

COLLAGE

May 2015



COLORADO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

Do not forget the upcoming election for 2015-2016 Board Officers, Tuesday, May 19th

Page 6, In memoriam for Gayle Higgins, who passed away on April 22.



Message from the President

By Greg Chapleski, CWS President

This art world of ours can be so fascinating and fun – especially as it applies to watercolor. There are so many gifted painters out there, and what makes it fascinating are the various styles and techniques that come into play. Some paint big – half or full sheets, some paint small – 1/4 or 1/8 sheet. Some use large brushes, some use small. Some use every color in the spectrum and some use a limited pallet - they all work!

Whether it's taking a workshop over several days or watching a demo for an hour or so, it quickly becomes clear what painting with watercolor can do, to the paints, to the painter and the observer. At our last three monthly meetings, watching the demos of Pat Dall, Randy Hale and Chuck Danford was fun – they truly enjoy what they do, you could see it on their faces, hear it in their voices and see it on their paper. But, what was really eye-opening was watching our members and guests in attendance. Everyone was having a great time. There were smiles, head nods of approval, notes being taken and everyone a sponge,

absorbing new ideas and possible new directions for their own painting.

We can be fascinated by how colors react when they are put on paper or how they react when other colors are introduced to the one(s) already there. More or less water causes other effects to happen. It's fascinating if you stop and watch – really watch. So much is happening, so much is changing as a painting progresses.

And the fun emerges when all the reactions of water and pigment mixing, blending or standing together begin to show an acceptable result that is intended or becomes that familiar term “happy accidents.” We can be continually amazed by what can happen... we like it – it is fun – and, we want it to happen again and again. Thus, a casual painter can become an avid painter, once it is realized that what we are doing with paint can be more than a mundane task.

One barrier that can inhibit the enjoyment of our medium happens when someone asks or we ask ourselves, “But, will it sell?” I cringe when I hear that question. It can be very discouraging to enjoy painting to such an extent only to be abruptly brought to the reality of the need to put a price on it to sell it.

Not that there is anything wrong with that question, because we want our work to be wanted or accepted and selling it can prove its worth. But, make no mistake, if it doesn't sell, we or what we do are not failures. Sales will come and go, but our fascination with the watercolor medium should not be limited to that end alone.

A great approach to watercolor painting could be to, once again, rediscover why we paint in the first place... Enjoy!

Central City's No. 71



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MISSION STATEMENT

The Colorado Watercolor Society is an organization dedicated to uphold the highest standards and principles of art and to promote, encourage, educate and foster an interest in fine art in all media, especially watercolor.

The Colorado Watercolor Society meets at the First Plymouth Congregational Church, 3501 South Colorado Blvd. in Englewood, (southwest corner of Hampden Avenue and Colorado Blvd.) in the Plymouth Hall.

The Collage newsletter is published monthly (*except July and January*) to all CWS members.

TO SEND ARTICLES AND IDEAS OR TO SUBMIT ADS CONTACT:

Brian Serff, Editor
editor@coloradowatercolorssociety.org
303-913-2406

CWS Meetings, Shows, Events and Entries

CWS Regular Monthly Meetings

- **South Critique Group:** is meeting at 9 am on the 4th Friday of each month at the Depot Art Gallery. The Depot Art Gallery is located at 2069 West Powers Avenue in Littleton, behind the Buck Recreation Center. Please contact Monique Moore at moore.monique@gmail.com if you would like an e-mail reminder before each meeting.
- **North Critique Group:** meets the last Friday of the month. At the Aar River Gallery, 3707 W. 73rd Ave., Westminster, 80030. Contact Becky Silver at 303-426-4114.
- **CWS Board Meeting:** The next Board meeting will be on May 19, 2015, 5:00 pm.
- **CWS General Meeting:** The next general meeting will be on May 19, 2015, 7:00 to 9:00 pm.
- **The next Collage** will be in June submissions to Brian Serff by Tuesday, May 26, to be in the June Collage.

Upcoming General Meeting Programs

May - Steve Griggs demo

June - Critique

Upcoming CWS Workshops

You can sign up for these workshops online at our CWS website, or contact Terrey Harrod. teamterrey@yahoo.com

Tom Jones: June 8-9-10, 2015

Judy Patti: July 14-15-16, 2015

Arleta Pech: October 6-7-8, 2015

Sterling Edwards: June 6-7-8-9, 2016

Sterling Edwards: June 13-14-15-16, 2016

Please check each artist's website for more information and painting styles.

Events

Chuck Danford will teach two Identical Six Week Classes Monday April 6 - May 11, 9:00 - Noon and Wednesday April 8 - May 13, 2015 9:00 - Noon at Ken Caryl Ranch Recreation Center For information call 303.979.4070 Register at www.ken-carylranh.org

Randy will be a regular watercolor instructor this summer at the Arvada Center – course catalogs come out in early May for registration. In June he'll have 4 morning classes (every Monday), and he'll be teaching 5 Tuesday evening classes. There will be two Saturday (all-day) workshops available, as well – Breaking Boundaries (June 27th) and Luminosity (July 25th).

And there are a few spots left for the 2-day "get-out-of-town" plein air excursion & workshop in Victor, CO's historic mining town near Cripple Creek in the beautiful southern Colorado mountains July 28th & 29th. Kick off get-together and dinner is on Monday evening

July 27th in Victor. Contact Teresa Eaton (970) 274-4238, or go online to register at www.bluelakecreativedestinations.com

Susan Schmitt, Creative Characters with Acrylic Workshop Fri., May 1, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$75 (\$50 Paletteers Members). Sponsored by Paletteers. Learn how Susan creates her characters using photos of women that she has collected and lots of fun techniques. Bring your own photo to work from. Supply list upon registration. Call Becky for info. or email beckyesilver@aol.com

Call For Entries

Deadline: May 5, 2015

Southwest Art Magazine is inviting Colorado artists to be part of their Art of Colorado Section in the July issue. The Art of Colorado Section will include artists, galleries, museums, and art events in Colorado. . Reduced advertising rates available from kimberly.moore@fwmedia.com or phone 303-697-9494

Deadline: May 8, 2015

San Diego Watercolor Society International Exhibition Oct 1 to 31 SDWS Gallery, San Diego, CA Information at sdws.org

Deadline: May 11, 2015 (May 25 for online entries)
42nd Rocky Mountain National Watermedia Exhibition Sep 16 to Oct 25, 2015
Foothills Art Center, Golden, CO
Information at foothillsartcenter.org

Deadline: May 22, 2015

Wild Colorado Show

June 18th, 2015 to June 24th, 2015
Location: Audubon Nature Center at Chatfield
Information: communityoutreach@denveraudubon.org

Deadline: May 31, 2015

Pennsylvania Watercolor Society International Juried Exhibition

September 25, 2015 to November 13, 2015
Location: Carlisle Arts Learning Center, Carlisle PA
Information: pwsjuriedshow@gmail.com or John W. Walker (717-235-5310)

Deadline: June 5, 2015

Depot Art Gallery will sponsor a Plein Air painting in downtown Littleton, cost is \$35.00 for t-shirt and food. The show is juried and will be hung, see Depotartgallery.org or contact Millie Kelly.

Deadline: To be announced

Paint the Town Art Festival in Florence, Colorado

October 12 - 17, 2015
Competition, exhibition and sale
Plein air painting
Contact: florenceartscouncil@yahoo.com

Member Kudos

David Gardner has a show, entitled "Bold Watercolors by David Gardner" at Frame by Frame in the Lowry Town Center 200 Quebec St, Bldg 600B-125.

May 1st-May 31st, with an open house from 3-6PM on Saturday, May 2nd. Gallery Hours: Mon-Fri 9-6, Sat 9-4 and Sun noon to 4

Dianne Widom has a painting accepted in "International Watermedia 2015", sponsored by Pikes Peak Watercolor Society. The show is juried by Ted Nuttall AWS/NWS. The show opens June 5.

The Artist's Easel

By Greg Chapleski



Lorraine Watry

Whenever someone has been given a gift and it is shared with others, only good things can happen. That's the way it is with this month's featured CWS watercolorist and Colorado Springs resident, Lorraine Watry.

At an early age she realized that her gift was in art – she loved to draw and paint. As family and friends watched her creative processes in action, they became more and more interested and couldn't

get enough. She too wanted more with her art, and armed with an art degree from CU Boulder she became a graphic artist for several years, doing clip-art illustrations.

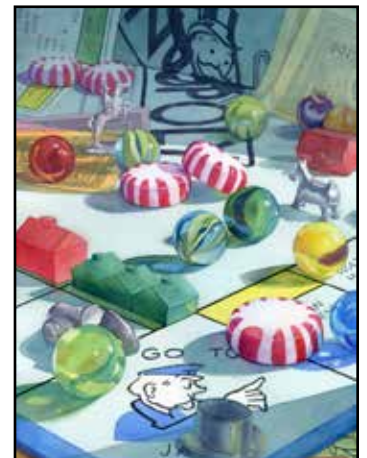
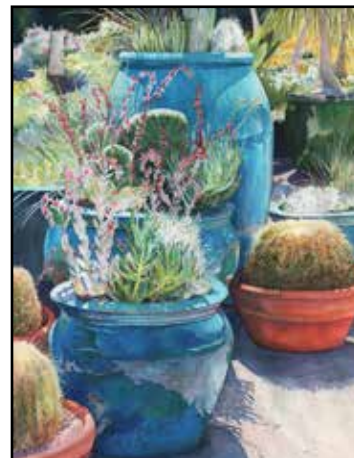
But she knew there was more to pursue... enter, watercolor. Lorraine became fascinated by this new challenge with transparent watercolor. Her own unique style began to come together when she realized that water and the bright colors she began using often had minds of their own. Even the whiteness of the paper took on a pleasing glow - she used all those characteristics to her advantage.

Lorraine readily admits that painting with watercolor is a never-ending process. As she stated, "There is always something new to learn or deal with, and, that's why I love it!"

Not only does she love painting with watercolor, she loves to teach it and readily demonstrates how it's done. She did an entire series of "Watercolor Techniques" on You Tube – a fascinating teaching tool that has helped many people learn the medium. She excitedly shared that the series recently went over the "one millionth viewer" milestone. WAY TO GO LORRAINE!

Before beginning a painting, she works up the drawing – a very satisfying part of her process. Lots of ideas, lots of planning, and lots of changes as a small color study begins to emerge. Then comes the testing of various colors, various combinations and various changes. With such a thorough and evolving process, she's finally ready to go for the real thing, the finished piece.

It all takes time... time well spent! One need only to see the outcome of her efforts to realize she knows how to use her gift. And for any of us who appreciated art, there is one thing for us to do... Enjoy!



A Demo with a difference... "brilliant!"

Vicki Tucker, Programs Committee

Every once in a while an artist comes along whose painting skills set him apart from what is usually expected with watercolors. It's a skill level of painting that is achieved only after countless hours of trying the untried and putting paint where few brushes dare to go. And, upon entering these uncharted waters, success can be achieved at many levels.

This month's demo, at the hands and brushes of CWS's own Steve Griggs, will prove it to you. Looking at his very colorful and sometimes provocative finished pieces, everyone sees something different. The intensity of colors, the crispness or softness of edges, be they applied wet or dry-brushed, what you see or what you imagine always varies – and, that's what makes his work exciting.

It all started at age 10 when his mom noticed how intensely he was looking at a set of paints in the store. She bought it for him and he's been at it ever since. He admits to carrying his sketch book and paints wherever he goes. Quick sketches, value studies and small finished pieces seem to flow as fast as his eyes and hands can move. "I try to paint something every day," Steve quickly added.

By his own admission, he has several degrees and a kind of "backdoor" degree – whatever that is – in art, industrial design, interior design, engineering, architecture... whew! He laughs as he tries to explain it. He quietly yet proudly talks about his alma-mater, Missouri State, and having met his wife, Sue, there many years ago.

When you listen or watch him as he does a demo, you quickly understand how his creations have evolved into the exciting masterpieces they are. He achieved his level

of competence with watercolor the old-fashioned way – practice, practice, practice.

Come to the May meeting and see for yourself – you will be amazed. Several galleries around Colorado have seen what you will see and they proudly display his work.

The next meeting of Colorado Watercolor Society is Tuesday, May 19th, 7-9pm at the First Plymouth Congregational Church (SW corner of Colorado Blvd. and Hampden) in Denver. Invite a friend – everyone is welcome.



Sign up NOW for Tom Jones Watercolor Workshop



Time is running out...

We still need more people to fill up this amazing opportunity.

He's scheduled to come out Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 8, 9, 10, 2015.

If you saw Tom do a watercolor demo last summer at CWS you saw a skilled technician who used simple brush strokes to create a western landscape with trees and a waterfall. He achieved a depth of forest and fast running water – it was exciting.

You too can learn how... Tom Jones is coming back to do a 3 day workshop to teach exciting techniques that start loose and impressionistic. Then with the addition of mid-tones and dark values everything comes together with a colorful finish using his unique "Wow-factor."

Tom holds nothing back as he teaches how to create a mood by using color and shapes to show a feeling of movement. When done, every painting tells a story and you'll see why. Have a fun time painting while learning. Just bring your pallet, paints and brushes, Tom provides the paper (140 lb Arches) and he's bringing lots of giveaway merchandise and other surprises.



Back Roads

The Board in Brief

By Sharon Wink, Corresponding Secretary

The highlights from the CWS Board meeting held April 21, 2015 follow

President Greg Chapleski reports that we have 480 members. The Board election will be held on May 19. Tim Brenner says we need 15% of the membership or 72 votes. We have a Memorial Scholarship Fund from longtime member Jean Cole in the amount of \$350. Past President Marcio Correa suggested that a CWS workshop be awarded to a deserving student in the Scholastic Art Show in this amount. 2016 CWS State Show at the Arvada Center will be the same opening night as the Western Fed Show, June 9th. Both shows will hang for three months. Members are encouraged to enter both shows and to volunteer to work. Gary Nichols, Exhibition Officer, explained that there will be no Plymouth Church Show this year due to construction at the church. The New Trends show will be in the fall. Program Chair Vicki Tucker said next month Steve Griggs will demo and in June a critique is planned; please bring a matted picture.

Tim Brenner announced that Southwest Art Magazine will run a section on Colorado Artists and Galleries in July. A ¼ page ad is \$575, normally this same space is \$1230.

Terrey Harrod, Workshops Officer, had to cancel Robbie Laird's workshop due to lack of attendees. Mary Jo Ramsdale is exploring an on-line art show. The Philadelphia Watercolor Society does this. Sales are conducted between the artist and the purchaser. Marcio reports that Max Osborn, photographer has upgraded his equipment and would like to photograph the member's artwork at a future meeting. He specializes in color and giclee' reproductions

CWS Aprons for Sale

They will be available at the monthly meetings* for **\$20.00** each....with the profits going to our Educational Fund.

The aprons are a nice quality material with two large pockets in the front and long enough to cover your knees while painting.

The neck adjusts to fit Large or Medium. I would suggest a large for anyone over 5'5" and medium for anyone under.

*If you are unable to attend the monthly meetings I would be glad to mail you an apron for \$20 + mailing \$5.25.

Please mail a check for \$25.25 for each apron to:

Vicki Tucker

2426-B S Vaughn Way, Aurora, CO 80014

This is a great way to support CWS and our important Educational Fund! And keep yourself clean!

\$20⁰⁰



2015-2016 Board Officers Ballot – Clip and Vote

This is your mail-in Ballot according to By-Laws, Article V, Section 5.2.

Deliver your ballot to the May 19th General Meeting or mail your ballot postmarked by Tuesday, May 14, 2015 to:

Colorado Watercolor Society

P.O. Box 100003

Denver, CO 80250 - 0003

Or e-mail it to: artbeck@mac.com

Current Board Officers:

President – Greg Chapleski
President Elect – Tim Brenner
Immediate Past President – Marcio Correa
Parliamentarian – Art Beck
Vice President of Workshops – Terrey Harrod
Membership Official – Kathy Cranmer
Board Member At Large – Mary Jo Ramsdale

New or Renewing Officers:

Recording Secretary – Zona Janssen
Vice President of Programs – Vicki Tucker
Exhibition Official – Gary Nichols
Corresponding Secretary – Sharon Wink
Board Member At Large – Diane Fechenbach
Treasurer – Marsha Ambraziunas

YES / No, I am *In favor* **Not in favor, of the CWS 2015-2016 Board Officers**

Sign your name _____

Start Painting for WFWS41 2016 in Colorado!

By Marcio Correa, WFWS Delegate



Western Federation of Watercolor Societies

While Western Fed 40 is currently under way in Lubbock Texas, it is WFWS41 that is getting us really excited! The 2016 exhibit of the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies will be held in Colorado, at the Arvada Center for the Arts, and Project Manager Gene Youngmann and his team are planning a wonderful show and related events.

This presents a great opportunity for CWS members: First of all, this will be a large show, with 140 pieces (40% larger than WFWS40); secondly, the 2016 CWS State Watercolor Exhibit will be held in the same venue, at the same time, from June 9 to August 28; and given the staggered deadlines for the two shows, CWS artists can submit up to three entries to the WFWS41 show, and any pieces not accepted can then be submitted to the 2016 State Show! So you have 40% more chance to be in the Western Fed show, and an extra opportunity to be in the parallel State Show at the same time, in the same excellent venue!

Deadline for the WFWS41 is January 8, 2016, but we encourage all to make an early start on your paintings. Here are some tips to increase your chances:

Make sure you choose pieces that represent the best of your abilities and skills, as this is a very competitive event. Make them interesting, make them bold and confident, make them uniquely you.

Strong design and innovative composition greatly improve your chances. If you need to brush up on your technique, or on design,

there are a series of CWS workshops in 2015 you could take, and there are many helpful materials in the CWS Library you could check out. The Critique groups and the June Critique program are also beneficial to get feedback, assess your readiness and help you plan your next successful painting.

Improve your photos: Your photography has to be every bit as professional as your painting. If your images are not top quality (out of focus, poorly cropped, underexposed, etc), your artwork will not have any chance to impress the selection juror. At a minimum have an experienced artist or photographer check the quality of your photos; better still, have your photos taken by a specialized professional.

Read and follow the prospectus carefully: We can't emphasize this enough--When the prospectus comes out in a couple of months, read it carefully. Make sure your piece is original, is in the allowed media and format, has been completed in the last two years, has not been shown in other national exhibits!

We look forward to receiving your entries for this unique event! So start (continue) painting, and the best of luck!



In Memoriam

Gayle Higgins

The CWS community is saddened by the loss of Gayle Higgins. Gayle lost her battle with recurring cancer on Wednesday, April 22. She was an active participant in our shows and events, a friend to many of us, and an inspiration to all. She was an accomplished teacher and artist, and her colorful and detailed artwork won her much admiration and many awards, the latest

of which at the current WFWS40 exhibit in Lubbock. Those visiting the exhibit will see that her light and vision lives on in the award-winning painting immortalizing the crystal vase she received as a wedding gift so many years ago.

Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.



Critique Guidelines in Preparation for June Meeting

In preparation for the Critique program at the June general meeting, and considering the number of new members, we would like to point out our guidelines in advance:

1. Bringing paintings for critiques is strictly voluntary and not a requirement for membership or participation.
2. Paintings do not have to be finished, they can be in progress, those paintings, which have caused stress or struggles are good candidates for critique, to hear suggestions for resolution and ways to successfully finish them.
3. Paintings should NOT be framed or under glass. Paintings should NOT be in a plastic sleeve because of the glare. Please remove the sleeve if used for transportation.
4. Paintings should be attached to a board to give them support, with either clips, tape or stapled to the surface.
5. Large paintings are easier to see in a large group but that does not exclude smaller paintings, they are always welcome.
6. Mats are optional, if a mat is used it should be white or off white.
7. The comments of the person(s) critiquing your artwork should be taken as a suggestion and are no way meant to judge the value of your artwork. Sometimes the comments and suggestions will need to be applied to your next painting experience and not to the painting being critiqued.
8. Critiques are a useful tool and help us grow as artists.
9. Important: Please do not approach the person who did the critique on any later occasion to discuss the critique. If at the end of the session you have concerns, complaints or comments about the person or the feedback they gave, please direct them to President Greg Chapleski.

Photography Opportunity: You can have your critique piece or other artwork photographed by specialized photographer Max Osborne while you attend the CWS June 16th meeting. Max will attend with his upgraded photo equipment and take the photographs in a separate room during the meeting. For this session there is no minimum number of pieces, and price is \$20 per painting. More details to come in the June newsletter.



Roger Hupfer



Sharon Keys



Ellen Jones



Catharine Wood



P.O. Box 100003
Denver, CO 80250-0003

COLLAGE

Submission deadline
for June Issue is:
Tuesday, May 26th



Tanis Bula



Nancy Neale



Joe Beckner

Becky Lucas

