

IOWA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

2020 First Quarter Newsletter

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Quote

"I paint objects as I think them, not as I see them"

Pablo Picasso

Contact Us

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President's Remarks

I am very happy to report that we have an almost complete Board. Only one member missing, the Traveling Show Chair. If you are interested in this position, please contact me, Mayela at fonsecamayela@gmail.com. It is a job that can be done no matter where you live in Iowa. It is all conducted via email communications. In the meantime Jan Vander Linder has very graciously offered to



continue performing the duties of the Traveling Show Chair.

Our new board members are:

Secretary: Connie Fisher

Exhibition Chair: Jeanette Carson

Miniature Show Committee: Connie Guillaume, Martha Rhoades and Kathy Glenn

A BIG thank you to these members for volunteering. We could not have such a successful organization if it weren't for our volunteers.

Miniature Shows 2020

The first miniature show of the year started Feb. 1, at the Urbandale Public Library, 3520 86th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322. It will be there from Feb. 1 - Mar. 14, 2020. We will be hosting an Artist Reception on Saturday, Feb. 8 from 10:00-noon. Family and friends are welcome. Attending this type of event shows our support for both organizers and participants of the Miniature Show. Thanks to their efforts we have such good activities and the public gets to enjoy the best of the best in watercolors.

The second miniature show will be Sep. 5-Oct. 31 at the Johnston

Public Library. Glad to be giving you more advance notice for this one so you will have plenty of time to get ready for submitting your art work.

Spring Workshops

As most of you know, the instructor for our Spring Workshop is British and lives in Northern England. He is Paul Talbot-Greaves.



Paul is a professional painter and he works with watercolor and acrylic. He loves to paint the rugged scenery of the landscape around the Pennine Hills where he lives. I have invited Paul to come a day or two early so that I can show him some of our beautiful countryside. The countryside that he is accustomed to is so different than our countryside, that I thought it a good idea for him to experience ours. That way he can be familiar with the surroundings that inspire our own landscapes.

Paul writes articles for [The Artist Magazine](#) and has four practical art books published.

One of his favorite things is conducting workshops which he does year-round across the UK and Europe.

The workshops are filling up fast. In fact, we are full for the second workshop but do have a waiting list. For the first workshop we only have 4 spaces left.

The first workshop, [Advancing Your Watercolor Technique](#), May 13-15 at La Poste in Perry, will cover many important watercolor skills. Some of these skills, such as wet-on-wet, composition, values, and lost and found edges were skills members mentioned they wanted to learn more about.

Through demonstrations, group exercises and individual attention, Paul will share with you the elements of composition, such as arranging shapes, using perspective and contrast to full effect. You will explore many techniques and variations for introducing lost and found edges

in your work before exploring the importance of value ranges and concentrating on ways of expanding the impact in a painting through dark and light.

There will be a lot of information here that will advance your work in many ways and push your watercolors beyond the ordinary.

The second workshop, [Painting Watercolor Landscapes](#), May 18-20 at La Poste Perry, will focus on techniques for seeking out and painting successful watercolor landscapes. Searching for a scene to paint can sometimes be a frustrating process. There is so much in the landscape that it can be overwhelming and “where to start” is often one of the biggest stumbling blocks. By moving your focus away from views full of daunting information and instead considering some strong design elements, you will learn how to find interest even in the less obvious scenes. Paul will cover important and key topics such as using contrast for impact, creating a strong focal point and the importance of cast

shadows, which will lead us on to making paintings out of nothing and introducing white into your work.

Both workshops will be good for painters of all abilities. Paul is adept at tailoring his help and friendly advice to assist individuals at any level. He teaches in a relaxing manner. His appraisal of work in the classroom is addressed in an honest, friendly and respectful way to allow you to see all the positive and negative elements that may help you to improve beyond the workshop environment.

IMPORTANT

Participants to the workshop will get a 20% discount from the Hotel Patee. When making your reservations, tell the reception that you are attending the IWS Spring Workshop to get the discount.

IWS t-shirts

We are having t-shirts printed for IWS members. Prices are: \$15 if we mail your t-shirt or \$10 if you pick-up the t-shirt. Pick-up will be at this year's annual luncheon.

To order, send check to Cindy Gordon at 10138 SE Drive, Vandalia, Runnells, IA 50237-2068. Please let Cindy know quantity and t-shirt size (small, medium, or large). If you have questions please email Cindy at happifeet56@gmail.com. Place orders NO LATER THAN Aug. 1, 2020



Plein Air Event

Marilyn Romine and I are organizing two plein air days that will take place at the Whiterock Conservancy, which is located near Coon Rapids, IA. The days are Saturday, June 13 and Saturday, June 20.

We will be painting near and around the River House, 1313 Fig Ave., Coon Rapids, IA. We will have the basement of the River House available to us. It is fully finished and furnished, has a studio, full kitchen with two refrigerators, and bathrooms. There is lots of parking available as well.

Wouldn't this be a great way to practice what you have learned during the Spring Workshops, which will emphasize landscape painting.

Each of the plein air days will start at 10:00 am and end at 4:00 pm.

What to bring:

- Easel-but if you don't have one, don't worry, you can bring a chair instead. Put the paper on your lap
- Watercolor paper-either in a block or bring a foam board to tape or hold your paper with clips. You can

also bring a sketchbook if you prefer

- Brushes
- Container to hold water-we will have water available
- A palette, preferably a small one
- Pencils, permanent ink markers (optional) and eraser
- Lunch-which you can store in the refrigerator in the basement.



I love sketching outside and try to do it often, especially when I travel. Above is what I normally carry. The sketchbook in the photo is 8x5 in. I do have several other sizes, some smaller and some larger. The water bottle holds 8 oz. of water. Instead of taking lots of paper towels, I take a small towel.

This event is FREE. To sign up click on the link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e45aeac29a1fa7-plein> and choose the day (or both) you want to attend.

2020 Key Dates

DATE	ACTIVITY	COMMENTS
February 8	Meet the Artist Reception, Miniature Show, Urbandale Library	from 10:00 am-12:00 pm
March 14	Pick-up day, Miniature Show, Urbandale Library	from 12:00 - 4:00 pm
May 13-15	1st Spring Workshop with Paul Talbot-Greaves	La Poste, Perry from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
May 18-20	2nd Spring Workshop with Paul Talbot-Greaves	La Poste, Perry from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
June 11	Annual Exhibition submission deadline	
June 13	Plein Air Event	Location is Whiterock Conservancy
June 20	Plein Air Event	Location is Whiterock Conservancy
July 1	Notifications to artists accepted to the Annual Exhibition will be sent	
July 30	Mailed art must be received no later than this date	Mail to Mary Rose Collectibles, 1215 Warford St., Perry, IA
August 2	Drop-off for accepted paintings to Annual Exhibition	La Poste, Perry from 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm
August 6	Opening Reception, Annual Exhibition	La Poste, Perry from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
August 28	Deadline for entry into the Fall Miniature Show, Johnston Library	
September 5	Drop-off day, Miniature Show, Johnston Library	from 12:00 - 4:00 pm

DATE	ACTIVITY	COMMENTS
September 9-11	1st Fall Workshop with Frank Eber	La Poste, Perry from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
September 12	Meet the Artist Reception, Miniature Show, Johnston Library	from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
September 13	Annual Luncheon	La Poste, Perry from 10:30 am - 4:00 pm
September 13	Pick-up art from Annual Exhibition and Traveling Show	La Poste, Perry from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
September 14-16	2nd Fall Workshop with Frank Eber	La Poste, Perry from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
October 31	Pick-up day, Miniature Show, Johnston Library	from 12:00 - 4:00 pm

Member Viewpoint by Sue Guyer

WINTER WHITE OUTS!!

I am new to the watercolor society. I use every color that I have in my professional watercolor bag of art tricks. My art teacher is a purist, and I have had to introduce her to the use of a bit of white titanium when white is lost and needs to be there. Although I am working hard these days to keep my white paper where I need it, I still reach into my bag of tricks when needed. Here is where I use my Turner White Gouache. This fall I bought a half-dozen small frames after I noticed so many art pieces in the store with painted white frames. Most were dry brushed lightly. I took the backs and glass off the frames and laid out a newspaper to begin. I used a synthetic flat or angle brush and dry brushed the gouache in the same direction the wood grain laid working out from one corner to the next corner. Be careful to keep a light hand at the mitered corners so the finished look is fairly even. You can always

add a bit more brushing. Using this dry brush effect, your frame will have visible wood tones showing through. A light hand is needed and you might want to run your brush over the back of the frame to practice a bit until you get the light effect you want. My frames were stained but not varnished and the simple six or ten dollar variety on the end cap at the hobby store. Five minutes after starting one I was putting the matted painting in. They were perfect for little winter paintings. It is one more way to make white gouache your painting friend all year long.

Member Corner

Jo Myers Walker: Exhibiting at the invitational show “Hard Won, Not Done” at the Muscatine Art Center. The show opened January 18th and runs through April 12th.

Richard Hanson: Will be representing the Iowa Watercolor Society at the National Watercolor Society 50 Stars Exhibition as part of their Centennial Celebration. Exhibition dates are July 9 through September 6, 2020. An opening reception will take place on July 18, 2020 from 2 pm to 5 pm., NWS Gallery, 915 S. Pacific Ave., San Pedro, CA.

Bridget Marcus: Exhibiting at the Urbandale Library May 1 through June 14. Her exhibition is about African birds and she will have works both in watercolors and pastels.

Jan Vander Linden: Will be the “First Friday” featured artist at the Artisan Gallery in Iowa City April 4th, 5:00-7:00 pm.