FROM THE PRESIDENT

The New Year is upon us and my thoughts are with each member of the Watercolor Society of Alabama, especially with your Board of Directors. The following quote from William Barclay reminds me of what we, as an organization, are doing and where we are going during 2018.

“To think things through, to see things through, to pass through things, to go on - this is life.”

Not only is this life, it is the “what” and “wherefore” necessary to reach our goals as we strive to enhance and expand our organization using the latest technology.

Our plans for 2018 are exciting and challenging. Please join us by entering the upcoming 77th WSA National Exhibition with Deadline Entry 17 February, the Online Exhibition, as well as the Members’ Showcase. Also, don’t pass up the workshop opportunities offered for learning new techniques to be taught by outstanding nationally known instructors.

Tora Johnson
WSA President
toradave@gmail.com
205-423-0922
### 2017-2019 Executive Board

#### Board of Directors

**President**
Tora Johnson

**President Elect (AMS Director)**
Walt T. Costilow

**1st Vice President (Exhibition Director)**
Jaceena Shepard

**2nd Vice President (Memberhip Director)**
Heike Covell

**3rd Vice President (Publicity/Website/FB Dir)**
Lyn Gill

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**Recording Secretary**
Melinda M. Mathews

**Corresponding Secretary**
Diane D. Shepherd

**Historian**
Julia Pope

**Parliamentarian**
Shirley J. Tucker

#### Directors at Large

**Newsletter Editors**
Gordon & Marsha Nelson

**Online Show Director**
Keith Jones

**Donations/Awards Director**
Deborah Rae Hall

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**Welcome to Our New Members**

Dawn Dalrymple – AL

Al Kline – TX

Nan Spitzer – AL

Adrienne Retief—AL

Susanne Wadsworth - AL
77th National Annual Exhibition

Info Summary

CALL FOR ENTRIES

DEADLINE: February 17, 2018

Exhibition
May 20-July 29, 2018

Barbara Nechis Workshop
May 17-19, 2018

Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art
Auburn University
901 South College Street
Auburn, AL 36849-5812
The WSA 77th National Exhibition will be held at the Jule Colins Smith Museum of Fine Art at Auburn University, 901 South College Street, Auburn, AL 36849. We are excited that this accredited university art museum is hosting our National Exhibition.

We are pleased to have nationally and internationally known artist Carol Carter as Juror of Selection. Water is an enduring presence in Ms. Carter’s watercolor and acrylic paintings. Her work has been featured on the cover of New American Paintings magazine. Among her many accomplishments are solo exhibitions in Ecuador, Norway, France and USVI.

We are very fortunate to have Barbara Nechis as Awards Judge and Workshop Instructor. Ms. Nechis holds degrees in Fine Art from Rochester and Alfred Universities. She has served as a juror and director of the American Watercolor Society and is the author of “Watercolor From the Heart” and “Watercolor, the Creative Experience” (North Light Books).

The WSA Workshop by Barbara Nechis is for all who want to gain a deeper understanding of the creative process of painting, are willing to be flexible, take risks, have fun, be intuitive and inventive. You will not be using rules and formulas but the emphasis will still be on concept, color and design. Barbara will demonstrate various techniques that will work in either abstract or realistic designs.

Please visit WSA website www.watercolorsoocietyofal.org to view and download the Prospectus and Workshop Brochure. Please note that this is the first time we are requiring online exhibition entry. We have provided an Entry Tutorial to guide you through the process, if needed. You may view and download the Tutorial along with the Prospectus at the WSA website.

We hope everyone will take advantage of this new online entry process and enter the 77th National Exhibition at the great Auburn University.

Jaceena Shepard, National Exhibition Director
Join us for the 2018 National Watercolor Workshop with Barbara Nechis in Auburn, Alabama
DATE:  May 17, 18, 19, 2018

Barbara Nechis is an artist who has developed a style known for its masterful balance of spontaneity and control of the watercolor brush.

barbaranechis.com
www.watercolorsocietyofal.org
for Workshop Brochure
## NATIONAL ANNUAL EXHIBITION TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 17</td>
<td>*** Website Entry DEADLINE ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Juror Selection begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>Artists Accepted List and Acceptance Letter with Shipping Instructions posted on Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 30 - May 4</td>
<td>Shipped work Due at Jule Collins Smith Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Hand Delivered Work Due (10 AM - 2 PM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 17 - 19</td>
<td>Barbara Nechis Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>Award Ceremony and Opening Reception (1 - 4 PM) at the Jule Collins Smith Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 29</td>
<td>Exhibition Closes</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 30 - Aug 3</td>
<td>Shipped Works Returned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 4</td>
<td>Pick up Hand Carried Paintings (10 AM - 2 PM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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“\[I want to touch people with my art. I want them to say 'he feels deeply, he feels tenderly'.\]”

Vincent Van Gogh
Keith Jones
Athens, Alabama
Email: Keithjones063@att.net

Having roots in Mississippi, I was raised in the country out from a small town named Wesson. Wesson is located in south central Mississippi close to the historic cities of Natchez, Vicksburg, Jackson and near New Orleans. I moved to Athens, Alabama with my supportive wife and two children in 1996. After raising our two children, my wife and I enjoy traveling and exploring adventures in our yellow Jeep.

Art has always interested me since the age of five. I was always intrigued by artistic expression and captivated by my surroundings. Many artists are governed by experiences, events, and geographic locations. My parents would foster my artistic interest by taking me on vacations throughout the country during the summer. We would explore art, culture, historical landmarks, national parks, and various cities. The experience created a sense of curiosity about the world and the different opportunities each area offered. I learned how to take the experiences and use the travels to influence my art.

I attended college in the early to mid-eighties and again in the nineties. I earned an Associate of Arts degree in Graphic Design from Hinds Community College in 1983, a Bachelor of Fines Arts degree in Graphic Design from Delta State University in 1986, and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Graphic Design and Illustration from Louisiana Tech University in 1995. It was in graduate school where I discovered the possibilities of watercolor. I was enlightened by the unique fluid qualities of this medium. I enjoyed how watercolor can be quick and direct. Today, I only work in watercolor as a fine art and illustration medium. I teach others how to use this challenging yet rewarding material. Future plans include working with larger scales to unlock new possibilities.

My career has been interesting over the years. Before moving to Athens, Alabama, I worked 12 years as a professional graphic designer, illustrator, and creative director in different cities. In 1996, I decided to make a slight career change and accepted a tenure-track position at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH). I currently teach as the Head of Graphic Design and illustration.

I have chosen watercolor as my main medium of choice. I am dedicated to watercolor and watermedia education. My work employs bold color and strong contrast to convey a sense of strength in my subject matter. My expression is more or less a contemporary realism. I place emphasis on design foundations, compositional arrangements, and conceptual meaning behind the piece. I also experiment with watercolor in both traditional and digital exploration trying to unlock different possibilities.

This year, I volunteered to work with WSA. I currently hold the Online Show Director position and I am looking forward to an exciting year. My plans are to create an online show in the upcoming months and define the show with a loose theme that will provide members opportunity to compete differently. My goal is to help WSA grow and provide members opportunity to exhibit in exciting ways. I look forward to serving WSA members.
Members’ News

Sep/Oct
Rocky Mountain Watermedia Exhibition, Center for the Arts, Evergreen, CO

Sep
Allied Artists Of America 104th National; Salmagundi Club, NYC

Oct
Montana Watercolor Society 35th Annual National, Bigfork Center For The Arts: **Converging Water** received the Bronze Award & Medallion

Oct/Dec
Audubon Artists 75th Annual; Online Show

Oct/Dec
American Artists Professional League 89th Grand National; Online Show

January
Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club Annual: National Arts Club, New York, NY

Ann Pember, AWS
14 Water Edge Rd
Keeseville, NY 12944
(518) 834-7440
pember@frontiernet.net
www.annpember.com
https://www.facebook.com/annpemberaws/

Member winners in the Mobile Art Association Fall open show:
Best of Show - **Corky Goldman**
Southern Art and Framing Award - **Deborah Guy**
MAA Certificate of Merit Award - **Judy Aronson**
MAA Certificate of Merit Award – **Sherry Roy**
**Corky Goldman** also won Best of Show in the Spring Watercolor and Graphic Art Society of Mobile.

*Corky Goldman, WSA*
251-209-3224 Cell
251-660-9045
From the Membership Director

Dear WSA Member:

It has been three months since I wrote a few lines for the Fall Newsletter 2017 and I can hardly believe that it is time to type some information for the Winter Newsletter 2018.

If you have not renewed your membership for the fiscal year 2018 by now either online via PayPal or by check to me, you are not current with your dues and your membership expired on 1 January 2018. You may renew sometime later in the year and I will add your name and information back to the database. WSA always welcomes you back as a member.

You will need to be current with your dues when you submit entries for the National Exhibitions which always occur after 1 January of each year. If you have not renewed your dues for 2018 by 31 December 2017 and you submit an entry online, you need to renew at that time.

The WSA dues for the fiscal year are $40.00. Any other information concerning the membership is available at the WSA website www.watercolrosocietyofal.org

Finally, if you are unsure whether you have renewed for the year 2018 – please – send an email inquiry at stuttgart80@knology.net to me before you renew again. I will gladly reply to you. It is more work for ‘yours truly’ to write to you that you have already renewed and to let me know what you wish to do with your overpayment. And, of course, if you have not renewed I will gladly let you know also.

WSA appreciates your membership and wishes the best to all for the year 2018.

Heike Covell
Member Gallery Page - How to Participate

The WSA Member Gallery Page provides an opportunity for you to get additional online exposure and introduce yourself to other water-media artists across the country. If you would like to have a direct link to your personal website, list your website address with your biography when you establish your gallery page. This will give viewers the opportunity to see more of your work and learn more about you. Currently, 7 WSA members have created their own beautiful gallery page. The individual gallery page may be viewed either by clicking on the Member Galleries tab and then click on the member’s name or you can go to the Membership Directory listing below the Membership tab and click on View Gallery listed next to the member’s name.

Members who wish to participate will create and manage their own Gallery Page. Instructions on how to set up and manage your gallery are provided on the website. If you need additional help, please do not hesitate to email Heike at stuttgart80@knology.net You may upload up to 10 images, edit your biography, delete and exchange images at any time. Images for your gallery page should be watercolor or water media. No nude images are permitted because WSA is a family-oriented organization.

The gallery page is available to WSA members at a cost of $30.00/year which is due on 1 October annually. You have a grace period of 30 days after 1 October, same as for the membership dues. If your membership is current, you may either pay online to create your gallery page or send a check to Heike Covell, 11012 Willingham Dr., Huntsville AL 35803-2073. Upon receipt of online payment or check I will contact you by email.

Happy New Year!

Heike Covell
DISCOUNTS for MEMBERS

AIRFLOAT SYSTEMS  
www.airfloatsystems.com  
USE CODE:  
“WSA” for 20% discount

ALABAMA ART SUPPLY  
www.alabamaart.com

AMERICAN FRAME  
www.americanframe.com  
USE CODE:  
“Alliance2014” for 5% discount

BLICK Art Materials  
www.dickblick.com

CANSON, Inc  
www.hamelinbrands.com

CHROMA, Inc. USA  
www.chromaonline.com

CREATIVE CATALYST PROD  
www.ccpvideos.com

DALER-ROWNEY USA  
www.daler-rowney.com

FORSTALL ART CENTER  
www.forstallart.com

GOLDEN ARTIST COLORS  
www.QoRcolors.com

JACK RICHESON & CO., Inc.  
www.richesonart.com

M. GRAHAM & CO.  
Watercolors developed with natural blackberry honey  
www.mgraham.com

SAVOIR-FAIRE/FABRIANO  
www.savoirfaire.com

WINSOR & NEWTON  
www.winsornewton.com

WSA has become an affiliate with DICK BLICK Art Materials  
Go to the following link when ordering supplies:  
http://wsalabama.org/sponsors.htm

Let's support those who support us!

Come "Like" us on Facebook

Watercolor Society of Alabama
WATERCOLOR SOCIETY OF ALABAMA
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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 __________________________