You and your guests are invited to the annual “Celebrate Watercolor” event showcasing our 28th National Transparent Watercolor Exhibit. This year it will take place at the Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, Illinois on July 17, 2004. This invitation is extended to the entire membership of TWSA and beyond. This is an event open to all people who are interested in, fascinated with, curious about, or can’t paint but can admire TRANSPARENT WATERCOLOR! You don’t even have to be a TWSA member to attend! If you arrive in time for the Gallery Walk at 4pm and stay through the dinner, I can assure you that you and your guests will, if not already, become aficionados of Transparent Watercolor. The Museum can accommodate 150 guests for dinner. Let’s push it to the max!

We have instituted some ideas to make the first “Celebrate Watercolor” dinner under the new name of Transparent Watercolor Society of America an extraordinarily special event. “Transparent” is the theme for the evening in honor of our new name. After listening to juror, Mel Stabin’s insightful reasons for the 75 selected paintings at the 4pm Gallery Walk, we will gather in the Museum Galleries to recognize the Award Recipients. How meaningful it will be to stand in the Galleries surrounded by exceptional examples of Transparent Watercolor works of art and have the artist’s names announced. We will also be introducing the Museum Staff and any attending Award Donors at this time. There will be a cocktail hour to socialize and get acquainted with new artist friends before we sit down to a lovely gourmet catered dinner in the Museum’s Hostetler Gallery. A dinner reservation form is included with this newsletter. Early response is essential to guarantee your memorable evening with fellow artists. At the dinner we will be announcing and honoring the newly Qualified Signature Members and also the members who have attained Master Status in our organization. Come be a part of the Tribute to Transparent Watercolor.
By the time you read this article Spring will be in full bloom and so will our plans for the TWSA 28th Annual “Celebrate Watercolor” Event on July 17th The Exhibition opens on May 1st with an explosion of color, some of the most luminous and vibrant transparent watercolors in our nation on display. What an exciting time!

In addition to the complex task of choosing a show from over 900 slides, Mel Stabin has presented us with another spectacular display of great painting in a wide array of techniques, emotion, subjects and approaches. It will be well worth the trip to view this sampling of innovative and traditional watercolors as well as the Museum which reflects transparency in its design and concept.

As compliment to the Mies van der Rohe style architecture, glass walls create rooms where sunlight abounds throughout the interior of Elmhurst Art Museum. Reflecting the natural beauty of its surroundings, the Museum invites guests to experience a perfect setting for the TWSA Exhibition and its July 17th events. These include the Gallery Walk at 4 PM, the Awards Ceremony in the Gallery at 6 PM, Dinner at 7 PM and short Membership Meeting at 8 PM. Be sure to arrive early allowing plenty of time to experience the Exhibition, to network with other artists and meet some of the watercolor painters who have made this show possible by contributing their talent and expertise.

We are very grateful to all the dedicated artists who submitted slides for this exhibition and realize that if we could have multiple exhibitions, many more would be on display. Thank you all for your support and we hope to see your names in the catalog next year.

In the mean time, please join us, bring your family and friends, to

“Celebrate Watercolor.”
Packing Up - Volunteers Needed
Nia Pirnat-Dressler, Vice President and Exhibition Chair

For a free lesson on how to professionally crate a painting, you are invited to join us at the Elmhurst Art Museum to help crate the beautiful paintings that have graced our Exhibition and send them safely back to their owners. Our team will be supervised by the professionals at EAM and we will need 7-10 volunteers per day to complete the work. The packing up will span 3 days beginning with 1-4 PM on Tues. September 7th, and from 9-4 PM on September 8th and 9th. Please sign up for an afternoon, a day or the whole time to enjoy the museum atmosphere, good company and the heartfelt thanks of TWSA...and oh, yes, you learn how to crate for free! Contact Nia at: 309-527-2434 or nia@dtnspeed.net.

TWSA Workshop
Carole Burval, Workshop Coordinator

A big thank you to our membership for such an enthusiastic response to our Transparent Watercolor Society of America Workshops with master watercolor artist and author Mel Stabin, AWS, TWSA, and NWS. We have 48 watercolor artists eagerly preparing for and anticipating this summer’s TWSA 2004 transparent watercolor workshops!

Memorial Awards
Established for Phil Austin & Zoltan Szabo
Carol Shahbaz, Awards Chair

Phil Austin and Zoltan Szabo were founding members of the Midwest Watercolor Society, which is now the Transparent Watercolor Society of America (TWSA). In honor of their memory, memorial funds were established in their names for our 28th National Exhibition. If you would like to contribute to either the Phil Austin Memorial or the Zoltan Szabo Memorial, please send your tax-deductible donation to: TWSA, Carol Shahbaz, Awards, 5573 Alpine Ridge, Stevensville, MI 49127, or call 269-428-2688.

New Recognition Levels for Donors
Carol Shahbaz, Awards Chair

This year, TWSA has established new recognition levels for giving. TWSA will continue to recognize all donors. However, for donations of $500 or more, there are the following new levels: Bronze Brush ($500-$999), Silver Brush ($1,000-$1,499), Gold Brush ($1,500-1,999), and Platinum Brush ($2,000 or higher). Individuals or companies that give at one of these new levels will received special recognition throughout the year and at the TWSA’s annual award show.

To reflect the incentive for higher levels of giving, TWSA has also increased its top awards. The Skyledge Award is now $2,000; the Edgar A. Whitney Memorial Award is now $1,000; and the TWSA Past Presidents Award is now $750. Additionally, if you would like to create a new award or establish an endowment with TWSA, please contact Carol Shahbaz, Awards Chair, at 269-428-2688 or any TWSA Board member to discuss the award you would like to establish.

According to The Chronicles of Philanthropy (a newspaper for the nonprofit world), annual donations continue to remain low for all nonprofit organizations due to the economy; only organizations like the Red Cross and the Salvation Army have maintained giving levels due to September 11th. Therefore, TWSA challenges you to give this year, and if possible, give at a higher level. We are off to a good start with the new dues check off on the membership renewal form; we’ve already raised $1,282 thanks to 128 generous members. But let’s not lose that momentum. Don’t delay – give today! On behalf of the TWSA Board, we want to thank all of our members in their never-ending support of TWSA through their membership, entering our yearly exhibitions, dedicating of their time and talents to the organization, and giving monetary donations for awards.

Summer Newsletter Deadline is August 1, 2004
Hi all, I hope you have been having a prosperous and creative year. Membership is looking very good. Here is the status as of April 4.

First, welcome to the 90 new members who have joined since October, 2003! People like you keep our organization great! Second, thanks to the 27 new life members for showing their commitment. In the last newsletter, I listed names of all new and life members. However, with the numbers growing as quickly as they have been, space prevents me from doing so again. Also, 130 of you have donated $1,282 to the awards fund. As a result, the **People’s Choice Award is fully funded and the top awards have been increased.** For our first time asking you to consider donating, we all consider your generosity tremendous. Thank You! Keep up the great work.

As we approach the annual meeting and exhibition, I prepare to get all of your information into the Catalog. I also remind all who have not yet paid dues for 2004 to please do so. I will be sending out a reminder mailing in June. There are currently 191 delinquent members.

A change will be taking place for next year based on discussion during our last board meeting. I want to let you know of the change well in advance so that you are not taken by surprise. According to the organization’s bylaws, a member who fails to pay dues by the membership deadline date of 12/31 loses all privileges of the organization. The Board will now implement this strictly to make membership privileges equitable for all. Beginning with the next membership renewal period, all members who fail to pay their dues by 12/31/04 for the 2005 membership year will no longer receive the newsletters or the annual catalog. We will continue mailing you the annual show prospectus. All members who are currently delinquent for 2004 will be left on the mailing list until the end of this year and then, if dues are still not paid, will be removed from the list.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions for your TWSA membership services. All suggestions sent to me are presented to the board for consideration. I can be reached at membership@watercolors.org

We value your input. I would also like to remind you that I am still seeking members from the states where we have no members. The states are: Alaska, Delaware, Hawaii, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wyoming. Have a wonderful summer of painting!

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**MEMBER NEWS**

**AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS**

- **Carol Z. Brody, NWS,** will be featured in the Spring issue of Watercolor Magazine with six of her paintings and a demonstration piece. One of her paintings was included in the new book “The Art of Layering: Making Connections,” published by the Society of Layerists in Multimedia, scheduled for April, 2004.

- **Dan Burt, TWSA, AWS, NWS** won the C.F. Sahlin Medal with cash award at the 137th Annual American Watercolor Society International Exhibition in New York City at the Salmagundi Club, April 2004. The painting was also chosen for the year-long Travel Show following the exhibition. In addition, he will receive membership in the AWS Dolphin Fellowship along with the Dolphin Pin. He has had paintings accepted in twelve of the past fourteen AWS exhibitions.

- **Dick Green** has a painting accepted in The California Watercolor Association 36th National Exhibition June 1-29 in Concord, CA. International Artist Publishers has selected one of Dick’s watercolors to be published in “How Did You Paint That? 100 Ways To Paint Landscapes.” Dick also became a signature member of the San Diego Watercolor Society.

- **Ellen Rose, TWSA,** was voted to represent the Lakes Region Watercolor guild at the annual Lake Country Women’s Coalition Tea honoring Fine Art Woman Artist of the Year on October 12th at Highland Park Country Club.

- **Margaret Graham Kranking** was Juror of Selection and Awards for the Strathmore Thirteenth Annual Juried Exhibition, March 2004 at the Strathmore Hall Arts Center, Bethesda, MD. As an Official United States Coast Guard Artist, she was...
MEMBER NEWS  continued

commissioned to paint the military funeral of Lt. Jack Rittichier, the only U.S. Coast Guard M.I.A. in the Vietnam War, who lost his life on a rescue mission and was recovered in 2003. The painting will hang in the Hall of Heroes at the Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Margaret was listed in the 2004-2005 Marquis Who’s Who in American Education. Her painting received the Jack Richeson Award in the Kentucky Watercolor Society Exhibition, 2003-2004 and was in its Traveling Show. She was also Juror of Selection and Awards, Gaithersburg Fine Arts Association, Kentlands Mansion, Gaithersburg, MD April-May 2004.

• A “Hearth Whitlow Retrospective” was shown in the gallery named for her at the Box Factory for the Arts, St. Joseph MI from January through the middle of February. Heartha has been actively involved in the Berrien Artist Guild and the Box Factory gallery.

• Lorraine Ptacek had paintings accepted into Norris Gallery’s Watercolor ’04 juried Art Exhibition, St. Charles, IL and into the Exhibition of National Artists, Myth, Magic & Metaphor at the Union Street Gallery and Studio Complex, Chicago Heights, IL. She won an award at the Addison Art Guild’s Show, Addison, IL and a Merit Award in the Illinois Watercolor Society’s Exhibition, Schaumburg, IL. Her paintings were accepted into the North Valley Art League’s 20th Annual National Juried Art Show, Redding, CA, into the 63rd Annual National Exhibition of the Watercolor Society of Alabama, into the Western Federation of Watercolor Society’s 29th Annual Exhibiton, Houston, Texas, into the Watercolor Missouri National 2004 in Fulton, MO and into the Society of Watercolor Artists’ 23rd Annual Exhibition, Fort Worth, TX. She also exhibited her paintings in “A Woman Is...” at the Helen M. Plum Memorial Library, Lombard, IL during February and March, 2004. Lorraine, also, was pleased to be accepted in the TWSA 28th National Exhibition.

• Jane Freeman has been juried into the Missouri National Show. This year’s judge was Hugh Greer who just won the Arts for the Parks so it was an honor. She will have an article in the April issue of The Artists’ Sketchbook. She also will be giving a demonstration to the Minnesota Watercolor Society on June 19th in Eden Prairie, at a day long event with 10 hours of painting demos and displays.

She is currently the editor for www.artcafe.net and a contributing editor for www.worldofwatercolor.com

• Nancy Newcomb will be guest judge at the WRAA show. She will give a guest lecture, demonstration and critique of the show at the Waukesha Public Library. She will also have a one woman show at the Lake Geneva Library during the month of October. Nancy will also have an exhibition and sale at the J. Marc Graphics Gallery in Lake Geneva, November 14, 1 to 5 pm.

• Signature member Ratindra Das, TWSA, AWS, NWS received the Louis Kaep Award in the 2004 American Watercolor Society’s Annual Exhibit.

• Ted Lawson, was juried into the 2003 Stark County Artists Exhibition at the Massillon Museum of Art in Massillon Ohio, December 13, 2003-January 25, 2004. His painting received an honorable mention award. Another of his paintings won the Best of Show award.

• Carole A Burval is very honored to have a painting chosen for the TWSA 28th National Exhibition and also to have three paintings selected for the “Watercolor 2004” Exhibition at the Norris Gallery in St. Charles, IL.

• Gloria Sullivan has been awarded Signature Status in the American Watercolor Society. Her painting has been accepted into their 137th Annual International Exhibition in New York.

• Jan Boelte, IWS, RRWS, will be honored with a one woman show, “Kankakee County Past and Present” at the Kankakee Historical Museum. Over 20 original watercolor paintings will reflect the life and landscape from the early 1900’s to 2004. The show will open with a reception on Sunday, June 13th and be on exhibit until Sept. 5th.

• Since October Charlotte Huntley, TWSA, has been awarded the Arches Paper Award from the Pittsburgh Watercolor Society, the Anne Abgott Diamond Award from Niagara Frontier Watercolor Society, the C2F, Inc. Award from the Hawaii Watercolor Society and a Merit Award from the North Valley Art League. One of her paintings has been accepted in the American Watercolor Society’s “137th International Exhibition.”

• Mel Stabin, TWSA received the Elizabeth Callan Medal at the 137th Annual International American Watercolor Society Exhibition. His most recent article on watercolor is featured in the 2004 Spring issue of Watercolor Magic magazine. Mel also, has a new video entitled, “The Figure In Watercolor - On Location.” For more information, send e-mail to: melstabin@juno.com or write to: Mel Stabin, 147 Ashley Place, Park Ridge, NJ 07656.

• Trudi Theisen was awarded first place for her watercolor at the 8th Annual Juried Southern Arizona Watercolor Guild Exhibition of “Fiesta Sonora.”
Slide Receiving Committee
Nancy Rayborn, Jacque Thomas and Ann Feldman

The Slide Receiving Committee processed 912 slides this year for entry to our 28th National Exhibit. Juror Mel Stabin selected 75 paintings from this selection to comprise the show this year at Elmhurst Art Museum.

The breakdown of categories submitted / accepted is as follows:

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<td>Streets/Buildings</td>
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<td>Still Life</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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Celebrate Watercolor 2004...
...will take place at the Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, IL. on Saturday, July 17, 2004. The museum is located just 15 miles west of Chicago.

4:00 p.m. Gallery Walk with Mel Stabin. He will present his selection for the TWSA 28th Annual Exhibit in the Education Center of the Elmhurst Art Museum.

6:00 p.m. Awards Presentation in the Galleries of the Elmhurst Art Museum

7:00 p.m. Dinner

8:00 p.m. TWSA State of the Society and Signature Presentations

9:00 p.m. Adjourn

To make your dinner reservation, please contact Lynn Zajicek at 1727 N. 5th St., Savana, IL 61074 by July 1, 2004. 815-273-3144

Jan Boelte for information: 815-694-2842  Jan will also teach a workshop entitled “Glorious Gardens and Landscapes in Watercolor Weekend”, Sept.3-6 at Dillman’s Creative Arts Foundation, Lac du Flambeau, WI. Contact Sue Robertson, 715-588-3143 for information.

*Catherine Wilson Smith* lists these 2004 workshops:
May 18-21  Battle Creek, MI
Battle Creek Watercolor Society
517-323-7257 ‘Loose & Luminous Watercolors’
June 15-18, Janesville, WI
L’Atelier Gallery, 608-754-3358
‘Nightscapes in Watercolor’
August 22-28, Lac du Flambeau, WI  Dillman’s Creative Workshops, 715-588-3143
‘Loose & Luminous Watercolors’
September 13-17 Milford, MI
Milford Fine Art Association
248-437-2980 ‘Light Up Your Watercolor’
dekoliba@netzero.com
October 8-10, St. Louis, MO
St. Louis Watercolor Society
636-530-7724
‘Light Up Your Watercolor’
October 28-30, Grayslake, IL
Lakes Region Watercolor Guild
847-395-8120
‘Loose & Luminous Watercolors’
www.CatherineWSmith.com
636-530-7724
For more information, please use contact numbers listed by each workshop

MEMBER WORKSHOPS

Remember...
If you’ve earned your MWS signature initials, they are now TWSA instead.

and for Master Status, it is TWSA, Master Status

VOTE • VOTE • VOTE • VOTE

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We’ve a new name but we still have some of our old still-good merchandise

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1999 Joseph Bohler  $18
1998 Stephen Quiller  $18
1997 Tony van Hasselt  $15

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Mail checks with order to:
TWSA • Box 253 • 128 E. Wing St. • Arlington Heights, IL 60004-6064
IN MEMORIAM

Phil Austin
Noted watercolorist, and founding member of the Midwest Watercolor Society, passed away at his home in Gills Rock, WI, February 12, 2004. He was 94. Phil served on the MWS Board from 1977 through 1987. He served as Vice President in 1978 and 1979 and was President in 1980 and 81; our 4th and 5th exhibitions. Having worked as a freelance commercial artist, Phil began painting full time in 1969. He was a nationally recognized marine and landscape painter and left behind a priceless legacy to the art world. The Lake county Art League has arranged with the Jack Benny Cultural Arts Center at 39 Jack Benny Drive in Waukegan, to hold a celebration of his life on Saturday, May 8, 2004 from 1-3 pm. TWSA members are invited to attend.

Gerhard Miller
passed away at age 100. He had been a past juror for MWS.

Sue Ison, TWSA Treasure, notified the board that her mother passed away unexpectedly Thursday afternoon, April 1.

Carole Burval, TWSA Workshop Chairman, sadly advised us of the death of her stepfather, George Jager on February 20th, 2004. He will be missed by his family and friends.

Slide Rentals
Slides of our most recent exhibition are available to be rented to show your organization or classes. What a wonderful inspiration and learning tool. All your design and composition questions can be answered by studying these wonderful images. Susan Webb Tregay is our Slide Rental Committee member. Her address is 913 Main Street. Rockford,IL. 61103. The email address is susan@tregay.com.

Call for Artists Real People 2004
“Celebrating Our Humanity Through Faces and Figures.” August 12 – September 26, Old Court House Arts Center, Woodstock, IL. The Old Court House Figurative League juried figurative show. All media. Fee: $40/2 entries, up to 4 slides (SASE) or digital submission to email. Deadline July 9, 2004. SASE or website for prospectus: Old Court House Figurative League, 101 N. Johnson St., Woodstock, IL 60098. Website: http://www.oldcourthouseartscenter.com. Questions may be emailed oldcourthouse@msn.com or messages left at 815-338-4525.