

December 2017

West Virginia Watercolor Society

WVWS
WEST VIRGINIA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

Newsletter

All Member Exhibition 2017

Dec. 5-31 at Gallery 11
in Charleston



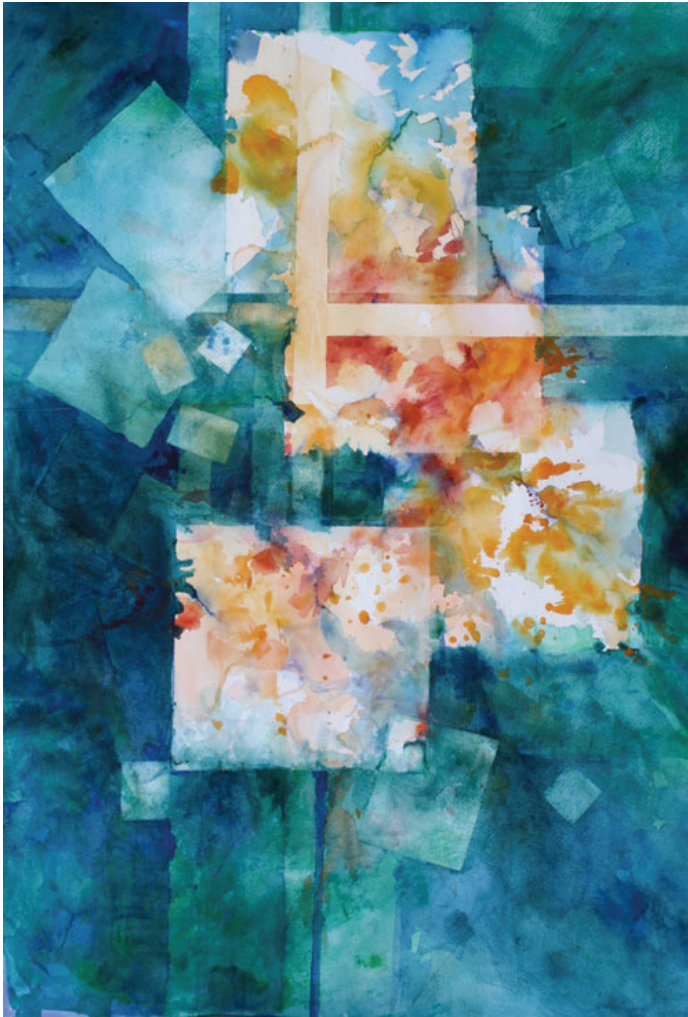
Best of Show & Joe Sweeney People's Choice
Christine Rhodes – "Father and Son"



▲ **Sandra Pealer**
Award of Excellence – "Maine Retreat"

DUES NOTICE: If you have not yet renewed your 2018 dues, a \$10 late fee is assessed after Dec. 31, making the dues renewal \$40. The deadline to renew for 2018 is Feb. 15, 2018. Please note that juried and signature members will lose their membership status if dues are not paid by that date. Check with WVWS treasurer Linda Elmer if you have any questions about your dues. She can be reached at lindaelmer58@gmail.com.

All Member 2017



Rita Montrosse ▲

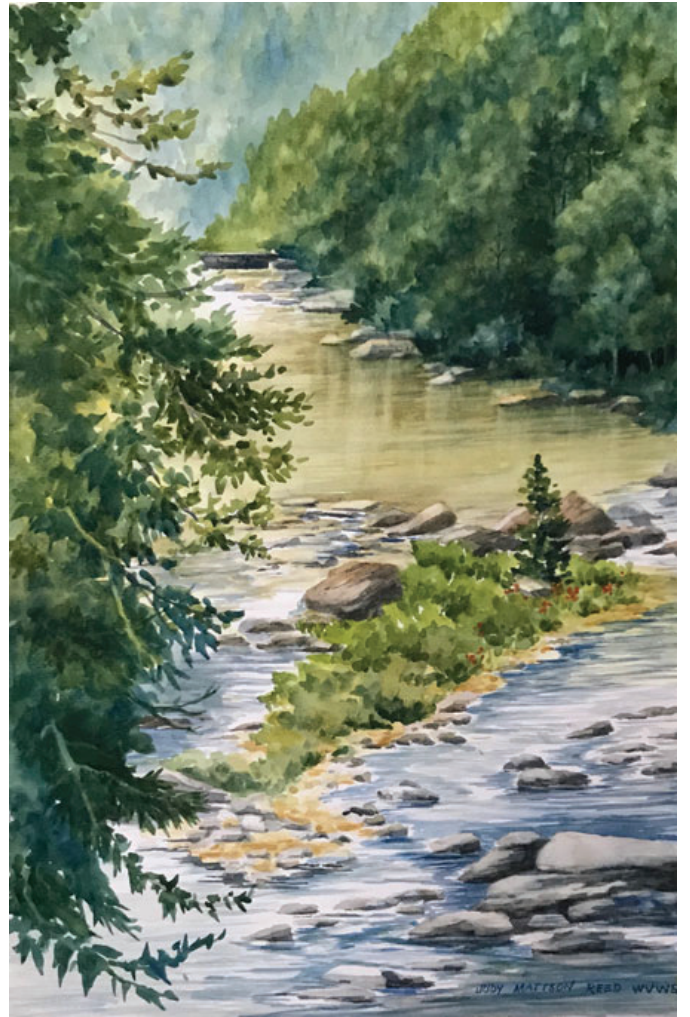
Award of Excellence – *"Scattered Petals"*

Judy Mattson Reed ▼

Award of Merit –
"Audra from the Cliff Walk"

Joeann Crawford ►

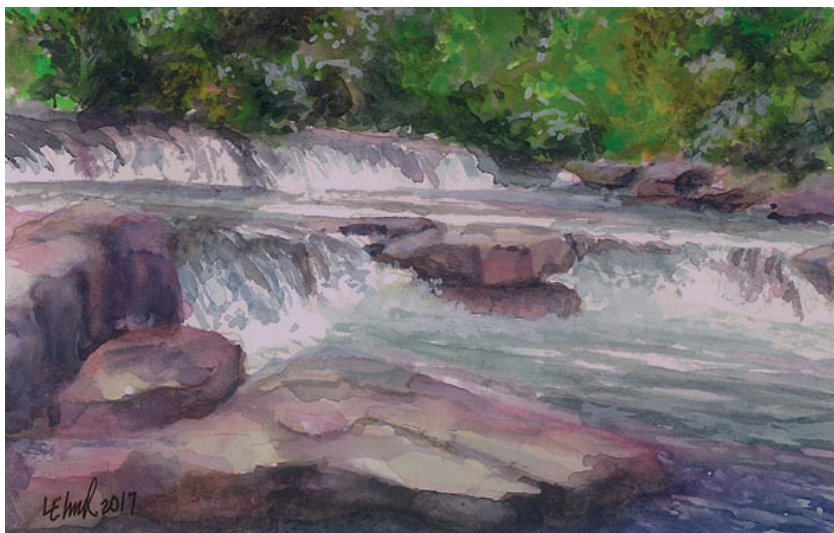
Award of Merit – *"Hydrangea #2"*



All Member 2017



More images from
the show online at
www.watercolorssociety.org



▀ **Barbara Delligatti**
Honorable Mention –
“Black Capped Chickadee Collage”

◀ **Louise Braddock**
Honorable Mention –
“Ornamental Explosion”

▀ **Linda Elmer**
Jean Whistler Call Memorial Award –
“Valley Falls #2”

News & Notes



New Juried, Signature members

The WVWS jury committee gathered this fall to review applications and portfolios of work submitted by members seeking to earn Signature and Juried status in WVWS.

Congratulations to **Nancy Kautz** of Harpers Ferry, who earned Signature status in WVWS.

Also, congratulations to **Martha Reynolds** of West Union, and **Myung Ryou** of Morgantown, who both earned Juried status in WVWS.

The 2018 Juried and Signature membership applications will be made available this coming summer. Please watch future editions of the newsletter and the WVWS website for more information on how to apply.

WVWS seeks recording secretary

Would you like to assist WVWS as it fulfills its mission to promote and champion watercolor in the state of West Virginia?

WVWS is currently seeking a recording secretary to take notes at WVWS meetings. The position is part of the society's executive board. Members who volunteer on the board receive free membership during their service period. If interested, please contact President Martha Reynolds at marthareynolds546@gmail.com.

Members recognized in state's biennial juried exhibition

Awyn Danielle McQueen-Milam of St. Albans was awarded a Merit Award for "At Anchor" at the 20th biennial West Virginia Juried Exhibition, currently on display at the Art Museum of West Virginia University in

Morgantown.

Several other WVWS members (**Christine Rhodes**, **John Coffey** and **Janet Hart**) also had paintings accepted in the show, and WVWS All-Member Show judge Chris Krupinski of Hurricane was honored with a Governor's Award. Congratulations to you all!

The exhibit will remain at the Art Museum of West Virginia University until Feb. 11, 2018. To read more about the exhibition, visit www.wvculture.org/news.aspx?Agency=Division&Id=3129

Members win Forest Festival awards

WVWS was well represented at the juried art exhibition at the 81st Mountain State Forest Festival in Elkins, with several members winning awards.


Winning a first-place award and a Davis Trust purchase award for "Valley Falls #3" was **Linda Elmer** of Fairmont, winning a second-place award for "Still Watercolor" was **Grey Darden** of Valley Head, and winning a third-place award for "California Coast" was **Jane C. Michael** of Morgantown. Also winning Seneca Trail Artist Guild awards were **Betty Neely** of Fairmont for "Fossils," and **Rema White** of Jane Lew for "Segments."

In memory

Former WVWS member Dorothy Francis "Frankie" Wheeler, 94, passed away Nov. 17, 2017, at Florentine Gardens Nursing Home in Cincinnati, Ohio. Services were held in Cross Lanes. Her obituary can be found at www.dignitymemorial.com/tyler-mountain-funeral-home/en-us/index.page

Opportunities

 **The Morgantown Art Association** has several workshops planned for the coming months, including watermedia workshops led by Laurie Goldstein-Warren, Lynn Lysick, Lynn Ferris, Sue Archer and Sterling Edwards. You can learn more about these opportunities by visiting the MAA website workshop page at www.morgantownartassociation.com/workshops--classes.html

 **The Berkeley Arts Council** announces their annual Art and Earth Juried Art Exhibit, April 4 to May 5, 2018. Entries should reflect the artist's view of nature, the environment, or reflect an Earth Day related theme. Any medium or technique, 2-dimension or 3-dimension, is acceptable. Deadline is Feb. 19, 2018. Visit berkeleyartswv.org/2017/11/27/art-and-earth/ to learn more and enter.

Member News

Region I – Lou Riffe Gates



Mary Anne Hodson

of Beckley was honored with a solo retrospective of her work and a special reception at the Bickey Gallery at Beckley Art Center in November. The public was invited to view and purchase Mary Anne's paintings at the reception, with all proceeds going to support BAC, thanks to the generosity of the Hodson family.



Rita Montrosse

of Princeton has recently participated in several exhibitions, including "Restrospect" at the Paine Gallery at Bluefield Arts Center in Bluefield; "Then and Now," an invitational exhibition at the Dickirson Gallery at Tamarack in Beckley; "Garden Havens," a juried invitational exhibition at the Artful Lawyer Gallery in Blacksburg, Va.; WVWS's "Aqueous 2017" at the Mathena Center in Princeton; and "Concord's Finest," a group show of work by Concord University faculty at the Paine Gallery at Bluefield Arts Center.

Rita has also taken workshops lately, including classes with Paul Jackson at Kanuga Watermedia Workshops, Hendersonville, N.C., and Laurie Goldstein-Warren, hosted by WVWS at Timberline in Canaan Valley. Rita is also teaching, having recently conducted a workshop on negative glazing at the Brainerd Gallery at Bluefield Arts Center. She's returning to Brainerd Gallery in February to teach a workshop on abstract painting, and will also teach abstract painting at the Arts Depot in Abingdon, Va., this coming spring.

Recent trips include a visit to Niagara-On-The-Lake, Ontario, Canada, as well as a tour of the province of Ontario.

Rita also shares that she and Marsha Chandler have become good friends after the two shared studio space at the Jackson workshop at Kanuga, and she looks forward to sharing studio space with Chandler again this coming spring at a Soon Y. Warren workshop. Of Chandler, Rita writes, "We work very differently, but have the same work ethic."

Region II – Patricia Roberts



Howard Rogers

of St. Albans recently attended a workshop led by Alexis Lavine, NWS, with 19

other artists from across West Virginia. The workshop, coordinated by Allied Artists of West Virginia, was held Oct. 25-27 at St. Matthews Episcopal Church in Charleston.



Karen Ballard

of South Charleston also attended the recent Alexis Lavine workshop in Charleston, and could not say enough good things about the experience. In a phone conversation, Karen told me that she benefitted from having taken the previous WVWS workshop with Alexis a few years ago, so in this workshop she was really able to synthesize and apply the concepts and developed strong compositions based on elements from multiple photographs. Karen summed up the workshop as "Excellent!!!" and "Outstanding!!!"

Region III – Joy Cooper



Julia Jones

of Wardensville recently won first place for "Carson" in the painting on paper category at the Valley Educational Center for the Creative Arts Membership Show in Woodstock, Va.



Laurie Goldstein-Warren

has a painting featured in the February 2018 edition of Watercolor Artist magazine as part of the article, "The Year's Best Paintings." On pages 62-63, Laurie's painting "Glass on Glass," which won best of show in the 2017 California Watercolor Association national exhibition, is prominently displayed, as well as Laurie's explanation on how she composed the painting.

The same article also features WVWS and its Aqueous 2017 Best of Show winner, Sidra Kaluszka, on page 67.

An online video featuring paintings from the article can also be seen at <https://www.artistsnetwork.com/art-mediums/watercolor/10-best-watercolor-paintings/>


Region V – Janet Hart



Janet Sheehan, Jes Reger, Gussie Smith, Donna Hall, and Janet Hart participated in "Paint Historic Wheeling," a plein air event with workshops and outdoor painting held throughout the historic sections of the city during the weekend of Sept. 28 through Oct. 1, 2017. **Jes Reger** and **Gussie Smith**, both of Wheeling, received merit awards for work created during the event.



Member News

 Bethany College held its 50th annual Fall Art Exhibition at Renner Art Gallery, Oct. 24 to Dec. 3, 2017. WVWS members winning awards at the exhibition were **Janet Rodriguez**, who won a Merit Award for "Waterfall;" **April Waltz**, who won an Honorable Mention Award for "Arboreal;" and **Janet Hart**, who won an Honorable Mention award for "Wind Energy."



Andrea Schmidt recently celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

Region-at-Large – Robert W. Smith

 **Andrea Schmidt** was part of a group exhibition, "Artists League of the Sandhills," which ran through Dec. 15 at the gallery located in Aberdeen, N.C.

Andrea also reports she has been teaching throughout much of 2017 at the Artists League Gallery. She recently finished a three-week workshop at the league where she was teaching beginning watercolor.

Andrea spent part of June and July visiting Williston, N.D., and then she and her husband celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this fall by enjoying a Disney Cruise and an island trip with family and friends.

Andrea recently moved to Southern Pines, N.C. Her updated address and phone number will be available in the revised membership directory this spring.

WVWS seeks information on instructors

Do you teach watercolor for a local arts organization? Do you give private watercolor lessons? If you do, we'd love to know about it!

Occasionally WVWS receives website requests from people looking for information on watercolor lessons. When these information requests have arrived in the past, WVWS has reached out to member artists in the area of the requester to inquiry if any classes are being taught in that area. If so, then we try to gather and provide the contact information for that individual teacher or arts organization to the requester.

To expedite this process, WVWS would like to develop and maintain a list of instructional opportunities for watercolor around the state. The list won't be openly publicized, but if inquiries are received regarding watercolor lessons, we'd like to use the list to quickly put those interested parties in touch with our teaching members in that geographical area.

So if you teach, whether privately or through another organization, and you'd like to be on our list, ***please email Kristen Colebank at kcolebank@waitesrunstudios.com***.

Please share:

- The general location of your classes (county name and town/city);
- If you teach beginning, intermediate or advanced students;
- Whether you offer individual lessons or group classes;
- Age range (student and/or adult); and
- The contact information for enrolling (which may be through an arts organization, or you personally).

We know we have many teaching members throughout the state, plus a host of professional educators teaching art at the elementary, middle, high school, and college levels. It's through the teaching of watercolor that the medium will thrive and continue to grow. Help us spread the word about the wonders of watercolor.

Thank you!

<http://www.creativebloq.com/tag/art>

<http://www.creativebloq.com/web-design/artist-websites-10135048>

Above I have shown two website links. The first is a sub-link from the second, and it is the focus of this summary. You will find both interesting, I think, but the first is specifically focused on assisting artists to improve their skills. (The second is a list of interesting artists' websites and provides contrasts among those websites. The goal is to prompt artists to create interesting websites of their own.)

When I first visited the "art" link (the first listed link above) on the menu, I counted more than 50 lessons ranging from "How to Convey Sound in your Picture" to "Pastels, from Portraiture to Cartooning," and of course, several on "Watercolor." Most are brief step-by-step discussions of how to achieve something. Some are discussions or explanations of terminology. A couple lessons are historically significant as they detail techniques or approaches of classic painters.

Highlighted below are four of my favorites:

1) "How to Use the Rule of Thirds in Art" – The rule of thirds states:

".....that if you divide any composition into thirds, vertically and horizontally, then place the key elements of your image either along these lines or at the junctions of them, you'll achieve a more pleasing arrangement and more interesting and dynamic compositions."

In this discussion, the origin of the Rule of Thirds is explained in pictures. While it is primarily used by photographers, the author shows how to use this rule effectively in paintings landscapes, in still lifes – both symmetrical and asymmetrical – and finally in placing focal points and in guiding the viewer's focus.

Page two of this section features an excellent and graphic depiction of the many applications of the rule. Even veteran painters will benefit from a review of this principle, and art teachers will find this an excellent resource for their students.

2) "Get More from your Mentor" – An excerpt from this site:

It's important not to abuse the generosity of a mentor. Marc Lewis, dean of London's School of Communication Arts says that their school is built on a model of reciprocity: "I believe that giving thanks is incredibly important. All social transac-

tions should be fair, and ideally should be win-win." Handwritten notes feel much more personal than an email, and showing thanks is essential to maintaining a healthy relationship.

Since many of us attend workshops to get our inspiration and continuing education, perhaps our mentors are the dedicated professionals who travel around the country and bring the benefit of their expertise and experience. If so, then we should apply Marc Lewis's advice and send our appreciation to our workshop leaders in the form of written notes.

3) "Paint like an Impressionist" – by Tony Belobrajdic, Aug. 7, 2017.

In this segment, the author details "How to create a lively and spontaneous modern Impressionist scene in 10 simple steps.

Also included are the pigments and brushes used, and excellent pictures showing each step. The explanations are clear and graphic, including the four stages he uses to create a painting.

In one quote, he states, "Impressionist artwork was fresh and spontaneous, and executed with bold brushstrokes that didn't reveal too much detail." The reader can follow along as he used that bold brush to demonstrate a fresh looseness that many of us struggle to achieve.

Embedded in the text, and at the end, are links to enhance your drawing and painting.

4) "Create stunning fire effects in watercolour" – By Olga Sternik, May 19, 2017

"Discover how to create the light, warmth and reflection of fire."

This is a 12-step process, very well presented and illustrated, to let the painter see how the illusion of fire is created by adding depth, creating shadows and using colors that suggest fire to the viewer.

If you visit the website, I would welcome your feedback, as well as citing any sites you have enjoyed and would like to share.

Jane C. Michael
wwsnews@gmail.com



Individual Member News for the West Virginia Watercolor Society Newsletter

Name _____ Region # _____

Address _____ Date _____

_____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please list any news items for the upcoming WVWS Newsletter. Return directly to the News Editor via snail mail. If you have news, fill this form out now! We love hearing about your accomplishments! Please type or print clearly and provide dates.

Current or Recent Exhibitions: _____

Recent Workshops: _____

Recent Trips: _____

Other _____

If you require more space, please use additional sheets. Thank you!

Please insert in an envelope and mail to:

Kristen Colebank, Newsletter Editor
P.O. Box 66, Wardensville, WV 26851

~~ Or save a stamp and email her at kcolebank@waitesrunstudios.com ~~