



Sketchbook

FEBRUARY 2018

www.southernazwatercolorguild.com

When you pay your "dues", on a monetary level it supports the SAWG General Fund. On SO many others levels your returns are priceless! See below:

WHAT DO YOU GET FOR YOUR SAWG DUES?

Membership in a community of likeminded artists leading to new friendships, opportunities in education and using your unique skills to make a difference.

YOU get to **Exchange Ideas**

- Monthly Meetings
- The Sketchbook monthly Newsletter
- The Virtual Gallery
- SAWG Website southernazwatercolorguild.com

YOU get to **Increase Skills**

- Artist Demos with Nationally recognized artists
- Workshops by professional artists
- Mini workshops at the Gallery
- Weekly Open Studios at the Gallery
- Weekly Paint Outs all over town
- DVD Instructional Library

YOU get to **Exhibit your Work**

- Our own SAWG GALLERY

YOU help with **Community Outreach**

- Scholarship Program scholarships for Tucson area High School Seniors
- Watercolor Instruction to local schools and organizations requesting support through their community members in need.

YOU support **Organizational Needs**

- Meeting and Workshop space rental • Insurance
- Website support • Printing costs
- We are a volunteer organization. No one gets a salary.

YOU get **Discounts**

- at many Tucson and online Art Supply businesses

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
 MONDAY, FEB. 12TH
 SOCIAL - 6:30pm
 RADISSON SUITES
 TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE 1
 WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR DUES
 WESTERN FED UPDATE

PAGE 2
 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
 FAREWELL DEBRA

PAGE 3
 SHOW NEWS

PAGE 4
 MORE SHOW NEWS

PAGE 5
 VIRGINIA STONEBARGER

PAGE 6
 SHOWS SCHEDULE
 MEMBERSHIP NEWS

PAGE 7
 WORKSHOIPS

Sign up Now!

UPDATE...

Western Fed Countdown!

The entries are in and the money keeps coming in too! Of the total 970 entries from the 11 societies, SAWG members entered a record high of 139 images, all of which have been sent to the juror, Ted Nuttall. All of the entry fees from all the societies come to SAWG this year to help us run this event, and the members of SAWG have also answered the call to donate and support in a big way! From raffle tickets to tax deductible donations, for general operations or awards, the members of SAWG have been extremely generous in their support. Thank You!

THREE months to go!



2017-18 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

February 13-16, 2018
ANDY EVANSEN
 March 13-16, 2018
IAIN STEWART
 April 30-May 4, 2018
TED NUTTALL

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Deciding on submitting a painting for a specific themed show can be daunting. We have many new and emerging members and yet we all share the same anxieties. You search through every single bin and portfolio for the piece that might fit the bill and yet that special painting that you thought was so perfect, now seems less than worthy. Why is that? What makes an artist consider their work to be unqualified for others to judge, let alone make it into a show? I considered the abstract painting with the spooky face peering out, but I'm saving that one for the Experimental Show. I looked at the painting with the trees. I tried to quickly paint a masterpiece that would be accepted. That didn't work. So, would any of my work fit the theme of a particular show? These questions prompted me to look for and hopefully find what works for others and what doesn't.

The internet has some information on what some nationally known artists consider. When measuring numerous pieces, an assortment of applicants, and artwork that might be worthy of being accepted, there appears to be similar criteria experts consider to be "strong work." First your work has to stand on its own merit. You may be one of many submitting work and yet you can't talk to the judge about the merits of your piece. It's like an audition, only you aren't participating – your art stands alone. So how can we improve our chances of getting noticed?

One of the most important things is the image of your piece. Use your phone or other digital camera equipment to produce a clear and accurate image before you mat and frame the piece. Pay attention to all the details using a steady hand, most appropriate angle and colors that best portray the original artwork. Follow the rules and use the resources available to you. Consider a software program like Photoshop Elements. We also have a wonderful image archivist who is more than willing to help and walk you through the process. Alternately, you might consider hiring a professional photographer. We have several photographers in the Tucson area who have worked successfully with many of our members for years.

When you are ready to submit, it's important to read the application thoroughly. If you have questions about the application, contact the show chair or in the case of an online application, contact the person noted as the resource for help. SAWG as well as other galleries want you to submit your artwork. Enter the maximum number of pieces allowed to increase your odds. Art magazines are a great resource of information and hints. The gallery has older copies for 25 cents each.

When your painting is accepted for a show, you will need to choose the right mat and frame to compliment your work. We have several people in our organization who offer matting and framing classes (see the SAWG website). Presentation is key in making sure your piece makes it through the inspection process. A clean mat, a simple frame that does not detract from your work and clean glass or plexi-glass are key.

One last bit of advice! Don't take it personally if your work is not accepted. If you feel strongly about a piece of your artwork, keep entering it in shows locally, regionally, or even online (lightspacetime.com for example). Above all, we want you to be successful doing something you enjoy and sharing it with others!

Good painting, and good luck! Nancy

I'm excited to announce that SAWG has been given an anonymous donation of \$3,000.00 with specific instructions for its use.

"This anonymous donation to the Southern Arizona Watercolor Guild is for the express purpose of addressing the rumors concerned with the possibility of closing the Gallery. Discussion must focus on the best and most creative ideas to reach out to the greater Tucson community, to increase Gallery traffic, and to become a truly sustainable enterprise. A written report to the membership characterizing the direction and early success of these new initiatives is to be published in the May issue of the Sketchbook."

This is a new opportunity to engage the membership, to convene a special committee, revisit earlier survey responses, and develop a bold plan. Implementation will be key as the donor has asked for a report in May.

Are we up for a challenge?

Remember - To submit any articles for the Sketchbook to Debra Irons at d_irons@cox.net. Deadline is always the 15th of each month.

Good Bye & Good Luck!

Since 2003, or thereabouts, Debra Irons has played a pivotal role in SAWG. From being the chief lightbulb changer to holding the position of President, we have depended upon her knowledge, good nature, and tireless energy. Of course, these attributes fall second only to the wonderful art Debra has been exhibiting in SAWG shows from the beginning, often times chairing these shows as well. We can think of no one else who paints Vermont cows with such warmth.

Always on the forefront with ideas for our organization, Debra led us through the opening of one of our first galleries, located at River and Craycroft. Phone and security companies, credit card machines, and the corraling of countless members with no business experience to run it, SAWG successfully called this gallery home for many years with her guidance, even when she no longer served as our President.

Priding ourselves in the workshops we've been able to hold, credit to Debra must again be mentioned. Our audio-visual presentation has been enhanced by her knowledge and purchase of cameras and construction of the original framework to hold them. We've often thought, "Is there anything she CAN'T do?"

Last, but certainly not least, for numerous years Debra has been the Editor-in-Chief of our terrific monthly newsletter, the Sketchbook. Along with her buddy, graphic artist Sandy Walker, we have been kept abreast of SAWG happenings and enlightened with many stories of our members whom she's interviewed.

Our sadness over her relocation to California is equalled by our excitement for her in grasping this new adventure. Debra, please check in frequently so we can continue to feel like you're still a part of SAWG. You'll be missed.

Submitted by — Jenny Clark

NOTE: Debra will continue to edit the newsletter through May 2018 (the end of our fiscal SAWG year). Please continue to submit articles, etc. to Debra as always.



COMING SOON...

All Members' Show

Southern Arizona Watercolor Guild is aflame with anticipation of The All Members' Show, 2018!

Congratulations to all of you who had the foresight to enter.

As this is a non-juried show, it is a terrific opportunity to exhibit your work.

Check in and docent sign-up begins Monday, February 5th, from 9-10:30 AM.

The gallery will be closed and paintings will be hung immediately following check-in.

Please make sure to come for the Artists' Reception and awards on Thursday, February 15th, from 5-7PM.

It promises to be a most enjoyable opening.

The Awards judge for this years show is the highly sought after workshop instructor and artist Andy Evansen.

Andy paints and teaches internationally, and is often awarded and honored for his light-infused paintings.

He is a president and/ or member of many professional art organizations.

Andy will be conducting a workshop from February 13-16, "Simplifying Watercolor".

FIESTA SONORA

Attention Desert Dwellers! (whether full-time or part-time) The Southern Arizona Watercolor Guild will be presenting the yearly show that features our beautiful Sonoran Desert, its landscapes, its people and animals, its towns and cities, its workplaces and celebrations. We are fortunate to have this unique and interesting place to paint, and we encourage you to do just that, to PAINT it! And then share it in our gallery show, the Fiesta Sonora show, which will be held from March sixth to April first!

The jpeg images of your **entries must be received by February 16**. Send to Nancy Huber: nancyhuber@gmail.com.

Please check the SAWG website and review the "Show Policy" section and the "Guidelines for Presentation of Artwork" section as well as the information on the Entry Form. If after checking the website you still have questions, you can contact either of the show chairs, Tracy Lynn or Kathy. Co-chairs for this show: Tracy Lynn Ross tlross3@yahoo.com (520) 907-8941 and Kathleen Carman jkcarmanjr@comcast.net (520) 975-2021

This IS a point show.

SAWG artists, don't forget about the **Fiesta Sonora West** show. This is a good opportunity to have your artwork shown in the Baldwin Education Building at the Desert Museum Art Institute. It is a long-running show, and if you are leaving town before June 30, then we can store your unsold artwork in our climate-controlled secure storage facility until you return in the fall. The deadline for this show is Friday, Feb 23 for images and postmark on entry forms. Contact Judy Constantine or Marti White with any questions.

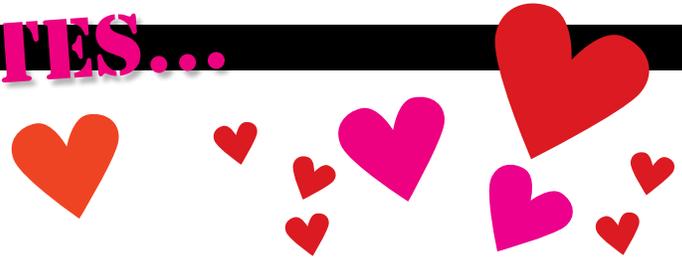
There are more details about both shows in their respective entry forms, so download them from our website and take a look.

FIESTA SONORA
WEST!

EXPERIMENTAL SHOW

Spark your art! Jazz up your juices! One of the best ways to grow creatively is to step outside your comfort zone and try something new. That's what the Experimental Show, April 2-22, is all about. Try a new technique, new materials, style, or subject matter. Do you need some inspiration? There are endless ideas and demonstrations online; take a workshop; check-out books at the library; or visit local galleries and museums. The Experimental Show is a non-juried show accepting the first 70 entries. It's a wonderful opportunity to share your arty explorations. **The deadline for entries is March 23rd.**

Dru Hill, Show Chair



Holiday Show 2017/18

**The Holiday Show for 2017 was a roaring success!
Over 60 paintings and bin pieces were sold and 14 packs of cards!**

We had a great looking show on the walls and many customers! Several artists sold more than one painting which is always exciting. Debra Irons, Sarah Schmerl and others put on a Pre-Show Gala that was highly successful, fun and lucrative. Thank you, Debra, for spear heading the Gala.

The Reception for the show on Thursday was wonderful, with great choices of food and wine and water; a big Thank You to Karen Reichert for organizing that. Many sales were made that night, also.

If you weren't in this year's Holiday show, think ahead to next year and get those small paintings done so you can participate in this best selling event next December!

Submitted by — Karen Brungardt



Annual Show

Our 50th Annual Show was a rousing success, with a packed house for the Artists Reception. Carl Purcell awarded lots of prizes, which are posted in this issue of the Sketchbook, and our reception hosts, Shannon Russell and Karen Richert, outdid themselves with a wonderful assortment of refreshments (including cake!) The show will be up through Sunday, February 4, so you still have time to stop by and vote for your favorite piece of art. Warning: It will be difficult to pick just one -- there are many fabulous paintings!

Here is a list of the winners of the Annual Show awards:

Best of Show - SAWG —
Barry Sapp for *Makers of Rain*

Past Presidents' Award (Barry Sapp,
Jennifer Clark & V. Lynne McGregor) —
Marilynn Davis for *And Then She Was Gone*

Award of Excellence from Holbein —
Mary Bubla for *A View of the Heavens*
from *Inside Antelope3 Canyon*

Award of Merit from Jack Richeson —
Nancy Holmberg for *Rock and Rolled*

Award of Merit from Dr. P.H. Martin —
Ellen Fountain for *Out-of-Towners*

Fountain Studio Transparent Watercolor
Award — **Sandy Walker** for *Shangri-la*

Honorable Mention for Realism —
Renee Pearson for *Garden Splendor*

Honorable Mention from American Frame —
Paula Weech for *Enchanted*

Honorable Mention from American Frame —
Carolyn Streed for *Poinsettia*



Virginia Stonebarger

Over the past several months leading up to SAWG's 50th year we have featured several long-time Guild members. This month we talk about Virginia Stonebarger's life and work.

"The ability to simplify means to eliminate the unnecessary so that the necessary make speak!" - Hans Hofmann stating the foundation of his art philosophy.

He was the most prominent painting teacher of many famous and notable artists and writer of Modern Art in the 1950's when Virginia Stonebarger attended the Hans Hofmann School in New York City. She counts his influence among the greatest in her lifelong expression as an artist and teacher.

Virginia's extensive art education also includes an art degree from Antioch College, a Master's degree in painting from the University of Wisconsin and several advanced studies with prominent artists.

Shapes of color are placed on the paper or canvas to create light and shadows, then built up to bring the vibrant dimension in Virginia's paintings whether they be her favorite subjects of landscapes, horses or buildings.

After relocating to Tucson from Wisconsin, Virginia loved the desert and it's many forms and shapes in the cactus and mountains- "instead of the fuzzy trees up north". Summers in Sante Fe provided more painting subjects and great inspiration as well as opportunities to display her work.

It was Wanda Hein who brought Virginia to SAWG 34 years ago. Over the years she has participated in the Guild's shows, had numerous solo shows throughout the US, displayed her work at the Tucson International Airport, and has shown her paintings at the Cobalt Gallery in Tubac the last 20 years.

While painting, winning awards and selling her work, Virginia's primary passion has been teaching art. After her first degree in Art Education she chose to teach her own classes rather than pursue a career in public education. Her philosophy of laying the foundation of art and design principles for her students while encouraging them to pursue and develop their own style has endured through nearly 7 decades of teaching!

This year for the first time, Virginia is not teaching as she packs up her home and studio to move to Baltimore to be near family. Living near the harbor will provide new adventures in exploring unfamiliar subject matter- boats and water!

SAWG and all of her students wish Virginia the best in the next chapter of her life and work.



As of: January 15, 2018 —

Bank Balances: SAWG

Wells Fargo Bank:		Restricted Accounts:	
General Fund Checking	\$27,388	Scholarship Checking.....	\$6,455
General Fund Savings	\$38,773	Western Fed.....	\$40,143
Total.....	\$66,161	Hollander Scholarship	\$12,589
		Total.....	\$59,187



Clip and Save!

2018 Meeting Schedule

Feb 12	General Meeting - Andy Evansen demo	May 14	General Meeting - Annual Meeting
Mar 12	General Meeting - lian Stewart demo		
April 9	General Meeting - Scholarship - at the gallery		

American Frame is a supporter for SAWG show awards. We are part of their Alliance Program. When any member orders from American Frame, they can put ALLIANCE17 in the coupon code box at checkout and receive a 10% discount.

SHOW TIME 2017-18!

All Members' 2018

- Show Dates: Feb. 6 - Mar. 4
- Entry and jpg Deadline: Jan. 26
- Chairs: Jenny Clark & Laurie Griangregorio
- Juror and Awards Judge: Andy Evansen
- Check-in: Mon., Feb. 5, 9-10:30am
- Reception: Thurs., Feb. 15, 5-7pm
- Pick up: Mon., Mar. 5, 9-10:30am

Fiesta Sonora 2018 *** (Point Show)

- Show Dates: Mar. 6 - April 1
- Entry and jpg Deadline: Feb. 16
- Chairs: Kathleen Carman & Tracy Lynn Ross
- Juror and Awards Judge: Iain Stewart
- Check-in: Mon., Mar. 5, 9-10:30am
- Reception: Thurs., Mar. 15, 5-7pm
- Pick up: Mon., Apr. 2, 9-10:30am

Fiesta Sonora "WEST" 2018

- Show Date: April 14 – June 30, 2018
- Entry and jpg deadline: February 23
- Chairs: Judy Constantine and Marti White
- Jurors: Holly Swangstu and Desert Museum Art Committee
- Awards: People's Choice
- Deliver to Gallery: March 29, 11am – 4pm
- Artists' Reception: April 14, 3-5pm
- Pick-up unsold art: July 2



Experimental Show 2018

- Show Dates: Apr. 3 - 22
- Entry and jpg Deadline: Mar. 23
- Chairs: Dru Hill
- Juror and Awards Judge: Ben Johnson
- Check-in: Mon., Apr. 2, 9-10:30am
- Reception: Thurs., Apr. 12, 5-7pm
- Pick up: Mon., Apr. 23, 9-10:30am

Western Federation 2018 *** (Point Show)

- Show Dates: May 1 - June 24
- Entry and jpg Deadline: Dec., 1, 2017
- Chairs: Susan Morris and Anna Don
- Juror and Awards Judge: Ted Nuttal
- Paintings to delegates: Mar. 5, 2018
- Reception: TBA

The Workshop Wall — A GREAT OPPORTUNITY!

The wall in the workshop room at the gallery can be rented for the duration of each show. You can rent the whole wall or half of the wall. The wall is 20 linear feet. The rental fee is \$217.20 for the whole wall or \$108.60 for half the wall. Application forms for rental are on the Resources page under Shows on the website and also on the Show Schedule under the current show. Any medium or date of creation is okay and it can have been shown in the gallery before.

Contact Marti White whitemarti4@gmail.com to arrange for rental.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

MEMBERSHIP NEWS!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Neota Bradley | Terry Medaris |
| Debbie Friis-Pettitt | Pamela Mersch |
| Mary "Miera" Hayworth | Diane Paul |
| Christine Hines | Kappy Schwab |
| Rebecca Precup | Maureen Wygal-Brunke |
| Beverly Hart | |



Please remember to turn in your form once you reach a new status. We'll help when needed, but it's up to you to track your point shows. For more details, please refer to page 5 in your directory or on line under Membership.

Workshops 2017-2018

Carl Purcell Workshop RECAP! January 9th – 12th

This workshop was a great way to start the New Year. If we follow some of his teachings we may come up with some good paintings. Carl advocates spending 15 minutes a day doing value sketches or quick value paintings on scraps of mat board to develop the skill of seeing patterns and shapes in the things we want to paint.

He likes to compare music notes to shapes and even broke out in song a couple times and recited poetry. He "hears" music in the patterns and shapes of design and also reminded us many times that color and shapes unify. Link similar values into a large pattern, this strengthens the composition. Do a small value sketch to help plan this. He also had us do a light wash first, preserving whites, then develop the center of interest and that will help to know what the "medium" values will be. We talked about and practiced developing an area of dominance through value contrast, lightest light and darkest dark and also linear direction which leads your eye around the format. He gave us lots of ideas and suggestions and advice and it was a terrific workshop!

Submitted by — Karen Brungardt



After squeezing into a small space with Birgit's workshop, we moved to a larger room in the Radisson for Carl Purcell's workshop. Things went smoothly, and folks enjoyed Carl's easy teaching style and eclectic entertainment. We are now gearing up for Andy Evansen's workshop, running February 13-16. As of this writing, there are 2 seats left, but things change quickly in the workshop world! Please contact Judy Constantine if you are interested in joining Andy's class. We have spaces in Iain Stewart's workshop in March, and also in Ted Nuttall's. Note that Ted has put a limit on the number of students (15) he will take at the posted price, and will accept 5 more at an extra \$40 per day. There is one seat left at the posted price, so now is the time to register for his class if you are interested. We'd love to see you in any of these workshops with the top watercolor instructors in the country!

Submitted by — Judy Constantine

Coming Soon - Sign up today!

FEB. 13-16: ANDY EVANSEN- www.evansenartstudio.com Andy is new to SAWG. He comes to us from Minnesota. The approach he uses in his impressionistic portrayal of landscapes is quick, bold and accurate from his planned design of shapes and color. His website is a wealth of information with a gallery of work from his travels, workshop activities and other events.

MAR. 13-16: IAIN STEWART- www.iainstew.fineartstudioonline.com SAWG is privileged to welcome Iain, an internationally acclaimed watercolor artist and highly sought after juror and workshop instructor. The beautifully portrayed light in his work and his unique expression of "how he views the world" are highlights on his website that features his blog, schedule of events and jaw-dropping gallery of work!

APRIL 30-MAY 4 (5 days): TED NUTTALL- www.tednuttall.com Multi-award winning artist, Ted Nuttall returns to SAWG as the juror of the Western Fed Exhibition that Tucson is hosting in April 2018. His workshop is part of the festivities. Ted has an original style in his portraits using a fluid but striking play of light and shadow that captures the character and personality of his subjects. His process while painting and teaching is equally amazing to witness!

