Like a happy kitten, I have found a ray of sunlight to sit in where I can be warmed and still have a view of the beautiful, deep snow banks everywhere I look. Two weeks ago, we were in Hawaii and I was inspired to paint the warm reflected light in shadows and palm fronds, and now am visualizing the colors in snow shadows. I am ready for spring but it is still winter here in the mountains and these snow banks hold the wonderful gift of water that we’ve needed to nourish life and growth.

I realize that as artists we also need nourishment to grow. Whether we like to work in solitude or in collaboration, find our sources of inspiration within ourselves or from external stimulation, we all are influenced by our environment and by our connections with others. The content in our lives shapes the concepts we come to value, and both are reflected in the choices we make and the art we produce.

I have been privileged and honored innumerable times, to witness, as an artist is at work, the creative process emerging and unfolding. I discover again, every time, that it’s a unique process for that artist at that
moment in time and the art that results could only be what it is because each judgement and choice being made affects the process as it unfolds and something new is created.

Two ways we are affected by the artistic expressions of others are by their creative processes and from their finished pieces.

We are privileged and energized by seeing finished works of other artists in galleries and museums. We are also especially drawn in and inspired when we are able to observe the creative process at work; when we see a painting emerging where there was nothing before and realize that each of us would have made a uniquely different expression in the end. We’ve all observed how an artist sketching or painting *en plein air* always evokes the curiosity and awe of passersby.

**This SPRING NWS has two wonderful opportunities for us to be inspired in both of these ways:**

**First,** if you want to be energized by the paintings of other artists, we currently have a wonderful variety of expressions in our NWS Members’ Exhibition in our gallery in San Pedro, CA. The 76 paintings selected were from paintings submitted by our members from all over the world. If possible, be sure to take the time to enjoy and be inspired by these paintings on display through June 23. If you are not near enough to see this show, give yourself the gift of seeing a show of original works near you.

**Second,** to be drawn in and inspired by paintings being done *en plein air*, NWS is also participating in the Plein Air Convention and Expo, in San Francisco in late April. Many painters will be gathered to paint together and be inspired by connecting and sharing with each other. Several of our NWS Members are a part of the program this year. If you are there, please be sure to stop in at our NWS Meet and Greet Room on Friday evening for a gift and some special fun!

If you are not near enough to be a part of this event, find a PleinAir event near you and attend to observe or participate.

When we are drawn into the creative process of others, our own artistic vision grows and is expanded. It’s nearly spring and definitely time to nourish the growth of our artist selves!

I look forward to your new and inspired paintings that will be ready for our next exhibition opportunities at NWS.

Warm spring wishes to all of you,

Robbie

Robbie Laird
NWS President

nwspresident@gmail.com

---

**NWS Board of Directors**

**PRESIDENT**
Robbie Laird

**VICE-PRESIDENT AWARDS**
Denise Willing-Booher

**RECORDING SECRETARY**
Kathleen Cornelius

**TREASURER**
Open

**DIRECTOR, EXHIBITIONS**
Penny Hill

**DIRECTOR, MEMBERSHIP**
N.C. Swan

**PUBLICITY**
Beatrice Trautman

**DIRECTOR, SPECIAL PROJECTS**
Stephanie Goldman

**DIRECTOR, NEWSLETTER**
Matthew Bird

**DIRECTOR, WEB**
Heather Torres

**PAST PRESIDENT**
Ken Goldman
See world-class watercolor masters, live!

APRIL 24-28, 2019
I once wrote an article titled, Living With Rejection for a local watercolor society. A well-known art magazine found it and asked if they could run it. I agreed and decided to illustrate it with the top winners of three national art exhibitions that I had judged that year. I wrote to the artists asking for permission and for images, which were sent to the magazine. The artists began to inquire, after a couple of months, about the date of publication. I contacted the magazine. They told me that they had spent time moving their offices and that the article was no longer timely. I then wrote to the artists reporting that my article on rejection had been rejected.

As a frequent art teacher and juror, I have been in many discussions about the rejection of others’ work. When contemplating our rejections, I believe that I am able to see the topic subjectively and objectively. The first consolation I offer myself and others is, “You should question the parentage of the juror.” Next, I say, “In art, as in love, we are always astonished by what is chosen by others.” If spirits are still flagging, I cut the jurors some slack by saying, “Good judgment comes from experience. Experience comes from bad judgment.”

I read in Ecclesiastes 9:11–12. “Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent. Nor favor to the men of skill: but time and chance happen to them all. For man does not know his time. Like fish which are taken in an evil net, and birds which are caught in a snare, so the sons of men are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them.”

Though we are often baffled, life is worth living with all of its limitations. One must face facts.
I visited Paris several years ago. I spent over a week prowling the Louvre, the Musee d’Orsay and other art museums. It was a period of true personal enlightenment.

And what did I learn? That there are many, many different ways to perceive and interpret the world around us. Simple eh? And yet if you are an artist it is a “truth” of the utmost importance.

I have heard other artists discussing how they wanted to learn to paint in a particular style. Style is not a vision. It is transitory, a reflection of current fashion — not individual insight.

It is a paradox, but to find your own vision you must search not only the world around you but the work of other artists whose paintings speak to you. Rather than just admiring their style one might ask: what do these paintings display that touches me?

Recognizing those visual characteristics that excite you will influence your own vision and provide direction.

But be realistic and honest with yourself. Your vision is also a reflection of your temperament. If you admire a portrait that was carefully and meticulously planned and painted, but your drawing skills are not first rate and your innate nature is passionate and carefree rather than patient and precise enjoy it and learn what you can from the portrait painting. But continue to examine other painters for a more empathetic match with yourself. Because while observing the works of others is of great benefit, your personal vision will ultimately be developed by who you are, what moves you and your own technical skills.

A way to effectively advance your own growth is through painting workshops. In explaining their methods, the most effective painting demo instructors for me have been not the “How I do something” but rather the “Why I do something.”

I recommend selecting an instructor who explains his reasoning for painting decisions. Also, I suggest, in choosing an art workshop, it is a good idea to look not only at an instructor’s background and credentials, but perhaps most importantly his/her examples of paintings. And it should not be a competition of which instructor does the most impressive work. Rather, it is a question of whose work most closely coincides with where you want to go with your own painting.

Happy painting, and good luck with further developing your own vision.

Garry Hamilton is an associate member NWS.

There are many many ways to perceive and interpret the world around us.
Did You Miss It?

Let’s face it, we live in a fast-paced world where it’s hard to keep up with all that’s happening. There are lots of interesting things you might be interested in that occur faster than we can produce — and the mail carrier deliver — in our printed newsletter.

If that’s the only way you receive your NWS news, consider setting up a free email account so you can stay abreast of things that are distributed digitally in our News Splash.

Simply go to the NWS website and log into your profile. There you can select to receive automatic announcements under the “Email Subscriptions” tab — and never miss a thing!

---

2019 Calendar

**April**
- 4 First Thursday Opening Members Exhibition
- 6 Opening Reception Members Exhibition 2-6 pm
- 8 International Open Exhibition Call for Entries opens

**May**
- 10 International Open Exhibition Call for Entries closes

**June**
- 10 Accepted exhibitors posted
- 23 Members exhibition closes

**July**
- 6 South Bay Watercolor Society Exhibition opens

**September**
- 15 South Bay Watercolor Society Exhibition closes

**October**
- 3 First Thursday Opening International Open Exhibition
- 18 Mixer at the gallery
- 19 Opening reception for the International Open Exhibition

**November**
- 17 International Open Exhibition Closes

More details on events and opportunities posted in the Summer Newsletter

---

Anguish
Joanna Barnum
2019 Member Exhibition
### NEW NWS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

November 1, 2018 — March 1, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Andino</td>
<td>GA</td>
<td>Ze Ze Lai</td>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Arntzen</td>
<td>WI</td>
<td>JoAnn LaPadula</td>
<td>FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Becic</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Ying Liu</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Becker-Black</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Neelu Manish</td>
<td>GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Beideman</td>
<td>CO</td>
<td>Stephanie Marisca</td>
<td>RI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mickey Beutick Warren</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>Maureen Moore</td>
<td>MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Bond</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Patsy Painton</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarence Boucher</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>Juan Peña</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yong Chen</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>Paulo Perkins</td>
<td>VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Clark</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>Anne Peterson</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathy Cramer</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Tatiana Phelan-Sandoval</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristen Dahms</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Donald Pirch</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Darrell</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>nancy Priest</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard DeMont</td>
<td>Az</td>
<td>Lana Privitera</td>
<td>NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betty Derrer</td>
<td>OH</td>
<td>DAVID RANKIN</td>
<td>OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amid El haddad</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>STUART ROPER</td>
<td>TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Fagan</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Judy Ross</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Farmer</td>
<td>AK</td>
<td>Steve Rother</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janine Ferranti</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>Alayne Sahar</td>
<td>PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ted Foster</td>
<td>RI</td>
<td>Linda Scarafia Davis</td>
<td>NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelly Franz</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Jingxin Shan</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Friedland</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>Doug Shoemaker</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brenda Gamache</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>Sharon Simmons</td>
<td>AR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jose Garrido</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>Sverre Morten Skoglund</td>
<td>Norway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carole Gillin</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Marcia Smith</td>
<td>WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elana Goldheimer</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Robert Smith</td>
<td>TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachael Grimm</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>Jennifer Sowders</td>
<td>OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernon Groff</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Johnnie Stanfield</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamela Haddock</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>Jed Sutter</td>
<td>MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hardin-Leeth</td>
<td>OH</td>
<td>Dawn Taylor</td>
<td>TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fani Hason</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Lisa Tennant</td>
<td>TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christina Hernandez</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>Lyudmila Tomova</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Holmes</td>
<td>IL</td>
<td>Carol Ulmer</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hollan Holmes</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>Cynthia Walker</td>
<td>WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Hoque</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Gwynn Walker Di Pilla</td>
<td>NJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colin Irwin</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Hongbing Wang</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angelis Jackowski</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>Nara Wood</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Link Jackson</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>Celia Wu</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Keeffe</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Lei Yang</td>
<td>MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sofia Kim</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Jennifer Zapp</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Knickerbocker</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>Lin Zhou</td>
<td>SH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgar Kochendarfer</td>
<td>NV</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What motivated you to join the board of NWS?
I read in the newsletter that the NWS Board needed a secretary, and that, by using GoToMeeting, the candidate did not have to live in San Pedro, CA. In prior experience with the Watercolor Society of Indiana and the Art Students League of New York, I know how difficult it can be to identify artist members of a group who possess the skill set needed for board participation. I had just made a New Year’s resolution to learn better computer skills in 2019, so I emailed President Robbie Laird.
Apparently, the board had received various inquiries, but somehow I passed the interviews and was accepted as Board Secretary. I am finding it a pretty steep learning curve, but it is an exciting time to work for the National Watercolor Society, especially with the Centennial Celebration taking place in 2020.

What inspires you as an artist?
That is an easy answer — the phenomenon of color. Vision — the act of seeing — is one of the greatest gifts we receive, and seeing in COLOR is just the best. To me, it is like seeing visual music.

If you couldn’t be an artist, what would you have done instead?
I enjoy travel, and so airline stewardess was an idealized job to me. But at 5’0”, that was one interview I could never pass. I received a scholarship in college to study education, and I chose the areas of special education and elementary education for my majors. I received my master’s degree in both areas, and happily taught children for seven years before starting my family.

What is your happiest art moment?
There have been many, but the day that I enrolled for classes at the Art Students League opened the door for so many wonderful experiences, including copying paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

What piece by another artist is your favorite, or most memorable?
My most recent copy at the Met was of Winslow Homer’s Veteran in a New Field, 1868. Homer superimposed the slanted figure of a farmer over three bands of color. His uniform cast aside, the man leans into the field of ripened wheat with a scythe, exposing the green plant growth. Positioned with his back to the viewer, the figure is a metaphor for the Grim Reaper. Homer had witnessed the carnage of Civil War as an artist soldier. Still, the message of the painting is hopeful, signaling new life, and new ideas springing up in place of division. It was a challenge to copy it, but I was very satisfied with the final result.

What advice can you give someone wanting a career in the arts?
First, congratulations! Learn all you can about drawing, painting, art history, all aspects of art. In the beginning, the remuneration you receive from your work will probably be less than you want, need or deserve, but the life you live will be richly rewarded by creative friends and a satisfying job. Besides practicing daily, visit museums and become familiar with the world’s greatest art, and take some business classes. Try to get jobs that will pay your bills, and that are also in your field of interest: teaching art classes, working in a museum (docent, curator, guard), whatever job will keep you creating art.
Matthew Bird, NWS, received the Stanzope Award in the New England Watercolor Society 16th Biennial North American Open Show for San Pedro Laundry, Honorable Mention in the American Artists Professional League’s 90th Grand National Exhibition for Venus and the Bard, and Third Place in the Alabama Member Show for Branzino For Two. A Work in Progress was in the April issue of Fine Art Connoisseur magazine in the Today’s Masters feature. Two paintings were included in the January issue of American Art Collector magazine in the article “Symbolic Objects.”

Robin Erickson, NWS, AWS, WW, CWA, TWSA, SDWS, was awarded the Silver Medal in the 1st Universal Watercolor Exhibition in Zhuji, China for Guardians of New York. Her painting North Beach Cafe received Best of Show at the Watercolor West 50th International Juried Exhibition. Apple NYC - Into the Clouds received the Mijello Merchandise Award at the SDWS 38th International Exhibition. India Street Reflection received the Cheap Joe’s Art Stuff Award in the CWA 49th National Exhibition. She received the Robert Goodlier Memorial Award for Traditional Transparent Watercolor at the Watercolor USA 2018 Exhibition for her painting Galleria Reflection, and was awarded signature status in the Watercolor Honor Society.

Michael Holter, NWS is featured in an article titled Loosen Up in the February/March issue of Plein Air Magazine. He has been elected, and is now a member of the Salmagundi Club.

Robin Purcell, NWS, AWS, received the Winsor Newton Award at the 49th National Exhibit of the California Watercolor Association for her painting Seven Layers of Spring.

Susanna Spann, NWS, AWS, FWS, TWSA was selected for the April issue of the Artist’s Magazine Over 60 competition for her painting Friday on Frenchman’s Street. Her watercolor, Jewels from Coquina Beach, was published in Northlight’s Splash 19: Illusion of Light, and her painting, Chanteuse of the Maison was included in the book, Acrylic Works 6 Creative Energy.

Annie Strack won the C.L. George Memorial award in Kentucky Watercolor Society’s 41st International Show. She juried the American Artists Professional League’s 90th Grand National Show at the Salmagundi Club in NYC, the Unionville Fair Art Exhibit in Pennsylvania, and the Milton Art Guild Exhibit in Delaware. She earned Signature Membership in the Niagara Frontier Watercolor Society, Central New York Watercolor Society, and International Plein Air Painters, and has been appointed Northeast Regional Director for the USA Chapter of the International Watercolor Society.

Risa Waldt’s work was published in Southwest Art magazine’s feature Art of Arizona, and Western Art Collector magazine’s feature State of the Art: Arizona.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2019

Please follow the newsletter guidelines on the next page when you make your submissions!
NEWSLETTER GUIDELINES

We are proud that our members receive so many accolades; however, we are limited in what can be included.

WE PRINT the following for Signature and Associate members:

- Awards (only from national or international exhibits open to all artists. No “members only” shows.) Stipulate the award[s] you received.
- Recent publications that include your work
- Special honors (i.e., signature membership to national art groups; serving as juror; having work added to permanent collections, etc.)
- Inclusion in invitational, solo or two-artist exhibitions

WE DO NOT PRINT:

- Your workshops or websites
- Your inclusion into exhibits (unless you get an award and it is in an exhibit open nationally to all artists)
- Items more than 6 months old

Submitted material will be edited if it does not conform to the above criteria OR in order to fit space available.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Stipulate your member status (signature or associate)
- ACCOLADES: Submit your information PROPERLY FORMATTED and in the 3rd person. Use the Accolades section in this newsletter as a guide. Be specific about titles and dates.
- ARTICLES will be reviewed for content and relevancy. NWS reserves the right to accept or reject articles and to edit the contents to fit.
- IN MEMORIAM: NWS will publish one submitted photo, space permitting.
- CALL FOR ENTRIES: Submitted and applicable to NWS will be posted on our website.
- WE REQUIRE A PERSONAL SUMMARY OF YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS. A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER WILL NOT BE GLEANED FOR CONTENT.

DEADLINES:
Spring: March 1; Summer: July 1; Winter: November 1.

ONLINE PREFERRED | NWSnewsletter@gmail.com
(Indicate “NWS Newsletter” in subject line, or it may be missed.)

MAIL-IN | NWS Newsletter Editor, 915 S. Pacific Avenue, San Pedro, CA 90731-3201
In Memoriam

Frank Federico, NWS, PSA, CPS, NEWS, PPSCC
Frank Federico, a renowned artist and native of New Orleans, died on July 30, 2018. He was inducted into the Pastel Society of America’s Hall of Fame, Honoree for 2012. His work has been added to the Butler Museum in Cincinnati, Ohio. He has attained the honorable level of signature membership of numerous prestigious art societies including Master Pastellist Pastel Society of America, Master Circle Member—IAPS, CT Pastel Society, Pastel Society of Painters on Cape Cod, Degas Pastel Society, National Watercolor Society, New England Watercolor Society, and the National Society of Painters in Casein & Acrylic.

Nancy Handlan, NWS, TWSA, WHS
Nancy Handlan passed away peacefully on August 17, 2018, in Wilmington, North Carolina. She was 81. Nancy worked as an art teacher and went on to receive her M.A. from West Virginia University in 1984. She was an accomplished watercolor artist gaining signature status with the National Watercolor Society, Transparent Watercolor Society of America, Watercolor USA Honor Society, Watercolor Society of North Carolina, and a founding member of the West Virginia Watercolor Society. (Published in the Wilmington Star-News from Aug. 19 to Aug. 26, 2018)

Lee Weiss, NWS, AWS-DF
On November 26, 2018, Lee Weiss died peacefully at home with her family by her side. Born in 1928 in CA, she lived in Madison, WI, since the early 1960s, where she built a career as an internationally recognized watercolor artist. She was a Dolphin Fellow of the American Watercolor Society, member of the National Watercolor Society, and past president of the Watercolor Honor Society. Recognized by the watercolor community, she earned the Watercolor Honor Society Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009 and Wisconsin Visual Art Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011, in addition to multiple other awards and honors.

Known for her innovative ability to capture and interpret the spiritual qualities of nature within the watercolor medium, she translated her respect and intense appreciation of nature into her art. Breathtaking visions were depicted within her work, from small portraits to monumental presentations, every detail imbued with a sense of purpose. Her inspiration emerged from world-wide travel as well as her beloved neighborhood park, Hoyt Park, just steps from her front door. She defined her vision thus: “If I can’t find some mystery, something that moves me, then I have just done an illustration, not a painting. The paintings that really thrill me are those that leave a lot unsaid, but there’s a presence…”

Lee Weiss built a global reputation for her adventurous use of watercolor, all the while participating in major American watercolor competitions from the 1960s to late 2010, accumulating multiple awards along her journey. She was a long time exhibitor with the Fanny Garver Gallery in Madison, The Franz Bader Gallery in Washington, DC, for over 20 years, Addison/Ripley Gallery, Washington, DC, Gallery Madison 90 in NYC, as well as others, nationally and internationally.

2019 NWS Annual Member Exhibition
April 4 – June 23, 2019
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

Mixed Flight
Elaine Harvey
2019 Member Exhibition