Today, as we celebrate Christmas and the New Year, my thoughts turn to God’s blessings and gifts to me. Next my thoughts turn to you, members of the Watercolor Society of Alabama, and I ask:

- What is your story?
- What gifts have you received?
- How has art impacted your life?
- How do you share these gifts?

Think about this and let us hear from you. Personal stories usually are meaningful to others.

In summing up the activities of 2018, many of you have participated in different ways. Most importantly, WSA can be proud of each of our exhibitions, made possible only by your continued participation. We are pleased with the recent response to the National Online Showcase; be sure to check it out on the website. (Speaking of the website: it’s fantastic and has received acclaim from several other societies.) With the members of your Board, I give thanks for your support, enthusiasm and creativity. It takes each and every member working together, sharing new ideas and experiences, to create a viable organization. As members of WSA, we are truly blessed by the light and joy you have brought to us through your paintings.

Help the Watercolor Society of Alabama continue to thrive by making some resolutions for the year ahead.

As soon as available, record the time frame for the shows: Spring, Fall and Online.

Plan ahead to enter the exhibitions;
Join us for the Fall and Spring workshops;
Be prepared to paint that special painting;
Follow through on plans and resolutions.

We look forward to another year of successful, exciting exhibitions and getting to know each of you personally or through your paintings. It has been encouraging and a privilege to share with many who volunteer hours putting on exhibitions and who attend workshops. Let us know if you would like to serve on the Board, set up or host an exhibition, contribute to the website, or help in way. Remember you are greatly appreciated!

Tora Johnson
Watercolor Society of Alabama
toradave@gmail.com
205-423-0922
2018-2019 WSA Board of Directors

President – Lectora (Tora) K. Johnson
President-Elect (AMS Director) – Walt Costilow
1st Vice President (Exhibition Director) – Jaceena Shepard
2nd Vice President (Membership Director) – Heike Covell
3rd Vice President (Publicity Director) – Sondra Carlisle
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Parliamentarian (Website Coordinator) – Shirley J. Tucker
Donations/Awards Director – Deborah Guy
National Online Showcase Director – Keith T. Jones
Facebook Director/Website Administrator – Lyn Gill
Newsletter Editors – Gordon & Marsha Nelson

To contact a Board Member, go to watercolorsocietyofal.org

Important Dates

2019 NATIONAL ANNUAL EXHIBITION
Prospectus Forthcoming

March 1, 2019 (Friday)
May 30, 31, June 1, 2019 (Thur-Sat)
June 2 – August 2, 2019

Entry Deadline
Workshop - Keiko Tanabe
Exhibition Dates
Our new exhibition venue, WSA’s National Online Showcase, opened in December 2018. The Selection Juror/Awards Judge was Keith T. Jones, Associate Professor of Art, University of Alabama in Huntsville.

This National Online Showcase is an excellent representation of paintings from within the state, and across the U.S. The selection process and judging was challenging as all artists submitted outstanding artwork.

The key attributes of the show include strong composition, the use of dynamic color, and creative use of subject matter. The show is well-balanced, including representational, contemporary, expressive, and abstract works. The diversity of art engages the viewer and makes this show a fine example of the Watercolor Society of Alabama’s talent.

The show is a great success with many entries of quality watercolor paintings. View this beautiful exhibition at watercolorsocietyofal.org The National Online Showcase gallery will be displayed under Current Year Exhibitions (Exhibition Galleries menu) until the next National Online Showcase opens in 2019, then this gallery can be viewed in Past Year Exhibitions.

Keith T. Jones
WSA National Online Showcase Director
National Online Showcase
Award Winners

SECOND PLACE
Lemons, Grapes, and Pitcher
Chris Krupinski

MERIT AWARD
The Cotton Gin
Iain Stewart

THIRD PLACE
Branzino For Two
Matthew Bird

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE
Wine Glasses
Laurin McCracken

SECOND PLACE
Lemons, Grapes, and Pitcher
Chris Krupinski
MERIT AWARD
*Algebra*
Carol Staub

MERIT AWARD
*Ouch*
Rosemary Ferguson

MERIT AWARD
*White Christmas*
Paul Sullivan

MERIT AWARD
*Canadian Tourist*
James Brantley

View the entire National Online Showcase at watercolorsocietyofal.org and go to Exhibition Galleries menu.
A BEGINNER'S WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP
@ ALABAMA ART SUPPLY
BIRMINGHAM, AL
SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2019

WORKSHOP DETAILS
WSA Master Watercolorist, Keith T. Jones, Associate Professor of Art, University of Alabama, Huntsville is conducting a Beginner Class for interested people who wish to learn to paint in watercolor or enhance their current knowledge and abilities of painting in watercolor. Below are the details:

- Saturday - March 23, 2019 - 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM at
  Alabama Art Supply, 1006 23rd St. South, Birmingham, AL 35205
- $125 per student (register at Alabama Art Supply)
- Price will include materials for workshop participants
- Each participant will take home a finished 11”x15” painting

www.AlabamaArt.com - 205 322 4741
133 2nd Ave NE, Decatur, AL 35601

WSA 2019 National Annual Exhibition

- Exhibition Dates: June 2 - August 2, 2019
- Location: Alabama Center for the Arts
- Selection Juror: Laurin McCracken
- Awards Judge: Keiko Tanabe
- Workshop Instructor: Keiko Tanabe
- Prospectus: Upcoming
- Entry Deadline: March 1, 2019

Look for more information in the Spring Newsletter.
“WATERCOLOR - KEEP IT SIMPLE BUT STONG”

WSA 78th National Watercolor Workshop
Keiko Tanabe
Alabama Center for the Arts
133 2nd Ave. NE., Decatur, AL 35601
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
May 30, 31, June 1, 2019
Registration DEADLINE: May 25, 2019
Workshop Brochure Available Soon

Jaceena Shepard jaeshehp@aol.com

Keiko Tanabe

is an award winning artist and a signature member of the National Watercolor Society. Often working en plein air, her atmospheric watercolors perfectly capture a sense of time and place. Through her use of color, textures, and signature brushwork, Keiko’s landscapes and cityscapes beautifully convey both the exotic and the simple scenes of the many places she travels. Never attending art school, Keiko took only one drawing class to learn basic technical skills before she started painting in 2005. One year later, after learning basic drawing and watercolor painting skills at a local community school in San Diego, Keiko decided to paint full-time. From then on, she intensely taught herself to be fluent in watercolor painting, just as one would do to master a foreign language. Her subjects include landscape, cityscape, waterscape and interior scenes, which will be demonstrated in the workshop, using representational and impressionistic compositions. Since 2011, Keiko has completed successfully more than 220 workshops and numerous live demonstrations around the world.
Wilmer Anderson

I was interested in art from an early age, and enjoyed drawing and coloring. Around 12 years of age, I was invited to explore an interesting mechanical shop of an elderly neighbor; his wife also introduced me to her collection of fine art books. Thus, my interest in art took root.

While majoring in physics at Rice Institute, I furthered my art interest by visits to the Museum of Fine Art, Houston. Later, while working on my PhD in Physics at Harvard, I often visited the Fogg Art Museum. I have always thought that the abstract ideas in physics have made me sensitive to the abstract design of a good painting.

In January of 1960 I began teaching physics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I did atomic physics research for the next 45 years, concentrating on inventing and developing lasers and ion sources. After the 1970 bombing of Sterling Hall (the physics lab) I realized I should not be going into the research lab so often at night and I wanted a hobby that I could work on in the evenings.

I finally settled on watercolor painting but at first everything turned out wrong. Realizing I needed help and training, I began to take workshops. Two artists I studied with were Frank Webb and Al Brouilette. I learned an enormous amount about art and painting. From that time I have attended other workshops and painted regularly. For the first few years I tried to emulate other artists and did some reasonably good art, but it lacked originality. When I painted in a style that was my own, I won my first prize in a juried show.

“Wisconsin County Fair”

“Outdoor Band Practice”
Retiring in 1970 allowed me more time to paint. Due to my interest in meteorology, I started to paint clouds with razor sharp bottoms, which gives an interesting abstraction. The first painting I did using sharp bottomed clouds received first prize in the New England Watercolor exhibition. I do not use photographs but make a value pattern, followed by a pencil drawing and then the color, hoping for the best.

I like to paint with a bit of humor in my art. I received a prize at the AWS for a painting of acrobats and other circus performers playing in the clouds—I entitled it the “Ringling Brothers Dream.” I did a take-off of “Picasso’s Three Musicians” that I like for its humor.

I am writing this on Christmas Eve, which is my 85th birthday. My wife and I have recently moved and I am setting up my studio and still painting. I hope that anyone who reads this has a great time with art, especially watercolor.

Editor’s Note
Wilmer Anderson has been a WSA member for over 25 years and has achieved Platinum status. He has membership in numerous other watercolor societies and has received many awards for his art.
Ann Pember won Honorable Mention in the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society 39th Annual, Crary Art Gallery, PA in Sept; Third Place Award: Pittsburgh Watercolor Society Aqueous Open in Oct; MTWS President's Award: Montana Watercolor Society 36th Annual Watermedia in Nov and the President's Award American Artists Professional League 90th Grand National, Salmagundi Club, NYC in November.

She had paintings selected for the Rocky Mountain Watermedia Annual National; Evergreen Center of the Arts, CO Sep - Oct; Audubon Artists Annual National, Salmagundi Club, NYC Oct - Nov.

Ann Pember, AWS
14 Water Edge Rd
Keeseville, NY 12944
(518) 834-7440

pember@frontiernet.net
www.annpember.com
https://www.facebook.com/annpemberaws/

Ellen Jean Diederich
Announcing the 2019 Red River Watercolor Society 26th Annual National Juried Watermedia Competition. Look and enter our show via www.OnlineJuriedShows.com
Deadline March 7, 2019. Over $3000.00 in cash awards - Juried by Iain Stewart, top award $1300.00.

Ellen Jean Diederich
701-799-9505 cell
Givinity.com
Stay in a French Castle with Helen this Fall!

Helen K Beacham is headed to the Dordogne region of France (southwest corner, near the Aquitaine & Bordeaux) to conduct a 7-day sketching & painting retreat. You'll stay in a French Castle and visit medieval villages, see cave paintings, visit a walnut oil mill and so on. This is part workshop and part sightseeing, so non-painters are invited as well!

Dates are September 5-12 and more details may be found on Helen's website: HelenKBeacham.com. 

Helen K Beacham Fine Art
(843) 408-5240
www.HelenKBeacham.com
www.HelenKBeacham.blogspot.com
https://www.facebook.com/BeachamFineArt/
https://www.pinterest.com/helenkbeacham/
https://www.instagram.com/helenkbeachamfineart/

Welcome New Members

John Anderson, NC
Elizabeth Audenaert, AL
Helen K. Beacham, SC
Jon Commander, AL
Mary Davis, AL
Marie Echols, GA

Teresa Kaczynski, AL
Elizabeth McGriff, AL
Carolyn Morris, AL
Pat C. Patrick, TN
Jared Wade, AL
Carol Jane White, AL
From the Membership Director

Dear WSA Member:

Hope everyone had a wonderful time during the holidays and are ready to start the new year.

The fiscal year for 2019 started on 1 October 2018 and ends on 30 September 2019.

Those who have not renewed by 31 December – end of renewal grace period - your membership expired on 1 January and your name is deleted from the WSA Membership Directory on the website shortly thereafter. If you plan to send entries to the upcoming 78th National Exhibition you would need to be current with your dues for 2019. If you are unsure whether your membership is current for 2019 when you submit an entry please check the Membership Directory in the drop-down menu below the Membership tab to see if you are still listed or send an email to me and I will be glad to inform you of your membership status.

Am repeating the lines I wrote in the Fall Newsletter: You may renew or join via PayPal (with the credit or debit card option) by going to the WSA website watercolorsocietyofal.org You do not need to have a PayPal account. On the top right side of the home page you see the words Join/Renew Now. Click on it and another page opens up with the lines in dark blue: Join or Renew your WSA Membership online here. Click on it, another page opens up with the name Membership Form. You check the box I’m a new member or I’m renewing my membership, whichever the case may be, fill out the respective form and submit. You will receive an automatic confirmation of your payment.

Or you may send a check payable to WSA in the amount of $40.00 to me. The membership form for checks is included in this newsletter on the last page and also listed below the Membership tab in the drop-down menu on the website as well as other information concerning membership levels and point requirements. I will send an email confirmation to you upon receipt of your dues.

In case you have questions or any changes concerning your email address, mailing address, or phone, please email me at stuttgart80@knology.net or use the WSA website to leave a message so we may pass on important information to you when needed.

As always, WSA appreciates your membership,

Heike Covell
Dear WSA Members,

I just had fun updating my Member Gallery Page and give big kudo’s to all who apply. You may get an interesting contact by doing the same.

It was easy to do. I printed out the direction page and followed it step by step.

It is also a fun way to meet other WSA artists and learn about their work. As a member living in North Dakota, I wish I had a chance to meet more of you. I would be thrilled to see your art on your own Member Gallery Page!

Ellen Jean Diederich
Givinity.com

View Ellen Jean’s Personal Gallery at watercolorsocietyofal.org and go to Member Galleries menu.
Member Galleries Page: How to Participate

The WSA Member Galleries Page is available to all current members and provides an opportunity to get additional online exposure and introduce yourself to other water-media artists across the country. Currently 8 WSA members have created their own 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.

1. Your members gallery page offers a direct link to your personal website. List your website address within 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.

2. Please view instructions on how to set up and manage your gallery on the WSA website below the Member Galleries tab. It looks more complicated than it is. Note: If you do not have photo editing software on your computer, go to the free online editing tool at: www.resizeimage.net If you need additional help, please do not hesitate to email Heike at stuttgart80@knology.net

3. You may upload up to 10 images, edit your biography, delete and upload painting images at any time, day or night.

4. The gallery page is available to current 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. It is easy to pay online: Go to Member Galleries tab, then to the drop-down box How To Participate and you will see the Online Gallery Registration Form below. Fill it out and submit to PayPal (credit or debit card is accepted.) Or you may 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.

5. Images for your gallery page should be watercolor or water media. No nude images are permitted on your Member Galleries page because WSA is a family-oriented organization.

Once you have established your gallery page it becomes even easier to make any changes. Login with your password, go to and click on Update My Profile, change or rewrite text in your bio, delete or upload images or scroll down and click on Update and then go to and click on View My Gallery. If you don’t like what you see, go back to Update My Profile and delete or upload another image or move it around. Don’t forget the maximum of 10 images, click on Update on bottom of the page and remember to Log Out.

Happy painting, Heike Covell
Let’s support those who support us!

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

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

**BLICK ART MATERIALS**
www.dickblick.com

**CHEAP JOE’S**
www.cheapjoes.com

**GOLDEN ARTIST COLORS**
www.QoRcolors.com

**DISCOUNTS for MEMBERS**

**AIRFLOAT SYSTEMS**
www.airfloatsystems.com
Gives 20% discount to WSA members on strong-boxes 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

**HK HOLBEIN ARTIST MATERIALS**
holbeinartistmaterials.com

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

**M. GRAHAM & CO.**
www.mgraham.com

**RENAISSANCE IMAGING**
renaissanceimaging.com

**WINSOR & NEWTON**
www.winsornewton.com

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Watercolor Society of Alabama

**PLEASE NOTE**
Since this is a quarterly newsletter, the next submission deadline will be March 20th.
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!
I can help with …

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