As we step into this new chapter of our Society’s life, I ask each of you to be ambassadors for our Transparent Watercolor Society of America

who all are equally committed to fostering transparent watercolor. It is my intention to refine Board responsibilities so participation is a pleasure and not a burden. Guiding the Society is a team effort and I have the best team. There is, however, always room for new participants.

I would like to introduce the two newest members of our Board. Dan Simoneau, with extensive computer knowledge, has taken over as membership chair. Our former membership chair, Nia Pirnat-Dressler has moved up to take over the duties of VP/Exhibition Chair. Catherine Nash is welcomed as our new Historian. I appreciate the enthusiasm that these people have for their new positions.

Change not only means saying hello but goodbye, too. It is with regret that we have lost one of our most prominent members, Zoltan Szabo. The Society recognizes not only his enormous contribution to the world of transparent watercolor but also for his guidance in the early days of our Society. Please reflect on the tribute that was written by Vivian Chevallion in this newsletter. Deepest sympathies go to the family of Zoltan Szabo.

Our 27th Annual Exhibit was another huge success. It was a pleasure to work with Tom Lidtke, Director of the West Bend Art Museum and also with Assistant Director, Graeme Reid and the entire West Bend Museum Staff. They were more than accommodating in all aspects of the 27th Celebration from providing a wonderful workshop space, to coordinating the exhibit, to hosting a wonderful and delicious reception. Thank you West Bend Art Museum. It was a privilege to have our exhibit there.

The Society also expresses its special gratitude to John Salminen who did an outstanding job as juror, judge and workshop instructor. His teaching techniques exposed new perspectives for each student and the results were amazing. The gallery walk was insightful to all who would wish to grow in their art. Thank you, John!

As we step into this new chapter of our Society’s life, I ask each of you to be ambassadors for our Transparent Watercolor Society of America. The immediate use and explanation of our new name by each of you will expedite the transition to TWSA. I thank each of you for your help.

Yours in transparent watercolor,
Vicki L. Morley
President
MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Nia Pirnat-Dressler

About... NIA

Nia Pirnat-Dressler, previously membership chair, Midwest Watercolor Society has stepped up to the position of Vice President of the same organization, newly named Transparent Watercolor Society of America.

Nia has always been an artist, having trained since childhood, beginning at Junior School of the Chicago Art Institute. With a BFA in painting from the University of Illinois in Champaign, IL. She worked as a Commercial Artist and a Photographer’s Stylist. She completed a year of graduate study in Ceramics, and while there studied Watercolor. She continued her career in Commercial Art and Graphic Design for various entities. After marriage to an Illinois Hartland grain farmer, she returned seriously to Fine Art. Nia has attended workshops with many nationally known watercolorists. And she also has a Custom Watercolor Painting business. Her work has appeared in a large number Illinois exhibits. BroMenn Medical Center featured her solo show in Spring 2002. She also is artist-in-residence at The Freight House Gallery in El Paso, IL., where she has taught workshops. Her most recent workshops have been with the Illinois Art League and Bloomington/Normal Parks and Rec.

Summer Reflections 2003

Tonight I suddenly realized that though my time doing Membership has drawn to a close, the transition is over and that means writing my first newsletter article as your new Vice President and Exhibition Chair! I wanted to thank you for giving me this opportunity and I consider it a great honor. I will do my best to serve you and continue the process of striving for excellence during the coming term.

Hopefully the summer weather was as beautiful for you as it has been here! As this joyful season turns into fall and a return to more regular routines, we may tuck away some sweet memories of vacation and relaxation for the winter to come.

Among those memories for TWSA lies the most exciting of the year, the success of another exciting exhibition! The West Bend Art Museum, provided just the backdrop with a simple elegance to enhance the variety, beauty, power and humor expressed in its many paintings. For those of you who were able to see the exhibit, you know for yourself. Fortunately for all of us, we will enjoy the visual feast of this exhibit in our coming catalogue. The enjoyment was much enhanced by the Gallery walk on Saturday with John Salminen’s comments inviting the viewers to a deeper examination of each painting, and to a deeper appreciation.

Contrary to it’s name, (which conjures up images of mucking around in soggy, dark peat) the Bog was a beautiful and delightful banquet location with many windows overlooking a well groomed golf course and providing a delicious, well-served meal. The conversation buzzed at each table, rich with conversations of painting, the workshop, and a variety of shared experiences punctuated with good humor. We appreciated the past years of MWS, applauded the recognition of national status and celebrated the incorporation of our new name. The group assembled was generous in number and hopefully will grow in the coming years with more members attending the banquet to network with other artists. In addition to celebrating the award winners, the annual meeting is a part of the festivities and all members are welcome to join in the banquet as well.

As we move forward in our desire for excellence in transparent watercolor, we can look toward a return to Elmhurst Art Museum in 2004 and, oh, ... time to get back to painting!

Best Wishes from your Vice President,
Nia Pirnat-Dressler

Watch for TWSA feature in International Artist in a future issue. Watercolor Magic will also feature TWSA in their Fall Issue.
Membership Overview

Dan Simoneau

Upon transforming from the Midwest Watercolor Society to the Transparent Watercolor Society of America, I decided to analyze our membership to see how national we are. I was thrilled to discover that we are not only truly national but that we are international. We have members from 42 states and 4 Canadian provinces! The only states where we don’t have members are Mississippi, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Delaware, Alaska and Hawaii. I also initially thought our membership concentration would definitely show strong emphasis on the Midwestern states but was pleased to see that we have a strong presence in California, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania and Texas. I also discovered that, since 1999, our membership has grown by over 100 members a year each year! We now have over 1,000 active members in our organization.

As membership chair, one of my goals is to have active members in all 50 states so I have a challenge for you. Because we have such a fantastic, active membership base throughout the country, I ask you to network with your fellow artists and encourage artists in the states listed above where we have no members to join our fine organization.
Held amidst the marvelous paintings of the MWS 2003 Transparent Watercolor Exhibition and the breathtaking Carl von Marr Collection in the gorgeous surroundings of the West Bend Art Museum, our MWS 2003 Workshop was destined to be a fabulous one. Add a studio filled with extremely talented artists who were ready to challenge and rethink their own art under the masterful direction of our award winning painter and instructor, John Salminen, MMWS, AWS, AWS Dolphin Fellow. New approaches, stretching of the imagination and wonderful critiques flavored the week with excitement. A delightful lunch and painting afternoon on location in Port Washington added to the incredibly heightened spirit and enthusiasm of everyone. Encouraged by such intense and eager students, our instructor came back in the evenings to encourage painters and heighten confidence in new processes and discoveries. Some students expressed that this workshop will be pivotal to their own work in the future. As the week progressed, the studio was transformed into an art gallery with many show-stopping paintings developed during the week. This was one MWS Watercolor Workshop everyone will remember!

Carole A. Burval, TWSA. WHS

Photos courtesy of Kaaren Oreck, Catherine Nash, Carole Burval and Mary Merz
The Bog

Raffle for Table Centerpieces
MEMBER NEWS
Awards and Publications

• Beverly Leesman had a watercolor of Indian corn, “The Fabric of Fall,” accepted at The Salmagundi Club’s 26th Annual Non-members Juried Exhibition, held at the Salmagundi Club, New York, NY. Two watercolors were accepted at the New Mexico Watercolor Society’s Spring Exhibition, and another two watercolors juried into the 2003 Master Works of New Mexico. Both shows were held at the Hispanic Arts Center, New Mexico State Fairgrounds in Albuquerque, NM. Her biography will be included in the 25th Edition of Who’s Who in American Art. She also finished an elaborate commissioned mural of dinosaurs set in a Jurassic period landscape. Bev was also visiting artist at a Taos gallery in June.

• Evelyn Ecale Schultz, TWSA, won Third Place in the 2003 Fra Angelica Sacred Art Exhibition, Gallery 37, Chicago, and her painting was purchased for their permanent collection. She was invited to participate in the Summer Professional Art Exhibition in Springfield, IL as a past award recipient and is one of the artists from the Illinois Artisans’ Program to exhibit at the Thompson Center, Chicago in a special summer exhibition. Evelyn was also awarded First Place/Painting in the 7th Annual Art Fair, “Art in the Park” at the Elmhurst Art Museum.

• Grace Haverty had a painting accepted into the Midwest Watercolor Society 27th Annual National Exhibition 2003, West Bend, Wisconsin, Hudson Valley Art Association, Inc. 72nd Annual Exhibition, Hudson Valley, New York, Northwest Watercolor Society 63rd Annual Open Exhibition, Seattle Washington, The Pastel Society of America Show at the Butler Institute of American Art, Cincinnati, Ohio and received a Merit Award at the Arizona Watercolor Association Spring Exhibit.

• Laurie Humble has been juried into the following exhibitions: Watercolor U.S.A. at the Springfield Art Museum in Missouri, The Challenge of Champions Exhibition in Houston, the Georgia Watercolor Society 24th National Exhibition at the Quinan Arts Center in Gainesville, and the Pikes Peak Watercolor Society’s International Watermedia XIII at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. She received an Honorable Mention in the Texas Watercolor Society National Exhibition and has been included in the traveling show.

• Lorraine Placek was juried into the Watercolor Society of Alabama’s 62nd National Exhibition; the Georgia Watercolor Society’s 2003 National Exhibition and into “Not Just Another Pretty Face,” Bloomingdale Art Museum, Illinois. She was also accepted into “The Art Around Us, Barrington Area Arts Council, Illinois; the International Society of Experimental Artists Exhibition, 2003; “Gross Innovations Exhibits,” Wales; the 2003 DuPage Theatre Visual & Performing Arts Coalition/National University of Health Sciences Art Show; the “Later Impressions 2003: Renaissance Court Cultural Center, Chicago; She won a Special Award at the DuPage Art League, Wheaton, IL.

• Lynne K. Railsback has had two watercolors selected by Hunt Institute for Botanical Illustration, Carnegie Mellon University’s 11th International Exhibition.

• Margaret Graham Kranking, TWSA, participated in a one-person gala opening exhibition at the Black Rock Center For the Arts, Germantown, Maryland. She curated “New Views of the American West,” Secretary Tommy Thompson’s Executive Suite, Health and Human Services, Washington, DC. She served as Judge of Awards for the Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, DC’s 69th Annual International Exhibition, Strathmore Hall, N. Bethesda, MD; and as Judge and Juror of Awards for the Regional Juried Art Exhibition, Mechanicsburg Art Center School and Galleries, Mechanicsburg, PA. She also achieved signature membership in the Missouri Watercolor Society. Margaret was juried into the Baltimore Watercolor Society’s Mid-Atlantic Regional April/May 2003; the Southern Watercolor Society’s 26th Annual Exhibition, St. Louis Artist’s Guild, Clayton, MO; Watercolor Art Society, Houston’s 26th International Exhibition, Houston, TX; Missouri Watercolor Society’s National III Exhibition, Winston Churchill Memorial, Fulton, MO.

• The summer issue of Watercolor Magazine will include an article titled “Finding Rhythm in Structure,” featuring the work of member Lisa Iagulli Geren.

• Kris Parins has been selected as Artist-In-Residence at Harper’s Ferry National Historic Park for a month. Her work has been juried into the national exhibition “Barns & Farms” sponsored by Barnsite Art Studio & Gallery in Kewaunee, WI, in conjunction with the Smithsonian Museum’s “Year of the Barn.” Currently she is working on illustrating two children’s books for Raven Tree Press.

• Guy Lipscomb, TWSA, reports that he was accepted into these shows: Society of Watercolor Artist, International Show, Fort Worth, TX; California Watercolor Association, National Exhibition; Watercolor Society of Alabama National Exhibition; Georgia Watercolor Society National Exhibition; Louisiana Watercolor Society International Exhibition, and the Southern Watercolor Society Annual Exhibition.

• Betty R. Drapalik, TWSA, will be in the Greenbelt Cultural Center Exhibition in North Chicago, IL.

• Carole Burval, TWSA, has received an Invitation into the Watercolor USA Honor Society (WHS) for her moody landscape painting, “Storm Clouds”. This painting received the Golden Artist Colors Award and a Patron Purchase Award at the Watercolor U.S.A. 2003 National Exhibition. A painting has been selected for the Rhode Island Watercolor Society National Watermedia Competition. Another painting has been chosen for “Aqueous Open 2003”, the 57th Annual International Exhibition sponsored by the Pittsburgh Watercolor Society.”

• Joye Moon reports that she had paintings exhibited at the “Expres-
**Member News** continued

Joye won top “Award of Excellence,” National Watercolor Society 83rd. Annual Exhibit in San Pedro, California. It will also be featured in “Splash 8” by North Light Books; and at the Watercolor Wisconsin Annual Exhibit in Racine, Wisconsin. She received Best of Show Award and First Place in Watercolor at the Oshkosh Public Museum Show, and First Place in Watercolor at the Winnebagoland Annual Art Exhibit, also in Oshkosh.

-Ted Lawson, a MWS associate member since 2000, was accepted into the 2003 Ohio Watercolor Society 26th Annual Exhibition, Watercolor Ohio. Ted’s painting will be on display at the OWS exhibit in the Zanesville Art Center, Zanesville Ohio. He was also accepted into the 2003 Midwest Watercolor Society 27th Annual National Exhibition at the West Bend Art Museum. Ted’s painting, “Well at La Cienega II,” received the Lakes Region Watercolor Guild Award. This is Ted’s first acceptance into MWS competition.

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**25 Tips by the Best of MWS**

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A full color booklet with painting tips from some of the best MWS artists has been published to commemorate the MWS 25th Anniversary.

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**Gallery Walk Videos**

- Feature all paintings chosen for the show, narrated by the show juror. Hear unique insights into the juror’s thinking and selection process.

- **2001 Cheng-Khee Chee video** — $25.00
- **2000 Gerald F. Brommer video** — $20.00
- **1999 Joseph Bohler video** — $18.00
- **1998 Stephen Quiller video** — $18.00
- **1997 Tony Van Hasselt video** — $15.00

**Reduced prices on older videos**

- **2002 MWS Show Catalog** — $10.00
- **2001 Anniversary Show Catalog** — $10.00
- **2000 MWS Show Catalog** — $8.00
- **1999 MWS Show Catalog** — $5.00
- **1998 MWS Show Catalog** — $5.00

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**The Last MWS Catalog!**

**2003 MWS Show Catalog**

- $12.00

These Catalogs are still available

- **2002 MWS Show Catalog** — $10.00
- **2001 Anniversary Show Catalog** — $10.00
- **2000 MWS Show Catalog** — $8.00
- **1999 MWS Show Catalog** — $5.00
- **1998 MWS Show Catalog** — $5.00

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**MWS Membership Pin**

- **1999 MWS Exhibition Computer Screen Saver for PC or MAC** — $12.00

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**TWSA Special Promotions**

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Please mail checks with order to:

The TRANSPARENT WATERCOLOR SOCIETY OF AMERICA
Box 253
126 E. Wing St.
Arlington Heights, IL 60004-6064
IN MEMORIAM  ZOLTAN SZABO

MWS has lost its first dues paying member, part of the original organizing group, the designer of the MWS logo, and one of the country’s most popular demonstrators and teachers. Zoltan Szabo died of spinal cancer, May 30th. Born in Hungary, he emigrated to Canada.

Nora Stevens, our founder, attended one of his Canadian workshops and immediately booked Zoltan for her Grand Rapids watercolor workshops. He enthusiastically joined the organizing roup, but resigned at our 4th Annual when he insisted one painting be disqualified because it contained Cerulean Blue and the committee disagreed.

Zoltan knew more about the individual properties of each pigment and brand than anyone else teaching. That knowledge was a basic part of his workshops and his many instruction books. He shared his secrets and trick with everyone. Helga Flower, our first membership secretary, managed his bookings and mail orders for ten years.

He moved to Arizona, and received the ultimate commission to do a limited edition super coffee table volume, with two watercolors of each state, and one original painting in each volume. Partly finished, the wealthy promoter went bankrupt and everything became the property of the creditors, and Zoltan lost his work, his time and received nothing.

Divorced from his wife Linda, he moved to Mathews, North Carolina where he continued painting, writing, teaching workshops and producing videos. He requested his ashes be scattered at his beloved Sault Ste. Marie. He was 76 years old.

2004 TWSA
TRANSPARENT WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP WITH MEL STABIN, NWS, AWS

Hopefully you were able to view the superb figure painting by Mel Stabin, NWS during the MWS Transparent Watercolor Exhibition at the lovely West Bend Art Museum this summer. His many award-winning paintings are filled with loose, lush passages handled with extreme skill and confidence. His work exquisitely reflects his mastery of transparent watercolor.

The Transparent Watercolor Society of America is especially honored that this fine artist and instructor has agreed to be our instructor for the 2004 Transparent Watercolor Workshop in coordination with our 28th Annual Transparent Watercolor Show at the Elmhurst Art Museum in Elmhurst, Illinois. Mark your calendars now for our 2004 TWSA Workshop Week, July 12-16th, 2004! Specific information and application forms will be included in the next MWS newsletter!

Many of you have already expressed interest in the 2004 workshop. Please be advised that, in complete fairness to all of our TWSA members, early sign-up is not available. The workshop sign-up will be handled in the usual manner. If necessary, we will adhere to the guidelines previously established for a TWSA workshop lottery system. Optional auditing (daily demos only) of the workshop may also be offered to accommodate for the overflow of interested participants.

Carole A Burval, TWSA
TWSA Workshop Coordinator

MEMBER WORKSHOPS  TRIPS AND TOURS

Margaret Graham Kranking will be teaching a Plein Air workshop in Elkins, WV, September 22-26, 2003. Contact Don Hall, Potomac Highlands Art Workshops, 304-636-1279.