

November 2018

West Virginia Watercolor Society

WVWS
WEST VIRGINIA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

Newsletter

Members earn Juried Status

The West Virginia Watercolor Society jury committee has completed its work for 2018, and WVWS jury chairwoman Christine Rhodes has announced that the following members have earned membership status changes in WVWS.

Earning Juried status in WVWS are:

- ▶ **Mary Alice Bowers** of Martinsburg
- ▶ **Patricia Stine** of Renick
- ▶ **Dorothy Sutton** of Arbovale

Congratulations ladies!

The next review session for the jury committee will take place in 2019. Please watch the newsletter and website next summer for announcements regarding application dates and application instructions for the 2019 jury review.



WVWS also thanks Christine and the members of the jury committee for their efforts this year.

2018 All-Member Exhibition

▶ **Dec. 12 - Jan. 25**
at the Arts Center in Elkins

The 2018 All-Member Exhibition is coming up in December and here are important dates to remember:

- Registration postmarked by Dec. 3 and sent to Linda Elmer.
- Delivery to the Arts Center no later than Dec. 10.
- Paintings may also be brought to the Dec. 8 annual meeting for drop-off (see Page 2 for more).
- See other delivery site options on the prospectus.
- Awards reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Dec. 14.
- Painting pickup is Jan. 28, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Email Dani Cade (dani.artscenter@gmail.com) for alternate dates and times for dropoff and pickup.

Download the prospectus at www.wvwatercolorssociety.org

PLUS! Since the exhibition is near Christmas, WVWS is offering members the chance to sell ornaments at the exhibition. The ornaments will be displayed on a large tree at the Arts Center.

Ornaments can be based on any craft or medium. At right is an ornament Linda Elmer has created for the show.... it's a tiny watercolor, sealed with spray varnish, displayed in a frame made of twigs, and embellished with greens and berries. Gorgeous! See the prospectus for details.



News & Notes

Annual WVWS meeting Dec. 8

The annual meeting will take place at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 8, at Panera Bread, 103 Emily Drive, Clarksburg/Bridgeport (in the Eastpointe Shopping Plaza near U.S. 50 and I-79).

Members can bring paintings for the 2018 All-Member show in Elkins to this meeting.

Officers for WVWS will be elected at the Dec. 8 annual meeting of WVWS, and their two-year term will begin on Jan. 1, 2019, and end on Dec. 31, 2020.

Proposed nominations for WVWS officers for the 2019-2020 term are as follows:

- President: Debbie Lester
- Vice President: Christine Rhodes
- Treasurer: Linda Elmer
- Recording Secretary: Linda Walker Roberts
- Corresponding Secretary: Jane C. Michael

Contact Martha Reynolds at marthareynolds546@gmail.com if you have a topic for the meeting agenda.

Watercolor/Ink workshops have been a hit with participants

WVWS has sponsored two Saturday workshops this year on ink sketching with watercolor washes, led by Linda Elmer. The workshops were in July and October



Linda Elmer shows a page from one of her sketchbooks during the Oct. 20 workshop.

and sessions took place in Bridgeport.

In the sessions, Linda shared a series of sketchbooks she has created where she draws scenes from cities such as New Orleans, New York, and Chicago in ink, and she embellishes the drawings with watercolor washes.

In teaching her techniques, Linda discussed some tips for rendering scenes using 1-point and 2-point perspective, a skill which is critical for the success of her urban

drawings since they often incorporate street scenes and buildings.

She also talked about and demonstrated hatching and cross-hatching techniques for rendering values.

Dues Reminder

Dues notices have been mailed out. If you did not receive a notice by mail (it also included information about the upcoming annual meeting and bylaws revision), contact Jeannine Romano at jeannine@jromanoart.com immediately.

Annual renewals are \$30, but if you do not submit them by Dec. 31, they increase to \$40.

Be sure include any changes in address, phone numbers or e-mail when you send your dues. If we cannot contact you and share information, then you don't benefit from our programs and activities. Questions? Contact Jeannine by email or call her at 304-672-0222.

Helpful instructions and exercises were shared in both sessions, and 10 to 12 participants attended each workshop.

Wanted: WVWS instructors!

Given the success of the aforementioned one-day workshops sponsored by WVWS, Judy Reed, workshop chairwoman, wants to offer additional one-day programs around the state.

Instructors will be compensated, and should also be able to suggest and coordinate the reservation of a low-cost site for his/her planned workshop. Partnerships to co-sponsor a workshop with a local arts organization are also possible.

Potential ideas for workshops might include: watermedia journals, color theory, composition 101, accurately photographing/formatting show entry images, or techniques for painting specific subjects (i.e. trees, flowers, water). Share your ideas! Topics should be related to watermedia and/or society activities, and focused enough to teach in a one-day session.

If you have an idea for a workshop topic and location and would like to teach, please contact Judy Reed at jmreed16@yahoo.com or call her at 304-669-3041.

Condolences

We want to send our best wishes, love, and prayers to Rita Montrosse. Rita's husband, Charlie Switzer, passed away in August.

Member News



“Quiet Harbor” by F. Dennis Clarke

Region III – Joy Cooper

 **F. Dennis Clarke** of Martinsburg has a solo show on display at the Washington County (Md.)

Arts Council in Hagerstown, Md. The exhibit, which features work on YUPO, will be on display through Nov. 27.

Region V – Janet Hart

 **Christine Rhodes** of Parkersburg reports that she had two paintings exhibited in the Parkersburg Art Center’s “The River” 2018 Juried Exhibition, which was on display during July and August.

In October, Christine had two pieces accepted for the Allied Artists of West Virginia Juried Exhibition, which also was held at the Parkersburg Art Center. One of the paintings, “A Little Off Kilter,” was awarded First Place in the two-dimensional category.

Christine also had three paintings included in the Forest Festival Juried Exhibition at RCCAC in Elkins, during September and October.

2018 Signature Exhibition - Moorefield



“Poppies and Larkspur” by Kathryn Gillispie

The WVWS Signature Membership Exhibition, recently held at Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College in Moorefield, featured two awards, which were determined by visitors who saw the exhibition this fall.

Kathryn Gillispie of Arbovale won the top award with “Poppies and Larkspur.”

Doris Bright of Winchester, Va., formerly of Buckhan-



“Celebrate Spring” by Doris Bright

non, won the runner-up award with “Celebrate Spring.”

These People’s Choice Awards were funded by two Hardy County-based businesses. The top prize of \$250 was sponsored by Capon Valley Bank, headquartered in Wardensville, and the runner-up award of \$150 was sponsored by Hardy Telecommunications, headquartered in Lost River.

Annual workshop recap

By Jane C. Michael

At the annual WVWS workshop, this year held at North Bend State Park in August, participants learned techniques for painting “en plein air,” loosely translated as meaning outside on location, led by instructor Brienne Brown.

Brienne emphasized the importance of value studies. She would demonstrate a value study, then have each of us do our own value study in pencil or markers, and then follow that study with a painting in a single color, such as Payne’s gray, or blue, etc. The third step was then to do a color painting using the value studies as guides.

She presented Powerpoint presentations to emphasize the steps and the justifications for value studies, as well as providing brief instruction in the creation of value tables, using only five values.

Each day at the workshop included a preliminary instruction session, followed by a demo, and then time to

put paint to paper! Brienne is a fine instructor, and her background as a teaching assistant in chemistry prepared her to teach and to explain many of the reasons why

paint behaves as it does. As the busy mother of three boys, she knows how to get right to the essentials and to simplify — a concept she stressed repeatedly. As a competitor in numerous Plein Air painting events, Brienne shared tips for getting right at the heart of a composition by eliminating unnecessary components, laying down the washes, and keeping it simple.

Judy Reed did a great job of choosing North Bend as an ideal site for plein air painting. The park management was most accommodating, and plans are being made to return in 2019.

Three college students attended the workshop, and their energy and enthusiasm were welcome additions to our group. We enjoyed the company of painters from Ohio and Pennsylvania, in addition to our own members.



Brienne Brown works on a series of demos during the annual WVWS workshop in early August.

Forest Festival award winners

A host of WVWS members participated in the annual Forest Festival art exhibit, held in the Great Hall at RCCAC, in Elkins this year.

Unfortunately, there wasn’t a program available that listed all the participating artists, so I can’t accurately list all the names of WVWS members who exhibited. However, I did take notes on our members who were recognized with awards during the exhibition.

If I make any errors here, please contact me and let me know so I can correct my mistakes – *Kristen*.

- **Susan Witt** won third place with “Abstract in Blue.”
- **Katy Crim** won honorable mention with “Awaiting His Return.”
- **Rema White** won the Seneca Trail Artist Guild award for “Two Alike.”
- **Carolyn Cavendish** won the STAG – Grace DePollo award for “Shades of Green.”
- **Betty Neely** won the West Virginia Watercolor Society award for “Old Factory Shops.”

Newsletter & Jury volunteers needed!

As noted in the meeting announcement that was recently mailed out, volunteers are needed to chair the Jury committee (must be a Signature member of WVWS) and to edit and produce the WVWS newsletter for the upcoming two-year term. Please let President Martha Reynolds know if you want to help WVWS!