Over the years, being a part of the Watercolor Society of Alabama has meant a great deal to me. Numerous friendships have been formed, interesting challenges have been experienced and confronted, and each of us has grown in our devotion to WSA. It is with pleasure and humility that I take on the roll of President of the WSA Board of Directors for the next two years.

Fortunately, we have been blessed with the topnotch leadership of Shirley Tucker at the helm of a hard working Board of Directors. With a team comprised of Jaceena Shepard, Heike Covell and Lyn Gill, Shirley Tucker devoted endless hours developing a new WSA web site and a Facebook page, not to mention other responsibilities met with grace and cheerfulness. Jaceena mounted outstanding exhibitions and workshops, no small feat. Heike has kept all membership records up to date, brought in new members and created award certificates. As Treasurer, Charlotte McDavid has worked hard to create a budget format that even I can understand. Recording Secretary Melinda Mathews has kept excellent records, enabling us to follow established direction of the organization. Although Lyn Gill continues in the salaried working world, she will be Director of Publicity, which includes Facebook and the WSA Website. She will look to you for information about activities in your communities.

Walt Costilow, a prolific painter with great organizational skills, will be an excellent President Elect and a big help to each of us as he “learns the ropes” of our organization, especially the Members’ Showcase. It’s exciting to have Diane Shepherd and Julia Pope return to board membership, Diane as Corresponding Secretary and Julia as Historian. Of equal importance will be the work of the two Debs, Deborah Hall, Awards Director, and Deborah Guy assisting her, to raise donations and allocate awards for our National Exhibition. Marsha and Gordon Nelson have assumed the responsibilities of the WSA Newsletter, an all-important job to keep WSA members informed. Finally, we are delighted to welcome Keith Jones, UAH Professor of Art and Graphic Design, as Director of the WSA Online Show.

With the assistance of outstanding leaders, my job won’t be too difficult. Please join me in thanking our board members for all they have done in the past and will be doing in the years ahead. “Each day is better than the last.” Let’s keep that thought in mind during the years ahead as we continue to work toward the best paintings we’ve been inspired to create! We can do it; we can set our goals to participate in each of exhibitions mounted by the Watercolor Society of Alabama.

A great deal has been accomplished during the past few years; there is always more we can do. As we go forth in the years ahead, PLEASE feel free to share any ideas or suggestions. Be an integral part of our Society. Don’t hesitate to call or text me at any time. We are here for you!
2017- 2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Tora Johnson
President Elect (AMS Director)
Walt T. Costilow
1st Vice President (Exhibition Director)
Jaceena Shepard
2nd Vice President (Membership Director)
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Newsletter Editors
Gordon & Marsha Nelson
Online Show Director
Keith Jones
Donations/Awards Director
Deborah Rae Hall

Welcome to Our New Members

Margee Bright-Ragland - AL
Eugenia Johnston - AL
Pat McDonald – AL
Gordon Nelson - AL
Valerie L. White - AL
David Williams - AL
WATERCOLOR SOCIETY OF ALABAMA

77th NATIONAL ANNUAL EXHIBITION

May 20 - Jul 20, 2018

Our 2018 Annual National Exhibition will be hosted by the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art at Auburn University in Alabama. Look for the prospectus and call for entries in November 2017.

Visit their website at www.jcsm.auburn.edu to find out more about this accredited university art museum.

NEW ENTRY PROCESS

We are excited to announce a new online entry form for this exhibition! You will be able to enter your information, upload images, and pay from one online form. There will be validations to make sure the images are the right size and that all information is entered. You will be able to join or renew membership, if required, during the entry process. We are preparing a tutorial to walk you through the process.

You will also be able to use your mobile device to enter our shows. We hope everyone will take advantage of this new online entry process and enter the 77th National Exhibition at Auburn University.
The WSA Fall Workshop was held at the Burleson Center, Hartselle, AL on Sep 7-9, 2017. Marie Cummings of New York conducted the workshop in abstract design and techniques. It was a full house and all really enjoyed being there. I can only applaud the exceptional talents of this fantastic instructor who shared her knowledge so graciously. Her techniques produced amazing results and everyone had fun. Thanks to all attendees and to Marie for such a great workshop.

The Spring Workshop will be held at the Jan Dempsey Fine Art Center in Auburn, AL. Mr. Vladislav Yeliseyev of Sarasota, Florida will be teaching. A renowned watercolor and plein air artist, his paintings are in personal and commercial collections worldwide. “I am a constant student of my craft,” he admits. His work is often praised for his unique ability to reflect light in his paintings, and for crisp, well-edited calligraphy. To achieve this affect, Vladislav (Vlad) prefers to use rough watercolor paper and a combination of brush techniques. The challenge with watercolor,” Vlad explains, “is to achieve richness in color and not to lose the transparency. I use a palette of warm colors a lot, like ochre and burnt umber. I now just use 15 colors in my palette.” You can view his art at www.yeliseyevfineart.com. Watch for the WSA Workshop Brochure to apply. Please join us.” — Jaceena Shepard
The Opening Reception celebration for this beautiful collection of watercolor paintings was held September 10th at the historical landmark Burleson Center in Hartselle, Alabama. The reception garnered many compliments, the floral arrangements were magnificent and the food was excellent. Thank you to all volunteers who helped in providing a warm welcome to guests, artists and families.

Each year it seems that our Alabama artists surpass prior competitions with their wonderful works of art. It was a pleasure to walk through this exhibition with viewers, to observe their reactions, and to hear their comments about each piece. 

Awards Juror, Valerie L. White, did a great job of selecting the winning paintings. Many of us learned much as she expertly explained the reasoning behind her choices.

Visit the WSA Website to see a slide show of the award winners and view the entire exhibition at watercolorsocietyofal.org

Please try to make time to view the Showcase in person. The Burleson Center hours are Monday - Thursday from 10am - 2pm. If you would like to view the exhibition when the Center is closed, please call me, Shirley Tucker at 256-773-8353, or email sjtuck41@att.net

REMINDER FOR AMS EXHIBITING ARTISTS

Oct 14: AMS Paintings to be picked up (10 am - 2 pm) at the Burleson Center, 307 College St. NE

Oct 16: AMS Paintings packaged for shipping

NOTE: Paintings must be checked out by a WSA Representative
Congratulations to our Award Winners!

Study In Whites #1
WILLIAM C. MORRIS
WSA Award of Excellence

Three's A Crowd
DEBORAH GUY
WSA Merit Award

Red Umbrella
PAULETTE B. PARKS
WSA Board of Directors’ Award

Serenity Found
K. M. MCWHORTER
Peggy Milburn Brown Memorial Award

Movin’ On The Congo Line
MELINDA M. MATHEWS
WSA Achievement Award

Memories
SHIRLEY J. TUCKER
WSA Achievement Award

Cabin On Bald Rock
ISABELLE WILSON
WSA Achievement Award

Pomegranates & Persimmons
BARBARA RETTIG
WSA Achievement Award

Peru Tribesman
SHERRY A. ROY
WSA Achievement Award

View full exhibit at … https://watercolorssocietyofal.org/exhibition/2017-alabama-members-showcase/

All paintings are copyrighted by the Artist
Since we recently volunteered to become WSA Newsletter Editors, it seems appropriate for us to write for the Member Spotlight.

My early interest in art piqued during high school art classes. I was mostly self-taught for many years after, but didn’t have a lot of time to paint. From 2004 to 2007 I took eleven art courses at Jacksonville State University. That was the turning point when art became a wonderful new focus of my life. Mr. Gary Gee, who was an excellent painting instructor (and who paints extraordinary watercolors), is a member of WSA and he urged me to join, also.

I have been a member of WSA for over ten years and have earned Signature Bronze status. Participating in WSA exhibits has been a rewarding part of my art journey, particularly because of the many wonderful people I’ve come to know. Receiving several awards throughout the years has been exciting and has further motivated me to strive for growth and excellence in my paintings.

Besides painting in watercolor, I love oil painting, as well. I just cannot choose one over the other! I am especially privileged to attend master oil painter John Lonergan’s atelier in Birmingham.

To view some of my paintings and learn more about my art, please visit the website my husband designed for me: [www.marshanelsonart.com](http://www.marshanelsonart.com) He is the most priceless part of my life, always supporting and enjoying everything I do. Now he is even a new member of WSA and we will work together to create your WSA Newsletter!

To tell you about Gordon, to whom I’ve been married for 49 years, he is Professor Emeritus at Jacksonville State University, having retired seven years ago. We are originally from California. We lived in Madison, WI for three years, where we had our children (one daughter, then one son) and Gordon earned his PhD in Educational Psychology from UW-Madison.

His first teaching position, where he also achieved tenure, was at the Univ. of British Columbia in Vancouver. After more than ten years in Canada, we decided to return to the States where he taught at two other universities, received a Fulbright Research Grant to Sweden, and we finally settled in one place—Jacksonville, AL. We are happy to be Southerners now.

Our family lives in CA, so we go about twice a year to visit them, especially because we have two sweet grandsons who are 9 and 7 years old. You may see them if you view the painting, “Brothers,” in the People and Animals section of my website.

I’d like to add that it is Gordon who has all the computer expertise necessary to create a great newsletter. I do more writing and proofreading, so we will serve you well as a team!
Verena J. Murvin  WSNC, SW, KWS, Newport, NC
My painting, “Purple Haven,” was recently accepted into the Watercolor Society of North Carolina’s Annual 72nd Juried Exhibition. The judge is Mary Whyte, and the show will be held at Greensboro College, NC, Oct 15 to Nov 11th.
The winners and some chosen paintings will travel from Greensboro, NC, to Florence Thomas Art School, NC, Dec 1st - Jan 13th 2018, then to Theater Arts Galleries, High Point, NC, Jan 25th to Mar 29th.

Karen Frattali of Unionville, Pennsylvania, has been juried into the Philadelphia Watercolor Society International Anniversary Show, this Fall. She is also juried into the Berks Art Alliance 2017 National Juried Exhibition for the same time period. Karen has a solo show opening on November 18th at the Crary Gallery in Warren, Pennsylvania. She will be presiding over the opening for the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society International Juried Exhibition on September 16th, at the Adams County Art Council in Gettysburg, PA.

“Roma” 30x22 transparent watercolor

Susan M. Stuller has been awarded Best in Show in the Southern Watercolor Exhibition. She also was awarded the Jacomini Memorial Award in the 68th Texas National Exhibition and the Holbein Art Award in the San Diego International Watercolor Exhibition. She has paintings accepted into the National Watercolor Society 97th International Exhibition and the Virginia Watercolor Society 38th Annual Exhibition.

Walt Costilow of Vestavia Hills, Alabama, was honored with the acceptance of his work, Airshow Reflections, in the Montana Watercolor Society 35th Annual National Juried Exhibition to be held at The Bigfork Art & Cultural Center, Bigfork, Montana. His painting, Rooms to Rent, was also accepted to exhibit in the 38th International Juried Exhibition of the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society to be held at The Adams County Arts Council, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Walt will also exhibit his paintings, Quiet Time and Blue Boat, at the Smithsonian Art Museum Project “Water & Color” at the Carnegie Arts Museum, Decatur, Alabama (August 15—September 23).
Mike Mazer, WSA, recently had the privilege of being unanimously approved by the National Board of Directors of the American Artists Professional League at the Salmagundi Club in NYC, as their first Signature member elected in decades and the eighth Signature member overall in their 86-year history. There are currently over 600 members in the organization and only 13 Signature members. Mike also won the Winsor and Newton Award in watercolor for his painting “Lobster Boat” in their 88th Grand National Exhibition. His watercolor painting “Dinghy Reflections, Mattapoisett” is currently in an exhibition with the American Society of Marine Artists that has been traveling across the country to six maritime museums for the past two years and will visit its final destination of the tour at the Mystic Seaport Museum in CT in January 2018. The U.S. Coast Guard had commissioned Mike to paint a piece as part of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and the USCG’s participation in it. This piece, currently on exhibit at the USCG Academy’s Museum in New London, CT, will be traveling across the United States during the 10-year commemoration then remain in the Coast Guard’s permanent collection in Washington, D.C.

Ann Pember, AWS, had paintings accepted for national juried shows:
June/July Baltimore Watercolor Society Mid-Atlantic Regional Exhibition; Black Rock Center For The Arts
Aug/Sep Adirondacks National Exhibition of American Watercolors, View Arts Center, Old Forge, NY
Sep Allied Artists Of America 104th National, Salmagundi Club, NYC
Sep/Oct Rocky Mountain Watermedia Exhibition, Center for the Arts, Evergreen, CO
Oct Montana Watercolor Society 35th Annual National, Bigfork Center For The Arts
Aug/Sep Issue International Artist Magazine Challenge Finalist; Landscapes
Taught a one day workshop in August at View Arts Center, Old Forge, NY.

Don Taylor’s painting, “Linked In,” was his 3rd acceptance in the 2017 Watercolor West exhibit in Brea, CA and will earn him signature membership. His painting, “Angels on High,” won the Winsor & Newton Award in the (Sept 2017) 104th Exhibit of the Allied Artists of America at the Salmagundi Club in NYC. Don will also be the juror/judge/workshop instructor for the Miami Watercolor Society in Miami, FL in Oct 2017. In Feb 2018, Don will be the juror and judge for the Brush with Burden multimedia art exhibit in Baton Rouge, LA. His painting, “Hurry Up and Wait,” won the Jack Richeson Award in the 68th Texas Watercolor Society Annual Exhibit. Don’s painting, “Melk Shadows,” won the Colorado Watercolor Society Award in the 2017 Pike’s Peak Watercolor Exhibit.
Mentone Fall Getaway Painting Workshop
Cynthia Massey Parsons, WSA - Saturday, Oct 14
Mountain Retreat Tall Meadow Rue

21058 Scenic Highway / Mentone, Alabama 35984
Workshop Fee: $110 - includes Light Breakfast / Lunch / Beverages
Info & Sign-Up: Cynthia Parsons: 256-520-2360

Join fellow painters at the English Cottage of Kathryn & Larry Michael. Choose a scene to paint that may be the Goldfish Pond, the Chapel, Teahouse, or Garden Vistas. For a preview of the property go to: https://www.vrbo.com/1095323 You’ll be inspired to paint in the medium of your choice. For details of Demos, On-Site Paint Sessions, & Meals... Contact: cynthia@parsons.net There are porches & a painter’s studio on site in case it rains! A list of basic painting en plein supplies, & suggested paint colors will be provided.

Reservation Deadline is Friday, Oct. 6, 2017. Make checks to Cynthia Parsons to reserve your space now. Mail to: 392 Poplar Ridge Road / New Hope, Alabama 35760

Don't throw away those old tubes of dried watercolor paint. Here's how to save that precious paint! https://youtu.be/YBmrmvl0thM

Jane Fritz — I am pleased to announce that I have a painting juried into the New Mexico Watercolor Society 2017 National Exhibition.
October 8-29
Th. - Sun. 10-4pm
Opening Reception: Saturday, October 7, 1-4 pm
Fine Arts Gallery, EXPO-NM, Albuquerque, NM, USA

The juror was Barbara Nechis, and I am attaching an image of my accepted painting, “Prickly Pear 1.”
Thank you! Jane -- see my watercolors at www.janefritz.com

“Creativity is contagious, pass it on.”
- Albert Einstein
Elaine Henry Dawson  Just wanted to let all know that I had 3 paintings (“Sunkissed,” “Winter Road in Mentone,” and “Sunlite”) juried into the Gadsden Art Association’s 59th Annual Juried Art Show @ the Gadsden Art Museum (July 10 - Aug 25). “Sunkissed” won 1st Place! So excited!  
www.watercolorartbyelaine.com ... ehenydawson@aol.com

Steve Taylor  I have a two month solo exhibition at Aldridge Gardens in Hoover, Alabama, October thru November.

Jan Ross, GWS, MOWS, WCWS, WSA, RIWS, AKWS, NEWS, ME is offering three day watercolor workshops, Sept. 20-22, Oct. 12-14 and Nov. 9-11 from 10 -4 at the Art League of Hilton Head Art Academy, 106 Cordillo Pkwy., Hilton Head, S.C. contact: Amy Wehrman: 843-842-5738.

Also, Jan's painting, "Ted," is on display in the National Juried Exhibition, 'Real People 2017', at the Old Court House Art Center, Woodstock, Ill.

Her paintings are also being exhibited in the Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, Hilton Head, S.C.

Marsha Nelson — I am always honored to have a painting juried into a WSA Exhibit. My painting, “Ugandan Boy” hung in the WSA 76th National Annual Exhibition, and two paintings, “Grieving” and “Pigeons in St. Mark’s Square,” are being exhibited in the WSA Alabama Members’ Showcase.

Additionally, I have been the Featured Artist at Nunnally’s Noble Street Frame and Gallery in Anniston, AL from May to November. There was a lovely Opening Reception on Friday, May 5th, from 4-7 and another reception on Sunday afternoon, May 21.

I was also invited to be the Featured Artist at the Leeds Theatre and Arts Center, in Leeds, AL, July 2nd to August 4th, with an Opening Reception on Sunday afternoon, July 2nd.

Since this is a quarterly newsletter, the next submission deadline will be December 20th.
From the Membership Director

Dear WSA Member:

It seems that 1 October 2016 was here a short while ago but time is flying by and another dues year is upon us. The fiscal year 2018 starts on 1 October this year.

As you know the dues were raised to $40.00 annually. Due to WSA’s new and improved website you may pay/renew your membership dues via PayPal. The grace period to renew your dues for 2018 ends on 31 December 2017. The option to pay/renew your WSA membership by check is still available.

Dues expire after January 1st of the fiscal year if you have not renewed.

NOTE: You will need to be current with your dues when you send entries for the WSA Annual National Exhibition, which occurs after 1 January of each year.

Some of you have already renewed for 2018. If you are unsure concerning your membership status please send an email inquiry to me at stuttgart80@knology.net before possibly renewing your dues twice.

Happy painting,
Heike Covell

Gallery Member Page Information

Some of you have inquired whether WSA is going to have the option again for members to establish a Member Gallery Page. The answer is: Yes.

When you go to the Member Galleries Tab and click on How To Participate, it will inform you of the detailed instructions. Please read those first.

Online Member Galleries are open to all current WSA members at a cost of $30.00/year and due on 1 October annually. You may upload up to 10 images.

The advantage of creating your own page is the fact that you may delete or upload new images or make changes to your bio or personal photo at any time you wish.

NOTE: NO password is required for anything else, NOT for dues, entry fees, or donations, except when you establish your Member Gallery and when you want to make changes to your page after you’ve uploaded your images, etc.

Any questions or concerns you may have after reading the instructions, please contact me (Heike) at stuttgart80@knology.net

Congratulations!

Members who earned a higher level of membership due to acceptance of their painting to the 2017 Alabama Members’ Showcase are listed below with their new status:

- Shirley J. Tucker - WSA Signature
- Karen Gipson - WSA Signature Bronze
- Janice Lowther – Associate 1
- Kathryn Lansing Vaughn - WSA Signature Bronze
DISCOUNTS for MEMBERS

AIRFLOAT SYSTEMS
www.airfloatsystems.com
Gives 20% discount to WSA members on strongboxes for shipping. Mention the code: “WSA”

AMERICAN FRAME
www.americanframe.com
Use code: “Alliance2014” for 5% discount

WSA has become an affiliate with

DICK BLICK Art Materials
Go to the following link when ordering supplies:
http://wsalabama.org/sponsors.htm
Dues are valid October 1st thru September 30th each year ... Annual dues are $40.00

Please make check payable to Watercolor Society of Alabama (or WSA) and mail to
Membership Director: Heike Covell, 11012 Willingham Dr., Huntsville, AL 35803-2073

___New Membership ___Renewing Membership Change of: ___Address ____Phone ___E-mail

NAME__________________________________________________________________________________

STREET________________________________________________________________________________

CITY_________________________________________________STATE___________ZIP________________

EMAIL_________________________________________________________________________________WEBSITE________________________________________

PHONE (H)_________________________________          PH (Cell)_________________________________

Dues expire after January 1st of the fiscal year if you have not renewed.

NOTE: You will need to be current with your dues when you send entries for the WSA Annual National Exhibition, which occurs after 1 January of each year.

Active members who are current with their dues have full voting rights, are eligible to be officers, members of committees, and serve on the board of directors.

Benefits:
• Invitation to WSA activities including Exhibitions and WSA sponsored Workshops
• Discounts on WSA exhibition entry fees, Workshop fees, and art supplies
• Full-color catalogue of paintings from WSA National Exhibitions
• E-Notification as appropriate for current news, WSA quarterly Newsletters, etc.
• Earn points toward Signature Member status with privilege of using WSA initials after signature
• Option to have a personal art gallery page on WSA website

Dear Member, WSA is truly grateful for your support. We need you and your ideas to help WSA accomplish its goals of inspiring, growing, and networking artists. GET INVOLVED, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, GIVE BACK TO YOUR ORGANIZATION!

◊ Exhibitions ◊ Hospitality
◊ Sponsorship/Awards ◊ Membership
◊ Workshops ◊ Website
◊ Publicity ◊ Programs/Invitations
◊ Newsletter ◊ WSA Board
◊ Receptions ◊ Other ____________________________