

Spring Member Show Opening

The Opening Night for the Member Show on April 5th at the Community Building was well attended and enjoyed by all. The **SWS** appreciates the support from the **Inland Northwest Land Conservancy** in the show partnership. The Community Building space was perfect for our display of paintings. Twenty wonderful member paintings were hung and judged. Cards and small matted works for sale created additional interest. Thank you to all who participated and congratulations to winners of awards.

First place went to Kelly Knouff-Burk for "Taking Refuge", second place went to Gloria Fox for "Point Defiance Park-Tacoma, WA" and third place was won by Becky Gromlich for "The Guardian." The Chris Twardowsky Memorial Award went to Joy Gruenewald for "Lollapalouza." Karen Robinette won the Lynn Selbach-Allen Award for her painting entitled "Lillies." The People's Choice Award went to Jeannine Marx-Fruci for "Haystack Rock."

The show will continue through April 29th at the Community Building at 35 West Main so there is still opportunity to see it! A huge "Thank you" to Amalia Fisch for her leadership in organizing the show as well as all the volunteers who supported the event by helping hang paintings, prepare food, organize the card and small painting display, manage sales, paint at the demo table, and create well-designed signage.

April Programs

Two programs were presented at the **SWS** monthly meeting at **Spokane Art Supply**. There was a plein air equipment display and discussion and also a contemporary finishing technique presentation by Amalia Fisch.

Member, Pat Volk talked about



Above: Member Show Opening.
Below: Plein air presentations.

why she enjoyed painting outdoors and shared her compact painting kit and lovely painting journal. She often goes out to her yard for inspiration. Mark Besserman presented some affordable easel and table options that he modified to meet his painting needs. Pat Tremaine had several setups for different painting situations. Her car console bin was a great idea for painting in when the weather is bad. Amalia Fisch brought four different easel set ups with pricing, everything from a backpack to a fancy Dan Marshall handmade pochade box. Finally, Gail Johannes had some great items that she shared like a sunbrella, a fold out stool with a back support, a paint tube carrier and a hammock for her tripod to store gear. She shared that she often paints from the back of her car.

For the second presentation Amalia went through the process of finishing a painting by applying it to a wooden cradle/surface. She had a couple of finished pieces to share as well as a helpful handout on the process. She brought all the supplies needed along with prices. Amalia talked about framing options like a floating frame or a plein air frame and where they can be purchased.

Upcoming Events

The Member Show continues through April 29th and exhibitors need to pick up their paintings April 30th between 10 and 11:30 at the Community building.

The Ron Stocke Workshop, June 6th-8th, is filling up. There are 3 spots left for registering.

The next Plein Air Outing will be at Finch Arboretum on Friday, April 26th. We will meet at the parking lot of the Woodland Center.

The next **SWS** general monthly meeting will be



Wednesday, May 8th at 6 pm at Spokane Art Supply. Becky Gromlich and Marilyn Sarber will be presenting a hands-on smooth blending demo as their grant presentations. Come to paint. A supply list will be attached to this April newsletter.

Welcome

New Member and Guests!

Mark Besserman introduced new member Debra Hall. Debra shared a beautiful collage painting of a friend's five dogs. Welcome Debra! Courtney Kelly came as a visitor and shared her first watercolor and told the story behind the painting. Mickey Sanger Kinson came as a visitor with Pat Tremaine and Megan Perkins came as Amalia Fisch's guest.

April Challenge, "Laughter"



Diane Conkright presented the monthly painting challenge of "Laughter." Ten members rose to the challenge and participated and talked about their paintings. The stories and paintings certainly evoked some laughter.

Mary Caruso won the drawing prize of a brush and pencil organizer. Next month's challenge will be "Hope." Be sure to enter and have a chance to win the drawing prize.

Monthly Tip

Artist's Statement

What is an artist's statement and how do I write one? An artist's statement is concise and intended to relay the artist's personal viewpoint and motivation for painting. (Note: An artist's statement should not be confused with an artist's bio that includes their background, shows/awards, personal history, etc. It's good to see both, leading off with the statement.) A clear and deliberate artist's statement will show people you are a thoughtful and deliberate artist. It can also help you articulate an understanding of yourself as an artist. There are a few key components to include when writing your statement.

- A personal statement about your motivation for painting and goals.



- A description of your decision making techniques (theme, materials, techniques used).
- Provide insight into your current work. How does it relate to previous work? What life experiences informed it? What are you attempting, challenging through your work?

Keep it concise and brief. The statement serves as an introduction to your work, answering commonly asked questions. It should be a paragraph or two in length. It should be written in simple language to engage the reader. Reread it after letting it sit overnight and ask for feedback then revise it as needed. (Reference- [wikihow.com](http://www.wikihow.com))

President's Corner

Wow! What a valuable time we had learning about plein air set-ups and innovative framing/finishing techniques at the March meeting. Your Board of Directors is continuing to work toward providing experiences and information that will enhance your growth as watercolorists. We will be following up the finishing technique presentation with a "hands-on" opportunity to finish one of your paintings. Watch for more information about that in May and June.



Speaking of May and "hands-on," Becky Gromlich and Marilyn Sarber will lead us in a demonstration of the smooth blending technique they learned in the **SWS** Birgit O'Connor workshop last fall. Come prepared to paint, but please be compact as our society is growing and space will be limited. The supply list is linked to this message and will be posted on the website and FaceBook.

See you next month,

Kim Gardell

Member's shows

Margo Sety is having a watercolor show entitled "Come On, Spring" at ChewVino on N 101 4th St. East, Chewelah running from March 7th-late May. Hours are Tues.-Sat. 3-8pm and First Thursday Art Walks April 4th and May 2nd.

Jeannine Marx-Fruci will be showing at the William Grant Gallery and Boutique Blue May 3rd from 5-9pm.

If you would like to see your events listed please access the newsletter subscription form on our website www.spokanewatercolor.org and submit as instructed.





MONTHLY CHALLENGES

May 2019 -----Hope
June 2019 -----Pollination

SPOKANE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monthly (except July, August) on the 2nd Wednesday 6-8:30 pm or SATURDAYS at 10am - 12noon
All meetings are held at **Spokane Art Supply** at 1303 N Monroe St, Spokane, WA 99201

APRIL 2019

FRIDAY the 26th-12-4pm Plein Air group outing, location Finch Arboretum, 3404 W Woodland Blvd Spokane WA 99224. Meet at parking lot by Woodland Center to paint Spring blossoms: lilacs, dogwood, magnolia, green vistas. Hours: 8am-5pm, no admission or parking fees

TUESDAY the 30th - 10-11:30 SPOKANE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP SHOW 2019 Art retrieval.

MAY 2019

WEDNESDAY the 8th 6pm Spokane Art Supply *Spokane Watercolor Society* Wednesday meeting 2018 Grant Presentations (from BIRGIT O’CONNOR WORKSHOP) Challenge: “Hope”

FRIDAY the 31st- 12-4 Plein Air group outing location Browne’s Addition, 2195 W 2nd Ave, Spokane, WA 99201. Meet at Coeur d’Alene Park to paint park scenes, residential architecture, recreation, and streetscapes. Hours: Open till 11pm, no admission or parking fees.

JUNE 2019

THURSDAY the 6th – 8th Spokane Art Supply, RON STOCKE WORKSHOP Go to website for more information and registration details. Website is listed at the foot of all newsletter pages.

WEDNESDAY the 12th- 6pm Spokane Art Supply *Spokane Watercolor Society* Wednesday meeting. Challenge “Pollination

FRIDAY the 28th-12-4pm Plein Air group outing location Duncan Gardens in Manito Park, 1702 S Grand Blvd Spokane WA 99203. Meet near Gaiser Conservatory to paint formal gardens, flowers, color, and park scenes. Hours: Open till 11pm, no admission or parking fees.

JULY 2019

FRIDAY the 26th - 12-4 Plein Air group outing location Bowl & Pitcher (State Park), 4427 N Aubrey L White Pkwy, Spokane, WA 99205. Meet in Main parking lot to paint river views, boulders, suspension bridge, recreation. There is an Admission/Discovery Parking Pass \$35 requirement or carpool with members who have one.

AUGUST 2019

FRIDAY the 30th - 12-4 Plein Air group outing location High Bridge Park at Riverside Ave. & A St. in Latah Valley, Spokane, WA. Meet at picnic shelter to paint forest, bridge, river, and recreation scenes. Hours: Open till 11pm, no admission or park fees.

Events in the Works

SPRING JURIED SHOW APRIL 2020, at Barrister’s Winery

