The Grace of Gratitude

It is glorious AUTUMN! And the view from my loft is a brilliant wash of color splashing from Crimson to Indian Yellow! My thoughts are how NWS activities have become like a river of fall colors filling in every tiny crevice and space that was left in my very busy life. In a year that has come and gone faster than the green flash of sunset, there have also been incredible opportunities giving me a new view of the grace of gratitude! Fall is the time of year we are reminded of Gratitude!

More than half of this year, I have been privileged to serve as the president of the National Watercolor Society and, truthfully, it has taken more time than I ever expected! However, the real surprise is how rich that time has been; learning, sharing, and creating with other artists as we give back to the art world that supports us. Not long ago I thought of NWS only as an opportunity to submit, and hopefully exhibit, my paintings. In learning the scope and possibilities for NWS, I view it now as much more... as an interconnected community and extended family of artists working together.

I hope many of you were with us in San Pedro for the opening of our 2018 International Open Exhibition (IOE) in October. It was exciting and was worth all the work by many as we witnessed the gratitude by those in attendance. It was expressed in many ways; gratitude to those who had been a part of putting on the event, and gratitude for those who traveled...
distances to be with us. Exhibiting artists were certainly filled with gratitude that their painting was accepted into such a fabulous show of high-quality paintings. They were obviously grateful that they could be a part of the event and showed their gratitude in different ways: some exuded thanks to everyone they saw and expressed how happy they were to be there, some were more timid not knowing English well and yet wanting to express how special this day was for them. Everyone seemed grateful for the opportunity to talk to other artists and to share their stories, struggles and experiences in what is usually a solitary existence. Everyone there understood the language of the artist, that solitude is necessary when we create, and the balance of that solitude time is to be with others who understand.

Everyone there was also thankful for the donors and sponsors who gave wonderful awards. Some of the awards were what made it possible for the artist to travel to San Pedro. A few artists had family with them to celebrate and the rest became part of the NWS family celebration party. For all of us, I think the memories and gratitude will last a long time.

Julio Jorge graciously shared the story of his home, a little village in Portugal, and how his painting came to be. It is now in the Permanent Collection of the National Watercolor Society, our most coveted award! As he told us of the moments that are memories of a lifetime, Julio gave poignant words of gratitude for one of those moments being welcomed to our family. Some artists received signature membership status after years of trying and others had that joy the very first time they tried. All were thankful they could celebrate the achievement!

This year, as I consider being thankful, I am glad to have NWS in my life and for dedicated members of the NWS Board who are beginning to feel like family as we work together. Sometimes the tasks we do are not as much fun as the IOE Opening but are an important part of NWS. I am filled with gratitude for the countless hours they gave, not only for this event of celebration but also for the hard work of proposing revisions for our bylaws.

Please cast your vote before November 30!

I have tremendous gratitude for the people who have worked hard for NWS as volunteers for almost 100 years! It’s amazing that NWS has lasted 98 years, totally on volunteer contributions.

As we gear up for our centennial celebration in 2020, I urge you to become a part of the volunteer force that will create this wonderful event. We are planning a year of exciting opportunities and activities. We need your energy, dedication and willingness to give a little of your busy artist life to NWS whenever it fits into your schedule, so that in 2020 we all can have a celebration of 100 years of gratitude!

I look forward to welcoming you,
Robbie Laird
NWS President

We are also on a serious search for the right volunteers to consider for these 3 board positions:
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Director(s) of Exhibitions

And volunteers for:
- Finance Committee
- Centennial Celebration Events Directors
- Someone with Excel experience

Terms will begin in 2019. You are invited to talk to any of our current board members about your interest.
A Grand Opening
BY PENNY HILL

We are thrilled! Our NWS 98th International Open Exhibition celebration October 19 - 20 was truly amazing! This year we threw in a few twists for our celebration. The NWS Gallery was the host for the opening reception for two shows. Our NWS mixer, Annual Meeting, Lecture by Derek Robertson, Luncheon and Sponsor samples were held at the Hilton Double Tree in San Pedro during the opening weekend.

Several sponsors were on hand to share their newest innovations, and the icing on the cake this year was our second exchange exhibition. It was with pride that we featured a curated exhibition of works from the Royal Scottish Society of Painters in Watercolour in our Studio Gallery. To add to the wonderful experience we were graced by a lecture of RSW’s history. Derek Robertson, the curator, also gave us a talk about his work and passions, followed by a sumptuous luncheon banquet and our anticipated Awards Ceremony.

We will be expanding these events each year as we approach our Centennial in 2020. And who attends? Everyone, of course, who heeds the call. It’s a celebration and a call to come and exchange ideas, stories and our common passion for the media of water. We welcome you all to join us, to bring your experiences, your talents and to be active participants in NWS.

How can you prepare for the exhibitions?

Always prepare your latest and most loved work for the exhibitions. We have two competitive exhibitions, one limited to members (entry January 14 - February 15 2019). Members Exhibition Opening is April 6, 2019. The second competition is our International Open Exhibition (entry April 18 - May 10, 2019). Reception and Celebration is October 19, 2019, and it is open to members and non-members. Now that our NWS gallery is staffed year round, we are able to host our “All Together Exhibitions” comprised of the work of our volunteers. Watch for information in the news splash and on the website on entry to all these exhibitions.

How do you prepare for signature status? As exhibition chair I am asked this a lot. Here is the scoop, so you can prepare: There are two ways to achieve this status; one is by being accepted into three IOE exhibitions (each year we are experiencing more attaining it that way). The second is to be accepted into the IOE and then submit three additional pieces to the Jury of Selections. We advise that the works show a consistency of execution and are in the genre of the work accepted. Contact any board member to discuss tips as to what you can do to sign NWS after your name. Above all, we strongly suggest you prepare yourself to be accepted into the show and have three additional submissions ready for signature review.

We are excited for the future of NWS, and our upcoming centennial! We want to exhibit your work, encourage your goals, and above, all we want you to be a part of the planning efforts to extend our reach to all regions across the states and around the world! Get involved and share your ideas and become engaged in the progress water media is making in innovation around the world.

Please never hesitate to let us know how you can be a part of the FUN. All board members are looking for team members to help make tasks small and shared. ❖
NWS 2018 International Open Exhibition Attending Artists
PHOTOS BY MATTHEW BIRD

Elaine Callahan
Kathleen Alexander
Julio Jorge

Keiko Yasuoka
Paula Fiebich
Helen Hayes

Mary Sievers
Thomas Schaller
Stan Kurth

Jeffrey Good
Alisa Shea
Bonnie Woods

Mikhail Starchenko
Silvia Monge
Geoffrey McCormack
View the entire show, and much more, on our YouTube Channel:
New NWS 2018 Signature Members


NWS Board of Directors

PRESIDENT
Robbie Laird

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT AWARDS
Denise Willing-Booher

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT PUBLICATIONS
Carol Newsom

FOURTH VICE-PRESIDENT
PUBLICITY
Beatrice Trautman

TREASURER
Alice Kayuha

DIRECTOR, EXHIBITIONS
Penny Hill

RECORDING SECRETARY
Open Position

DIRECTOR, MEMBERSHIP
N.C. Swan

DIRECTOR, SPECIAL PROJECTS
Stephanie Goldman

DIRECTOR, NEWSLETTER
Matthew Bird

DIRECTOR, WEB
Heather Torres

PAST PRESIDENT
Ken Goldman
Ken Austin, NWS, recently published The Waterworks, a book of “Tips, Inspiration and Advice for Watercolor Artists.”

Associate member Sarah Beekley had two paintings published in the August edition of The Permanente Journal.

Matthew Bird, NWS, was awarded The Kashiwa Legacy Award in Adirondacks National Exhibition of American Watercolors for Venus and the Bard, FIG Award to Honor Judy Pike in the San Diego Watercolor Society’s 38th International Exhibition for Looking Forward, the Mildred Sands Kratz Excellence in Realism Award in the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society’s 39th Annual International Exhibition for Bread, Fish, Wine. Branzino for Two was in the October issue of Fine Art Connoisseur magazine in the Today’s Masters feature.

Alicia Farris, NWS, earned signature status in the Watercolor Honor Society with her acceptance this year into Watercolor USA. Her painting, Meeting of the Minds received the Jack Richeson Honorable Mention award in the Missouri Watercolor Society International Exhibition held in Qingdao, China, and the 1st Place Award in the Reader’s Competition of The Art of Watercolour magazine.

Lynn Ferris, NWS, AWS, is featured in the Revelations section of the 32nd issue of The Art of Watercolour magazine. She also had a painting selected for inclusion in Splash 20.

Robbie Laird, NWS, was asked to be the solo Judge of Selection and Awards for three State Watercolor Societies: Colorado Watercolor Society CWS, Oregon Watercolor Society WSO, and Ohio Watercolor Society OWS.

Alexis Lavine, NWS, has recently been awarded signature membership in the Watercolor USA Honor Society, after winning an Award of Excellence in the Watercolor USA exhibition for To The Grandstand.

Geoff McCormack, NWS, AWS, MCWA, was awarded the Winsor & Newton Cash Award in the National Watercolor Society 98th International Exhibit, the Legion Paper & Dr. Martins Awards and Signature Status in the 38th San Diego Watercolor Society International Exhibit, the Tom Fong Memorial Award and Signature Status in Watercolor West’s 50th Exhibit, and 1st Place at the California Watercolor Association 49th National Exhibit.

Kris Preslan, NWS, AWS, TWSA, WW, WAS-H, LWS, NWWS, received the Chick and Cheri Mills Award for The Breadwinners #2 in the San Diego Watercolor Society’s 38th International Exhibition, and the Purchase Award from Cheap Joe for Black Beauty in the National Watercolor Society’s 98th International Open Exhibition.

Associate member April M. Rimpo, BWS, IWS, LWS, MOWS, PWS, WAS-H, received the Second Place Award for City Reflections II in 311 Gallery’s National Landscape and Seascape Exhibition; Lunch with Champagne, is included in Splash 19; Movement and Lanterns are in AcrylicWorks5: Bold Values. Her painting, Percussion: A Serious Business received an award in Southern Watercolor Society’s 41st Annual Juried Exhibition.

Steve Rogers, NWS, AWS, was the sole juror and awards judge for the Watercolor Society of Indiana Annual Exhibition at the Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields.
Associate Member DeEtta Silvestro, PWS, PWCS, BWS, NEWS, NFWS, was awarded the Princeton Brush Co. Special Award in the Missouri Watercolor Society’s 2018 International Exhibition, held in China, for her painting *Café Napoli.*

Jean Uhl Spicer, NWS, received the PWCS Member’s Merit Award for her painting, *Los Tocadores de Flutas.*

Frank Spino, NWS, *Circles & Squares I* was selected for inclusion in *Splash 20 - Creative Compositions* book by Northlight Books. *Red Grapes* was exhibited in two invitational exhibits: FabrianinAcquarello in Fabriano, Italy (April 2018), and International Watercolor IV in Thessaloniki, Greece (November 2018). *Circles & Squares I, II, & III* and *Aqua & Orange I & II* were exhibited in Sperlonga Painting Holiday Invitational in Sperlonga, Italy (April 2018).

Lois Ward Wolford NWS, BWS, received the National Watercolor Society Award for Excellence in Watermedia for her painting *Three for Breakfast* at the 118 International Exhibition of Works on Paper sponsored by The Philadelphia Watercolor Society; the Arthur E. Baker Jr., Barbara S. Baker Memorial Award for *No Loitering* in the 2018 Adirondacks National Exhibition of American Watercolors; and the Bronze Medal for *Checking out the Show* at the 2018 Mid Atlantic Watercolor Exhibition. *Shopping Therapy* was selected for the Reader’s competition section of the 31st issue of The Art of Watercolour magazine.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2019

Please follow the newsletter guidelines on the right when you make your submissions!
NEW NWS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
June 1 — November 1, 2018

Beverly Berwick CA
Linda Bethke VA
Jean Blackmer NC
Karen Brungardt AZ
Deng-Hong Cao Taiwan
Alex Carr VA
Rahul Chakraborty India
Tom Fagan CA
Shelly Franz CA
Vernon Groff OR
Carla Hefley OK
Jim Hoffman CA
Hollan Holmes TX
Bonnie Holubetz OR
Paula Lay TX
Peter Lee CA
Gang Liang TX
Dennis Lighthart NC
Jain Malkin CA
Bobbie Mandel CA
Nora McMillen Burke TX
Dianne Middaugh UT
Sarah Miller SD
James Mills CA
Tonja Opperman MT
Eve Pericich CA
Cherie Piatt OR
Patty Pickles CA
Sandra Ploch CO
Abu Rawash Kuwait
Michael Rider CA
Patricia Rios NM
Karen Romani IL
June Rubin CA
Cylvia Santillan CA
Fabiano Santos FL
Sverre Morten Skoglund Norway
WaiSin Tong-Darbonne CA
Christine Walker NC
Liquan Wang LA
Katherine Weber IL
Beth Whitney ME
Duke Windsor CA
Wendy Wirth CA
Bob Witte WI
Ting Wu China
Courtney Zell CA
Ayue Zhang CA
2018-19 Calendar

December 16 International Exhibition closes
January 14 Members’ Exhibition Entry Opens for submission of Digital Entries
February 15 Deadline for submission of Digital Entries

April 6 Members’ Exhibition Opening at NWS Gallery from 2-6 PM PDT

May 10 Deadline for submission of Digital Entries

June 10 Accepted entries posted online

October International Exhibition Opening at NWS Gallery from 3-6 PM

Upcoming International Open Exhibition Jurors And Alternates

2019
Jean Grastorf
Elaine Daily Birnbaum
Frank Eber

Alternates
Zi Feng
Bruce Bobick
Joe Cibere

2020
Dean Mitchell
Katherine Chang Liu
John Salminen

Alternates
Chris Krupinski
William Hook
Stan Kurth

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?
CHECK LABEL ON NEWSLETTER
See if paid until 4/1/2019

If not, please go online to pay:
www.nationalwatercolorsociety.org
or send your check to:

NWS, 915 S. Pacific Avenue,
San Pedro, CA 90731-3201
Membership dues are $50 for Signature and Associate

ARE YOU A SIGNATURE OR ASSOCIATE MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING?
Don’t miss out on your member benefits, make sure your dues are up to date. If you are lapsed or have questions about your membership, please contact the membership director:
Nancy Swan ncswan@cox.net

All exhibitions, demonstrations and workshops are held at:
NWS Gallery
915 S. Pacific Avenue
San Pedro, CA 90731-3201
In Memoriam

Donal C. Jolley, NWS
Donal Jolley passed away peacefully October 16, 2018, at his home in Rimforest, CA, at the age of 85. He graduated from Brigham Young University and worked as an illustrator for the Aerospace Corporation before leaving to paint fulltime in 1971. Born in Zion National Park, Utah, he lived in Boulder City and Carson City, Nevada, before moving to California in 1960.

Donal was a member of the National Watercolor Society and Watercolor West. He has been featured in Southwest Art, Contemporary Western Artists, Who’s Who in American Art, Camera Life, Inland Empire Magazine and others. His work is in the collections of the Church Museum of History and Art in Salt Lake City, The San Bernardino County Museum, and the Smithsonian.

Diane E. Faxon
Diane Etienne Faxon, age 78, longtime resident of Stamford, CT, and recently of Easton, CT, passed away peacefully on May 17, 2018. Diane was the beloved wife of 56 years to Raymond Lindwood Faxon. She was born in Boston to Frank and Olive Etienne. She was raised in Milton, MA, where she met and eventually married her high school sweetheart, Linny Faxon. Diane attended Milton High School and graduated from Boston University School of Nursing in 1961.

Diane was an award winning watercolor artist who taught workshops nationally and in her Stamford studio tucked away in her beautiful and esteemed flower gardens. She was a member of the American and National Watercolor Societies, and a former president of the Stamford Art Association where she was instrumental in starting the Annual Faber Birren National Color Award Show.

Dr. LeRoy L. Fink
Dr. LeRoy Louis Fink, age 87, of Hazelwood, MO, formerly of Edwardsville, IL, died on January 26, 2018. Born September 4, 1930, in Edwardsville, IL, LeRoy graduated from Edwardsville High School in 1948 and from Washington University in St. Louis in 1952. He received his medical degree from the St. Louis University School of Medicine in 1956.

A passionate watercolorist, he was a member of the St. Louis Artists’ Guild, the Kentucky Watercolor Society and the National Watercolor Society, having received awards for his work in juried exhibitions. Being a perpetual learner, he attended many watercolor workshops across the country over the years.

Ruelene Jacobson Fillerup-Smith, NWS
Signature member Ruelene Jacobson Fillerup-Smith passed away on February 25, 2018. Ruelene obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Liberal Arts and a Master of Arts Degree in Fine Arts. She was an artist in multiple media, primarily watercolor. Her perspicacity gave her deep appreciation for the beauty of the world.

Ruelene is survived by her husband Paul D. Smith, and six children.
2018 NWS International Open Exhibition
October 4 – December 16, 2018
NWS Gallery, 915 S. Pacific Avenue
San Pedro, CA 90731-3201

The 98th Annual Catalog is available for purchase. Contact us to buy this or past editions:
www.nationalwatercolorsociety.org/store

Alpine Morning
Hugh Mossman
2018 International Open Exhibition