

West Virginia Watercolor Society

December 2022/January 2023 – Winter News

A Word from outgoing WVWS President Christine Rhodes:

I'd like to thank our newly elected Officers, Directors, and Committee members for saying 'yes' when we called on you to serve. We all have busy lives and many responsibilities, and it's easy to come up with any number of reasons why we can't take on another task, but you said 'yes,' and it is much appreciated.



Also, my sincere thanks to those who served in any official capacity during my time as President. It takes a village to make all the wheels turn, and we have a group of very dedicated members who give generously of their time and resources to keep WVWS going.

It was my honor and privilege to serve as your president and I wish each of you much success in the year ahead.

Sincerely, Christine Rhodes

WVWS News Items

Incoming Officers, Directors, and Committee Leaders

At the annual meeting held in Elkins prior to the awards reception of the 2022 All-Member Exhibition, the slate of nominated officers and directors was approved by the membership. In addition, the leaders of committees were approved by the executive board.

Officers (2-year terms)

President, **Nancy Maunz**
Vice President, **Rita Montrose**
Recording Secretary, **Sara Jane Gainor**
Corresponding Secretary, **Jane C. Michael**
Treasurer, **Linda Elmer**

Directors (3-year terms)

Director, Region I, **Deborah Lester**
Director, Region II, **Jan van Egmond**
Director, Region III, **Linda W. Roberts**
Director, Region IV, **Katherine Crim**
Director, Region V, **Martha Reynolds**
Director, Region-at-Large, **Christine Rhodes**

Committee Leaders (2-year terms)

Exhibits, **Debbie Lester**; Membership, **Jeannine Romano**; Workshops, **Judy Mattson Reed**
Newsletter Editor, **Pamela Lake**; Jury, **Kristen Colebank**; Webmaster, **Linda Elmer**

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Please see the introductory bios for the officers, directors, and committee leaders, beginning below. Also, for any WVWS members who want to assist with committee work, please reach out to the committee chairperson. Many hands make tasks easier!



NANCY MAUNZ - President

Nancy Maunz is a native of West Virginia and lives in Clarksburg with her husband, Mike. They have a daughter, son-in-law, and have recently added twin grandchildren to the family. She attended Fairmont State University where she graduated with a B.A. in both Art and Family and Consumer Sciences. She was awarded a scholarship to study art and claimed the honors as *Art Student of the Year*. She also earned graduate hours in Art from West Virginia University.

Nancy taught art in West Virginia private and public schools for over 30 years, with her longest stop at University High School in Morgantown, where she was the liaison for the county's art teachers to the Monongalia County School Board. She has attended numerous lectures, classes, and workshops, where she studied with regional and nationally known artists. She was the gallery curator of The Greenroom Gallery in Momentum Center for the Arts. She has exhibited in cafes and galleries throughout her career. Presently, she is active in The Thread art group, Morgantown Art Association, The Arts Center in Elkins, and is a board member of The Weaver Gallery, coming soon to Clarksburg. Nancy is past Vice President of WVWS.

She says: "From an early age I loved to draw, especially objects from nature. In collage drawing and watercolor classes were my favorites. Adding watercolor washes to my drawings to make high key paintings was a natural progression. A few years ago, after I retired from teaching, I began to study watercolor in earnest. I take a couple classes weekly and have broadened my scope of subject matter. Currently I am focusing on value and design. I try to draw or paint every day. The quote 'I create because I don't know how not to.' has always resonated with me."

RITA MONTROSSE – Vice President

Rita Montrosse, of Princeton, holds a B.S. in Education from Concord University and an M.S. in Art Education from Radford University. She is a retired art educator, having taught at Princeton Senior High School and Concord University. She is a signature member of the Georgia Watercolor Society, Kentucky Watercolor Society, Southern Watercolor Society, West Virginia Watercolor Society, and Juried Artist/Allied Artist of West Virginia.

Of her work, Montrosse says, "I paint in watercolor...I am also a jeweler who casts and fabricates fine jewelry. My paintings reflect a personal relationship with my environment either at home in the mountains of West Virginia or in my travels. My many sketches and photographs provide material for my watercolors/mixed media paintings and influence my jewelry designs. Whichever media I use, I work in a series starting with a representational theme and push it as far as I can in developing the concepts. I do not set a limit to the number in a series, just working it until it seems

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complete. Often a series will be revisited because I can't release it, or I have had an insight into a new composition arrangement. I feel fortunate that I live in the beautiful state of West Virginia and have been able to work at what I love, both as an art teacher and an artist/artisan.

SARA JANE GAINOR – Recording Secretary

Sara Jane Gainor took a painting class at the suggestion of a friend when she was in her 50's and has been painting ever since. Her first medium was acrylics, then she painted in oils for several years before she became enamored with watercolor. She has exhibited her work at Morgantown Art Association, placed third in a juried show and recently received honorable mention in the annual MAA members-only show. Her paintings have also been displayed at the Morgantown Airport and Slight Indulgence.

Sara Jane retired from the Cancer Institute at West Virginia University where she served as Director of Bonnie's Bus for the last 10 years of her work there. She lives in Morgantown and enjoys time with her family and volunteering at MAA.

JANE C. MICHAEL – Corresponding Secretary

"It has been my pleasure to serve WVWS as Corresponding Secretary for the past 5 years," said *Jane C. Michael*, "and to have achieved Signature status in the Society. From my home in the Cheat Lake area of Morgantown, I have been painting watercolors since 2009 after joining a class with Peggy Isaac. Prior to that experience, I did a lot of sketching, but my painting was confined to oils. I enjoy the unexpected outcomes of watercolor, along with the portability of a non-toxic medium that can travel with minimal fuss. In addition to workshops in state and out, there are wonderful courses online, which I've enjoyed. I love the WVWS workshops because of the camaraderie among the members, the sharing of talents and time, and the encouragement of so many unselfish, talented, and committed artists.

"I would encourage anyone with an interest in painting to explore watercolor, and to join our group to experience personal growth and development. Please visit my personal website to view my paintings through the years: <https://janecmichaelart.weebly.com>"

LINDA ELMER – Treasurer and Webmaster

Linda Elmer, who lives near Fairmont, graduated from Fairmont State College in 1981 with a B.A. in art and journalism education and later earned an M.A. in Visual Art with an emphasis in painting from WVU in 1991. Linda taught in Marion County public schools for 34 years and retired in 2015. She joined WVWS around 1992, is a signature member of WVWS, and has served the society in many positions, including newsletter editor, exhibit chair, vice president, and president, and currently serves as treasurer. This spring she will be adding webmaster to her list of positions within WVWS.

Of her interest in watercolor, Linda says, "One of my required courses as an art major was a watercolor class. My first class was a painting trip to Rehoboth Beach, Del. The portability of the medium was attractive, and I had a good experience in this class, so I knew I would continue to explore it."

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DEBBIE LESTER – Director – Region I and Exhibits Chairperson

Debbie Lester of Shady Spring (located south of Beckley) has been a fine artist since 1983. She has a home studio and does her own framing. She considers herself to be “self-taught,” but she has also taken workshops with Seay Earhart, Frankie Wheeler, Marilyn Hughey-Phillis, Pat Lusk, Fred Graff, and Cheap Joe Miller. She is a signature member and past president of WVWS, a past president of Beckley Art Group, and a juried member of Tamarack.

“I’ve been painting for 40 years now,” said Debbie. “Wow, time flies when you’re having fun! I love watercolors because of the spontaneity and always a surprise happens when you least expect it. I plan on continuing this journey until I’m no longer able. I’ve been teaching painting for 12 years at Cedar Lakes in Ripley, also at Beckley Art Center. I’ve exhibited at Mountain State Arts & Crafts Fair for seven years.”

JAN VAN EGMOND – Director – Region II

Jan van Egmond lives in Charleston and works as a chemical engineer. Born and raised in South Africa, he moved to the U.S. in 1986. He went to WVU and obtained a Master’s in chemical engineering and then a Ph.D. from Stanford University. He is married, with two children and two grandchildren. From an early age he enjoyed and admired art, especially drawings and paintings. He is a self-taught artist and became a Signature member of WVWS in 2021.

Of his love of watercolor, Jan says, “In 2016 my wife introduced me to watercolor painting. My first effort was not so good, but I was hooked! I learnt more from books, videos, and much practice. Then I took some workshops. My favorites were with Anne Abgott and Mary Whyte. What I enjoy so much is the fluidity and vibrancy of the medium and how it seems to paint itself. I don’t mind not being in control and let it do its thing. Timing is a big factor, and I love the gradients that are possible with watercolor. I think I like painting portraits the most because it gives the possibility to connect to the subject by using the light and color of the paint marks.”

LINDA W. Roberts – Director – Region III

Linda Walker Roberts is married to Don Roberts, a retired IBM customer engineer, and they have lived in Beverly since 1978. They have two grown children, and four grandchildren.

In 1983, Linda began painting with watercolors and has never lost her love for them. She so enjoys the bright colors, the way they so beautifully blend into one another and the almost-always-present element of surprise.

In past years, Linda has served as corresponding secretary, vice president and, most recently, as recording secretary of WVWS.

In addition to being a watercolorist, Linda is an American Baptist minister, still pastoring a home church, The Fellowship, and doing pulpit supply as the need arises.

KATHERINE ‘KATY’ CRIM – Director – Region IV

Katherine ‘Katy’ Crim is a distinguished educator who teaches Art I –Advanced Placement Studio Art at Robert C. Byrd High School in Clarksburg, striving to impart her joy and skills of drawing and painting to a new generation. Her Advanced Placement students have achieved 100 percent pass

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rates over the last 6 years. She has also served as Visual Arts Planning Coordinator of Arts Alive for the WV Department of Education and assists with curriculum development and grant writing at the state and local levels. She is the Harrison County Arts Curriculum Coordinator. She has received many awards, including 'Outstanding Secondary Educator' and 'Distinguished Service Within the Profession' through the WV Art Education Association and has served as Youth Art Month Coordinator with WVAEA.

After hours she creates her own pieces to exhibit, enjoy, share, and market. She has faithfully entered many local and state juried exhibitions over the last three decades and has been blessed with Best of Show and many Blue ribbons. She is a Tamarack juried artist as well. A watercolorist by the age of 12, she has maintained her lifetime Signature membership with WVWS. Katherine and her husband James own Art by Crim, a gallery on 834 S. Chestnut St. in Clarksburg, where they specialize in custom framing, photography, and fine art.

MARTHA REYNOLDS – Director – Region V

Martha Reynolds is a past vice president (2014-2016) and president (2016-2018) of WVWS. Of her creative experiences, she shares "I was first introduced to watercolor at Shepherd College (now University), where I received my B.A. in Art. My work experience has been mostly in design and decoration, starting as Designer at Harvey Industries in Salem, W.Va., and last as Director of Decorating Design for Fenton Art Glass in Williamstown, W.Va. I find the WVWS workshops a valuable opportunity to not only interact with other members, but a chance to try out new techniques and be inspired to create better paintings. I live in rural Doddridge County in an area underserved by broadband service, with poor phone service, and no cell service. The best way to contact me (although it's slow) is to e-mail marthareynolds546@gmail.com

CHRISTINE RHODES – Director – Region-at-Large

Christine Rhodes is a native West Virginian and lifelong artist. She resides in Parkersburg. A member of WVWS since 2011, she has served as Jury Chairperson, Vice President, and most recently as President. She has been painting mainly in water media for about 12 years and credits creativity retreats with Marilyn Hughey-Phillis and a workshop with Pat Dews for sparking her interest in watercolor.

She is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society and WVWS and an associate member of the American Watercolor Society where her work has been exhibited in their International Juried Exhibition. She is a juried Tamarack artist and has earned numerous awards in juried exhibitions, both regionally and at the national level. Her work is held in private and corporate collections and is included in the permanent collection of contemporary art at the West Virginia State Museum.

KRISTEN COLEBANK – Jury

Kristen Colebank is a native of Preston County but has lived on the eastern edge of the state in Hardy County for more than 25 years. She credits past and present WVWS members as major influences on her creative life.

Kristen explains, "Past WVWS member Lotus MacDowell led an artist-in-residence program in Preston County's elementary schools in the mid-80s where she painted scenes from the schools' communities. It was eye-opening for me to see the tumble-down, empty store buildings across the

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creek from my school transformed into something beautiful and grand in a painting. I am now a proud owner of a "[Fellowsville Auto Sales](#)" print by Lotus."

"I also credit current WVWS member and art educator **Kathy Snoderly** for introducing me to watercolor in 10th grade. It took a single painting assignment in watercolor, and I was helplessly hooked! Finally, I was also lucky as a high school student to serve a weeklong apprenticeship with current WVWS Signature member **Kay Gillispie** at the Mountain State Arts & Craft Fair in Ripley. I got to watch Kay wave her brush, conjuring scenes from Dolly Sods/Spruce Knob and creating colorful floral explosions. So, for all the WVWS members, past and present, who have been educators and creative role models, your work matters and inspires others. Thank you!"

JEANNINE ROMANO – Membership

"I'm a WV native who has been doing art of some form since childhood. My main focus is portraiture, and I've been adding watercolor to portraits since roughly 2005. The WVWS classes and workshops were enormously helpful to develop my skills and learn from some of the most very accomplished artists."

"I enjoy the range of intensity from subtle to vibrant color and seeing the colors interact on the paper that watercolor provides. It can be a very flexible medium for busy folks to don't have a lot of time for complicated set up and clean up, and it is portable to take your creativity on the go. These are the main reasons I still enjoy watercolor."

JUDY MATTSON REED – Workshop

Judy Mattson Reed of Shinnston studied art at Glenville State College, WVU, and with several professional artists. She is a signature member of the WVWS and past president of WVWS, and been involved with The Seneca Trails Artist Guild in Elkins, The Trillium Artist Guild in West Union, the Morgantown Art Association, and The Parkersburg Art Center. Judy has juried into Tamarack and has exhibited throughout West Virginia in numerous exhibits and solo exhibits. She taught art in West Virginia public schools, at Salem College, and at the WVU Extended Learning Center, Clarksburg.

"I have worked in several media and find watercolor to be my favorite. I find it to be fresh and spontaneous, exact or loose; it's a medium that will respond to the various subjects and moods that I care to project through my art. And, there are always those happy accidents or surprises that come from those beautiful transparent layers I enjoy so much."

PAMELA LAKE – Newsletter

Pam Lake lives in rural Webster County. After graduating from Glenville State College with a B.A. in Art and Math Education, she taught mostly art until her retirement in 2018. While teaching Pam used her talents in many art and craft areas; however as retirement began, she concentrated on painting, especially watercolor. By August 2018 she became a juried member of Tamarack. Joining the WVWS in early 2022, the newsletter will be her first position with WVWS. She's excited and nervous.

Of her introduction to watercolor, Pam says, "I painted some with watercolor in high school with limited success. Later as part of my art degree, I took watercolor painting at Glenville and learned a

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lot and was somewhat successful. Now, with the opportunity to have cotton paper and professional paints, I am loving the control and rich, glowing colors that are possible. I am able to paint daily, which I feel is necessary for my continued growth.”



✍ Aqueous 2023

The prospectus and paper entry forms for Aqueous 2023 are now on the WVWS website. Aqueous, the national juried exhibition for WVWS, will be held at the Chuck Mathena Center in Princeton. Show dates are May 15 – June 29, 2023.

*The online Aqueous entry form will be available on Feb. 1. It will include an **option** to pay the entry fee online. There will be an extra \$1 fee per painting entry on the online option to cover processing costs.*

Check payments will not include the extra fee. Entry deadline for the exhibition will be March 31.

Exhibition Calendar

- **Deadline to Enter:** March 31, 2023
- **Notification:** April 10, 2023
- **Shipped and Hand Delivered Deadline:** May 11, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Chuck Mathena Center. Shipped work will go to the center. Shipping details are on the exhibition prospectus. Help is available to help hand-deliver paintings from different areas of the state.
- **Exhibition Dates:** May 15 – June 29, 2023
- **Opening Reception and Awards:** May 19, 2023, from 2-4 p.m.
- **Pickup:** June 30, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

✍ Message from Jane C. Michael, corresponding secretary:

In an ongoing effort to stay in touch with members, please inform the corresponding secretary if you know of a member's passing or if there is some acknowledgement that should be made for an honor or award. After verification, condolences, congratulations and/or thanks will be sent to the appropriate parties. Contact **Jane C. Michael**, Corresponding Secretary, at jcmichae@comcast.net.

Condolences

Marilyn Hughey Phillis passed away Dec. 29, 2022, at age 95. She was an Ohio native and founding member of the Ohio Watercolor Society, who moved to Wheeling, West Virginia, in the mid-80s where she established herself as a nationally known watermedia artist. She wrote “Watermedia Techniques for Releasing the Creative Spirit,” which became a best-selling and influential book, won

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many national awards, and served in leadership positions for many state, regional, and national watermedia and arts organizations. In Wheeling, she was gallery director of Artworks Around Town for many years. She also was recognized as a Signature member by WVWS. Marilyn had moved to Illinois a few years ago to be near her daughter. Christine Rhodes, who said Marilyn was a major influence on her creative development, said “I was privileged to know her, and I’m sure many others in WVWS remember her.” Marilyn’s full obituary can be found at <https://obits.cleveland.com/us/obituaries/cleveland/name/marilyn-phillis-obituary?pid=203543242>

✍ **Message from Jeannine Romano, WVWS membership:**

WVWS Membership is currently at 100 artists statewide, and we are looking for new members to get involved to promote watercolor painting across our state.

2023 dues are \$30 (\$40 after January 1). Dues income pay for gallery fees at Artistry on Main in Buckhannon (see more about Artistry on Main in the section below), our printing and mailing costs, website expenses, help fund awards and expenses related to our exhibits, and more.

Current members are encouraged to reach out and share current projects and to participate in 2023 exhibit opportunities.

I’d also like to challenge each member to bring a friend into this group of talented artists to share and learn from each other. Members receive reduced entry fees for exhibits and the annual workshop in addition to many regional opportunities and events.

I hope to hear from you soon!

Sincerely,
Jeannine Romano, WVWS Membership chairperson

✍ **Website changes coming**

Around the end of January, the WVWS website will be undergoing a redesign as it switches over to a new hosting platform. **The address will remain wvwatercolorsociety.org.**

As part of this switch, some content from the old site will not be moved. We will move as much as we can, but please bear with us as we make this change. As part of the transformation, site management will also be shifting to a new webmaster, Linda Elmer. Thanks in advance for your patience as we work on this large project!



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Opportunities around the state

Artistry on Main – Buckhannon

Among the many opportunities for artists in West Virginia to showcase and/or sell their work, one venue is supported by WVWS. Artistry on Main is located in Buckhannon, and WVWS rents a booth where our members may display items for sale.

Linda Elmer, Treasurer, reported that the items that sell most dependably are those priced \$20 and less. So, if you have small works such as greeting cards, or miniature paintings, consider displaying your work at Artistry on Main. WVWS retains 30% of the list price for items sold, and that commission pays for the utilities and rental costs. If you are interested, contact Linda at lindaelmer58@gmail.com

Slight Indulgence – Morgantown

A note from Jane C. Michael, who has exhibited in this space before:

Slight Indulgence, a popular bistro in Morgantown, is accepting applications for artists to hang their work for one to two months per showing, beginning March 2023. Their space accommodates a range of 10 to 20 paintings, depending on the size. The owners retain a 15% commission, and past exhibits have realized brisk sales. For more information, contact Janna Warman at 304-599-3402.

Morgantown Art Association workshops

Morgantown Art Association always has a wide range of affordable watermedia-related workshops scheduled. Their upcoming April workshop with Graham Berry is the next opportunity they offer in 2023, followed by watermedia workshops with Karen Knutson, Lynn Ferris, and Janet Nunn. They also have Janet Rogers scheduled for a session in 2024. To keep up with MAA's activities and workshops, visit their website at <https://www.morgantownartassociation.com>

2022 All-Member Exhibition

- The 2022 All Member Exhibition in Elkins is still open and features the work of 17 WVWS members, who are exhibiting 41 watermedia works at The Art Center. Members who received awards at the All-Member Exhibition are **Kristen Colebank, Debbie Sisson, Karen Ensor Brown, Carolyn Martin Light, Denny Clarke, and Martha Reynolds.**

Judge Christine Rhodes, NWS, offered these comments on the exhibition:

“My sincere thanks to WVWS for allowing me the privilege of judging for awards in this All-Member Exhibition. I’m always proud of our members’ talent, imagination, and creativity.

“Some thoughts about the award winners and notable others follow: “Daybreak,” by Kristen Colebank is a masterful painting of a peaceful place that beckons the viewer to come closer, into the light. Every brushstroke seems to have been applied with complete confidence and

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then left undisturbed; Debbie Sisson's "Delicate Flora" is realistic yet painterly, with lush and varied foliage that perfectly complements the fragile blossoms; Karen Ensor Brown's "All Aboard" shows what richness can be achieved with watercolor. Interesting textures abound in this skillfully executed piece; Carolyn Light's "Rail Trail Gem" is a fine example of luminosity, contrast and range of value.; Dennis Clark's lively brushwork in Busy Dock is infused with sheer joy. And Martha Reynolds combines realism with abstraction in her "Splendor in the Grass."

"In other works, we are reminded that inspiration can be found in something as mundane as dollar store shopping, that we are surrounded by natural beauty in our home state and the world beyond, that a few well-planned brushstrokes can create magic, and that there are as many ways to use water media as there are artists. So, thanks to everyone who entered the show - please keep painting!"

Christine Rhodes, December 2022



WVWS Member News

- **Debbie Lester** has a new exhibition coming up January 26, along with her son and fellow WVWS member, **Jamie Lester**, at Bloomfield Richwood Gallery in Richwood.
- Seven members of WVWS exhibited at the Market Street Lobby of WesBanco in Parkersburg last October. Participating were **Linda Elmer, Deanna Gillum, Jane C. Michael, Judy Reed, Martha Reynolds, Christine Rhodes**, and **Jeannine Romano**. Christine reports positive news from the exhibit. "It was a small show, but we got some really good coverage in the Parkersburg News and Sentinel [please see the news article at <https://www.newsandsentinel.com/news/community-news/2022/10/wesbanco-october-art-exhibit-includes-watercolors-oils/>]. This is an example of the type of activities our regional directors could be doing to increase awareness of the Society and offer our members a little something extra. There was no cost to us to do this show and the bank charges no commission on any sales," she said.
- Consistent with the WVWS's efforts to increase membership and participation in WVWS through small, local workshops, and in cooperation with the Seneca Trails Artists Guild, **Jane C. Michael** shared techniques for recycling watercolor that are "throw-aways" at a STAG event in November. Jane's techniques included cutting large paintings into greeting card size mini-scenes with enhanced features, using sections of larger paintings to cut into card-size backgrounds and apply Zentangle patterns in contrasting inks, and using stencils and/or punches such as stars, snowflakes or circles to cut from paintings with bold and brilliant colors. Participants brought paintings to recycle, along with other materials, and

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everyone produced at least one usable card, as well as taking home ideas for future card-making. Card stock and envelopes were provided, and members shared resources. WVWS and STAG member **Linda W. Roberts** attended the STAG session and said it was a great experience. “We want to thank you again for the wonderful Zentangle workshop last month! My head is still spinning from seeing all of your wonderful pieces made from scraps and throw-away art!!” she wrote in a follow-up email to Jane and STAG members.

WVWS MEMBERS: If you are willing to organize a local workshop in your area, please reach out to workshop chair Judy Reed (jmreed16@yahoo.com), or membership chair Jeannine Romano (jeannine@jromanoart.com). WVWS officers and committee chairs will be happy to assist you.

- Clarksburg is in the planning stages of opening a gallery at 331 Main Street. Several WVWS members have participated in the 1ST Friday events in the space during this past year. **Linda Turner, Judy Reed, Katy Crim, Nancy Maunz, and Jeannine Romano** are some of the recent exhibitors. The plan is to have local artists exhibit and hold community classes at the Weaver Gallery, in addition to the 1ST Friday Events. **Jeannine Romano** will share more information about the exhibit and teaching space as it develops.
- **John Coffey** of Princeton has a solo show on exhibit now at the Rotunda Gallery at the Chuck Mathena Center in Princeton. The show, featuring 25 of John’s watercolors, will be up through January.



In the image at left, John shows off one of his watercolors. In the image at right, John is joined by Tom Acosta, Jose Rizo, Fred Hays, and Robert Walker, at the Register-Herald office in Beckley, the first stop of the “Depicting Appalachia” exhibition. *(Images provided by Jose Rizo)*

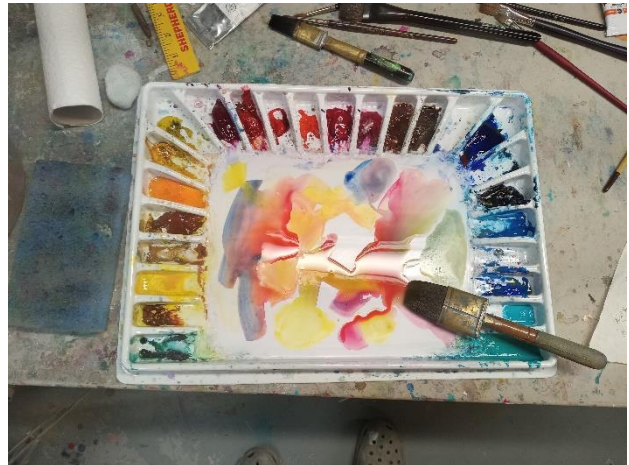
- **John Coffey** also is part of a traveling show called “Depicting Appalachia – Four West Virginia Regionalists,” which is curated by Jose Rizo (Jose has also supported and partnered with WVWS at some recent exhibitions). “Depicting Appalachia” is currently up in Beckley at the Register-Herald office through the month of January. Next the show will be in the Holler Gallery in Princeton through March and April; the Lawrenson Gallery in Richwood for June and July, and then the Parkersburg Art Center September 15 through October. The other artists are Tom Acosta, Robert Walker, and Fred Hays. John is the only watercolorist in the show.

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- Several WVWS members won awards at the Fall Art Exhibition at The Arts Center in Elkins (this is the show that takes place during the Mountain State Forest Festival). Winning awards were (see above, from left to right) **Carolyn Cavendish** (Best of Show), as well as **Deanna Gillum, Katy Crim, and Karen Ensor Brown**.
- An interesting set of images was shared by **F. Dennis Clarke** as part of his regular email updates of work in progress. Below are images of a recent painting at an early stage of washes, alongside the palette and the puddles of mixtures he used to create the washes. It was an interesting view into the creative process. Enjoy!



Next Newsletter

The next WVWS newsletter will be produced by our new newsletter editor, Pam Lake (thanks for stepping up, Pam!). Pam's bio is in the group of bios of officers, director, and committee leaders.

Send news items to Pam for the spring newsletter. Deadline for that newsletter will be March 20. Email her at pamelalake@yahoo.com.

~ The End ~