



Watercolor Society of Alabama

SPRING 2012 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Greetings fair and faithful members,

This second week in March has been filled with the aroma and beauty of Spring. How blessed we are to be a part of God's earth! Yesterday a blaze of visual beauty thrilled my soul, a Red Bud against a white Flowering Pear against a tall green Pine. How I wished for my paints and brushes at that moment.

Your WSA Board members are excited about and eagerly awaiting the display of 80 wonderful paintings gleaned from an unbelievable array of excellent entries for the 71st National Exhibition. Our selection juror, Steve Rogers, Ormond Beach, FL, had a difficult time deciding on which paintings to choose in order for WSA to present a well balanced, beautiful and interesting show. It thrills our hearts to be able to share the multi talents of our membership with the Birmingham community and our members. We do hope many of you will be able to visit Littlehouse Galleries, situated on Linden in Homewood, Birmingham. You can be sure it will be time well spent. We look forward to seeing you at the opening reception, Sunday, May 6, at 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.. Our awards judge, Joan Blackburn, Pensacola, FL, will present awards during the reception.

As you know, Joan Blackburn will be sharing her talent and expertise in a workshop, scheduled to be held at Forstall Art Center, May 2-4. She is excited about teaching a workshop in Birmingham and has interesting and "fun" projects planned using Golden's fluid acrylics and mediums and Benjamin Moore house paint in a watercolor manner. If you want a memorable and productive experience, plan to join us!

Sincerely,

Tora Johnson
WSA President

OFFICERS 2011-2012

President: Tora Johnson
President Elect: Iain Stewart
1st Vice President: Diane Shepherd
Second Vice President: Heike Covell
Third Vice President: Winnie Cooper
Treasurer: Jaceena Shepard
Recording Secretary: Melinda Mathews
Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Prior
Historian: Peggy Milburn Brown
Parliamentarian: Jaceena Shepard
Directors at Large
Newsletter: Nanette Jones & Heike Covell
Regional Representatives: Diane Shepherd
Website Director: Nanette Jones
Workshop Director - vacant

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Judith F. Aronson - AL
Elise M. Beattie - KY
Al Beyer - SC
Phyllis Boger - TN
Dolly Boyd - MT
James A. Camp - AL
Toska M. Courbron - AL
Eleanor Cox - VA
James T. Davis - TX
Sallie S. Estes - AL
Brenda Beck Fisher - MO
Jacqueline P. Hall - AL
Phyllis J. Henson - AL
Chuck Jones - AL
Patricia Langewis - AR
Martha M. Matherne - AL
Marge McIntyre - FL
Dean Mitchell - FL
Bradford Mix - AL
Warren C. Mullins - AL
Ellen B. O'Kelley - TN
Carol Riddle - MD
Margaret M. Schneider - MO
Kathie N. Stabler - AL
Martha Tisdale - GA
Jay Tysver - AL

WSA members can get a 20% discount on the strongboxes made for shipping artwork from Air Float Systems. The coupon code you will need, whether ordering online or by phone is: WSA Its website is: www.airfloatsys.com The toll free number is 1-800-445-2580

MEMBER NEWS:

Mary Ann Beckwith has had the privilege of being elected to serve as a juror for the 2011 Annual National Watercolor Exhibition, which was held in San Pedro, California. She also recently completed a video, "The Brush and Beyond, Experimental Watermedia Techniques" for Cheap Joe's Art Stuff. The video covers several experimental techniques and ways to be inventive with your work. An exhibit of Beckwith's work "Images Now and Then", 42 paintings were on display until February 2012 at the Rozsa Gallery and Michigan Tech University in Houghton, Michigan where Mary Ann is a Professor.

Ardythe Jolliff's painting entitled "Autumn Blue" has been accepted in the 35th International Exhibition of Watercolor of the Watercolor Art Society of Houston (WAS-H) which runs from 13 March through 20 April in the WAS-H Gallery in Houston, TX. Her painting entitled "Tropical Splendor I" was accepted in the Georgia Watercolor Society's 2012 National Exhibition which will be held in the Clayton Art Center in Jonesboro, GA from 2 April through 26 May 2012. As a member of the Watercolor Honor Society, her painting entitled "Natural Sculptures" will be part of the Watercolor Now 2012 Exhibition at the Springfield Art Museum in Springfield, MO during the period 5 May through 8 June 2012.

OPPORTUNITIES

NWS National Watercolor Society 92nd Annual Exhibition
NWS Gallery, 915 S. Pacific Ave., San Pedro, CA 90731
Opening & Reception: 9/29/12
Deadline: 5/24/12. \$25,000+ in Awards
Jury of Selection: Elaine Daily-Birnbaum, chair; Fran Larsen, Warren Taylor Juror of Awards: Barbara Nechis Prospectus (after 3/24/12)
at www.nationalwatercolorssociety.org or SASE to Penny Hill, 1145 Barham Drive #130, San Marcos, CA 92078

Annual Demos: Barbara Nechis, 8/12/12; Thomas Schaller, 9/30/12

NOTE:

We try to send out by e-mail announcements of upcoming opportunities, so view your Inbox often.

WATERCOLOR SOCIETY OF ALABAMA is proud to sponsor a
WORKSHOP BY JOAN BLACKBURN
MAY 2-4, 2012 --- 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
FORSTALL ART CENTER
402 Palisades Blvd., Homewood
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209

THE WOW FACTOR

In the three-day workshop, Joan Blackburn will be teaching what makes the "Wow Factor" and what judges look for in an exhibition. Fun projects are planned for each day to teach design and composition. She will stress balance, one of the Principles of Design.
Workshop Hours 9:30-3:30 w/1 hr. lunch
Lunch provided by Phillip Forstall
Registration Deadline: April 15, 2012
For a brochure or for questions contact Tora Johnson
toradave@earthlink.net
205-423-0922

**OTHER WORKSHOPS:
NEW! ART IMMERSION
WATERCOLOR WORKSHOPS AND
RETREATS**

Each event starts with Sunday evening cocktails and art reception, hosted by [Galerie Werner](#). It includes 3-nights accommodations at the Mansions on Fifth Hotel, breakfast, lunch, and three full days of group and one-on-one art instruction for all levels. Renew your love of painting, or take your skills to the next level, while immersing yourself in the beautiful surroundings of the newly-restored Mansions.

There are two retreats scheduled for 2012. For pricing and registration information, please e-mail [Mary Del Brady](#) at mdb@mansionsonfifth.com.



**Three-Day Retreat
"Creating Portraits That Tell A Story"
August 6-8, 2012**

Private cocktail and art reception on Sunday evening, August 5
[Mansions on Fifth](#), Pittsburgh, Pa
The workshop is led by watercolor instructor Peggi Habets and will focus on creating expressive, contemporary watercolor portraits that tell a story. To view Peggi's work or to find out more about the workshop, go to [Peggi Habets](#) at www.peggihabet.com.

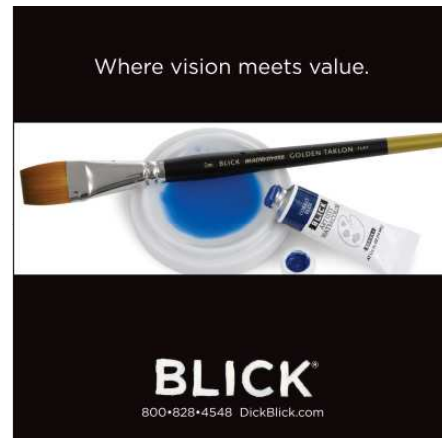


**Four-Day Retreat
"Strong Figurative Works of Art"
October 8 - 11, 2012**

Private cocktail and art reception on Sunday evening, October 7
[Mansions on Fifth](#), Pittsburgh, Pa

The workshop is led by watercolor instructor Jeannie McGuire and will focus on creating paintings of people as works of art versus formal portraits. To view Jeannie's work or to find out more about the workshop, go to [Jeannie McGuire](#) at www.jeanniemcguire.com.

Watercolor Society of Alabama has become an affiliate with Dick Blick Art Materials. When purchasing art supplies, go to www.wsalabama.org/sponsors and click on the Dick Blick banner, which will take you directly to the website where you can shop.



You may recall that WSA had a program with American Frame. They have sent checks to WSA for a total of \$154.56 which amount has been included in the WSA Awards Program for 2012. Thanks to all of you who purchased frames from this great company. WSA appreciates your support.

CHANGE IN ALLIANCE CLUB REWARDS American Frame is now offering a 5% discount directly to our members. They will also be instituting a direct donation program to clubs. Artists who are members WSA will receive the discount by using the code **ALLIANCE12_5%** when they order. They also offer free UPS Ground shipping on orders over \$50.00. We will have to apply each year for our society to get a donation from them.

HISTORIAN

Any articles, photos or other material concerning WSA and its exhibitions or other events should be sent to:

*Peggy M. Brown
3520 McGhee PL CT S
Montgomery, AL 36111-3339
Email: peggybrownart@charter.net*

Dear WSA Member:

WSA appreciates your membership. If you are unsure whether you have renewed for 2012 – and before possibly sending your dues twice – please contact Heike at 256-880-9661 or Email her at stuttgart80@knology.net

The WSA membership year runs January 1st through December 31st. Dues become delinquent after March 31st of the year. The Bylaws require that a member pay his/her dues each year continuously to maintain any points earned toward Signature Membership. Renewing members after April 1st are asked to pay a \$5.00 late fee.

Checks should be made payable to WSA in the amount of \$30.00 and mailed to Membership Chair:

Heike Covell
11012 Willingham Dr.
Huntsville, AL 35803-2073

Please, notify us of any changes in your mailing address, phone, or Email address so that we may be able to contact you if necessary and send important information to you. The majority of WSA correspondence is done via Email these days.

The membership form is available at the WSA website www.wsalabama.org as well as any other information you may need.



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Heike Covell
11012 Willingham Drive
Huntsville, AL 35803-2073

If you have a website and would like a link from your name on the WSA Members page of the WSA website to your own website, send the information to Nanette L. Jones at wsalabama@gmail.com Because of the current privacy law, we do not add links to your website automatically. We do this only upon request.