

# COLLAGE

March 2014



COLORADO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY



## *Critique... the help that keeps giving!*

By Greg Chapleski, Programs Committee

Every one of us is on a journey with our artistic abilities as expressed through watercolor. We continually ask ourselves, "Is this working?" or, "Should I try something different?" or, "How do I solve this problem?" And, the list goes on.

We all would agree that watercolor painting is a process and not a destination. As we develop our skills, we learn something new and unlearn others. Brushes, paints and paper have a way of interacting in ever-changing ways – sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't. Either way, the learning process continues and the opportunities can be limitless – and, that's a good thing.

This March at the CWS monthly meeting we will once again have the opportunity to subject our individual learning processes to a Critique. It's meant to be that special time when two very capable jurors evaluate our latest work, either in its completed state or in process of completion. This critique helps both the artist whose creation it is and the observers who are in attendance. Everyone can benefit and be encouraged no matter the skill level.

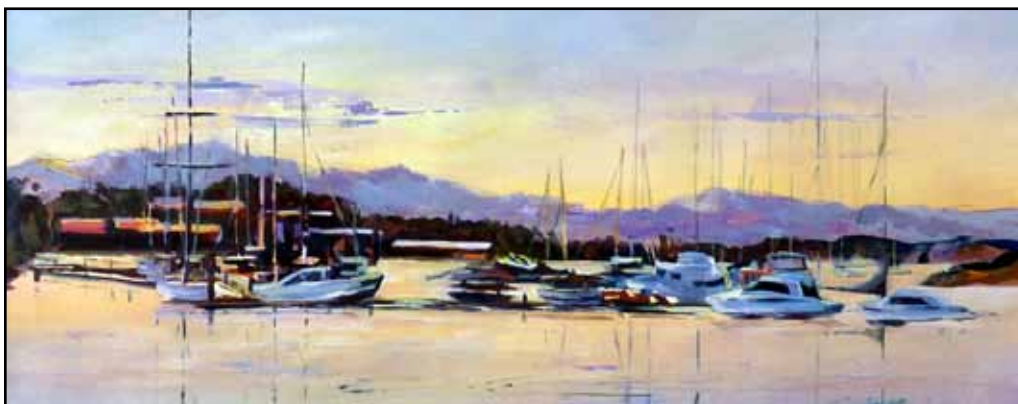
The jurors that have stepped forward this time are very qualified in this regard. Randy Hale is an accomplished watercolorist in his own right. His western work ethic and ranch life experience, especially with horses, often

provide inspiration for the subjects in his paintings. His use of strong colors is very convincing as to his level of accomplishment. He is also a very capable teacher in watercolor – he teaches all skill-levels. Randy is a hands-on type of instructor and one can not help but learn from him.

And the other juror is Judy Patti. She is the personification of a watercolor teacher that has fun working with color to create the unexpected. She has the innate ability to instill in her students an "I can do this" attitude – and, they indeed "can do it" too. Her bubbly personality and positive attitude about art can get everyone excited about the possibilities with a brush loaded with paint.

So, bring that painting you just completed or are still working on – and, let Randy and Judy give you a critique that will change the way you paint – for the better! All paintings - only one per person, please - can be framed or unframed, without glass, so all can clearly see your creation.

A great time will be had by everyone attending this most entertaining and informative program at 7pm on Tuesday, March 18th at the First Plymouth Congregational Church (SW corner of Colorado Blvd. & Hampden). Bring a painting... bring a friend – all are welcome!



Sandra Danley "Still Water"

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**INVITATION:**  
2014 State Exhibit Opening  
Reception March 7th, 5:30-  
7:30, at the Lone Tree Arts  
Center

### 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 December) to all CWS members.

### TO SEND ARTICLES AND IDEAS OR TO SUBMIT ADS CONTACT:

Brian Serff, Editor  
editor@coloradowatercolorssociety.org  
720-535-5417

## The Board in Brief

Sharon Wink  
Corresponding Secretary



President, Marcio Correa, opened the meeting at 5:10. In the absence of a quorum, January minutes will be approved via email.

Kathy Cramer was introduced as the new Membership Official. Welcome Kathy! Kathy then announced that people who renew their CWS membership by June 1, 2014 will have their names placed in a drawing for one free workshop of their choice from June 1, 2014 to June 1, 2015. I'm getting my membership in EARLY!

Tim Brenner, Parliamentarian, and Vicki Tucker, Vice President of Programs, selected the winners for the middle school through high school Scholastic Awards. Five winners of the CWS Emerging Artist Awards received \$100 each. Tim Brenner praised the remarkable quality of art work represented at these awards.

The North Critique Group is looking for a leader.

For Gary Nichols, Greg Chapleski announced \$2,595 in cash, plus merchandise prizes, to be awarded at the Annual State Exhibition opening reception, March, Catering and entertainment have been arranged.

Condolences were offered to Cathy Pennak on the death of her mother and Sydney Eitel on the death of her father.

Terrey Harrod, Vice President of Workshops, announced that Carl Dalio, juror for the state exhibition, will present a workshop in March; Tom Jones will present in May, and Sterling Edwards and Tom Shaller will present workshops later in the year.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

**Congratulations** to our friend Stephen Quiller on winning the Gold Medal of Honor at the American Watercolor Society 2014 International Exhibition.

## South Critique Group

Dear All,

The South Critique Group will meet at the Koebel Library (Holly and Orchard) on March 28 at 9:30 am in Meeting Room A.

You are invited to bring a painting - or 2 or 3. The discussions provide valuable insight, whether it's your painting or not!

Our numbers have been few and we are worried that the library may not let us reserve rooms if our numbers do not improve.

Please consider joining us! Hope to see you there.

Monique Moore

## North Critique Group

The North Critique Group will meet every 4th Friday of the month, from 9 to noon, at Becky Silver's studio at the Aar River Gallery, 3707 W. 73rd Avenue in Westminster.

The first meeting will be March 28.

Please join this group critique, facilitated by Becky. Space is limited, so please sign-up by email to [beckyesilver@aol.com](mailto:beckyesilver@aol.com).



Kristina Storey  
*Luscious Lunas*

Paul Foster  
*A Mine's Eye*



# Message from the President



Marcio Correa, CWS President

## **Our new Board Member and Updated Bylaws**

At our February meeting, we had the great pleasure to welcome Kathy Cranmer as our new Membership Official. Kathy's experience, responsiveness and attention to detail will be very helpful in this role that had been vacant

for some months. She will also be a great asset to the Board in its discussions and deliberations.

Kathy greeted the audience with exciting news: As part of our campaign to drive timely membership renewal, we will offer a gift certificate for a free CWS workshop to a name drawn from among those members who renew their 2014-2015 membership by the deadline of June 1st. Renewing by that date is also a pre-requisite to be included in the 2014-2015 roster which will be published in the fall.

We also successfully concluded the update of our Bylaws with the unanimous vote taken at the meeting. Thank you to all who voted in person or sent in their votes in advance. Our congratulations and gratitude go to Dave Wicks and Tim Brenner for their pursuit of this improvement to our organization.

## **The State Exhibit**

Our State Exhibit preparations are nearing completion. Gary Nichols and Sue Holton have done a great job with the organization of this exhibit, from the choice of the venue to the caliber of juror and level of artwork, to the value of the awards and quality of the



reception. We are thrilled to welcome artists, guests and the public to what is certain to be a beautiful opening ceremony at 5:30 on March 7th at the Lone Tree Arts Center.

## **Thinking Self-Critically**

I hope a lot of our members take the opportunity to attend our March meeting for the critique program to be led by expert artists and instructors Randy Hale and Judy Patti. Similarly, I hope for a lot of interest in the upcoming revival of the CWS North Critique group. I am thrilled at both accounts, as I see critiques as an incredibly valuable tool for the artist.

Painting is easy, but making a successful painting is such a difficult and complex activity, with a myriad of aspects and options to consider—subject matter, composition and design, technique, color and temperature, value, texture, etc. The mastery of each element requires lots of practice, and we need help in figuring out where we are and where to focus our effort next. This is where I think critiques come in as most helpful, by pointing you in the next direction. Think of them as navigation devices.

The praise and “constructive criticism” of pieces can offer some encouragement and guidance. But I believe the most useful is when critique or self-critique becomes a creative exercise, by asking “what if...” This means looking at a painting (of yours or someone else's) and asking yourself “Would this be better if...” or “What happens when...” For example: “Would this portrait be better if the shirt was a different color, if there was more space to the left, if I softened that edge” or “what happens when you cover that tree, when you add this color accent...” This kind of assessment also reveals what is working and what is not working on the piece, but has the added benefit of indicating options and solutions. It also keeps us focused on the process, rather than on the painting as a finished product—if it is not great, it is because we have not finished our way through it yet. A creative problem can be identified by analysis, but it can only be solved by a creative process.

Please join us in welcoming Kathy, celebrating our updated Bylaws, and making the State Exhibit reception and the March critique a great success. See you there!

## **Of Snow and Mud**

# CWS Meetings, Shows, Events and Entries

## CWS Regular Monthly Meetings

- **South Critique Group:** will meet at Koebel Library, 5955 S. Holly Street, Centennial, 80121  
**Contact:** Monique Moore, moore.monique@gmail.com  
telephone: 303-770-4686.

Friday, March 28, 2014, 9:30 am, Koebel Library Room B  
Thursday, April 24, 2014, 9:30 am, Koebel Library Room B

**North Critique Group:** will meet at Becky Silver's studio at the Aar River Gallery, 3707 W. 73rd Avenue in Westminster, every 4th Friday each month, starting on March 28, 9-noon. Space is limited, please sign up by email to beckysilver@aol.com.

- **CWS Board Meeting:** March 18th, 5:00 pm.
- **CWS General Meeting:** March 18th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm.
- **The next Collage** will be in April, submissions to Brian Serff by Tuesday, March 25th, to be in the April Collage.

## Upcoming General Meeting Programs

**March 18th:** Member work critique, by Randy Hale and Judy Patti

## Upcoming CWS Workshops

**Carl Dalio** Workshop, March 4-7, 2014

**Tom Jones** Workshop, May 19-22, 2014. tomjonesartist.com

**Sterling Edwards**, July 7-10, 2014. (sold out)

**Thomas Schaller**, August 12-14, 2014.

**You can sign up for these workshops online at our CWS website, or contact Terrey Harrod.**

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

## Call For Entries

**March 8, 2014** - One Day Workshop  
\$75 - RSVP ASAP to reserve your space.  
Showcase Art Center.  
1335 8th Ave. Greeley, CO 80631.  
Contact: Colette Pitcher (970)356-8593 Colette@ColettePitcher.com

### **Deadline: March 8, 2014**

Society of Watercolor Artists International Watermedia Exhibit  
Fort Worth, Texas.  
Information at [www.swawatercolor.com](http://www.swawatercolor.com)

### **Deadline: March 10, 2014**

Illinois Watercolor Society 30th National Exhibition  
May 6-30, 2014.  
Information at [www.Illinoiswatercolorssociety.org](http://www.Illinoiswatercolorssociety.org)

### **Deadline: March 22, 2014**

National Greeley Art Exhibition  
Open to all media, juror Desmond O'Hagan  
May 2-9, 2014  
FMS Bank, Greeley CO  
Information at [ngae-artshow.org](http://ngae-artshow.org)

### **Deadline: April 4, 2014**

Red River Watercolor Society 21st National Exhibition.  
June 16 - July 26, 2014.  
Hjemkomst Center, Moorhead MN.  
Information at [redriverws.org](http://redriverws.org)

### **Date: April 26th, 2014**

Watercolor Batik on Rice Paper, Workshop.  
Taught by: Martha Heppard, CWS member (website: [martha.md](http://martha.md)).  
Time: 8 am -Noon.  
Where: Elements 5280 Gallery on Orchard Rd and S. Holly St  
(3 doors down from Venice Restaurant).  
Cost: \$50, payment due by March 28th, 2014. Supply list will be sent to artists. Class size is limited to 8 artists, all abilities welcome.  
Register by emailing Martha at [martha@heppard.com](mailto:martha@heppard.com) (feel free to call Martha at 303-290-8841 if you have any questions).



**Chuck Danford** Watercolor Classes at  
Ken Caryl Ranch Recreation Center  
**Identical Six Week Sessions 9:00 - Noon**  
Monday, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12  
Wednesday, April 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14  
For information call 303.979.4070  
Register at [www.ken-caryl-ranch.org](http://www.ken-caryl-ranch.org)

# General CWS Critique Guidelines



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.



Robert Gray

## Press Release

Georgetown Gallery, Colorado's oldest co-operative fine arts gallery, for forty years, has two openings for artist membership. If you work in acrylics, oils, pastels or watercolor and have any interest in a three-month trial gallery membership, this opportunity may be for you. The gallery is looking for two artists with professional quality artwork to join us.

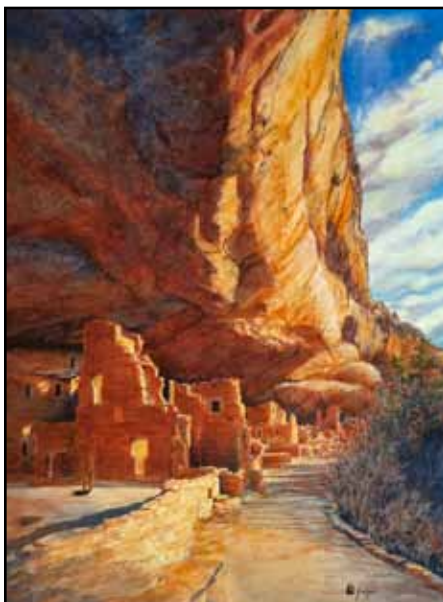
Artists will have a display area of ten by ten foot wall space in the gallery for only \$150 per month during the trial period, which goes towards your membership. Artists will need eighteen to twenty pieces of framed artwork to fill their wall space. Each of the ten member artists work three or four days a month and attend bi-monthly gallery meetings. Working in historic Georgetown, artists get to meet local, national and international collectors.

If you have any interest in being part of a co-op gallery and willing to make this kind of commitment, please contact Donna Clemenson 303-935-5710 or Karen Heber 303-233-2542 to discuss this opportunity or call the gallery at 303-569-2218 for more information.

### Georgetown Gallery

614 Sixth Street  
Georgetown CO 80444  
303-569-2218

[www.GeorgetownGalleryCO.com](http://www.GeorgetownGalleryCO.com)



Curt Gillespie



Gayle Higgins

Randy Hale



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

## COLLAGE

Submission deadline  
for April Issue is:  
***Tuesday, March 25th***



Brian Serff



Sharon Wink



Diana Carmody

