Now that I’m in this position I realize how tied Suzanne was to her computer! I now know how much email one can actually produce in a day. But I also can say, that at least at this point we’re running on time.

I want to call your attention to a couple of changes the Board has made. First, we have decided to have two jurors for our exhibitions. Both jurors will select the Best 100 paintings of the digital submissions in 2010, using a numbering system. The Exhibit Chair will merge the data and come up with the accepted paintings. Note: with the large scale of paintings accepted into our Exhibits in the last couple of years, we will include fewer than 100 paintings to our show this year, depending on sizes of the accepted works.

Secondly, the Board altered our membership rules. As we discussed ways in which to be inclusive, and because anyone can become a member, we wanted to automatically include people who submit work to our Exhibits. This allows us to have one due date for membership and submission. No more second guessing as to whether you paid this year or not; payment can be done at the same time for both.

You will be receiving our October mailing soon. In it, you will find our 2010 Membership Form, Prospectus and Workshop Application.

- If you are entering the show and are not a life member, you will fill out the 2010 Membership form & send a check for $35 to TWSA. Then fill out the Entry Form in the Prospectus. Detach & include it, the labeled CD with your image(s), a SASE for return of your notification, and a check to cover the entry fee(s) : $10 for one painting, $15 for two, also to TWSA. Both checks can go in the same envelope, since they will be going to the same address, by Jan 15th.
- If you are a Life Member, and entering the show, simply fill out the Entry Form in the Prospectus and follow the directions for the Entry Form above. You will have but one check to send with your entry materials.
- If you are not entering the Exhibit and not a Life member, you can fill out the membership form & send a check for $35 to TWSA, and send both to our Morris address.

An added thought: Please remember that in this economic climate we all feel the pinch. I would like to encourage you to donate even a small amount with your membership to increase our Awards fund. These monies are the concrete appreciation our artists can receive for their talents and skills. Thank you.

Welcome to Our New Board Members

I would like to formally introduce our new Board members and their volunteer positions.

- **Bonnie Becker**, from Oak Forest, Il just retired from teaching Art in a Public Junior High School for 35 years. We’ll help keep her busy as Secretary of the TWSA. She’s a laugher, and will fit right in.
- **Becky Kraft** is returning to the Board as our Historian. She lives in Barrington, Il and is offering to store our digital records, track down historical info as needed, and take photos of events. **She’s a natural photographer.**
- **Lynn White** has offered her time and talents to take care of Receiving your submissions for 2010. Always a giant job. The Board has already taken steps to make
In the past year, I have encountered three artists teaching workshops or giving demos who have strayed from the mission of fostering art into the area of opinion. Teaching artists should always encourage and bolster all art, not tear down other artists or societies.

One teacher continually brings up her hatred of an artist in the long past. If his name is mentioned, she goes on a diatribe. Students should never be subjected to that. She has also had problems with one of the national watercolor societies and wastes precious painting/demo time expounding on their shortcomings.

A workshop instructor told his students that anyone who painted with bright colors was low class. He said all colors should be muted (his opinion). He was insulting some of our members on call.

Continued on page 4
Workshops 2010  Transparent Watercolor Society of America

Jean Grastorf,
AWS, NWS, TWSA

Professionally trained at Rochester Institute of Technology, NY, Jean is a vastly experienced artist and teacher. She has taught workshops for 30 years, juried many exhibits, and is a signature member of watercolor societies throughout the U.S. She has published Pouring Light (Northlight Books), Painting in Harmony With Nature (Watson-Guptill) and has her work published in numerous articles, including Splash 3, Splash 4, Splash 5 and Splash 8. Jean has works in collections throughout Florida, her home state, and several national corporations.

June 7-11, 2010

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Location
Workshop will be held at the Kenosha Public Museum Artist's Classroom, in Kenosha, Wisconsin
www.kenosha.org/museum

Where to stay
Special rates are reserved at the Best Western Harborside Inn, just blocks from the Museum.
Hillside Rate: $67.99 +tax per night
Harborside Rate: $77.99 +tax per night.
Use code TWSA when booking your reservation.
1 (800) western or 1 (262)-842-0361

Workshop Costs
Jean Grastorf Workshop
June 7-11, 2010
$550 non members
$500 members

Frank Francese Workshop
June 14-18, 2010
$525 non-members
$475 members

$75 deposit will hold your spot for either workshop.
Reservation Fee is non refundable.
No refunds after April 15, 2010

Transportation
Amtrak from Chicago to Milwaukee
Car - One hour from Chicago O'Hare airport
1/2 hour from Milwaukee Mitchell Airport

June 14-18, 2010

Frank Francese,
NWS, TWSA Master Status

A professional artist since 1976, Frank achieved the groundwork for his profession while attending Western State College, Gunnison, CO. He has published articles in Watercolor Magic and the Artists Magazine and performed a demo for PBS in 2008. His awards in national and state exhibits are too numerous to list. He is a signature member of more than 10 organizations and has taught over 40 workshops in the U.S. He specializes in bold washes, landscapes and clear focused design. Frank's work can be viewed at www.ffrancese.com.

Content
Each workshop will include morning and afternoon demos, group critiques and ample time for individual painting.

I understand all rules and hereby waive any and all claims, and assume the risk and all legal responsibility for injury to myself or loss of personal property relating to or by participation in this workshop. I will hereby hold the Transparent Watercolor Society of America, its members and officers harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of actions, debts, claims and demands which may arise in connection with my participation in this workshop. Please keep a copy of this information for your records.
light work with many hands, and lessen this daunting task for Lynn’s Committee.

- We met Jeanne Thielen from Racine, WI during our re-crating of this year’s paintings. Jeanne has volunteered to be our liason to the Wisconsin Watercolor Society during the years we exhibit at the Kenosha Public Museum. There were WWS members available to help, and we want to nurture this relationship.

- Suzanne Hetzel as our new Workshop Chair has brought in 3 new volunteers for her committee: Loralee Clarke of Palatine, Il., Laura Lovell from Morris, Il., and Judy Petersen of Mundelein, Il. Such enthusiastic volunteers! Suzanne is gifted at envisioning what is possible. I’m sure we’re in for exciting offerings, starting with 2 different workshop presenters this year.

Also I would like you to note changes within the Board. Dick Helland has taken charge of the Blind Auction of our Signature Status Mini Paintings at our Celebrate Watercolor Event next June. Besides the work involved, he actually gets to see all those painted gems first when they come in!

- Sheryl Fletcher Coon has taken on the job of Exhibition Chair. (She was our Secretary). Sheryl has a sparkling personality, that we will put to stellar use!

- Gayle Mondie was working as our Historian until we split the Board Vice President/Exhibition Chair into two jobs. Gayle has recently volunteered to be our Vice President. She has a background in sales and management, and I hope we don’t use her up too quickly! She’s already irreplaceable.

- Carole Burval has stayed on after many stupendous years creating terrific Workshops for our members. She made the workshops of painters/jurors such a wonderful experience. She will now be in charge of the Nominating Committee.

- Sally Konley has switched from Dinner Reservations to Hospitality...we always need a little coffee to keep us going.

- Jeanne Fredriksen will be taking our long time Catalog Designer Extraordinaire- Catherine Savage’s place. Jeanne does Web Design/Content Advertising Public Relations. She is very savvy and I feel relieved that she’s willing to work for us. As a note: Catherine Savage has donated huge amounts of time to us over the years to produce a catalog that is and has always been our crown jewel! Car started working for the MWS when we created a catalog in Black and White on a few sheets of paper. She always kept up with technologies to give us the best product we could imagine. Our catalogs are an amazing tribute to her skills, and workaholic nature! A sincere, heart felt thank you to you, Car. I always recognized our catalog as one of the stars in the artistic realm. You did that!

It is so vital to our activities, that the Board be composed of qualified, positive and capable people. We have an excellent group of volunteers that appreciate the beauty and importance of transparent watercolor. They lend their talents to make sure that our efforts and exhibits are of the highest quality.

You can view the entire list of Board members and their current positions elsewhere in the newsletter and on our web site.

What’s Missing Here?
Ratindra Das, TWSA Master Status

I have a burning question. Whatever happened to brushes?

When I asked this question to one of my artist friends who happened to paint in oil, acrylic and occasionally in watercolor, his answer was “well, that’s all about the medium of watercolor”. Realizing the direction of this conversation I mildly protested by mentioning spatula use in oil painting and dropped in names like Jackson Pollock etc. My argument wasn’t very convincing and I understood his perception about the medium.

I must admit that I possess all these weapons in my arsenal and have tested some of these some times, but never found them user-friendly. I am getting the impression by reading many magazine articles and books that if it is not stamping, pouring, masking, blowing, splattering, sputzing, then it is not creative or exploratory! Manufacturers have come up with array of exotic tools, which will make a painting without the use of brushes. Never mind the computer and other techno gadgets, which perform miracles. I was told a brush is more like an extension of your arm. It becomes part of you and its bigness of his spirit and all the littlenesses he makes it. All the uncertainties, all the energy-no matter how imperfect at times they may have been. I teach an adult beginner class on a voluntary basis. I noticed it’s easier to keep them engaged when they are asked to do things like pouring, splattering, pasting or some other crafty nifty stuff. There is an ‘wow’ factor in it. People are fascinated. And who cares about the finest artists and the public that enjoys their work. He also stated that TWSA was behind the times for adhering to such high standards and not allowing ‘whatever it takes to make a good painting’. I think TWSA should be applauded for their commitment to transparent watercolor. There are many other societies for those who wish to paint in other ways. An instructor should never present such negative opinions as fact.

Another workshop instructor stated that he resigned from TWSA because they were old fashioned for not allowing canvas to be used and actually used a magnifying glass on his painting to see if it was transparent. He went on several minutes on the perceived wrongdoings of TWSA. It was inappropriate for him to state such hateful comments. The students did not pay good money to hear someone give a one-sided negative opinion.

So, please, artist instructors keep your workshops and classes on the subject of teaching good art. Don’t slip into negative ideas or opinions. We are all here to make the world a better place!
Celebrating Watercolor 2009

Happy Judy Morris Workshop

Suzanne Hetzel makes opening remarks.

Guess Who won the Chee painting. Suzanne vows to keep it safe until TWSA has a permanent home

Our incoming President, Lenox Wallace, Vice President and Exhibition chair introduces special guests.

Dick and Christine Reichow Awards Co-Chairs, presenting awards

Display of Mini Paintings for the Silent Auction

Signature Status Honorees
Ken Call, Jeanne Ruchti, Richard Helland, J. Anna Roberts

Master Status Presentations by Catherine Nash

John Maslin TWSA Master Status

Kathleen Conover TWSA Master Status

Tom Francesconi TWSA Master Status
Charlotte Huntley, TWSA, AWS, has received a cash award and Honorable Mention for her painting, Blossom of Youth,” in the Illinois Watercolor Society’s 25th Annual Open Juried Exhibition. This is one of nine national juried exhibitions which have accepted her paintings so far in 2009!

William Rogers, TWSA, will be teaching a workshop, “Painting the Watercolor Figure” at Coastal Maine Art Workshops in Rockland June 22 - 26, 2009 and a workshop in the Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolour’s “Cape Breton Watercolour Symposium” August 23 - 28, 2009 in St. Anns, Cape Breton. Bill also won the Stevenson Award at the Open Water Annual Exhibition in Toronto in 2008.

Lois Salmon Toole, TWSA, NWS, RMNW, was the sole juror of awards for the Miniature Art Society of Florida 34th International Exhibition, which was held this winter at the Dunedin Fine Arts Center. She also received a “First in Watermedia” in the Miniature Painters, Sculptors, Gravers Society of Washington, D.C held in November, 2008 and exhibited work in Watercolor USA 2008 and Kentucky Watercolor Society Aqueous USA 2008.

Catherine Nash, TWSA, had four paintings accepted into the Norris Gallery Watercolor ’09 in St. Charles, IL. The exhibit ran through May 2, 2009. Catherine also had three paintings exhibited in the Nature Artist’s Guild of The Morton Arboretum in April, 2009.

Deb Ward has had a watercolor accepted into the Georgia Watercolor Society Members Show which will hang at Arts Clayton in Jonesboro, Georgia from August 30 through October 3. In September, Deb will have a one woman show hanging at the FCN Bank in Harrison, Ohio. The Bethesda Foundation (Cincinnati, Ohio) has accepted three of her watercolors to hang in the new Mary Jo Cropper Family Center for Breast Care on the campus of Bethesda North Hospital.

Mel Stabin, AWS, NWS, TWSA, was honored with the Friedlander Award at the 28th Annual Adirondacks National Exhibition of American Watercolors, and the Joseph Krasnansky Memorial Award at the 78th Annual Exhibition of the Hudson Valley Art Association. Mel had paintings accepted in the Watercolor West National Watermedia Exhibition and the Rocky Mountain National Watermedia Exhibition.

Kathleen Alexander received the Daniel Smith Award at the Northwest Watercolor Society’s 69th Annual Open Show and Exhibition for her painting. Kathleen was also awarded signature membership in NWWS.

Dan Simoneau was selected for the 2009 Toledo Area Artists Exhibition at the Toledo Museum of Art. This painting was also included in the Racine and Vicinity Exhibition at the Wustum Museum in Racine this past Summer.

Ratindra Das, AWS, NWS, TWSA Master Status, received the following awards: 1. Watercolor USA - Patron’s Purchase Award 2. Adirondack National Exhibition of Watercolors - The Segal Award. 3. Award for Excellence. This painting was selected for the 2009 Annual Juried Exhibition 2009, Fort Worth, TX. A third entry garnered the Binders Art Supplies & Frames Award, 2009 Georgia Watercolor Society - National Exhibition. A fourth painting was a finalist in the competition for the Hunting Art Prize, Houston, TX; Watercolor magazine awarded Finalist status to a fifth painting published in Summer 2009; He has been accepted as a member of the International Guild of Realism, Scottsdale AZ. He was also the Juror of the Louisiana Watercolor Society’s 39th International Exhibition and gave a three day workshop in New Orleans.

Rose Edin, TWSA Master Status, NWS was the juror of the Red River 16th National Juried Watermedia Exhibition at the Plains Art Museum, Fargo, ND. She had an exhibit entitled “Our Swedish Roots” at the Hjemkomst Center, Moorhead, MN through Sept. 13. Her website is www.roseedin.com.

Robert Koch was juried into the following national shows: Watercolor 08, Norris Gallery, St. Charles, IL Watercolor Missouri National 2009, Fulton, MO. 16th Annual National Watermedia Exhibition, Moorhead, MN. Louisiana Watercolor Society’s 39th Annual Exhibition.

MEMBER NEWS

AWARDS AND PUBLICATIONS

TRIPS AND TOURS

Celebrate Watercolor, 2009 Awards of Excellence

- Rose Edin
- TWSA Members Award
- TWSA Master Status
- Edgar A. Whitney Memorial Award
- Jeanne Dobie, TWSA
- Winslow Homer Award
- Bruce Handford, TWSA
- Maurice Prendergast Award
- John R. Maslen, TWSA Master Status
- John Singer Sargent Award
- Dean Mitchell, TWSA Master Status
- James McNeil Whistler Award
- Mark E. Mehaffey, TWSA
- Samuel and Anne Seeman Memorial Award
- Diane Hickerson, TWSA
- John C. Dioszegi Memorial Award
- Nancy Yermakoff
- Agnes Bossu Pirnat Award
- Denny Bond
- Lehmann Memorial Award
- Ted Nuttall, TWSA
- Vivian “Chevy” Chevillon Memorial Award
- Z. L. Feng
- Ison- Karecki Award
- Frank LaLumia
- People’s Choice Award
- Catherine P. O’Neil, TWSA
Order your 2009 TWSA Celebrate Watercolor Exhibit DVD and/or 2009 Exhibit Catalog
$15 each plus $2 shipping each

Number Desired

2009 Exhibit DVD $15 each__________

Number Desired

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send to Peg Shea
14 Thomas St. • Normal, IL 61761
Make Checks Payable to TWSA

What’s Missing Here?
Continued from page 4

brush exercises! It’s an old idea! Workshops are loaded with ‘brushless painting instructions and heavy with creating effects. But not much with what a brush can do for you. Very few books have been published on such ‘mundane’ matters since the days when Eliot O’Hara wrote, “Making the Brush Behave”. Seeing a painting with so much technique and excitement is almost like watching a movie with special effects with very little content. Do you see a personality of an artist in that painting? Ellen Langer , the Harvard psychologist in her book “On Becoming an Artist” makes distinction between ‘mindful creativity’ and ‘mindlessness’. “When we are mindful, our behavior is governed by rules and routines. In contrast, when we are mindful, our behavior may be guided (not governed) by rules and routines, but we stay sensitive to the ways our situation changes”. For me, being a loyal friend of brushes which may become extinct like many old tools, I take solace in thinking that some day all brushes will be on clearance sale when I’ll be able to afford an honest to goodness sable watercolor brush. My needs are very few like what Andrew Wyeth said, “...battered tackle box with brushes, a jar of water, some rags, a couple of pencils, and a block of paper under my arm. We have come a long way together.”
We Know You Have a Lot to Say

If you would like to write a letter or article about transparent watercolor, or being a painter or student, please send it to: newsletter@watercolors.org.

We would like to know what you’re thinking! All submissions will be considered for publication.

Check out our Website for Downloads

You can always download our membership form, newsletter, raffle tickets, workshop applications or dinner invitation.

Let us know how we can make the website more useful by contacting Mary Merz, Newsletter Editor at newsletter@watercolors.org or Marie Murrell, E-newsletter editor at marie@qualplan.com. They would both love to hear from you.

New Opportunity for Our Members

TWSA has built a new relationship with American Frame, a catalog and online framing business. They will donate 5% of any purchases made by TWSA members! All you have to do is tell them you are a member, and give our number, A465. That’s it! All proceeds will go toward our Awards Fund. A handy tip would be to write the number on your catalog. You can get a catalog online at www.americanframe.com, or by calling their toll free number: 1-888-628-3833.

If you would like to write a letter or article about transparent watercolor, or being a painter or student, please send it to: newsletter@watercolors.org.

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