TWSA 30TH ANNIVERSARY: CELEBRATION OF SKYLEDGE WINNERS

This year TWSA is celebrating 30 years of excellence and achievement in transparent watercolor with special events for Celebrate Watercolor on June 17th. You will not want to miss this! At the beautifully designed Elmhurst Art Museum the day opens in the Education Center with a splash of powerful transparent watercolor from the brush of Ratindra Das, our esteemed Juror for the 2006 Exhibition and TWSA Signature member with Master Status. His informative and exciting Demonstration will begin at 3:30 PM but you will want to arrive early when the doors open at 3:00 to secure a great view.

Following the Demonstration at 5:00 PM is a Social Hour and the Gallery will be open so you may view the amazing 2006 Exhibition, discuss and network with fellow artists and enjoy the beverages of your choice compliments of TWSA in honor of this special occasion.

The Awards Dinner will begin at 6:00 PM and the theme of our diamond anniversary honors all of the past winners of the prestigious Skyledge Award, our highest award of excellence. Named by past President, Phil Austin, for his home on the northern tip of Door County, Wisconsin, Skyledge emphasized the location of his home high on the bluffs of Lake Michigan. For TWSA artists it means reaching for the sky and our mission of excellence.

An added bonus this year is the early Jurying for Awards in February allowing our winners a generous timeframe to arrange travel and arrive in person to accept their awards and allow us to honor them. You will also note that our Awards Program has begun its expansion under the direction of Barbara Stubing whose creativity and expertise this year centered on $300,000 by 30, escalating our Awards and introducing a new era of prosperity for our Exhibition artists. Special

Continued on Page 2
New Fee for Participating Membership

After much discussion the Board of Directors voted to raise membership dues this year from the annual fee of $25.00 to $35.00. We regret the need to do so but this raise is overdue and has been deferred out of the Board’s desire to keep costs to a minimum. The future growth of TWSA is dependent on your support and we appreciate it.

Special Invitation to Skyledge Winners

TWSA is honoring the Skyledge Award Winners at the Awards Dinner and extending a special invitation for all the to attend. Invitations will be mailed in March and we need to know of current addresses for those who have moved and are not on our present roster. If you are able to provide this information please email it to: TWSA Secretary, Dee Kurecki at secretary for TWSA@msn.com.

Message from the President

continued from page 1

thanks to all or our generous donors and patrons who support the Awards Program and make it possible! So mark your calendars and send in your Dinner Reservations forms as soon as possible to be sure and reserve your place at TWSA’s gala 30th Anniversary Awards Dinner Celebration.

Once again our Awards Dinner will be enjoyed in the Hostetler Gallery of the Elmhurst Art Museum a few feet away from the Exhibition space providing the ambience of spectacular transparent watercolors. Our new Vice President/Exhibition Chair, Suzanne Hetzel has accomplished wonders in her first year and I am sure that all who view the Exhibition will agree. Gapers Caterers will provide the gourmet dinner enhanced by the surrounding space inspired by Mies van der Rohe.

The McCormick House, one of only three homes in the US designed and built by Mies van der Rohe, is an integral part of the museum that now houses the staff offices. The current site has won the Chicago AIA Regional Architecture Award and was nominated for a National Distinguished Building Award for Architectural Excellence. D. Neil Bremer, Executive Director and his staff: Assistant Director Heather Pastore; Curator, Melissa Dahlquist; Marketing, April Arnold and Education Coordinator Amy Janken provide experience and expertise for all aspects of the TWSA Annual National Exhibition.

One last note, a special thanks to each member of our Board of Directors. The work of TWSA is accomplished through their creativity, intelligence and dedication. To each of you, my deepest gratitude.

I look forward to seeing you in Elmhurst and celebrating our 30th Anniversary!

Best Wishes from your President,
Nia Pirnat-Dressler

Reserve your place at the TWSA Annual Dinner Meeting

June 27, 2006

Gala 30th Awards Dinner

As you know, this year TWSA celebrates 30 years of excellence. The reservations form for the Awards Dinner is included in this newsletter. Please complete and return it to your Dinner Reservations Chair, Sally Konley, at your earliest convenience. We expect a large turnout to celebrate TWSA’s 30th Anniversary and to honor the winners of the Skyledge Award. So reserve your place soon!

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Raffle

Look for the separate flyer in this issue for your chance to win one of TEN art prizes. Tickets are $15 each or two for $25, with all proceeds to benefit the Awards Program. Entries must be postmarked by June 1, 2007 for participation. Winning tickets will be drawn at the Celebrate Watercolor Dinner. Winners need not be present to win.

GOOD LUCK AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
Awards Fund Boosted by Member Donations During Renewal Period

All society members had the opportunity to support the awards program by making a donation during our 2005 membership renewal period. As of 12/31/05, a total of $1041.00 has been contributed by the following individuals (in no particular order):


THANK YOU for your generosity! The Awards Program continues to prosper through your loyalty and dedication.

2006 TWSA Transparent Watercolor Workshop with Ratindra Das, TWSA, AWS, NWS

The Transparent Watercolor Society of America is honored to have Ratindra Das as our workshop instructor for the 2006 Transparent Watercolor Workshop in coordination with the 30th Annual TWSA Exhibition. Mark your calendars now for our exciting TWSA Workshop Week, June 12 - 16, 2006! It is always filled with painting, fun and friendship! The 2006 TWSA Workshop brochure, which was included with your membership renewal form, includes specific workshop location information, pricing and an application form.

Remember, TWSA members get first preference for the workshop spaces! Questions? Contact Carole A Burval at TWSA@watercolorcards.com for registration information.

30th Annual TWSA Exhibition

March 4–July 2, 2006
Elmhurst Art Museum
150 Cottage Hill Avenue
Elmhurst, Illinois
The Slide Receiving Committee successfully processed 897 slides submitted by 499 artists for this year’s exhibition. The quality of the slides sent this year was incredibly high; we hope that everyone will be able to see our 2006 exhibition!

The breakdown of the entries by category is as follows:

- Figures/Portrait: 21%
- Landscape: 16%
- Still Life: 11%
- Floral: 9%
- Urban Landscape: 8%
- Water/Marine: 7%
- Garden/Nature: 6%
- Birds/Animals: 5%
- Abstract: 5%
- Transportation/Mechanical: 3%
- Fantasy: 2%
- Miscellaneous: 1%

Keep in mind that we’ll be accepting digital entries via email for our 2007 exhibition. Details for digital submission will be available soon, so stay tuned!

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Volunteers

TWSA is growing rapidly and our Board of Directors has several positions open:

- **Advertising and Public Relations**
  - person with experience in promoting media coverage to spread the word about TWSA and its many aspects through various forms of media.

- **Fundraising or Grant Writing**
  - person with experience in fundraising and/or grant writing to increase funds for operating expenses such as Office Space which is badly needed.

- **Award Program Support**
  - people to assist Barbara Stubing with mailings and soliciting award donations.

- **Hospitality**
  - person/s to provide snacks and beverages for the Board Meetings.
  
  If you would like to join us, we also need assistance with ongoing data entry, mailings, or any number of tasks. If you are interested, please call our Nominating Chair, Bill Wright, at 309.862.3969.

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Reminder to Vote

The Spring Ballot is included with this newsletter. Please consider the candidates and respond by the date on the form. Your vote is very important to us.

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10 Year Rule Rescinded

As of April, 2005, the time requirement of ten years in which to achieve acceptance into three exhibitions for Signature Status has been rescinded.

Artists are still required to have acceptance in three exhibitions for Signature Status, but now there is no time limit. Requirements for Master Status remain the same.

All those qualifying for letters in light of this change may contact Donna Jill Witty, our Signature Chair to confirm their status and be awarded their letters.

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Opinion

It took me years to accept the fact that I belonged to a watercolor society that wouldn’t accept Winslow Homer’s or Charles Burchfield’s paintings. Now, according to the article in the last newsletter, “(fill in the blank with the title, please, Mary),” certain paints and density of their paint application will also be banned. I find that very subjective and Orwellian.

Susan Webb Tregay NWS, TWSA
Slide Rentals

Need a great program for an art organization meeting? Renting the slides for TWSA’s latest exhibition is easy. Rentals are just $25, plus a refundable $75 deposit. Just call Susan Webb Tregay at 815 963-8260, or e-mail her at susan@tregay.com. She will mail—or e-mail—you a rental.

New Membership Chair

Welcome to John Hull, our new Membership Chair who graciously started with the Board of Directors in January. John is married to Sandra Hart, a transparent watercolorist who has been a member since 2000. Thanks to our Nominating Chair, Bill Wright, who made many phone calls looking to fill the position, John has excellent qualifications and computer skills that serve him well as a teacher of Computer Science at DeVry University in DuPage County. John has consented to serve through May of 2008 and we are fortunate to welcome him!

Member News

Shirley Ann Jorns has a painting accepted into Arts for the Parks competition (in Jackson Hole, WY) 2005 Minis, in the Second 50. It can be viewed on their website at www.artsfortheparks.com. She received Honorable Mentions at Danada Nature Art Show and Elk Grove’s Art Centre 2005.


Tom Francesconi, TWSA, NWS, NWWS, has written an article for the spring issue of Watercolor magazine, due to be on the newsstands in March, 2006. North Light Publication’s Splash 9, due on the bookshelves in 2006, has included one of Tom’s paintings. Tom has been invited to exhibit a painting at the Christopher Art Gallery 10th Anniversary Invitational Exhibition, January 19-February 23, 2006, at Prairie State College, Chicago Heights, IL. In September, 2005, Tom began teaching watercolor classes at the Old Town School of Art in Chicago, IL and is scheduled to begin teaching a watercolor class at the Palette and Chisel Academy of Fine Arts in Chicago, beginning in April, 2006. Tom has been asked to select the award winners of the art competition that celebrates the
first annual Outer Banks Marathon, Nags Head, North Carolina.

Frank LoBue is the new watercolor instructor for the art program of Lockport Township Park District. He is also an instructor of the Young Rembrandts Art program.

Joye Moon reports these accomplishments: One Woman Show: “Recent Work” by Joye Moon, Originals Gallery, Waupaca, Wisconsin.

Two Woman Exhibit, “Two Perspectives” Recent work by Joye Moon and Pat Reiher.


“Awarehouse Art Open” Awarehouse Art Gallery, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Grand Prize

She also had work accepted recently into these competitions:

Western Colorado 13th National, Grand Junction, CO.; California Watercolor Association 37th Annual, San Francisco, CA.


**Memorial Awards**

**LORI FRONCZAK MEMORIAL AWARD**

A $300 Lori Fronczak Memorial Award will be presented this year at Celebrate Watercolor 2006. If you would like to contribute, please send your check payable to Transparent Watercolor Society of America. Include a note in the Memo portion of the check: “Lori Fronczak Memorial Award.” Mail check to Peg Shea, Special Promotions, 14 Thomas Dr., Normal, IL 61761

**LEHMANN MEMORIAL AWARD**

A $300 Lehmann Memorial Award will be given this year and future years thanks to a most generous anonymous contribution to TWSA.

This award is established in memory of the first Lehmann’s to be born on American soil in the late 1890’s and early 1900’s: Clara Louise, Fredrich Gustav, Margaret Cecelia, and Helen Doloris.

If you would like to contribute to this Memorial Fund, please send your check payable to Transparent Watercolor Society of America, Memo: Lehmann Memorial Award, and send your check to Peg Shea, 14 Thomas Dr., Normal, IL 61761

**Member Workshops**

**Trips and Tours**

Tom Francesconi, TWSA, NWS,NWWS francesconi@juno.com April 3-7, 2006, Dare County Arts Council, Manteo, NC; contact: Peggy Saporito (252) 449-8389

July 10-13, 2006, L’Atelier, Janesville, WI; contact: Marilyn Keating (608) 754-3358

August 14-18, 2006, Dillman’s Creative Arts Foundation, Lac du Flambeau, WI; contact: Dennis or Sue Robertson (715) 588-3143

**2006 Francese Watercolor Workshops**

• 527 Belford Avenue
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501
970-245-5278 • ffrancese@mesa.net

•March: Art Center Sarasota, March 6-10, 2006: landscape w/s; Jill Kowal-Hoffman: 707 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, Florida 34326; 941-365-2032


•May: Fairborn Art Association
May 1-5, 2006: landscape w/s; Jane Trane: 8881 Haddix Road,
**TWSA Merchandise**

*If you have questions regarding items offered for sale in Clear Choices or on our web site, you can contact Peg Shea by mail, telephone or e-mail. Information below.*

**Gallery Walk Videos - a Real Treat!!**

2001 Cheng Khee Chee
1997 Tony Van Hasselt

All videos are now priced at **$5**

**25 Tips by the Best of MWS ** **$3**

Add $2 for shipping.

- 2003 MWS Exhibition Catalog **$10**
- The Last MWS Catalog **$5**
- 2001 Anniversary Catalog **$5**

Old catalogs are available to TWSA instructors for the price of shipping.

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Mail Checks with order to: Peg Shea, 14 Thomas St., Normal, IL, 61761, 309.862.3793
Officer & Directors

Nia Pirnat-Dressler, President
president@watercolors.org

Suzanne Hetzel, Vice President/Exhibition Chair
71 Long Grove Rd. • Yorkville, IL 60560
630 88 801 • exhibitionchair@watercolors.org

John Hull, Membership Chair
2638 N. Windsor Dr. Apt. 203 • Arlington Heights, IL 60004
(847) 255-9529 • email: john@hart-to-heart.com

Dee Kurecki, Secretary
secretary@TWSA@msn.com
708 460 4363

Sue Ison, Treasurer
TWSA Workshop Coordinator
carole@watercolorcards.com
847 840 7731

Member Workshops continued

Workshops; September 4-8, 2006 or September 11-15 2006; landscape w/s Andrea Matthijs: coordinator; 119A Dorpsstraat, B 3078 Belgium; Tel. 32 2 757 2997 <andrea.matthijs@tiscali.be>

• October: St Mary’s Art Center October 4-8, 2006; landscape w/s; Mimi Patrick; Executive Director PO Box 396, Virginia City, Nevada 89440, 775-847-7466 <nevpotter@earthlin.net> Foothills Art Center; October 19-22, 2006; landscape w/s Foothills Art Center: 809 15th Street, Golden, Colorado 80401, 303-279-3922

• November: Judy Patti Studio; November 3-5, 2006; landscape w/s; 1449 West Littleton Blvd, Littleton, Colorado 80120; 303-798-1345 Fine Artists Factory; November 13-18, 2006; landscape w/s; Mark Wood: 474 Raymond Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91105; 626-356-0474 <markwood@earthlink.net>

Patricia Abraham, TWSA
Brookings, Oregon—May 23-25, 2006 Contact Audi Stanton (541) 412-7948

Lima, Ohio Watercolor Society—June 13-17, 2006 Contact: Pat Rayman (419) 965-9018 E-mail: art-to-art@bright.net

Orcas Island —San Juan Islands, Washington—Sept. 15-17,2006 Contact: Patricia Abraham T.W.S.A. (916) 773-5533 E-mail: pat@patabraham.com

Joye Moon National and International Workshops


Joye Moon; 4974 Lansing High Point -Oshkosh, WI 54904 920-235-4429; www.joyemoon.com

TWSA

BOX #111 • 738 E. Dundee Road
Palatine, Illinois 60074

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