William de Kooning's style really speaks to me. I am a fan of the following contemporary abstract water media artists exhibiting today: H.C. Dodd, Elaine Daily Birnbaum, Carol Staub, Ara Leites, Barbara Millican, Cathy Hegman, Sue Pink, Lana Grow, Lynne Kroll, Denise Athanas, Barbara Yoerg, and Robert McIntyre. There are really too many to name as I get inspired by every show I see or exhibit catalog that comes to the house. I am a big admirer of anyone who is willing to put their work on view for everyone to comment on as each piece is a personnel message and an extension of the person who created it as some feedback can be really harsh."

John hopes to one day travel to Australia. His other goal is to obtain signature status in both the American and National Watercolor Societies. He adds, "I would really like to see a SWA permanent collection at either the Fort Worth Modern or Amon Carter Museum."

He leaves the following advice: "To those of you just starting on this journey, watercolor can be a frustrating medium to work with as it has a mind of its own but once you get the hang of it, nothing else will give you the same feeling of accomplishment. Be willing to experiment and always be open to mistakes because those are the times you will see the greatest success. "

## Highlights from May Meeting Demo by Barbara Millican

Regrettably your editor was not at the May meeting to see Barbara's demonstration which makes it hard to report on tips shared and photos of the demo. My apologies!



**ALERT\*\*\*\*** Do you like having exhibitions? Future shows are in jeopardy unless we get better organized with more hands on deck! Our Membership Exhibition is scheduled for December. This gives us time to organize a reliable group of volunteers who together will see our exhibitions run smoothly and effectively. Many hands make light work. Can you lend a hand? Many of the jobs can be done from the convenience of your home computer. We need about 15-20 volunteers to help us better organize this process. The weight of carrying this project must be shared. The future of SWA exhibitions is at stake. {On the list below \*\* indicates something done at your leisure at home} We need:

**Exhibit Chair** (this can be a shared position by 2 people) to oversee the people listed below, be the liaison to the juror, the shipping company and the place where the exhibition is held. Apply for show space following year. A computer/email is required.

**Prospectus**—1 person update and amend the current prospectus with updated info, see that it is posted on website by our website administrator

**\*\* Admissions**— 1 person make an excel chart of each entry, notify each person that their entry was received

**\*\* Notifications**—1 or 2 persons maintain an email list of those entering, send a general notification email of those chosen to enter, a reminder of hanging date, a reminder of pick up date. See that our secretary has the list of emails to add to the SWA contact list and notify the signatures volunteer of those chosen for the show.

**\*\* CD Preparation for the Juror**—1 person burn a CD with every entry (labeled properly) and send to juror. Burn a second CD of accepted work and send to catalog editor. Give the SWA board a copy of each.

**Hanging Chair**—1 person to recruit and oversee about 6 volunteers

**\*\* Publicity**—1 person to make postcards, get notice to newspaper, take out ads presented to/approved by the board (i.e. Watercolor Magazine, Artist Magazine, etc)

**Catalog**—1 or 2 people to compose, get to printer, proof, pick up, distribute at reception

**\*\* Sponsorship**—1 person to contact about 12 art companies and any other avenues to pursue to ask for sponsorship with funding or merchandise, acknowledge receipt, get info to catalog editors and Exhibit Chair

**\*\* Certificates & Labels**—1 person to print certificates to each artist in the show, award winner, new Signature Member

**\*\* SWA Signatures:** 1 person add new names to excel chart of previous exhibits (Norma Lively has been doing this for years. Would be nice to have an assistant to learn the ropes and assist.)

**People's Choice:** 2 people to count votes at the reception and present the winner with their award

**Catalog Mailing:** our secretary does this

**We need a set committee of volunteers that can be relied upon to execute the necessary processes. If you are already contributing in some way we need a confirmation that you will continue as we set this committee in motion. We Need Your Help! Let's Help our Exhibit Chair!!!**

**Respond to:** <darlabostickart@gmail.com>

## Giving Back to the Arts

Presently no one has come forth to help with this program. If volunteers don't act before July, we will have to place this worthy program on the shelf. SWA voted to sponsor an art competition at a Fort Worth high school and encourage art students with art gift certificates as prizes. Jane Schneeberger is willing to form a small committee of interested SWA members (perhaps former art teachers?) to work with the art teacher/coordinator and design contest guidelines. We could present awards at a SWA meeting and view the winning pieces. It was voted to fund 3 prizes in the amounts of \$100, \$75 and \$50. 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 [jlawberger@att.net](mailto:jlawberger@att.net). Since this project is slow off the ground, Jane suggested we implement it in the fall but details must be worked out during the summer!

## Fall Workshop

Our workshop chairs are holding off during the summer months so they can put together a workshop in the fall. More details to follow.

## 2013 SWA Officers and Members Extraordinaire

These dedicated members give their talent and time to keep SWA alive! We need YOU on the list!  
We need to fill all of the pink positions now!

President: Darla Bostick

*President Elect: (OPEN for 2013, to serve in 2014 as president)*

Recording & Corresponding Secretary: Judy Huebener

### EDUCATION:

Monthly Programs: Darla Bostick

Workshop Chairpersons: Shubha Mantri & Lynne Buchanan

Monthly Critiques: Jo Williams for Dave Maxwell

### MEMBERSHIP:

Publication of Membership Directory: Shirley Nichols

*Processing and Maintenance of Membership rolls: OPENS*

### EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition Chair: Diane Petrushka

Sponsorship: Rhonda Barefield

Hanging: Jo Williams

*Hanging Committee: OPEN*

Entry Requirements: Janet Southern

Certificates and Labels: Mary Stitt

SWA Signatures: Norma Lively

Catalog/Postcard: Eloise and Ray Sears/Darla Bostick

Catalog Mailing: Judith Huebener

*Notifications: OPEN*

*Processing: OPEN*

*Strike Coordinator: OPEN*

Non-Juried Exhibitions Chair: Mary Stitt

### FUNDRAISING:

Japanese Gardens: Marie Coerver

FANTastic Fans: Mary Stitt

### FINANCE:

Treasurer: *OPEN*

Professional Standards: (Yearly Audit) Brenda Morgan

### PUBLICITY:

Website: Mary Stitt until May, then Celeste McCall

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, Jane Schneeberger

Hospitality: Marie Coerver

House & Properties: Janet Southern

Painting of the Month Asel Competition: Mary T House

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***