Dear Members and Friends,

As we wrapped up the 2011 exhibition, plans began for the coming year.

It is a pleasure to announce that we will continue to be at the Kenosha Public Museum for our 2012 and 2013 exhibitions and celebrate watercolor events.

Regarding the location of our exhibition, one of the goals of previous boards was to find a permanent home. We would like to hear how you like Kenosha Public Museum? Your voice is important as we plan for 2014 and beyond. Please send your thoughts to: president@watercolors.org.

As you may know, for 2012, we are offering multiple workshops with two dynamic artists. This allows us to better accommodate a variety of artistic goals and schedules of our participants.

Donna ‘Jill’ Witty is one of our workshop instructors. Jill is a TWSA Master who paints with creative design and rich color. If you haven’t seen her paint, this is something you just have to experience. Her passionate creativity is inspiring! Advanced and intermediate artists—don’t miss the opportunity to study with Jill.

We are also delighted to bring to you from California, the accomplished artist, Joe Garcia, a professional who emphasizes composition, value and spontaneity. Joe will help you bring your painting to the next level, as he shares his love of painting wildlife. You won’t want to miss this opportunity to bring these wonderful creatures to life with Joe’s guidance.

Both workshops promise to help you stretch, grow and come away prepared for new watercolor challenges. Register now while there is still room (this is the first year we are sending out flyers to 10,000 artists through Cheap Joe’s). Help us save your spot!

And finally, the end of the year is membership renewal time, except for Life Members who simply update their contact information on the renewal form and send that in. If you are not entering a painting this year, simply send your membership renewal directly to Frank Nash at the address inside the renewal form. For those who entered a painting (or two), we look forward to your submissions, which can be sent with your membership to our Morris address. The membership renewal, prospectus and workshop forms were mailed the beginning of this month. All forms are available at www.watercolors.org.

I hope to see you at our ‘Celebrate Watercolor’ events in June and/or painting submission(s) by January 13, 2012!! Until then, keep painting!

Warm regards,

Gayle Mondie President
Our Skyledge Award

In going through the President’s files, I came upon the 30th Anniversary Skyleedge List. It’s fitting to share the history of this prestigious award, also to share the history of each of our awards, which Joye will do in future articles.

History of Skyledge Award

It was 1980, and Phil Austin was President of our Watercolor Society when he initiated the prestigious Skyledge Award. This award was made possible not only because Phil had the idea, but because he also had the generosity and foresight to put this award in place. This award was named for his home in Door County, Wisconsin, situated high on the bluffs and known as “Skyledge”, a fitting name for those who achieve excellence in their work as well.

A little background on Phil Austin for those who may not know, but Phil was primarily a plein air painter and it was reported in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel back in 2004, “he was very influential as a teacher to many, many watercolorists.” “Phil was one of a handful of what is known as the Door County Masters”. Phil Austin was born in Waukegan, Illinois, worked as a commercial artist in Chicago, and in 1970 moved to Door County Wisconsin where he lived until his passing in 2004 at age 94.

As we reflect today on the history of this award, it is fitting that the Skyledge continues to have an influence on watercolorists throughout North America, as it has been awarded to artists across the States. It is the most prestigious of all our awards and it recognizes the artist’s excellence with a $2,000 cash award and the timeless honor of being a Skyledge recipient. To those who have achieved this level of excellence, we lift our brushes to you, Phil would be proud.

Membership News

Renewal Reminder !!

Have you received your Fall TWSA 2012 mailing yet? Did you remember to renew for 2012 ?? The Board kept the dues at the same $35 as last year. Renewal membership forms were mailed directly to you as part of the annual mailing. If you can’t find the mailed version, the forms are also downloadable from the TWSA website at www.TWSAwatercolors.org. Can’t remember if you renewed for 2012, then send an e-mail to Frank Nash asking for verification at membership@TWSAwatercolors.org.

Also please remember to UPDATE your contact information, especially your current e-mail address, so that you can continue to receive our e-Blasts and newsletters. You can send an info update e-mail at any time to membership@TWSAwatercolors.org.

New Members

Congratulations and welcome to all our many new members who have joined TWSA this year! We received 7 new memberships in the mail just this past week.

We now have artists joining TWSA year round as they see us in art magazines and hear more about our organization on the web. Check the TWSA website for the list of great artist’s benefits you get as a member! Frank Nash, Membership Chairman

The 2011 TWSA Exhibition

The 2012 Annual TWSA Exhibition is just around the corner!

Here we are coming to the close of the 2011 year and it is time to start thinking about what entries you’re submitting for the 2012 TWSA Exhibition. Our jurors for the 2012 TWSA Exhibition are Donna Jill Witty and Joe Garcia. Both of these artists bring their own personal tastes into the judging and we can hardly wait to see what the 2012 Exhibition brings!

I want to remind all artists that jurors’ preferences are different from year to year. We had some fabulous paintings that were submitted and did not get juried in this year. PLEASE, if you feel your rejected submission from last year was wonderful and want to submit it again for the 2012 Exhibition, by all means enter it! (As long as it was painted after January 1, 2010 and meets the prospectus requirements.)

Remember that all entries are due on January 15th, 2012. You should already have received your prospectus in the mail along with the membership and workshop brochures. All of these brochures are also available to print from the TWSA website at www.watercolors.org. Here is a quick breakdown of last years’ numbers. Over 400 artists submitted entries and there were over 700 entries. The entries came from almost every state in the country as well as many entries from Canada. Four paintings were sold this year. There were 81 entries juried into the 2011 show.

Entries juried in versus submitted:

Portraits - 10 juried in / 87 submitted
Figurative - 11 juried in / 11 submitted
Florals - 7 juried in / 8 submitted
Water/Seascapes - 9 juried in / 85 submitted
Landscape - 8 juried in / 57 submitted
Still life - 7 juried in / 56 submitted
Cityscapes - 9 juried in / 51 submitted
Animal life - 3 juried in / 47 submitted
Architecture/Interiors - 6 juried in / 44 submitted
Non representational - 1 juried in / 29 submitted
Abstract - 3 juried in / 14 submitted

Grouped Objects - 4 juried in / 16 submitted
Automotive - 2 juried in / 20 submitted

Don’t wait too long to enter! Any questions or concerns can be answered via the website at www.watercolors.org or click on the exhibition@watercolors.org link.

Sheryl Fletcher Coon, Vice President/Exhibition Chair
### Signature Screening

We had eighty-one accepted paintings in the 2011 exhibit. Twenty-nine newly accepted (for the first time). Six qualified for Signature Status, this is their 3rd acceptance into the Exhibit.

Those qualified this year for Signature Status are:
- Howard Eberle
- Mike Mazur
- Pam McDaniel
- Missi Paul
- Susan Stuller
- Salvador Valencia

Howard, Missi and Susan received their awards at the Celebrate Watercolor Dinner.

There are three receiving Master Status this year. This is their tenth acceptance into the exhibit.

Those receiving Signature Master Status are:
- Dan Burt
- Mel Stabin
- Lois Salmon Toole

Lois was also at the dinner and received her award and TWSA crystal paperweight.

_Catherine Naob, TWSA, First Vice President and Signature Chair_

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### INTERESTED IN DOING SOME DEMO/WORKSHOP

**WORK THROUGH TWSA CONTACTS?**

Good things happen when creative/business minded people put their heads together.

Your TWSA marketing team met recently and had several ideas, one may be of particular interest to you.

As a member of TWSA you have the distinction of being part of a society that has elevated the work of watercolor in the greater society to one that commands respect. As purists, we have a special gift to offer art organizations that seek to expand their knowledge. We are in a position to connect you, as a TWSA Member Artist, to various art groups/societies while also supplying you with a DVD that you can use to share the work of different watercolor artists in our society.

The possibilities are great.

If you are interested in being on a list that we will refer to when societies are looking for artists for demos or workshops, please send a msg. to twademo@watercolors.org, and Sue Wolff will contact you as opportunities in your locale become available, providing you with more information at that time. There is no charge for this, it’s a benefit of your TWSA Membership.

As we build our list of TWSA artists that are interested in this, we will expand our reach to more societies to support this ever growing connection.

If you have any questions, you can feel free to contact twademo@watercolors.org. In order to keep our reputation intact, we will seek feedback following demos and workshops, which will prove helpful to our artists for their development as well.

We are here to work together to elevate transparent watercolor and it’s place in the art community.

_Don’t be shy, this is a great opportunity!_  

_Gayle Mondie President_

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### Marketing News

Did you know that TWSA now has a Marketing Committee? Our new Marketing group will market the TWSA brand and help communicate with the arts community and the public at large.

We will be marketing the TWSA brand by raising the visibility of TWSA, creating top-of-mind awareness, and building brand name recognition. We think this will help us expand our membership base, attract volunteers, and enhance our fund raising efforts. We also think these efforts will help in two areas, help the public embrace watercolor art and help all our members sell more art.

Our first committee members have already started the process. We hope you have noticed our first efforts in art magazine advertising in the national publications, articles about TWSA in these magazines, notices of the Exhibition, etc.

We are still looking for more committee members. There are several new projects just starting that we think have great potential to accomplish our objectives. Are you comfortable with new things or have a background in public relations, writing articles for newspapers, advertising, marketing, web, Facebook? Send Frank Nash an e-mail about your area of interest and join the Marketing Committee. ps: we just got our first new member this week from our Facebook account !!

_Frank Naob, Marketing Chair_

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### 2012 Exhibition Entries

The prospectus was sent the end of September, along with the membership and workshop brochures. If you cannot seem to put your hands on the prospectus and are ready to submit, go to [www.watercolors.org/template/2012prospectus 9 2011.pdf](http://www.watercolors.org/template/2012prospectus%209%202011.pdf), you can print the prospectus from our website as well as our membership form which can be found at [www.watercolors.org/membership applications.pdf](http://www.watercolors.org/membership%20applications.pdf).

To enter your painting(s), simply
- **Fill out the Prospectus as it instructs, be sure to fill it completely and sign it!**
- **To enter one image send a check for $10**
- **To enter two images send a check for $15**
- **Take pictures of your work as instructed on the prospectus. More instructions are available at [www.watercolors.org](http://www.watercolors.org)**

_Continued on Page 7_
Celebrate Watercolor
Workshops and Dinner
Frank Webb was the juror for three shows. In August he was the awards juror for the Ohio Watercolor Society, a sole juror in August for the Kansas Watercolor Society International, and in November the Central Ohio Watercolor Society. His work will be included with 12 pages and the cover of a Chinese publication titled, "Watercolor Secrets of Contemporary Masters of North America".

Hazel Stone, TNSW, PWCS, ISEA, CWAz, AWA, PWs, NWWS, AzAq, KWS, PPWS, TWS, RRWS had a painting juried into the American Watercolor Society 144th Annual International Exhibition at the Salmagundi Club, New York City, NY; and another painting juried into Watercolor U.S.A., at the Springfield Art Museum, Springfield, MO. She became a Signature Member of the Red River Watercolor Society, RRWS. Her painting was juried into the Pikes Peak Watercolor Society International Watermedia XVII, at the Cottonwood Center for the Arts, Colorado Springs, CO. Hazel was granted Purple Sagebrush Signature Member status in the Texas Watercolor Society. Her painting was juried into the California Watercolor Association 42nd National Exhibition at the Marin Art and Garden Center, Ross, CA. She had a painting juried into the Mississippi Watercolor Society Grand National Watercolor Exhibition, Mississippi Museum of Art, in Jackson, MS. Hazel had a painting juried into Watercolor U.S.A., at the Springfield Art Museum, Springfield, MO, from June 11 to August 7, 2011.

Naomi Campbell, TWSA had these exhibitions: • The George Billis Gallery, Buildings of New York, Chelsea in New York • Boscobel Gallery, Hudson River Contemporary, Garrison, New York • The Governor's Island Art Fair, New York City. She also had an article in 'American Artist' magazine, "'Experiencing the Experimental', June 2011 issue-a 10 page feature on her work. Naomi also announces a book publication: '100 Mid-Atlantic Artists' by Ashley Rooney now published and soon available at Barnes and Noble featuring Naomi Campbell and her work.

Brenda Swenson has two paintings featured in 'Splash 12, Celebrating Artistic Vision'. She was a featured artist in the June issue of 'Watercolor Artist' magazine. The article is titled 'Little Pieces of Color.' Another painting was selected for inclusion in the San Diego Watercolor Society International Exhibition.

The widely available magazine 'Watercolor Artist' will highlight Christopher Wynn as a featured artist in its upcoming October issue. It's title is 'Escape Artist' and describes his travels circumventing the globe to paint watercolors. He recently was accepted as a Signature Member into the Missouri Watercolor Association. Also, Christopher was chosen to be included in the forthcoming hardbound book, 'The Best of the Best', by Kennedy Publishing, a source book for 'art collectors, art galleries, and embassies' featuring 100 or so American artists.

Jeanne Dobie, AWS, NWS, TWSA-MS, Honor Society USA, PWS, PWCS, and FWS received these awards in 2011: Presentation Award, Northwest Watercolor Society Annual Juried Exhibition, Seattle, WA.; Bendann Award, Mid-Atlantic Regional Exhibition, Baltimore Watercolor Society, Strathmore Mansion, MD. She also was juror at the Greater Lambertville Area Juried Exhibition for NJ and PA, Coryell Gallery, NJ. She was ‘Juror of Selection’, Alabama Watercolor Society Juried Exhibition, AL; Greater Norristown Area Juried Exhibition, PA. Jeanne’s prize-winning paintings were featured in the beautiful French Magazine, L’Art de l’Aquarelle, American edition summer issue.

Kris Preslan has been awarded signature status in the National Watercolor Society and will be receiving her certificate at the annual luncheon in San Pedro, CA. At the Watercolor Art Society-Houston, Texas, 34th International exhibition. she was given a merit award and as well was awarded 'Best of Show' for another painting at the Watercolor Society of Oregon exhibition. One of Kris’s paintings was accepted in the Emerald Spring Exhibition, 2011, in Springfield, Oregon.

Mel Stabin was named one of the 'Top Ten Watercolor Masters of Today' by the new art website www.artmatch4U.com. Mel was invited by the 'American Watercolor Society' to do a demonstration as part of their 'Watercolor Evenings' event. His standing room only demo took place at the Salmagundi Club in New York City.

Shirley Jorns was a winner in the '2010 Paint The Parks Top 100 and the 2010 Paint America Top 100’ art competitions. These are the third and fourth times her art work has been accepted in their competitions.

Susan Webb Tregay NWS, TWSA, received an award in the Watercolor USA National Exhibition. This award qualifies her for membership in the Watercolor USA Honor Society. The painting was then sold to Dunnegan Gallery of Art in Bolivar, MO, for their museum collection. Tregay's work was also featured in 'Bold Life' magazine in May.

Dan Burt, TWSA, AWS, D.F., NWS won the Amy Freeman Lee Memorial Award with Bronze Medallion at the 62nd Annual Texas Watercolor Society Exhibition in San Antonio, TX.

Grace Haverty, TWSAs painting won Best of Show in the Arizona Watercolor Association Fall Exhibition. She also was awarded Jurors Choice Award for the same painting. Another of her paintings was accepted into the Watercolor West International Transparent Watercolor Society exhibit at the City of Brea art Gallery, Brea, Calif.

Sharon Harms, a TWSA new member, had a painting purchased out of The
MEMBER NEWS  
Continued

WV Juried Exhibit by the State of West Virginia for its permanent collection. The watercolor, “A Better View” pictures the State’s animal.

Chris Beck, TWSA, was granted signature membership in the National Watercolor Society in September, 2011. She also was featured in the article “Full-spectrum Color” in the May, 2011 issue of The Artist’s Magazine.

Susan Webb Tregay NWS, TWSA, received an award in the Watercolor USA National Exhibition. This award qualifies her for membership in the Watercolor USA Honor Society. The painting was then sold to Dunnegan Gallery of Art in Bolivar, MO, for their museum collection. Tregay’s work was also featured in Bold Life Magazine in May.

TWSA 35th Anniversary Watercolor Pad

The TWSA 35th Anniversary Watercolor Pad is available for $10 each plus shipping and handling per pad. This watercolor pad measures 7.25” x 9.75” and contains acid-free, 100% cotton, 140 lb cold press paper.

Only $10 each!

[shipping varies]

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If you have questions regarding items offered for sale in the Clear Choices newsletter or on this website, please call Peg Shea at 309-862-3793 or email at peg.shea@verizon.net

ORDER FORM

Name __________________Street Address __________________
City __________________State ________________ Zip ____________
Telephone __________________email __________________

Make check payable to TWSA
Mail order and check to: Peg Shea, 14 Thomas Dr., Normal, IL 61761

MEMBER WORKSHOPS


Sending in Entries  
continued from page 3

- mail the prospectus, a CD of your work, and your entry fee PLUS your membership dues and membership form® to our Morris address, as noted on the prospectus.

And then you can relax knowing your submission is in good hands with our Exhibition Chair, Sheryl Coon. You will receive notification of status by mid-March.

- No membership dues for Life Members

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TWSA
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The Kenosha Public Museum, located in Kenosha, Wisconsin, is a natural sciences and fine and decorative arts museum. Established in 1933, the Museum's collections have grown to over 70,000, including almost 1,000 works in the fine arts collection. Exhibit programming includes world cultures, Native Americans, zoology, geology, fossils, and fine and decorative arts.

TWSA 36th National Exhibition at the Kenosha Public Museum
May 5 - August 5th

5600 First Avenue • 262-653-4140
Kenosha, Wisconsin