



President's Message

Dear PWCS Members,

While the name of our organization is the Philadelphia Water Color Society, it is a slight misnomer. Are you aware that pastel, charcoal, graphite, colored pencil, gouache, acrylic, hand pulled prints and collage are all accepted mediums

as are combinations of these approved media as long as they are works on paper? Perhaps it's time for some of us to branch out and try something new.

Toward this end, PWCS is sponsoring a contest to showcase members' work using different media. Submitted pieces will be used as a temporary banner on the PWCS website and Facebook page. While not a traditional "prize" it is public recognition of your important role as a member of our prestigious organization. Try something new, go wild and, above all, have some fun!!

The contest begins immediately and ends on June 1. Email your entries in jpeg format, dimensions 1920 x 563 at 72 dpi, to pwcsociety@gmail.com with the following subject line: Contest / artwork title / artist name. Enter as many times as you like!

Now for a few friendly reminders of the many exciting upcoming PWCS events. For additional details, prospectuses, etc., please visit our website: www.pwcsociety.org

Members Show at The Hill School in Pottstown that includes a product demo of Mission Gold watercolors and a gallery talk by Kass Morin Freeman.

117th International Anniversary Exhibition of Works on Paper is now open for entries.

An April 6th docent led tour of the exhibition "American Watercolor in the time of Homer and Sargent" at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. This will be followed by a paint out on the museum grounds.

Signature members, save the date August 17- 20, 2017 for a Plein air event sponsored by the Philadelphia Water Color Society, the Brandywine River Museum and the Chadds Ford Gallery. Registration for this limited availability event is available online.

All members are invited to participate in several paint out days at the Historic Sugartown property in Malvern. Registration is available online.

The PWCS Board has embraced an ambitious schedule for 2017 and we welcome your volunteer help. To join the fun please email pwcsociety@gmail.com.

Happy Painting,

Deena S. Ball
President
Philadelphia Water Color Society

CORRECTION



Kass Morin Freeman talk is on
Sunday, April 9th 2-3 pm

REMEMBER



DUES for 2017-2018 must be paid up when entering the International Show in order to receive membership pricing. Incorrect payment at the time of application will result in a rejection from the show. ** Hence you must be a member during the duration of the show.

American Watercolor in the Age of Homer and Sargent

By Deena S. Ball

The Exhibition “American Watercolor in the Age of Homer and Sargent” presented by Curator Karen A. Foster and the Philadelphia Museum of Art is not to be missed by anyone working in watermedia today. Between 1860 and 1925 the United States claimed watercolor as a uniquely American media which led to the founding of the American Watercolor Society in 1866 and the Philadelphia Water Color Club (now the Philadelphia Water Color Society) in 1900. The founding of these societies with their respective missions to promote watercolor helped to legitimize and popularize the medium across the U.S.



During my visit to the exhibition, I was impressed by the variety of approaches including watercolor combined with graphite and charcoal, watercolor on toned paper, and watercolor with gold opaque paint. Many of the paintings were larger than I expected and framed to appear as oils. There was also a room set up to resemble some of the early watercolor exhibitions when societies added potted plants and furniture in order to help potential buyers envision how a painting might look in their own homes. The exhibition is the most comprehensive showcase of American watercolors mounted in the last forty years and it is only on display at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

As a member of the Philadelphia Water Color Society you have the unique opportunity to participate in a docent led tour of the exhibition on April 6, 2017, followed by a Plein air event on the grounds of the museum and the Waterworks. Please consider joining us for an inspiring morning and a creative afternoon as we literally follow in the footsteps of generations of artists who've come before us. Event registration is available on the PWCS website: www.pwcsociety.org.

PWCS has a Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/PhiladelphiaWaterColorSociety/>



Please follow us on Facebook! If there is breaking news please contact Lena Thynell, Facebook manager, and she will review it and consider posting. Advertisements will not be accepted. lthynell@comcast.net



MARK YOUR CALENDARS UPCOMING EVENTS

Historic Sugartown Painting and Show Opportunity

The Philadelphia Water Color Society and Historic Sugartown, (Malvern, PA), are partnering to bring you a Plein air painting and show/sale opportunity. This is a great event for those new to Plein air painting because Sugartown is a quiet location and there are days when there will be PWCS members present to answer questions and help you get comfortable with the challenges and rewards of working in Plein air!



On Thursday, May 25, Saturday, June 10, and Saturday, June 24th, there will be experienced Plein air painters available to provide guidance and assistance as needed, and the following dates are also available: June 9, June 23 and July 27- 29 but without proctoring. Historic Sugartown offers plenty of shade and easy access to water and restrooms.

Participating artists are invited to submit up to six framed paintings with at least one Plein air piece completed at Historic Sugartown for an exhibition hosted by Historic Sugartown that opens on July 1, 2017, and runs through October 1, 2017. Additional details and registration information is available in the events area of the PWCS website: www.pwcsociety.org

DON'T MISS the *ANDY EVANSEN WORKSHOP*, Sept 7-9, 2017

Andy Evansen Workshop is just around the corner. If you are interested there is limited space. Sign up is located on the website at <http://pwcsociety.org/event-2437601>. Cost is \$400/450 member/non member.



ON LOCATION: *Artists at Brandywine*

The Philadelphia Water Color Society has entered into a unique partnership with the Brandywine River Museum and Chadds Ford Gallery to continue PWCS' rich tradition of painting the landscape en Plein air by making available the Brandywine River Museum grounds as well as Kuerner Farm, N. C. Wyeth's studio and the Andrew Wyeth's studio properties to our signature members as part of the 100th Birthday Celebration of Andrew Wyeth. This very special event will take place August 18-20, 2017. During the event, the museum will sell "On Location" passes to visitors so that they can visit all of these historic properties and see artists at work. Paintings completed during the event will be available for sale during an exhibition hosted by the Chadds Ford Gallery from August 25 through September 24, 2017, including an awards reception on August 25 from 5 - 8 pm. Everyone is encouraged to come out and support PWCS and to see what will be an amazing Retrospective of Andrew Wyeth's work at the Brandywine River Museum. If you are a signature member of PWCS you are cordially invited to register for this very special event on the PWCS website: www.pwcsociety.org



The 117th Annual Exhibition of Works on Paper is now open for submissions.

Meet the juror of selection: Mary Todd Beam

Mary Todd Beam will be our Juror of Selection for the 117th Annual Exhibition of Works on Paper. She is a painter, popular workshop instructor, juror, and lecturer. She is an elected member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society and the Ohio Watercolor Society among others. She has been juror for many local, state and national exhibits such as the National Watercolor Society's Annual Exhibition and the Rocky Mountain Annual Exhibit. Mary's work has won numerous awards such as the Gold Medal from the American Watercolor Society, the Experimental Award in the National Watercolor Society's Annual Exhibition, the Ohio Watercolor Society's Silver and Bronze



medals, the Top Juror's Award in the San Diego Watercolor Society's Annual Exhibit and her work was chosen for the National Academy of Design's Biennial in New York City. For additional information on Mary and her work please visit her website: www.marytbeam.com



SOMETHING NEW

Explorations in process and mediums for works on paper

Why Colored Pencil? by Vickie Dorsam

Whether it's the turn of a cheek or a vase, making smooth transitions in colored pencil is often quite wonderful and meditative. They can be used, as I do, to create those smooth transitions or to create abstraction or landscape. Watercolor is wonderful, mysterious, and sometimes frustrating. Colored pencil is the opposite: lots of control, little clean-up, picked up at a moment's notice, and they don't dry out between sessions. You've probably heard all that and perhaps I can give you some guidance and ideas that might lead you to give them a try.

Let's begin with papers. I usually use the back of Canson Mi-Tientes paper. As I often don't include much background; their "Ivy" is a great ground for skin tones. Dura Lar paper is heavenly to use because it allows you to change its looks by putting any background, solid color or otherwise, behind the translucent support. Hot press w/c paper is also great to work on, especially bright whites. I've tested Multimedia Art Board, Bainbridge board, matboard, illustration board, directly and over watercolor, gesso, gouache and acrylic gouache (*Jo Sonja*) and pastel. All these have a unique look.

Recently I read an article in *The Artist Magazine* (April 2016) about Arlene Steinberg who works on a heated Icarus Art drawing board (invented by Esther Roi who has a YouTube video) for her backgrounds. I haven't tried that yet but have tried using Caran d'Arche Neocolor II water-soluble crayons. Having always called them "watercolor crayons" I was amazed to find that they are water-soluble oil pastels and they can be used dry over (but not under) waxed based colored pencils in terrific ways. Just a note, watercolor crayons, such as those by Cheap Joe's, are not compatible.

Some users "burnish" their colors to make their works look like oil paintings and to create very deep darks. This can cause "wax bloom" which can be prevented by using fixative spray, after light buffing. These sprays will not change the colors of the pencil. Because I don't work too heavily except with whites, which I often put in early in a painting to protect them, I don't usually have that problem. Occasionally I've used matte spray on a problem area that's been overworked. There are also blenders, such as Primacolor's Colorless Blender and other brands, for burnishing or you can use a tortillon to blend "gently." Take care not to incise the support as these marks may show on the finished piece. However, sometimes an interesting effect is the result.

Keeping a good point is important. When I started using them, having been trained by my old friend and mentor, Phil Blank, I sharpened the pencils with a blade—economical but extraordinarily time consuming. An electric sharpener is essential. I sometimes use sandpaper or a sanding pad to sharpen just the points. To protect the work from smearing I put an unwanted photo, shiny side down, under my drawing hand.

You may have read that colored pencil can't be "corrected" but you've read that about watercolor and we all know that's not necessarily true. I use erasers all the time and sometimes a razor. However, be most careful on black papers as these papers tend to be more fragile than others. My usual method is to create a very precise drawing on tracing paper and then transfer that to a light support using graphite paper, on darks I use White Saral (chalk). I start slowly, creating light layers, usually using a circular motion. Prismacolor sticks, available in several colors, cover large areas. I test color combinations on a spare piece of the same paper I'm working on. Like watercolor, the result is dependent on the order in which the colors are laid and like watercolor, too many colors can get muddy when using light valued supports. To help get the color you are seeking Prismacolor has created a Lightfast Color Chart, available on line, for all their colors. I use only I, II and III rated colors. I hope these suggestions are useful. —enjoy!

-Vickie Dorsam (award winning artist and PWCS signature member)





Inspiration from Collage by Diane Cannon

I love design. Enhancing a painting that needs a push or a value change, playing with shapes to reach a desirable pattern, and allowing my intuition to determine what comes next are several reasons why I am hooked on collage.



For "therapy" I paint a variety of papers with transparent or opaque paints. I favor the Japanese rice papers for their textures. For paint, liquid acrylics offer a wide range of viscosities from which to experiment. Then I get to play with color, value, and texture by tearing paper into natural and organic shapes.

Most of the time I prefer using matte medium to adhere my collaged pieces. I usually work on 300-pound watercolor paper with watercolor as my background. However, I also enjoy using mat board, gesso board, and canvas as my surface. Gel medium is desirable for heavier papers and I often use Golden's GAC-200 for weighty items. Pumice gel can be applied to make interesting textures. There are times, depending of the subject, that gloss medium is most appropriate.

In several hours, I may have 95% of a piece completed. However, it may be more than a month of occasional glances before I find that I still need a dark or light value to bring me the satisfaction that the work is complete. Perhaps a tiny spark of a dark shape will lead the eye just where I want it to go. And using collage may provide the answer.

Diane Cannon's work has appeared in several editions of the publication SPLASH and in Acrylic Works: The Best of Acrylic Painting. She is a signature member of PWCS, PWS and BWS. For more about Diane please go to www.dianecannonart.com



art

www.chestercountyarts.org

BRADFORD AVENUE GALLERIES
100 N. BRADFORD AVENUE
WEST CHESTER, PA 19382
HOURS: M-SAT 10AM-5PM

EXTON SQUARE STUDIO GALLERY
EXTON MALL, NEAR BOSCOV'S
EXTON, PA 19342
HOURS: W-SAT 11AM-5PM

PWCS is now open to newsletter sponsorship. If you are interested in advertising please contact Lynn Millar at advertising@pwcsociety.org for more information.



Mark your calendars now for September 27, 2017 at the Community Arts Center!

The gallery talk for the 117th International Anniversary Exhibition will take place at 5:30 pm followed by the annual membership meeting. The meeting will include a light supper, social hour and artist round table.



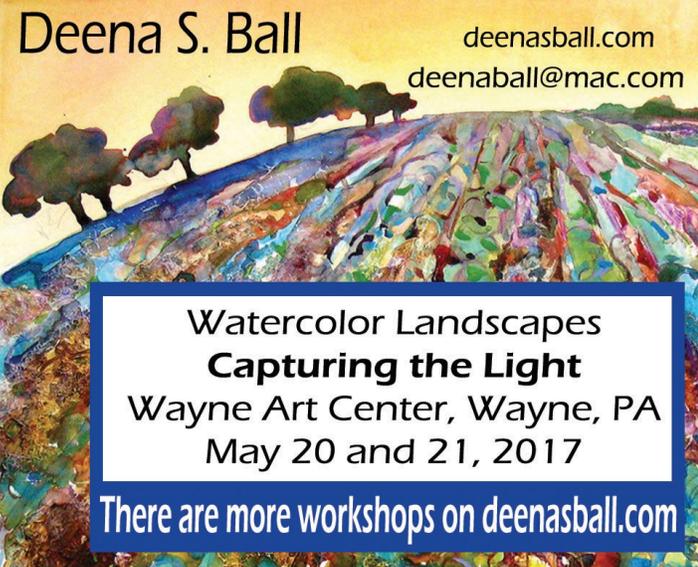
TREASURER NEEDED!

PWCS needs a treasurer. This is a prestigious board position.

Contact Deena Ball president@pwsociety.org

Our wonderful membership chair and ex-president, **Siv Spurgeon**, has moved to Florida. We are grateful that she is working with us and managing our membership. Thankfully we are in a virtual world.

Deena S. Ball deenasball.com
deenaball@mac.com



**Watercolor Landscapes
Capturing the Light**
Wayne Art Center, Wayne, PA
May 20 and 21, 2017

There are more workshops on deenasball.com

SEPTEMBER 3 - SEPTEMBER 30
38th OPEN JURIED EXHIBITION

BAA BERKSART ALLIANCE

at GoggleWorks Center for the Arts,
Schmidt Gallery & Gallery 240
Reading, PA

To get a prospectus and to enter go to
<http://www.berksartalliance.com>

WHAT'S HAPPENING ... MEMBERS' NEWS

Deena S. Ball's painting "Cool in 92 Degrees" will be part of the Plein Air Southwest Salon at the Artist Showplace Gallery in Dallas, Texas.

Judy Ballance has a painting at the Ceres Gallery in Chelsea, NYC. The exhibit ran through February 24.

Mick McAndrews is an invited demonstration artist and field painter for the 6th Annual Plein Air Convention and Expo in San Diego April 23-28. He is also an invited workshop leader for the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival in Fairbanks, AK, from July 14-July 28.

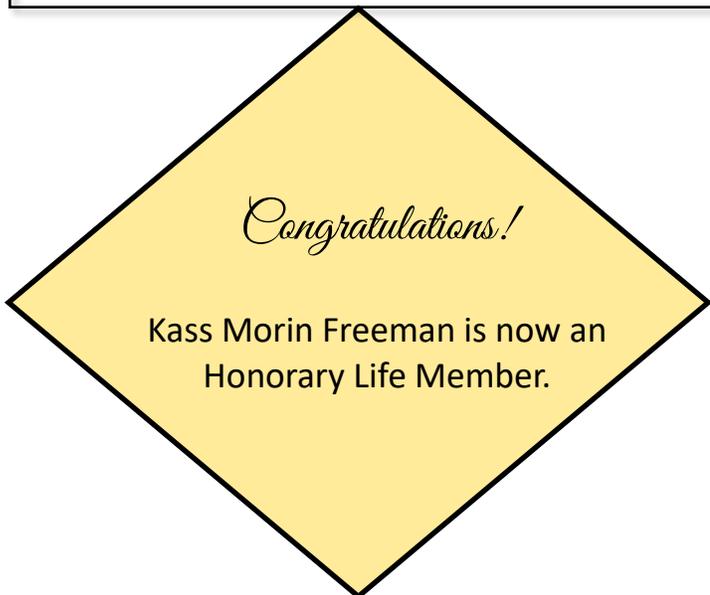
Margo Tassi will show her paintings at Cerulean Arts from March 1-25. The opening reception will be Friday, March 3, 2017 from 5-8pm. Cerulean Arts is located at 1355 Ridge Ave., Philadelphia, PA.



PWCS Signature Member **Lena Thynell's** watercolor painting "Forgotten " was accepted into Northwest Watercolor Society's 77th Annual International Open Exhibition to be held April 25 - June 2, 2017 at the Harbor History Museum, Gig Harbor, WA. The juror was Keiko Tanabe. Her work was also juried into the Finger Lakes 6th Annual Plein Air Competition , June 6 - 7, 2017.

DeEtta Silvestro's painting "Accessorizing 1" received the Ampersand Art Supply Award in the North East Watercolor Society 40th Annual International Exhibition. She also received the Pencil in The River Studio Reproduction Services Award in the Niagara Frontier Watercolor Society 13th National Exhibition for her painting "Jail House Rock."

The next members news deadline is July 15, 2017





Welcome Artists!

DVAL hosts monthly
Artist Demos and Workshops

2nd Friday Artist Demo
3rd Friday Workshop

Non members / guests are welcome

For more information

<http://www.delawarevalleyartleague.com>

 <https://www.facebook.com/DelawareValleyArtLeague>

K e e p i n g U s C u r r e n t

If you have moved recently, changed your name, phone number or email address, please help keeping us current by logging in to the PWCsociety.org website, clicking on your name in the upper left hand corner to get to your Profile page, and updating your personal information.

Thank You !

PWCS is a volunteer organization and has been since its inception. The Board members are listed on the back of each edition of the newsletter but beyond this there are a number of hardworking unsung heroes that are behind the scenes. We would like to say Thank You and shine a spotlight on some of these individuals.

Lynn Millar is our Advertising Manager. Lynn reaches out to organizations and individuals and she does the huge job of coordinating the ads and invoicing for the newsletter. This is a new position and she has jumped in with enthusiasm and expertise. Thanks for your hard work Lynn.

Lena Thynell is our Facebook Account Manager. She is responsible for posting the many events, artists' images and general PWCS information that you see on our Facebook page. Her almost daily posts create a great communications hub for PWCS and its members. Thank you Lena. We would be lost without your dedication.

A very heart felt thank you also goes to PWCS Member Terry Souders for his Co-Chair role in the upcoming 2017 PWCS Members Show at the Boyer Gallery of The Hill School in Pottstown. Terry's experience chairing previous shows with a variety of local art organizations along with his willingness to take on any task with a can-do attitude has been invaluable. Terry is also an outstanding artist whose work most recently was included in last year's PWCS International Exhibition of Works on Paper. Thank you, Terry!

Sincere thanks to our tech-wizard Nick Mohler for his continuing support of the PWCS website. Nick was instrumental in the re-platforming of our new website a few years back which allowed for the on-line handling of so many tasks previously done manually, and he partnered with key PWCS Board members in 2017 to, again, redesign our website taking advantage of current technology advances and making it easier for everyone to use and enjoy our online presence. Thanks, Nick!

And on a final personal note, for many years Siv Spurgeon and Susannah Hart Thomer have been behind the scenes editors of the newsletter, website and catalog. Their keen eyes, exceptional grammatical skills and pension for researching the details have proven invaluable. Thank you so much!

A Big Thank You to all whose past and present contributions have helped to sustain and to grow PWCS.

Announcing NEW email addresses. PWCS now has its own dedicated email addresses.

President	Deena S. Ball	president@pwcsociety.org
Membership	Siv Spurgeon	membership@pwcsociety.org
Treasurer	Dee Casner	treasurer@pwcsociety.org
Webmaster	Anuradha Bhat	webmaster@pwcsociety.org
Historian	Jane McGovern	historian@pwcsociety.org
Newsletter	Madeleine Kelly	newsletter@pwcsociety.org
Advertising	Lynn Miller	advertising@pwcsociety.org
Public Relations	Jeanne Gunther	public_relations@pwcsociety.org
Events	Bruce Poulterer	events@pwcsociety.org

Calendar

Philadelphia Water Color Society

117th International Exhibition of Works on Paper

Final Entry Date: Sunday, May 28, 2017

Email Notification: Wednesday, July 5th, 2017

Shipped Works Due: No later than Thursday, August 31, 2017

Hand Delivery: Tuesday, September 5, 2017, 3:00 - 7:00 pm

Show Opens: Saturday, September 9, 2017

Awards Reception: Sunday, October 15, 2017, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Exhibit Closes: Sunday, October 15, 2017

Hand Pick-Up: Directly after the reception on October 15, 2017 or on October 16, 2017 3:00 - 7:00 pm

Return Shipping Begins: October 16, 2017

Philadelphia Water Color Society Board of Directors

Deena S. Ball, President	610-789-1003
Mick Mc Andrews, Vice President	610-518-6960
Jane McGovern, Vice President	610-565-6943
Donald Leong, Director	484-593-0163
Dee Casner, Treasurer	610-566-0676
Anuradha Bhat, Web Manager	401-751-6665
Wendy McClatchy	610-353-1213
Katherine Lofaro Firpo, Edu. & Outreach	610-667-1033
Siv Spurgeon, Membership	610-662-6234
Madeleine Kelly, Corresponding Secretary News Editor, Catalog	610-662-5626
Jeanne Gunther, Publicity	610-344-0260
Cheryl Schlenker, Recording Secretary	610-891-1840
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The *Half/Sheet* is published in the Fall, Winter, and Spring.

Please email relevant information to Madeleine Kelly at PWCSociety@gmail.com Next Newsletter close is 7/15/17 please put NEWSLETTER in the subject line. Submissions are accepted and/or edited at the discretion of the editor.