



SWA October Notes 2014

Hello to SWA Friends & Members!

As I write this I have just returned from a 3-week adventure in Asia which included Thailand and Lao with a Mekong River trip through Cambodia and Vietnam. What a grand trip and I am quite sure the 2600+ photographs I brought home will keep me busy painting for quite awhile!

I was sorry to miss the meeting last month but promise to be there this month for our demo with Sharon Serrago and our Fabulous Fans Contest! (In fact, I have two fans here I need to paint. I have to say I am rather Asian-inspired at this point.)

The notifications of acceptance are in by now for the SWA Membership Exhibition. This exhibition is really such fun because it represents the art work of our artists and their incredible talent. It seems I am finding more and more of our member's names listed in national shows and gaining reputations for their work. I feel it is a privilege to call them friends—all of which go directly back to their affiliation with SWA.

October is 2015 membership renewal time. The Membership Directory is always printed before the holidays so if you wish to be included, please see that your dues are renewed this month. It's pretty easy with our pay pal option on the website, or you can pay at the meeting. Speaking of membership, our Directory Editor, Shirley Nichols, is retiring this month. She plans to steer the FANTASTIC Fans event. Shirley is training her successor who will be on the November ballot as we vote for our leadership. We have several places to fill so be sure to read carefully the article about that and donate some time!



My alibi for missing the Sept meeting—Asia trip!
I'll see you at the next meeting!

Darla Bostick

President (and newsletter editor)

SWA Juried Membership Exhibition

The entries are in, the juror has previewed, and the notifications are sent. The show will be at the UNTHSC Atrium Gallery just down the hall from our regular meeting space each month. Our juror is Benito Huerta, Professor and Director/ Curator of Department of Art and Art History and The Gallery at UTA, University of Texas at Arlington, TX; artist, curator, lecturer, and juror. Our next step is to accept the work and hang it in the gallery. If you can assist with this, your help is appreciated. Our Hanging Chairperson is John James John-Drew@prodigy.net Please insure that your entry is properly matted and framed to prevent disqualification from the show.

Calendar

Wednesday, 1 October: Shipped entries due (details appear on the prospectus)

Saturday, 4 October, noon-2pm: Hand delivered work due for hanging—hanging begins as entries arrive at noon

Sunday, 19 October, 2-4pm: Reception. Any food and drink happily received!

Saturday, 1 November, 10-noon: Pick up hand-delivered works—the earlier the better. Another group has incoming work the same day for hanging, so please plan to be there as close to 10am as possible!

Delivery, Reception and Pickup: University of North Texas Health Science Center, Atrium Gallery, 3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard at Montgomery Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76107 (building entrance is at 3 flagpoles at the parking lot corner)

Treasurer's Report:



Current balance as of 2 August:
Checking \$18,223.99 CD \$15,252.17
@ .35% due on 24 October 2014



SWA Members in the

Charlene Baker has a watercolor painting, "Floral Activity," accepted in the North East Watercolor Society in Hancock, New York. The show runs through October & November.

Celeste McCall has work in the Trinity Arts Guild Fall Members Juried Show 16 Sept-21 October.

Bobbie Windle won 2nd place and **Sharon Giles** won 3rd Mixed Media Division of the Irving Art Association Animal Show.

Sharon Giles also was juried in the Southwestern Watercolor Society Membership Show.

Suzanne McNeill-Sparks has just returned from Greece and will be showing her works from that trip in December at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center, 1300 Gendy Street, Fort Worth. In the meantime, the works are being shown at Sparks Studio in Arlington.

Laurin McCracken sent news of several exhibitions where he showed works: National Watercolor Society's 94th Annual International Exhibition, Allied Artists of America's 100th Annual Juried exhibition, 9th Annual Exhibition of the International Guild of Realism, the Invitational World Watermedia Exposition in Thailand where 2 works were shown, 2 more in the International Watercolour Biennial in Belgium, invitational Malaysian Watercolour International Exhibition, Oct-Nov and he won the Jack Richeson Award of Merit at the Transparent Watercolor Society's 38th Juried Exhibition. He has recently returned from China where 3 paintings were included in the Qingdao International Watercolor Salon. Twenty International watercolorists, including 5 from the US, were invited to be exhibited with 20 outstanding Chinese Watercolorists. Laurin was among 4 of the international artists who were hosted for three weeks. "We gave demonstrations, participated in symposia and painted with over 100 watercolorists. Then we went to the Taihang Mountains for two weeks where we again gave demonstrations and painted with over 100 different painters from China and Taiwan." We can look for 2 of his works in the upcoming "Splash 16." He recently juried the 8th Annual Keystone National Juried Exhibition of Works on Paper. Laurin had a one-man show at the Greenberg Fine Art Gallery in Santa Fe, NM in June and will be part of a two-person show at the Southside Gallery, Oxford, MS, 26 Oct – 22 Nov.

Soon Warren is part of a "Best Of" Exhibition at the Breckenridge Art Center in Breckenridge, TX.

News of Pat Damsgaard

A former member, **Pat Damsgaard**, has passed away. Her obituary can be viewed at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/stltoday/obituary.aspx?pid=172192860> Her daughter, Beth Damsgaard-Rodriguez can be reached at <bethdrod@hotmail.com>



Volunteer of the Month: Ann Winchester

Our artists who arrive to provide a demo would happily vote for Ann as Volunteer of the Month. She oversees the technical crew on our visual setup for demos as well as supporting the artist to set-up and move materials. When you leave from a meeting, look over your shoulder and see if she needs help!

SWA Is On Facebook!

Please join SWA on Facebook. We need members and friends of SWA to join and begin posting! This will help others find us easier and should be instrumental in our publicity efforts for exhibitions and meetings. You can post photos of your work through the network. In addition, don't forget members may post one free painting image on our website. Have you done that yet? <http://www.facebook.com/SWAWatercolor>

Welcome to New Members

Our new website address is: www.swawatercolor.com

WELCOME

Currently we have 160 members

Membership entitles you to 20% at any Asel Art Supply with your membership card, a discount for entering any SWA show, access to the Annual Membership Exhibition in the Fall, free critique session before and demos during our monthly meetings, fellowship with like-minded creative folks and fun competitions (like the FANTastic Asian Fan Contest in the Fall and the monthly Art of the Month Contest sponsored by Asel at our meetings). We have a Holiday Party with a painting swap at a restaurant in December followed by a "Welcome to New Members" Pizza Party in January! But wait! That's not all! You also receive a monthly newsletter. Get your art work seen! As a member you are eligible to post on our Facebook and you can place one image on the website free (or pay \$20 a year to be included in the Premium Gallery with extra images and your website address). Benefits abound! While maintaining your membership if you are selected to 5 of our juried exhibitions (without disqualification) you earn SWA Signature Membership. Our membership year runs on a calendar basis, Jan-Dec. Even though half our year is over, we still have our 2014 Membership Exhibition coming in October. (Don't be confused when we begin taking 2015 dues in October---that is for the 2015 benefits!)

We like new members...invite your friends!

The 3rd SWA Invitational

This year is the 3rd SWA Invitational which is a very special exhibition. There is no entry fee to be included and there is no juror! The only way to be part of this exhibition is to give your time and talent to SWA. This special exhibition honors our many volunteers who help to make SWA happen! The first year we were lucky to be invited to Grapevine as they hosted the traveling NWS Exhibition. Our works were displayed next to theirs in the same exhibit hall. Last year Irving hosted us in the Focus Gallery of the Irving Arts Center and we added a new perk...the people's choice award for \$100. For 2014 a location has not yet been found. Our former venues in Grapevine and Irving cannot host us. The search is on...do you know somewhere we can use (that is free?). Let any of your board members know. We need space for 25 paintings but we could have as many as 50 if the space allows.

Dues is Payable in October for 2015 Membership

To insure you are included in the 2015 Membership Directory, pay your dues in October or November!

October 20th Demo with Sharon Serrago

A signature member of SWS, Sharon has been painting since childhood. As a beginner she sat beside her mother's easel and watched, later "sharing" the canvas with Mom, then finally venturing out on her own. She has presented her work in many national shows such as Western Federation of Watercolor Societies, Texas Watercolor Society, Alabama Watercolor Society, San Diego Watercolor Society and others. A resident of Plano, Sharon regularly conducts classes in watercolor and acrylics at her studio in Richardson, focusing on color theory and design. While she paints in various mediums including oils, acrylics, pastels, and collage, Sharon does most of her work in watercolor. Subject matter for Sharon is quite varied. Abstracts are her favorite, but landscapes and florals are equally exciting to her. In all her work, she likes to experiment with several styles, painting very tight in one picture and then very loose in another. You can see many of her pieces on her website: www.serrago.com She also is participating in a 30 Paintings in 30 Days Challenge. You can see the pieces that she paints each day at sharonserrago.blogspot.com



HELP WANTED

Turnover in leadership is expected in any organization and keeps it healthy with fresh ideas. The secret to success comes in replacing the empty positions. The question begging to be asked at this point is: How do you contribute to SWA?

The following positions need to be filled as soon as possible. Take a look and contact any officer to let them know you will pitch in to keep SWA the fine organization it is!

Photography at meetings---pics of the demo and winners of the Asel awards, then send images to Darla for newsletter
Publicity of meetings, workshops and exhibitions and printing of postcards for exhibitions

Field trip organizer

Help with monthly refreshments for meetings and receptions

In our effort to assist our Exhibition Chairs we need volunteers to:

Check out the possibility of using printpelican.com for exhibit catalog and manage that important publication

An Exhibition Communications spot is needed to send reminder emails to exhibit artists for take-in, reception and pick-up of works

A prospectus writer to update each successive prospectus

Our SWA Online Gallery—Is Your Work Represented?—It's Free with SWA Membership

Upon reviewing the SWA online Members Gallery there are 10 artists who have submitted an image. This is a *free* service to our members and you are encouraged to submit an image of your work to Celeste McCall, our webmaster (and president-elect). Three members have gone the extra step to purchase space for a block of paintings and contact information (website, etc). If you are interested in the extra exposure of your work, the cost of the Premium Gallery space is only \$20/year. Send your image(s) in today to: Celeste McCall <cst136@yahoo.com>

Introducing SWA Member, Muriel Elliott Mimura



"Catching Dinner" won Best of Show in the 2014 Texas and Neighbors Exhibition.

Muriel grew up in NC but since 1975 TX has claimed her. In 2011 she joined SWA, three years after she began painting. "I took a few art classes as a child and 2 studio art classes in college – then nothing for 35+ years. I started painting in 2008, after retiring from a career in information management (computer programming) and statistics. I tell people that my work is realistic because I spent so many years where there was just right and wrong; I appreciate impressionistic and abstract art but that isn't my style." She adds, "I take continuing classes from Naomi Brotherton and Pat Kochan. I have been lucky to take workshops from Paul Jackson, Nava Grunfeld, Ted Nuttall, Joyce Faulknor, Guy Magallanes, Judy Morris, and Mark Mehafeff. My painting is very realistic. I paint in many transparent layers; one of my instructors tells me that I 'like to sneak up on it'."

We know Muriel as a signature member of SWA but she also holds signature status in Watercolor USA Honor Society and Southwestern Watercolor Society. Aside from the exhibitions earning her signature status Muriel has participated in Rockies West National Exhibition, Western Federation of Watercolor Societies, Miami Watercolor Society Online Exhibition, New Mexico Watercolor Society Exhibition, Irving Art Association Wildlife Juried Art Competition, Texas Watercolor Society National Exhibition, Richardson Civic Art Society Regional Exhibition, Southern Watercolor Society Exhibition and Watercolor USA Exhibition. Muriel is included in "The Artistic Touch 5" (book published fall, 2012, Chris & Don Unwin, editors) and upcoming edition 6. She has been awarded Best in Show and numerous other honors.



She is a member of several art associations: RCAS – Richardson Civic Art Society, TWS – Texas Watercolor Society, SW – Southern Watercolor Society and AWS – American Watercolor Society. When asked what remains on the "bucket list" she explains, "Getting accepted to an AWS exhibition, then earning signature status."



"Maiko, Kyoto"

Muriel explains, "I have been extremely lucky to get to travel a great deal since I retired. When I started painting I wanted to create souvenirs of my travels. I had in mind landscapes, but soon determined that I am not very good at landscapes so now I paint the people that I see." She adds, "I want to convey the beauty I see as my husband and I travel as much of the world as we can. We are gone so much that I do not paint very many larger paintings; when we travel I paint 8x10 paintings of birds, butterflies, and flowers from wherever we are." She and her husband combine their love of cooking and travel by renting apartments when they travel--in France, Italy, Spain, and Mexico as well as around the US.

"The highlight of my art career so far was when my painting, 'Maiko, Kyoto' was selected for a Purchase Award for the Springfield Art Museum's Permanent Collection – I have a painting in an art museum!"

SWA Has A New Affiliate

You may not know about Colors of Nature. It is a Canadian company making watercolor paints that are real colors reflecting the true colors of nature, made completely from natural ingredients (making them safe for children and adults). The paints are animal free, cruelty free, solvent free, petroleum free and are produced carbon emissions free. They claim professional quality performance, permanent or excellent light fastness at affordable prices and are long lasting. [Colors of Nature](http://www.colors-of-nature.com) is offering SWA members a 20% discount code to use on their website. Each month they tabulate the total savings earned through our code and donate that same amount back to SWA. If any of our members make a piece of art using their paints they will post it on their website, blog and direct people to a site of the artist's choice. Ownership of the image belongs to the artist. Colors of Nature would seek permission from the artist for any other use. Our SWA discount code: Members-20-SWA Shop at <http://shop.colors-of-nature.com>

ASEL ART AWARDS: YOU COULD BE THE ARTIST OF THE MONTH!



SWA members are invited to bring a completed, framed piece to our monthly meeting. The artwork is shown anonymously with each member in attendance voting once for their favorite. After winning 1st place, that artist retires from the competition for the remainder of the calendar year. Those who win 2nd place may continue in the competition with other pieces of work. Art work previously shown in a SWA juried exhibit is not allowed. The first place winner receives a \$25 Asel gift certificate and 2nd place wins a \$15 certificate. In November all first place pieces during 2014 return for a final selection of "Artist of the Year." Many thanks to Mary T House who chairs this fun event each month! Thank Asel Art Supply when you shop at 825 Foch Street, Fort Worth. Paint now for the September Asel Awards!



M Fabion won 1st place and Rhonda Barefield took 2nd place for September

29 October, 9:30 - 2:30 Sharon Giles and Watercolor Prints with a Gelli Plate

SWA member Sharon Giles is presenting a workshop with Gelli Plate and will reveal secrets of using watercolors for this printing process. Cost is \$45 partial day. Held at Sparks Studio of Creative Arts, 509 W. Main St., Arlington TX 76010
SparksStudioArt.com Register at <http://sparksstudioart.com/class-details.htm>

Mark Your 2014 Calendar

The highlight of any meeting is the demo! Ann Winchester needs volunteers to help our demo artists unpack and repack.



4 October, this Saturday: Deliver accepted works for Membership Show
19 October, Sunday 2-4pm: Membership Exhibition Reception
20 October, Monday: Sharon Serrago - demo, landscape

Our Monthly meetings are held at the UNTHSC, Everett Building. Watch for a banner on the parking lot with directions to our room (or check the map on the website)

February we are back to our normal schedule:

5:45—Board Meeting
6pm—Critique with Jo Williams (bring in 1 or 2 works for some friendly advice)
7pm—brief business notices
7:15-9pm our demo, snack and art of the month

1 November, Saturday 10am-noon: Pick up work at Membership Show at UNTHSC Atrium Gallery

17 November, Monday: Paula White – demo, Water Scenes on yupo

December: Holiday Party TBA

SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS LEADERSHIP

How do YOU contribute to YOUR SWA?

President: Darla Bostick

President Elect: Celeste McCall

Recording & Corresponding Secretary: Judy Huebener

EDUCATION:

Monthly Programs: Ann Winchester (2015)

Workshop Chairperson: Lynne Buchanan

Monthly Critiques: Jo Williams

EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition Co-Chairs: Mary Stitt and Bob Cook (**Need 2015 Chair or Co-chairs**)

Prospectus: Darla Bostick (**Need replacement**)

CaFE' Liason: Celeste McCall

Sponsorship: Rhonda Barefield

Hanging Chair: John James

Hanging Volunteers: John Nickell, Norma Fitzwater,

Shirley Nichols, Jim Stewart, Debbie Downing

Entry Requirements: Janet Southern

SWA Signatures/Certificates: Debbie Downing

Reception Photography: Gordon Henry

Catalog/Postcard: Eloise and Ray Sears/Darla Bostick

Catalog Distribution: Bettye Reece & Marjorie Brannon

Volunteers needed for hanging, labels and strike

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership Chair: Susan Henry

Publication of Membership Directory: Shirley Nichols

(Paula Johnson in-training)

FUNDRAISING:

Japanese Gardens: Marie Coerver

FANTastic Fans: Mary Stitt

FINANCE:

Treasurer: Hugh Heaton

Professional Standards: Brenda Morgan

Grants: Watson Arnold

PUBLICITY:

Local Resources & Advertising: Gail Cooksey

Website Manager: Celeste McCall

Website Consultant: Sharon Giles

Newsletter: Darla Bostick

Print Materials: Darla Bostick (**Need replacement**)

Photography: Darla Bostick (**Need replacement**)

MEETINGS:

Greeters: Shirley Nichols, Diana Littlejohn, Lynda Robinson

Hospitality: Marie Coerver

House & Properties: Janet Southern

Painting of the Month Competition: Mary T House

Assistant to Demonstration Artist: Ann Winchester

OUT AND ABOUT:

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

Do you have news or a program /event idea?

Contact Darla Bostick <darlabostickart@gmail.com>