

December 2010
January 2011

Washrag

N E W S L E T T E R

Watercolor Art Society - Houston

From the President

By Jerrie Gast, *President*

We have a full schedule for the holidays, and then the 34th Annual International Exhibition, our April Clothesline Sale, great 2011 workshops and classes. Can we sit down yet and relax? If you do, you may miss something. WAS-H is an ongoing, busy, education, art-appreciation, making art, discussing art, showing art kind of place, and it never stops. We are so happy and grateful for that.

Sign up soon for the John Salminen workshop; his workshop will fill quickly. This time John will teach his expressive realism. He doesn't just copy his photos; he moves and changes things to make them a better composition. John and his wife, Kathy, are two of our favorites here at WAS-H, so save your place with a deposit.

We are bringing back an old tradition. Many of our members received a Signature Status pin when they attained that level in years past. At our Spring 2011 International Exhibition Reception, all Signature Status members who have not yet gotten a pin will receive theirs along with our newly designated Signature members. It is such a lovely recognition of a continued level of excellence in watercolor painting.

Signature members who did not receive your small signature pin at the time you received your Signature Status, please call the office and leave your name. You will then receive it along with new Signature members this year.

The history of WAS-H chronicled in recent months is an eye opener. All of the founders were certainly forward-looking
(continued on page 2)



The 2000s at WAS-H

By Margaret Bock

To quote President Lou Glist, "Watermedia 2000, like a horse race, is coming around the bend **fast**, and is almost at the finish line. "Excitement is growing; participating societies, national publishers, artists, lecturers and attendees are "chomping at the bit" to get the show on the road.

Watermedia 2000 was recognized by the City of Houston as a major cultural and tourism event by being invited to be a part of Mayor Brown's Houston Challenge 2000. We received a grant for Watermedia 2000 through the Cultural Arts Council of Houston/Harris County.

The Greater Houston Convention and Visitors' Bureau hosted an exhibit of the paintings in the Watermedia 2000 Calendar in their showroom in the City Hall. H & H Music Company sent an organ and a musician to add to the festivities. Kudos to Mary Ann Lucas, who

canvassed businesses throughout the city and environs marketing the Watermedia 2000 Calendars. The Calendar was

(continued on page 6)

Calendar

Monthly Show Take-In – Dec. 4, 10 am – noon

Gallery Reception & Holiday Party – Dec. 10, 6-8 pm

General Meeting, Paint-Out, Paint-In – None in December

Board Meeting – Jan. 3

Monthly Show Take-In – Jan. 8, 10 am – noon

General Meeting – Jan. 9, 1:30, Demo Carol Slobin

Gallery Reception – Jan 14. 6-8 pm

Paint-Out – Jan. 15, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Paint-In – Jan. 22, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm
International Show Entry Deadline – Jan. 29

Wed. Figure Labs – 12:30-3:30 pm

Open Studio – Fri., 1-3 pm

WAS-H office
1601 West Alabama at Mandell
Open Tuesday-Saturday
10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
For information please contact:
Martin Butler, Administrative Assistant
713-942-9966

www.watercolorhouston.org
email: was-h@sbcglobal.net

WASHRAG INFORMATION

DEADLINE for copy, photographs and advertising for the *Washrag* is 4:00 pm, the 5th of each month except June and December. Material not received by the deadline will appear in the next month's *Washrag*. Please submit items via email or typed.

ADVERTISING RATES

Effective September 2001

Full page (7.5" by 10") \$75

Half page (7.5" by 4.7") \$50

Quarter page (3.7" by 4.7") \$25

One column (30 words) \$15

Area Teachers Listing \$25 (per year)

Payments for *Washrag* ads must be received no later than the 10th. Please mail check to WAS-H.

Column ads should be typed. All other ads must be print-ready. Photos must be 300 dpi.

Submit material to:

WAS-H 713-942-9966

1601 West Alabama, Houston, TX 77006,

or via email to our newsletter editor, Rosalie Ramsden, ramsdendesign@earthlink.net. Please put WAS-H in subject line of your email.

Wednesday Model Session

The Wednesday Model Lab group will continue to meet every Wednesday, 12:30-3:30 (unless there is a workshop scheduled) at WAS-H.

Please email me crensink.art@att.net, and I will let

you know the model each week before the session. So y'all come with your drawing and painting gear and do your own thing for three quiet hours of model time. It is a wonderful opportunity. Carol Rensink, 713-524-5146.



Recent model for Wednesday model lab group.



General Meeting, January 9 Social 1:30, Meeting 2:00 pm Demo ~ Carol Slobin

Demo and Workshop with Carol Slobin

Carol Slobin, a native Houstonian, will be our demo artist at our General Meeting



on January 9, 2011. An award-winning artist, Carol is an Elite Signature Member of WAS-H, and her paintings are included in many private and corporate collections. Wine and Roses featured in *How did you paint that? 100 ways to paint Still Life & Florals*, was also published by International Artist Magazine in 2005. She graduated from the University of Houston with a bachelor of fine arts degree.

Join us for an exciting demo and workshop (January 14, 15, & 16, 2011) as Carol incorporates her luminous color, playing against light and shadow, and a dynamic composition as the driving forces behind her beautiful

paintings. Visit her Web site at www.carolslobinfineart.com.

— Linda Vanek, Vice President

Demo with Mary Wilbanks

Mary inspired the WAS-H audience with her intuitive and relaxed style. She engaged



the audience by asking them to identify what aspect attracts them the most in their own painting- shape, color, line, texture, or contrast. She began her painting with acrylic paints thinned with water, and a touch of glazing medium. Using an eye dropper, she created line in her painting with FW Acrylic Ink on both paper and canvas. Layers of differ-

ent types of torn paper were applied, creating overlapping shapes and edges. Mary applied thicker papers by dipping them first in water before applying them to the painting. She then used sand paper, which changed the character of the papers, creating wonderful textures and varying results. Mary continued to improvise, staying in the "unplanned stage" as long as possible to develop the most creative painting. To create a beautiful glow, she applied a "glazing medium" to her painting, omitting it only in areas where a more subtle appearance was desired. Skillfully guiding the viewer through the painting, Mary completed the final design for a stunning finish.

— Linda Vanek, Vice President

(From the President, continued from page 1)

artists. We are proud to be a part of this history, and plan to maintain this historical journal at WAS-H and on the Web site.

Check our bulletin board across from the elevator on occasion. Feel free to post your art-related information there — exhibition announcements, classes and art supply sales and services. You just never know what you may see on there. When other organizations have opportunities for our members to enter their competitions, we post them on this board at no cost to those organizations.

This has been a year to remember, and we are going strong! Hurray for WAS-H and all our members. ☺

The DEADLINE for the WAS-H International Exhibition 2011 is fast approaching

by Norm Wigington and Jo Ellen Harrison

Co-Directors WAS-H 2011 International Exhibition

Beginning March 19 and running until April 15, 2011, the extraordinary scale and scope of watercolor, or aquarelle, as practiced in the first decade of the 21st century will be on full display at 1601 West Alabama in Houston, Texas. The 34th WAS-H International Exhibition, 2011 will be an exciting opportunity to see watercolor painting in its most recent transformation, complexity and maturity.

Simply put, watercolor is a painting compound using water-soluble pigments that are either transparent or opaque. Because of the medium itself as well as the paper to which it is applied, watercolor is frequently thought of as a fugitive medium. Generally this means that without a binder or fixative, the pigment is not permanent. However, one of the most notable and permanent uses of water-based media is the Sistine Chapel, where water-based pigment was mixed with plaster to form buon fresco, the chief and most important medium of the Italian Renaissance.

More appropriately, the history of watercolor painting is inextricably bound to the history of paper, invented in its present form by the Chinese shortly after 100 AD. Papermaking was introduced to Spain by the conquering Moors in the mid-12th century and spread to Italy 25 years later. Watercolor was first used by architectural draftsmen and topographers as a tool, but English artists of the mid-1700s began to elevate watercolor to a fine art. Watercolorists were soon introducing figures into their compositions, and the genius of Winslow Homer revealed to American artists the extraordinary potential of watercolor as a medium of serious aesthetic expression.

While American artists in the early 19th century seemed to regard water-

color primarily as a sketching tool, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, many of the greatest American painters began using watercolor as a major medium. Among these were James A. McNeill Whistler, Thomas Eakins, John Singer Sargent, Childe Hassam and Maurice Prendergast. During the 20th century, watercolor became a medium of tremendous diversity of style. Famous watercolorists in the 20th century include John Marin, Edward Hopper, Charles Demuth, Charles Burchfield and Andrew Wyeth.

The 21st century remains an open book and who knows what famous watercolorists will become household names in this new century? Maybe yours? The entry deadline for the 34th WAS-H International Exhibition, is the end of January 2011, with show dates set for March and April, 2011. You can't show if you do not enter. The International Exhibition entry deadline is January 29, 2011, and the official prospectus is available online at the WAS-H Web site, www.watercolorhouston.org.

Thank you

Muriel Christensen
Public Relations Director

A collective Thank You to the innumerable volunteers who made celebrating WAS-H's 35th anniversary such a wonderful, memorable and exciting experience. We now have a documented history written up for posterity, thanks to Margaret Scott Bock. Countless kudos to Rosalie Ramsden for all the printing needs that were so professionally and tastefully executed. To the 35th Anniversary Planning Committee, much appreciation goes out to Paula Doughty and the "A-Team" and to Karen Stopnicki for their creative ideas and energies. Art is Alive at WAS-H! Keep the flame going! ☺



Member Teachers Listing

Sallie Anderson Studio
Galveston, 409-763-2265

Portia Bell, BFA
Beginners to Intermediate at
WAS-H, 281-530-8999

Diana Brandt, Memorial, Houston
Beginners to intermediate, 713-935-0349
watercolor70131@yahoo.com

Barbara Jeffery Clay, AWS
Bellaire area, bclayartist@aol.com
713-592-6303

Pat Conroy, TWS, WFS, WAS-H
Kingwood/Atascocita
281-852-3062

Caroline Graham, WAS-H
Museum District
713-664-6589, cgrahamart@msn.com

Joanie Hughes
For Beginners (inside 610), 713-426-6767,
joan-hughes@comcast.net

Nellie Kress, WAS-H, TWS
Katy & Richmond, 281-347-0248
nkkress@msn.com

Gay Paratore, BA, MED, NSA, TWS, WAS-H, Thursdays - Art Alliance at Clear Lake, 409-316-1005

Carol Slobin, WAS-H. Sugar Land
Artists' Alliance and Southwest Houston,
carolslobin@comcast.net, 281-565-1650

Shirley Sterling, NWS, TWS, WFS, WAS-H
Clear Lake, 281-474-4214

Mary Rustay, 713-703-1533 Cell
Watercolor for seniors at WAS-H,
no charge.

A.J. Schexnayder, AWS, NWS, WAS-H
N.W. Houston, 281-444-7524
ajschexnayder@earthlink.net

Marsha Harris Solomon, TWS-PS, NWO, NMWS, AWA, WAS-H
713-266-917 louisgsolomon@peoplepc.com

Mary Wilbanks, NWS, TWS-PS, WAS-H, Workshops and critiques. 281-370-7879 marywilbanks@gmail.com

Art on the Go

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'

The drive from the Oakland airport brought me into the ochre hills of the Bay Area. My California friend, Norma, and I visited many galleries, including a winery which hosts art exhibits. We also toured a museum in Stockton, where Norma's oil painting was chosen for a juried show.

Days later, we drove four hours north to the charming Pacific coastal village of Mendocino to meet with nine other artists, and more galleries.

Our six-bedroom rented Victorian house gave us plenty of space to work. Sketchbooks, photography and touring were premier on everyone's list. These

are my "art buddies" whom I have met over the years, some in different countries. Someone finds a house or



apartment, and we follow. Our usual routine is doing our art during the day, and meeting back for a home-cooked dinner, where we take turns cooking, as well as trying local ingredients.

Evening "show and tell" of our work is common. These artists are very active in Bay Area art organizations and outdoor shows, both in organizing and participating.

I spent second week with old friends in the San Francisco area, and again, visiting galleries. A pleasant surprise is that Stanford University has an outside Rodin sculpture garden.

As always, I took too many art supplies. But I placed them consolidated in a filled microfiber art caddy (5 x 7 x 8) in the bottom of my backpack. Since I crammed so many extras on all sides, nothing moved. When need be, I lifted the caddy out. The caddy held pens, small sketchbooks, brushes, cut-up

paper towels, watercolor set and watercolor pencils. I placed some larger watercolor sheets on a cardboard in my other



suitcase, between clothing.

And my favorite 9 X 12 sketchbook rarely left my hip. I started my pen sketches on Day One.

California Observations

- Texture was apparent in 2-D work.
- Collages were not only paper, but also beads, glass, just "stuff."
- Subject matter was upbeat and colorful and hopeful.

Tips

- A small shoulder bag is always needed for short trips. It can be folded up.
- A journal is a necessity to supplement information of your location and your work.
- Use small colored envelope to keep track of receipts. It's easy to find in your pack.
- Take postcard stamps. Why waste time hunting for a post office?

These trips are cathartic for an artistic being. They seem to punch up enthusiasm for our craft, in seeing new art, and thinking, "Hmmm, how can I make my work better?"

Carpe diem . shirl riccetti •
sriccetti@comcast.net • 713-460-1895

Condolences

It is with great sadness that we extend condolences to past president and most faithful teacher and member, Marsha Harris, in the recent death of her husband Lou Solomon. A long-time member and frequent visitor to our WASH activities, Lou will truly be missed.

Splash

Members' announcements of juried show acceptances and awards

Several members of WAS-H came through with flying colors, and we mean ribbon colors: blue, red, white and green, at the Houston Civic Arts Association (HCAA) Gallery in Bellaire, Texas. HCAA's Annual Fall Open Show was juried by noted artist Lanelle Arndt, and the following WAS-H artists carried away the these honors:

Professional Division: WATERCOLOR: Jackie Liddell: Honorable Mention for *Trees from Hades*; Tim Schneider: Honorable Mention for *Birds*.

Semi-Professional Division: ABSTRACT/ MIXED MEDIA: Muriel Christensen, First Place for *Allendale Pond*; Melia Velarde, Second Place for *Confrontation*; Rona Lesser, Third Place for *Playing with Line*. **WATERCOLOR:** Susan Tsai, First Place for *Summer Lily*; Muriel Christensen, Second Place for *New England Wild Turkeys*; Rona Lesser, Third Place for *Figure Study*.

Non-Professional Division: ABSTRACT/ MIXED MEDIA: Leslie Chang, Second Place for *Flying Up*; Carmen Zorzi, Honorable Mention for *Space Debris*. ☺



Seeds of Watercolor have been received: In memory of Marsha Harris's husband, long time WAS-H member and friend Lou Solomon from Steve Brenner, Susan Giannantonio, Bruce Winquist and The Watercolor Art Society-Houston membership.

In memory of Catherine Abby Palmer Walne from Anne Lamkin Kinder and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bowen.

In memory of Cosmo Albers from Susan Giannantonio. ☺

**PLEASE
SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS**



1st place: Claire Payne, *Gemstones* “The artist has applied many interesting techniques to create an exceptional experimental piece. Many mediums are evident, and the artist made good use of the neutral color...she used it to edit the piece beautifully.”



2nd place: Marsha Harris, *Flight of Water* “This is a very traditional watercolor scene done with wonderful experimental techniques. The metallic underpainting is the ground for many layers of fabulous color.”



3rd place: Linda Vanek. *Parisian Dreams* “I love Yupo paper. This depiction of the Eiffel Tower conveys the joy of a weekend in Paris beautifully. I like the simple frame and neutral mat.”

Watercolor Teachers Needed

“The City of Houston Parks Department is asking WAS-H to help with watercolor classes for people with physical disabilities. An extract of their request follows: “We are the Adaptive Recreation division of the Houston Parks & Recreation Department and we manage programs out of the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1475 W. Gray, Houston, TX, 77019 ... Our main focus is to offer sports, recreation, wellness, and exer-

cise and fitness programs to people with physical disabilities. While we have excelled on the sports and fitness side we have recently made an effort to increase the arts side of recreation and leisure. We are currently offering acrylics based painting class through help/volunteers with the Houston Civic Arts Association We were hoping to kick

November Member Exhibition

By Susenne Telage

We had a terrific turnout for our November Experimental Show with a total of 87 entries. Linda Darke Swaynos was our juror. She was impressed with both the quality and quantity of the entries.

The following is a list of awards and Linda’s comments on the show:

“As a past WAS-H president and teacher, I was so pleased to be invited back to judge this exhibition. I believe that allowing our members to submit works on surfaces other than paper encourages artists to experiment with the endless possibilities of watermedia. There were so many wonderful paintings; it was very difficult to give out awards. There were so many ‘winning’ pieces!

“As a gallery owner, I do prefer simple frames and neutral color mats for group exhibitions. It is difficult to judge a big show without uniform frames and mats. But it is a wonderful show. I am sorry that an opening at our gallery will keep me from attending the WAS-H reception.”

Honorable Mentions

Deborah Hill, Richard Linden, Susenne Telage, Veranne Graham, Jan Shrader, Deb Hagemeyer, and Ann Erard.

Our juror, Linda Darke Swaynos, donated her \$100 stipend back to WAS-H. We all express our gratitude to her for her generosity. 🙏

off a 6 to 8 week watercolor class in the spring time, maybe February or March and it would be a daytime activity like a Tuesday or Thursday each week. In return for teachers, equipment or anything else you might be able to help us out with we would love to help promote the WAS-H by hanging a banner in our main lobby/hallway area, posting a link to your website on ours, handing out literature in our facility, etc.”

If you interested in volunteering, please contact Wilson Windle, Outreach Director, WAS-H, at wwindle@pdq.net. 🙏

Paint-In

Margaret Bock and Betty Frost

Paint-In Coordinators

Joanie Hughes – Saturday January 22,

9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Pen, Ink, and Watercolor - All levels



With attention given to all aspects of painting concepts and techniques, this medium has endless possibilities for a variety of themes with loose,

relaxed paintings inspired by favorite treasures, remembered travels, and nature, as well as references for future paintings.

Supply list: Watercolor pad 9x12 or 8 1/2 – 100lb., black pens, one waterproof and one regular, Kneaded eraser, small, and medium brushes, tissues, paper towels, any current paints or pan paints, Winsor Newton paints (only if paint is needed), new gambage, burnt sienna, alizarin crimson, french ultramarine, Winsor violet, Hookers green, and digital camera. ☺

Carol Slobin

Paint-In, November 2010

Carol Slobin's class had a great view of



the model. Tables were placed in a circle surrounding the model, who posed on a stand. Carol did several demos while explaining that careful observation will produce a good likeness of the model. The class was most attentive, and some wonderful sketches and paintings resulted. — Betty Frost

Volunteer of the Month

Dan Doughty

You may have noticed that the block wall at the Mandell parking area, which screens the mechanical equipment, had collected some unsightly dirt and rust. The lower area of the building wall at both Mandell and Alabama also had a visually disturbing dark stain. Dan Doughty, Paula Doughty's husband, has removed the dirt, rust and stain from each of these areas. To do this, Dan brought a pressure washer to the building and, with a great deal of muscle power, time and commitment to making our building as attractive as possible, cleaned the walls.

We are pleased and thankful to have within our group of artists those such as Dan who are committed to making and keeping our environment a pleasant place to create and enjoy watercolor painting. ☺

(2000s at WAS-H continued from page 1)

plugged on Channel 2's "The Buzz," and Watermedia 2000 was featured on Debra Duncan's show as she hosted 25 of our members.

During 2000 WAS-H featured:

Jurors, Membership Exhibits:

Carol Meyers, Arne Westerman, Judi Morris, Marilyn Hughey Phillips, Doug Lew, Joy Moon, George James, Jan Fabian Wallake and Dale Laitinen.

Jurors, International Exhibits: Carla O'Conner, Jim Kosvanec, Chen Khee Chi, Steve Quiller, Betsy Dillard Stroud, Judi Morris, Frank Webb and John Salminen.

Major Workshops: Janet Walsh, Fred Messersmith, Dan Burt, Don Getz and Mark Mahaffey.

Show Venues:

Continental Center, Uptown Park, One Houston Center and Allen Center.

Meeting and Workshop Venues:

These events, meetings and workshops were held at the Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center on the northwest side of Hermann Park, the Glassell Auditorium and The Museum of Fine

Art auditorium to accommodate the larger audiences.

Miscellany:

- In September 2008, Stephen Brenner, Susan Giannantonio, Suzanne Leatherwood, and Stanley Smith were granted Honorary Memberships for their significant efforts over and above average on behalf of WAS-H.
- A quote from Barb Dougherty, Publisher of Art Calendar: "Watercolor has become a serious school of art in America. For

(continued on page 7)

Exploring Impressionism in Watermedia, Hands On

Susan Giannantonio

Tuesday afternoons, Jan. 18 thru March 8

Explore methods used by the impressionist artists we love. Alternating watercolor and acrylics, week by week. You may paint either one or both. Weekly Demos. Resource materials provided; paint-along a painting each week. All levels welcome.

For more info, go to <http://SusanTeachesPainting.blogspot.com>.

(continued from page 6)

Houston to recognize this fact is a gift to the entire world!"

- Seeds of Watercolor is a fund started to give an opportunity to honor and remember friends or families by sowing Seeds of Watercolor through donations. As of July 2008, \$8500 had been received.
- A permanent donor wall has been installed. Fretz Construction Co. provided the installation as a donation. Suzanne Leatherwood enhanced the presentation by painting the supporting wall. It is historic that an organization such as ours was able to raise the funds to build this state-of-the art building in just three years.



- A plaque to memorialize Past Presidents was donated by the GAS group and installed in the library. Three Past Presidents – Lou Glist, Harold Phenix, and Dr. Faber McMullen, who contributed greatly to the success and recognition that WAS-H enjoys today – are presently named on the plaque.
- Two Examiner Newspaper reporters, a documentary filming visitor and a representative from Mayor Bill White's office were present for the February "Sweet Arts Night" reception.
- Houston meteorologist Frank Billingsley from KPRC Channel 2 was emcee at the awards presentation for the Annual Members Exhibit held at WAS-H.
- The Citizen's Environmental Coalition (CEC) donated \$100 toward a Judge's Choice Award at our Earth Day exhibit.
- The 2008-09 Board of Directors took action to deem Monthly Exhibits to be truly juried as meets the Statement of Professional Standards for Exhibits as contained in the Annual Membership Directories.

Activities:

Amid all the above, WAS-H's usual activities proceeded with calm and aplomb for 35 years, they being Annual Juried Exhibits, monthly general meetings with demos, outreach, Clothesline Sale, Paint-Outs, Paint-Ins, figure lab, critique sessions with leading member artists, wonderful demos and workshops featuring our own fantastically talented artists.

- There were two overnighter Paint-Outs: one at Round Top at Festival Hill with all the amenities provided and the other at Galveston.



Mary Rustay with WAS-H's Paint-Out group in Chapel Hill, Texas.

- Weekend Splashes were inaugurated to give members who work during the week an opportunity to study with the pros.
- Monthly juried shows give members an opportunity to exhibit their work while learning the rules and regulations of entering competitions.
- Claybord was accepted as a viable surface for watercolor competitions and later on was ruled to be acceptable without plexiglass. This moved us even more into the new millennium.
- After much deliberation with members and other watercolor societies, the 2008 Board of Directors deemed canvas an acceptable surface for watermedia. This was done to encourage members to "think out of the box." The ruling limits painting on canvas to experimental exhibits in monthly shows for the time being only.
- An aid to help members learn of competition opportunities was a column in

the Washrag called "Show Ticklers."

- A WAS-H Web site was launched October 2001.
- WAS-H was the recipient of the art



contents of the Bowen Library!

Signature Memberships:

- The Board opened the Signature Membership category to include any member in good standing whose paintings had been accepted into our International Exhibition three or more times. Those existing Signature Members who had to earn their status by having been chosen in five or more WAS-H International Shows are now designated as Signature Member Elite.
- Arts In Medicine has been held at Texas Children's Hospital Cancer Center ongoing Tuesdays since 1998.



- Presidents in the 2000s were Lou Glist,
(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)

Susan Giannantonio, John Ryall, Steve Brenner (2 terms), Linda Swaynos, Ann Bell (2 terms), Jeanne Heise, Mary Davis and Jerrie Gast (2 terms). The bylaws were revised limiting presidents to two terms.

Outreach Recipients:

On going programs are enabled by the wonderful volunteers who donate their



Left to Right: Jackie Williams, Sarah Kitgawa, Barbara Montagnino with Sarah's painted "Comfort Cart" to be used in the highest-acuity units stocked with items of comfort and care.

time and talents. Many who cannot partake physically contributed supplies or funds for supplies. Art Supply has donated many, many supplies.

• Art for Seniors has been ongoing since 1985, led by Mary Rustay Thursdays at WAS-H.



Mary Rustay with the Art for Seniors

• \$1000 Scholarship Annual Award was established and presented to a graduating senior of the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. The Award must go toward an example of the work that won the Scholarship Award in 2010. *Aroma 2* by Portlynn Tagavi.



college art program.

- Art programs at Cornerstone Academy, SBISD's charter school and Spring Branch Community Center.
- Houston International Festival's WATERMEDIA IRELAND volunteers teaching, coaching, judging in regional junior and senior high schools, and culminating with the contest winners exhibit at the Downtown Public Library.



- WAS-H Summer Art Classes for children ages 7 to 12/
- Brownie Scouts "Care to Share" at Ainsley Court Assisted Living, Cypress, Texas.
- Bethany Methodist Church; Depelchin Children's Center; Galena Park High School; Lomax Middle School, LaPorte; Riverwood Middle School, Humble; North Shore Middle School, Houston; Cypress Creek High; and Pasadena High.

- Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center after-school art program.

Auxiliary Exhibitions:

- Signature Membership Show. In recognition of the members who earned this special honor, the Board of Directors decided to provide a special show opportunity for them following the Membership Exhibit in the fall of 2001. The show, which was not be juried, was mounted in the WAS-H Gallery.
- Monthly Gallery Winners Show was part of Watermedia 2003. Juror Arthur Turner gave Awards for Best of Show, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention.
- Giclee Exhibit one time only, July 2002

- monthly show fund-raiser. Juror: Kathy Buchanan of Buchanan Gallery.
- The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Art Invitational.
- Art Houston. An annual July event sponsored by the City of Houston and the Houston Art Dealers Association (HADA). It is meant to create interest in art during July. A joint brochure is produced, sometimes with a theme. A

percent of sales goes toward aiding a charity. Costs of brochure and advertising are split. WAS-H participated in 2000 to bring attention to Watermedia. Watercolor exhibits were encouraged at that time.

• In September of 2008, WAS-H and Houston Grand Opera announced a painting competition celebrating the HGO production of Benjamin Britten's opera *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The competition afforded WAS-H an introduction to a new venue and was consistent with the Opera's mission to integrate the Arts in Houston.

The competition opened with an introduction to the opera by noted opera lecturer Ann Thompson, followed by three viewings of DVDs of both the Shakespeare play and the opera in October, November and December. The January 2009 General meeting demon-



Left to right: Elisabeth Basiley, HGO Director of Marketing and Communications; Neil Armfield, Director; and Dale Ferguson, set and costume designer.

stration was a presentation by internationally known Australian Director Neil Armfield and Set and Costume Designer Dale Ferguson. All offered to members to generate ideas for theme of paintings related to the opera.

Six paintings were selected by Juror Arthur Turner to hang in the Wortham Theater Center during the production of the opera. The first, second and third place winners each received two tickets to the opera and were treated to a wine and cheese reception prior to curtain.

Fifty paintings were entered at \$10 each. WAS-H donated \$500 in the take-in fees to the opera. HGO donated the tickets and hosted the reception.

- I-SEA, the International Society of Experimental Artists Exhibit, was scheduled to be at WAS-H in September 2008, complete with a Member Convention. Demos were scheduled by Joel Sampson and Maureen Brouillette Sampson. However, Hurricane Ike came instead and spoiled all the fun and all the hard work the committee did to produce the event.
- Montgomery College Invitational.
- Texas A&M University J. Wayne Stark Gallery Invitational Competition Exhibition was judged by Arthur Turner.
- The featured exhibit on display during the grand opening celebration was the



The silent auction wall of the Claybord 100 Rund Raising Sale



Left to right: Linda Swaynos, Elaine Salazar and Edwin Ramos

WAS-H 100 Fundraiser. To its credit, the sales from this exhibit grossed \$23,000 and netted \$20,000. The funds were committed to help round out our Capital Campaign. 125 clayboards were donated by Amper-sand Art Supply. 100 WAS-H



Three magnificent columns and two tables were constructed by the children in the Arts In Medicine program at Texas Children's Hospital.



Sam Caldwell introduces Alice Hoffman, who read her prizewinning poem "The Black Rose."



Bridgett Vallery, Gregory Wilson and Carolyn Farb

members donated paintings executed on Claybord to the sale, a number of which were fea-

tured in a silent auction. Approximately 400 guests were in attendance.

- Bridgett Vallery's "I Love New York" preparation for hosting the American Watercolor Traveling Exhibit was unique, causing anticipation and excitement while awaiting the arrival of the Show. The AWS show was paired with an auction and sale to benefit the Texas Children's Cancer Center. A fabulous exhibit of 100 WAS-H members' paintings on Claybord for the TCC auction. Clayboards were donated by Ampersand Art Supply. The evening was a resounding success. The fundraiser netted \$10,000. The guests enjoyed seeing what the American Watercolor Society considered noteworthy as they hummed along with Jordan Derouen as he sang "I Love New York in June." The Claybord sale paid for the expense of bringing the AWS show to Houston, and for the little patients at TCC to enjoy experiencing the joy of painting.

Watermedia 2000

- WAS-H apron sales were ongoing.
- WAS-H hosted the Annual Business Meeting and Exhibit of the WFWS.
- WAS-H celebrated Watermedia 2000 by simultaneously exhibiting over 500 award-winning artists from seven prestigious art societies from 27 states coast to coast.

The Exhibits were:

- From New York, the American Watercolor Society (AWS) 1999-2000 Traveling Show.
- From California, the National Watercolor Society (NWS) Permanent Collection spanning years 1955-1985.
- From Pennsylvania, the National Society of Painters in Casein and Acrylic (NSPCA) Signature Member Exhibit. Representing 19 southern states, the



Delegates of the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies in Houston for Watermedia 2000 in the lobby at the Doubletree Hotel Downtown getting ready for the day's activities.

Southern Watercolor (SW) 23rd Annual Competition Exhibition.

- From Texas, the Texas Watercolor Society (TWS) 51st Annual

(continued on page 10)

41st Annual Mem

More News on the Annual Members Exhibit

Hi, art friends, and thanks for being patient and waiting for this issue to hear more about the Annual Members Exhibit. We went to press before the reception and had some space limitations due to the wonderful article on WAS-H history.

The reception was so much fun. Frank Billingsley from Channel 2 came to announce the awards. He was cute and charming and made the whole evening more special. This year we had 30 awards from manufacturers, plus an extra WAS-H-sponsored award in honor of our 35th Anniversary. For me as director of the event, it is so nice to see the winners at the event and to honor them for the hard work and creativity they bring into our organization with their paintings.

The show had over 225 entries, and 90 made the cut. Let me tell you, it was a tough cut, too. Our juror, Dale Laitinen, spent a great deal of time carefully selecting the show and then thoughtfully assigning the awards.

Here is a comprehensive listing of all winners: **1st Place:** Carla Gauthier; **2nd Place:** Judi Coffey; **3rd Place:** Liz Hill; **Honorable Mention:** David Lloyd, Monica Pate, Kay E. Rekoff, Keiko Yasuoka; **President's Award:** Julie Soldano; **Director's Award:** Kay Stern; **35th Anniversary Award:** Thuy Thi, **Merchandise Awards:** Cynthia Reid, Tera Yoshimura, Deborah Hill, Linda Vanek, Les McDonald, Ruby Allen, Kirby Attwell, Robin Avery, Liduine Bekman, Kathleen Bernard, J. Henderson Burns, Natalie Cook, Marj Hales, Philip Hubbell, Jr, Leslie Chang, Pat Conroy, Brenda Emery, Sherry Tseng Hill, Marilyn M. Hillery, Jackie Liddell, Susan M. Tsai, Barbara Feiner, Duncan Simmons, Muriel Christensen, Barbara Kremenezky, Gay Paratore, A. J. Schexnader, Dale Schmidt, Cuauhtemoc Murphy, Donna Villarreal Barbara Feiner, Duncan Simmons, Muriel Christensen, Barbara Kremenezky, Gay Paratore, A. J. Schexnader, Dale Schmidt, Cuauhtemoc Murphy, Donna Villarreal. 🍷



Juror, Dale Laitinen



Left to right: Carla Gauthier, First Place Winner and Karen Stopnicki, Annual Members Exhibit Director



Frank Billingsley from Channel 2 announced awards.



Left to right: Judi Coffey, Second Place winner and Karen Stopnicki.



Left to right: Karen Stopnicki and Liz Hill, Third Place winner.



Left to right: Karen Stopnicki and David Lloyd, Honorable Mention winner.



Left to right: Karen Stopnicki and Monica Pate, Honorable Mention winner.



Left to right: Kay E. Rekoff, Honorable Mention winner and Karen Stopnicki.



Left to right: Keiko Yasuoka, Honorable Mention winner and Karen Stopnicki.

Members Exhibit



Left to right: Julie Soldano, President's Award winner and Karen Stopnicki.



Left to right: Karen Stopnicki and Kay Stern, Director's Award winner.



Left to right: Karen Stopnicki and Thuy Thi, 35th Anniversary Award winner.

Dale Laitinen Workshop

The five-day workshop, titled "Live to Design," with our Annual Member Exhibit juror, Dale Laitinen, was both fun and informative. Dale began with a line drawing from his sketchbook as "motivation," not necessarily transferring the drawing exactly to the 300 lb. watercolor paper.

Each day began with a demo; it was fascinating for me to watch Dale wield his big brush to create both broad and thin areas of color. He paints in layers with one color at a time, wet in wet, letting the colors mix on the paper instead of the palette. For detail and interest he would switch to a smaller brush. In this manner he executed both abstract and realistic paintings.

Phyllis Sassoon commented that although she is not an abstract painter, Dale walked us through abstraction in his demo and she learned a lot about line, shape and design. We also went downstairs to look at the winning paintings in the exhibit, and Dale pointed out to us the interesting surfaces of the paintings. He reminded us to vary our brushstrokes and to make them expressive.

Dale encourages every painter, whether drawing or painting, to stand and move his or her arms and body — get involved with one's art. If you want to improve, "put mileage on your brush!"

— Kathy Farr



Dale Laitinen critiquing paintings.



Dale Laitinen instructing workshop participants.



Left to right: Leslie Chang, Susan Tsai, Margo Graces, Beverly Aderholt, Carol Slobin and Ellen Hauge.

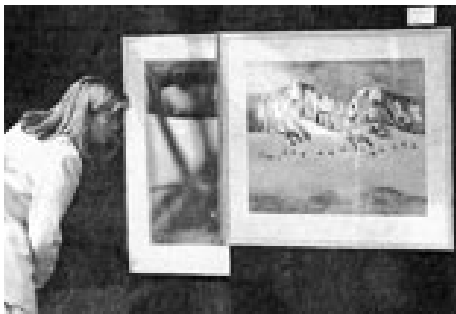
(continued from page 7)

Competition Exhibition.

- From Houston, the Watercolor Art Society-Houston (WAS-H) 23rd Annual International Competition Exhibition.
- From Houston, the Watercolor Art Society-Houston (WAS-H) 1st Signature Membership Exhibition.
- From eleven states from Texas to California, the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies (WFWS) 1st Signature Membership Exhibit.

On the day of hanging the exhibits, a crew was ready to start delivery of the flats at 5:30 am. One after the other, each venue received their flats. Soon after, the paintings followed, each venue receiving the correct exhibit. Carol Hale and Duncan Simmons had the details worked out to the minute. It was awesome.

Auxiliary Exhibits:



Paintings from Watermedia 2000 being viewed in downtown Houston.

- Watercolor Art Society-Houston Gallery Membership Exhibit
- Archway Gallery Membership Exhibit
- International Festival Brazil/WAS-H Area School Children's Exhibits were at the Houston Public Library.
- Texas Art Educators Association, Area School Children's Exhibit, Houston Public Library

The venues hosting the exhibits were: 500 Jefferson Building, Cullen Center, One Allen Center, 1100 Louisiana Building, Downtown Public Library, Pennzoil Place, Bank of America Center, The Lyric Center and Wells Fargo Plaza.

Expo:

- The Doubletree Hotel in downtown Houston was the venue for the three days of activities, which comprised the many activities of Watermedia 2000
- The sale of art supplies featuring major manufacturers of art materials and their

artists who demonstrated the many ways to use their products.



Vendors at Watermedia 2000 awaiting the surge of artists coming between workshops..

- Workshops by leading watercolorists such as James Juszcyk, Betsy Dillard Stroud, Susan Scheewe, Barbara Dougherty, Ed Betts, Gordon Fowler, Tom Lynch, Stephen Quiller, Zoltan Szabo, among the 24 who were there.
- Symposia speakers: De Carol Troyen, MFA Boston; Dr. Edmund Pillsbury, CEO of Pillsbury; Peters Fine Art in Dallas; Meridith Long; Virginia Cobb; Stephen Doherty, Editor in Chief, *American Artist* and *Watercolor Magazines*; Ed Betts; Polly Hammett; Hilary Page; Dean Mitchell and Arthur Turner.
- Many of the attendees had rooms at the Doubletree with easy access to all activities taking place on the second floor. Can you imagine the energy that was expended as artists sped from exhibit to exhibit, workshop to workshop, then to the vendors to get all those wonderful (and wonderfully inexpensive) supplies they just had to have? It was a very exciting time!
- The banquet at the Plaza Club, One Shell Plaza, was elegant. Jack Bowen was the Honoree, and Peter Marzio, Director of the MFA-H, was Guest Speaker.
- There was an Honorary Committee numbering 24 chaired by Ann L. Kinder. Jack Bowen was the Honorary Chair of the Advisory Board consisting of 17 people, The Executive Committee Watermedia 2000 numbered 33. There were 43 paintings donated to the Silent Auction, as well as 28 in-kind contributions.

• Among the 23 vendors were Jack Richardson Ampersand Art Supply, Holbein, Inc., Strathmore Paper and Savoir Faire.

- The art magazines donated ads, and KTRK TV/Channel 13 promoted us.
- The grand total of income was \$115,546.50; expenses \$97,821.95; and profit was \$17,724.95.

Watermedia 2003

• Watermedia 2003 opened April 9, 2003. The Doubletree Hotel downtown was again abuzz with excitement as artists from across Houston and environs as well as from around the nation arrived to take part in the 51 workshops and 13 symposia being offered, to say nothing of the trade show and the six exceptional watercolor exhibits.

• Among the WAS-H producers, there were high hopes of repeating the success enjoyed by Watermedia 2000. Being older and wiser, we were very much better organized. Thanks to computer-savvy people, things went very smoothly. Sales recordkeeping was perfection, thanks to Steve Brenner and Bruce Winquist. Workshop chairmen kept the changing of workshop takers and teachers running smoothly, seeing that the monitors were in place, directing the flow of traffic and



Watermedia 2003 Executive Committee at a planning session. Seated from left to right: Marsha Harris, Margaret Bodk, Mary Rustay, Jo Ann Miller. Standing: Bob Sklar, Susan Giannantonio, Carol Hale, Lou Glist, John Ryall.

getting the right instructor to the right room. Of course the students swarmed the trade show between classes, getting great, great bargains.

- Some of the instructors at Watermedia

2003 were Catherine Anderson, Virginia Cobb, Timothy Clark, Donna Durbin, Judy Morris, Hilary Page, Jan Pollard, Marilyn Huey Phillis, Jean Grastorf, Donald Clegg, Judy Coffey, Paul Jackson, Betsy Dillard Stroud, Calvin Goodman, Dean Mitchell, Karen Vernon, Marcie Boone, Steven Quiller, Zoltan Szabo was scheduled to come, but his sudden death called for quick action. Steve Quiller graciously stepped in and took his place.

- In attendance were Steven Doherty,



Artist Dean Mitchell with editors of *Watermedia* and *Watercolor Magic* magazines at Watermedia 2003 Banquet

Editor in Chief of *American Artist* and *Watercolor Magazine*; Maurine Bloomfield, Senior Editor of *Watercolor Magic*; Sandra Carpenter, Editor of *Artist Magazine*; Jennifer King, U.S Editor of *International Artist Magazine*. Jennifer King was very interested in the Challenge of Champions Exhibit. Her interest led to a featured article in the *International Artist Magazine* September of 2003. Congratulations to John Ryall, whose concept and execution of the Challenge of Champions theme was his.

- The art exhibitions included the WAS-H International Exhibit, the Ohio Watercolor Society Exhibit, The



Watermedia 2003 Workshop Artist Marilyn Huey Phillis with Pat and John Ryall, Challenge of Champions Chair.

International Society of Experimental Artists, the National Watercolor Society (NWS) Traveling Exhibit and the Florida Watercolor Society Exhibit.

- In-kind full page ads of *Watermedia* 2003 ran in *Watercolor Magic*, *Watercolor* and *American Artist* magazines multiple times. Art Calendar ran it once. KUH 88.7 FM ran two 30-second spot announcements for two days. Fox News featured publicity competition winners singly for a week. Word has it that 2003 had a dramatic impact in terms of tourist dollars bringing visitors to downtown Houston from Greater Houston and environs as well as from across the U.S. and internationally.

Banquet:

A very gala banquet was held at the Plaza Club, One Shell Plaza, honoring Herb Alpert for his contributions to the arts. His efforts took form not only with his performance in the many facets of art, but also in the creation of the Herb Alpert Foundation to assist educational and arts programs.

- Herb Alpert was the recipient of WAS-H's Medallion recognizing artis-



Herb Alpert, wearing his WAS-H Medallion at Watermedia 2003, speaking at gala banquet.

tic achievement. He thanked WAS-H and spoke about his philosophy of art and its influence on his work. He was



Steve Brenner, WAS-H President; Ann Thompson, guest speaker and Margaret Bock, Chairman Watermedia 2003 at the banquet honoring Herb Alpert. introduced by Calvin Goodman, Art Consultant. Ann Thompson, Founder

of Let's Go to the Opera, was Guest Speaker. She gave an inspirational (and humorous) speech about the link between art and music

- WAS-H was honored to have Edwin A. Eubanks, AIA, and John B. Holstead,



Left to right: John and Marilyn Holstead with Susan and Robert Lynch enjoying the festivities at Watermedia 2003 Banquet

ESQ, as Honorary Chairmen of the banquet. Their participation garnered Watermedia 2003 the attention of many of Houston's philanthropists and art patrons. Donations from the Harry S. and Isabel Cameron Foundation, Tillman Fertitta, George P. Michell, Marilyn Oshman, Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Tomjanovich, Dr. Faber McMullen and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lynch, among others. With the help of these generous people, the banquet was a financial success, as well as a successful effort in making the community aware of watermedia and the Watercolor Art Society-Houston.

- Mr. Eubanks, owner of Mirabeau Antiques, Architectural Elements and



Herb Alpert in conversation at his reception at Buchanan Gallery, Galveston, TX.

Art Gallery, feted Alpert with an exhibition at Mirabeau Gallery during Watermedia 2003.

- Alpert was also honored with an Exhibition at Kathy Buchanan's Buchanan Gallery in Galveston.

- Among the nine door prizes was
(continued on page 14)

(continued from page 13)



Lottie Glist; Katy Buchanan of Buchanan Gallery, Galveston; and Karen Vernon at Watermedia 2003 Banquet

a chance to spend some time at the O'Sullivan Condo in Breckenridge, Colorado, and a watercolor workshop at B&B in Mt. Home, Texas.

• Receptions were held for the WAS-H International Challenge of Champions and Herb Alpert at Mirabeau Gallery, Buchanan Gallery and Christ Church Cathedral Invitational. There was also a book signing and sale featuring seven artist/instructors of the Expo who were in attendance at the Expo.

Quotes:

- Ann Emmert Abbott, Editor of *Watercolor Magic* magazine: "I'm so impressed by the Watermedia 2003 Web site and by all of the events you guys have planned! WOW!"
- Jean Grastorf, Artist/Instructor: "It was really a joy to be with you."
- Judy Morris, Artist/Instructor: "You provide so much enjoyment packed into a few days — Outstanding."
- Participants: "Do it again, only sooner than three years." "It was wonderful." "The exhibits were beautiful and all in walking distance." "What a wonderful group of sharing, enthusiastic and creative people, both teaching and attending."

Not all workshop artists were very well known. Some were just emerging. So the income from the workshops was down from 2000. The total income from the event was \$168,711.78 minus expenses of \$164,209.44 for a profit of \$4,502.34.

• Those who made Watermedia 2000 and 2003 a success: the whole WAS-H membership, the volunteers, the donors, the participants. It took all of us, and we were a success!

S0000000000.....Let's do it again!

The Building

The year 2001 found WAS-H still having to find spaces in which to hold our



The last stand! An informal conference in the entry to the original 1601 W. Alabama.

meetings and/or workshops away from our building due to the lack of space for a large audience.

Other concerns were lack of parking space. This desire was hampered by city parking regulations and an aging building which was going to be a financial drain to maintain. The drawback that stops us from remedying these inconveniences is — guess what — money.

Explorations were ongoing with the approval of several years of our Boards of Directors, led by Property Chairman Stan Smith. To be able to locate in an area comparable to our present location,

The thinking of the Board was that for much, much less we could build a new building and renovate the original building. The Board of Directors 2001-2002 announced a fund-raising plan with

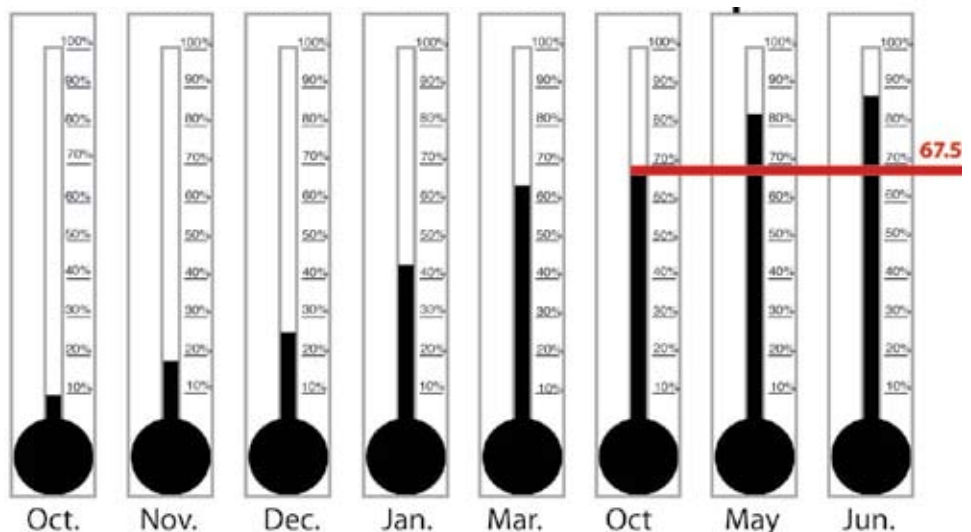


Capital Fund Guru Bruce Winquist and Susan Giannantonio

a specific solution to our space problems. They did this with assurances to members not to build a facility that was beyond our needs, would not incur debt and would keep the present membership fee schedule. The financial success of Watermedia 2000 allowed us to consider these important property questions.

Property Chairman Stan Smith, retired architect, drew up several concepts for a building on our property. One such plan would cost less than \$200,000. Stan created a scale model of this plan, and Eric Sproghe, member and architect, made an architectural

100 % Percent Member Participation



The thermometer indicates the percentage of membership participation.

and with larger facilities, it was calculated that the cost would be somewhere between \$750,000 and \$2,000,000.

rendering of it so as to better facilitate discussions about our course of action. Stan also conferred with city officials,

contractors, architects and other experts in the field. There was no action taken before asking for input from the membership. The first sign of progress was that the garage apartment at the rear of our property was demolished, lowering liability exposure, maintenance costs and affording us more parking space.

A capital campaign was initiated on April 2, 2002, with Board of Directors unanimous approval. Susan Giannantonio led the drive supported by Jack Bowen, Roy Hughes and Bruce Winquist, among others. No member assessments would be made. Foundations and corporations always expect 100% participation from members to support the goals of a project in tangible ways (participating in programs, exhibitions, classes, etc.). The preliminary cost estimate of the proposed building fell close to the fund-raising goal of \$200,000.

Our outreach programs were in full swing, helping us to “grab the golden ring.” Member donations totals in November 2002 were \$27,210 with \$4,400 pledged. That was about 19%



One last look except for the doctored and pruned ancient tree.



We couldn't leave without one last party. Hurrahs offered by President Ann Bell.



Demolition of the old house to make way for our new building.

of membership participation in the Charitable Foundation.

By December of 2005, the decision had been made to change direction and build a two-story, 5400 sq. ft. building priced at \$595,000. It appears that foundations and corporations would rather give toward larger projects.

January 2006 shows that \$520,000 in gifts and pledges had been made through member contacts. To kick off the campaign a generous gift was given by the Jack and Annis Bowen Foundation.

Art Supply made WAS-H an offer it could not refuse, that being, offering space during the construction of our building to house our office and hold classes and our mini workshops. Also the Gallery shows were displayed in the entryway of the store on our gray display panels. All activities proceeded as usual and carried an air of excitement and enthusiasm about them.

Meanwhile, Susan Giannantonio had her work cut out for her. Donations were being sought, and were gained, even \$66 from penny jars of loose change. Serious donations of

\$45,000 were added to our beginning balance. A modest line of credit was offered to help shortfalls by a group of supporters but was never drawn on. That way there would not be a need to mortgage either the building or the property.

Permits were granted and the household furnishings were moved and set up at Art Supply on August 10, 2005. A groundbreaking ceremony took place on August 24th at 3 pm; almost 100% of WAS-H members and some generous community support made this happen.

In March, Betsy Dillard Stroud's workshop completed our stay at Art Supply. April brought in a shower of classes, workshops and exhibitions at our fabulous new building. The Capital Campaign Drive was about to close out in May of 2006. Members, friends and private foundations generously supported WAS-H for four years to the tune of \$750,000 to build our building. WAS-H has made its mark on the art world.

In-kind gifts are invaluable and generous. Heartfelt thanks go to Builder Arch-Con; Art Supply's Vikki Trammell and Ben Russell; Ampersand Art Supply; and WAS-H members, their families and friends.

On the evening of May 12, 2006, WAS-H members and several hundred guests gathered at 1601 W. Alabama to celebrate and honor WAS-H's many patrons and supporters with a very Gala Grand Opening of the newly created building — a building which, to the best of our knowledge, is the only building built exclusively for the exhibition and teaching of art done in watercolor.

Roy Hughes and his Bagpipes, Ervin Nester's Touch of Brass Quintet and Suzanne Leatherwood's beautiful Touch of Class refreshment presentation all made for a fantastic evening.

Kudos to all who made this feat possible.

Hardly a breath was drawn after the excitement of the Grand Opening and two major fund-raisers. Muriel Christensen started planning a birthday party for WAS-H's 35 years of unbelievable growth. This fete was recognized with a birthday cake and festivities at the Monthly Gallery reception September 17, 2010. From there

(continued on page 16)

The building

WAS-H Breaks Ground



Left to right: Susan Giannantonio, Bruce Winquist, Susan Leatherwood, Stan Smith, Linda Swaynos, Ann Bell, Jack Bowen, Steve Brenner and Lou Glist.



Groundbreakers were led by our Honored Capital Campaign Honorary Chairman, Jack Bowen, at 1601 Alabama, Houston, TX. He was surrounded by Building Committee members, Fund Drive members, WAS-H members and friends.



Muriel moved on to honor the Founding and Charter Members of the Watercolor Art Society-Houston. Her committee tracked down as many of this group as possible and came up with an amazing number of them. Paintings were solicited for an exhibit featuring these Founding

and Charter Members. This exhibit was held in conjunction with the Monthly Gallery Exhibit "Experimental Works" November 12, 2010. The Founder and Charter Exhibit was hung on our black display panels upstairs where old friends could sit and trade memories. The

experimental paintings were on display in the Main Gallery downstairs. It was a heart warming, festive occasion. The combined receptions drew a large enthusiastic crowd. The elevator was a most welcome feature of our new building!

“Grand Opening of WAS-H’s Jack Bowen Building” - May 12, 2006



Development Director Susan Giannantonio presented Jack Bowen with WAS-H’s “Medallion for Outstanding Achievement” during the Grand Opening Celebration.



Susan Giannantonio and Jack Bowen at the entrance of the Jack Bowen building.



Roy Hughes with bagpipes; at entrance of building at WAS-H’s Grand Opening in May 2006.

WAS-H honored the Founding and Charter Members at a reception November 12, 2010.



Signing in at the front desk.



The Founder and Charter members at the reception in their honor.



**WAS-H
Holiday
Party**

Friday

December 10

6 - 8 pm

at WAS-H



**WAS-H 2nd Annual
Fund Drive**

Please watch for your letter in the mail asking you to consider putting WAS-H on your gift list this year. We know you love WAS-H — we all do. With your tax-deductible support, WAS-H can continue to do what we do best: bring watercolor into many people’s lives.

**WAS-H Community
Service: December Small
Paintings Show**

Our December Small Paintings Exhibit and Reception promises to be an exciting time of holiday spirit and fun. This year, our December Small Painting Show will also benefit “The Make A Wish Foundation,” which grants wishes to children with life threatening diseases. We are doing this in several ways:

December Small Paintings Show: \$5 donation per artist goes to Make A Wish. WAS-H will also donate a portion of its commissions from the sale of artwork in the December show to the Make A Wish Foundation.

WAS-H Members and guests may purchase Raffle Tickets (\$5 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$20) to the Houston Grand Opera’s production of “Lucia di Lammermoor” and all ticket proceeds will benefit Make-A-Wish.

Thank you for participating and making this year’s December event successful and fun! — Linda Vanek, Vice President



January Gallery Show

Questions? Contact: Paula Doughty, Gallery Director,
713-666-0417, paula.doughty@live.com

No Theme, Regular Guidelines (white mats, plain frames)

Take-In: Saturday, January 8, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
(Paintings can be brought in before Saturday.)

Reception: Friday, January 14, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Pick up Paintings: February 11 or 12, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Juror: Texas artist Kermit Eisenhut is known for his acrylic paintings featuring playful characters and realistic animal portraits. Kermit was named Texas Children's Hospital Artist of the Year in 2002. He was one of the 100 Texas-wide artists in the last round of judging for the 2007 Hunting Art Prize. Kermit teaches at the Art League of Houston. See his work at www.KermitArt.com.

Eligibility and Requirements

- Artist must be a current WAS-H member.
- Up to three entries per artist.
- Fee of \$10 per entry.
- Artwork Regulations:
 - Original composition.
 - Completed in the last 24 months.
 - Not painted under supervision or in a class.
 - At least 80% watermedia.
 - Surfaces: paper, Claybord, or Yupo only.
 - Has not won a WAS-H award.
- Framing Regulations:
 - Frames must be plain, simple grooves only
 - Frame width must not exceed 1½"
 - White or off-white mats and liners
 - Must be strung with wire for hanging.
 - Plexiglas, if glass is needed.
 - Frame not to exceed 48" in height or width.

Awards

- Cash awards for first \$100, second \$75, third \$50.
- Honorable Mentions awarded a ribbon – no cash.
- Only one award per artist.
- Winners are notified by phone.

Sales

- WAS-H accepts a 20% donation for sale of artwork.
- All artwork must remain in gallery for duration of the show.
- Artwork price is to include sales tax.
- A 5% fee is taken out of credit card sales.
- All sales include frames.

Liability

WAS-H will not be liable for damage before, during or after the exhibit. Artwork that adheres to these guidelines will be accepted with the provision that WAS-H reserves the right to refuse any entries that are inappropriate for a family venue.

Abbreviations

Medium: WC – watercolor, A – acrylic, G – gouache
Surface: P – paper, YP – Yupo, CB – Claybord, C-Canvas

Name _____

Email _____

Tel. (H) _____ (C) _____

Title #1 _____

Price _____ Medium _____ Surface _____

Title #2 _____

Price _____ Medium _____ Surface _____

Title #3 _____

Price _____ Medium _____ Surface _____

Submission by the artist constitutes agreement on the part of the artist to the stated regulations.

Signature _____ Date _____

Attach this label or a facsimile to the back of each painting.

Name _____

Tel. _____ Price _____

Title _____

Framed Size _____ x _____ Medium _____ Surface _____

Name _____

Tel. _____ Price _____

Title _____

Framed Size _____ x _____ Medium _____ Surface _____

Name _____

Tel. _____ Price _____

Title _____

Framed Size _____ x _____ Medium _____ Surface _____



February Gallery Show

Questions? Contact: Paula Doughty, Gallery Director,
713-666-0417, paula.doughty@live.com

No Theme, Regular Guidelines (white mats, plain frames)

Take-In: Saturday, February 12, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

(Paintings can be brought in before Saturday.)

Reception: Friday, February 18, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Pick up Paintings: March 18 or 19, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Juror: Ellen Orseck spent a semester in Venice while earning a Master's Degree in Painting from NYU. Her post-graduate education also included a Masters Degree in Museum Education at George Washington University and four years at The Glassell School of Art. In addition to creating her own artwork, Ellen teaches at St. Agnes Academy. See her paintings at www.ellenorseck.com.

Eligibility and Requirements

- Artist must be a current WAS-H member.
- Up to three entries per artist.
- Fee of \$10 per entry.
- Artwork Regulations:
 - Original composition.
 - Completed in the last 24 months.
 - Not painted under supervision or in a class.
 - At least 80% watermedia.
 - Surfaces: paper, Claybord, or Yupo only.
 - Has not won a WAS-H award.
- Framing Regulations:
 - Frames must be plain, simple grooves only
 - Frame width must not exceed 1½"
 - White or off-white mats and liners
 - Must be strung with wire for hanging.
 - Plexiglas, if glass is needed.
 - Frame not to exceed 48" in height or width.

Awards

- Cash awards for first \$100, second \$75, third \$50.
- Honorable Mentions awarded a ribbon – no cash.
- Only one award per artist.
- Winners are notified by phone.

Sales

- WAS-H accepts a 20% donation for sale of artwork.
- All artwork must remain in gallery for duration of the show.
- Artwork price is to include sales tax.
- A 5% fee is taken out of credit card sales.
- All sales include frames.

Liability

WAS-H will not be liable for damage before, during or after the exhibit. Artwork that adheres to these guidelines will be accepted with the provision that WAS-H reserves the right to refuse any entries that are inappropriate for a family venue.

Abbreviations

Medium: WC – watercolor, A – acrylic, G – gouache

Surface: P – paper, YP – Yupo, CB – Claybord, C-Canvas

Name _____

Email _____

Tel. (H) _____ (C) _____

Title #1 _____

Price _____ Medium _____ Surface _____

Title #2 _____

Price _____ Medium _____ Surface _____

Title #3 _____

Price _____ Medium _____ Surface _____

Submission by the artist constitutes agreement on the part of the artist to the stated regulations.

Signature _____ Date _____

Attach this label or a facsimile to the back of each painting.

Name _____

Tel. _____ Price _____

Title _____

Framed Size _____ x _____ Medium _____ Surface _____

Name _____

Tel. _____ Price _____

Title _____

Framed Size _____ x _____ Medium _____ Surface _____

Name _____

Tel. _____ Price _____

Title _____

Framed Size _____ x _____ Medium _____ Surface _____



A monthly publication of the

Watercolor Art Society - Houston

1601 W. Alabama at Mandell, Houston, TX 77006

713•942•9966 • www.watercolorhouston.org

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
HOUSTON, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 2169



VerdantMedia

Fine Art Giclée Printing

- Highest quality fine art printer
- Archival inks, paper & canvas
- Ultra high-res Scitex® scanning
- No minimum orders
- Matting & framing services
- Canvas stretching & sealing
- Warm, personal attention
- A collaborative working environment

**Call Sid today at (713) 688-9205
to schedule your appointment!**

5401 Mitchelldale, Suite A-2
Houston, Texas 77092
<http://www.verdantmedia.com>

We Offer a 20% DISCOUNT To All WAS-H Members!



**SUPPLY
ON MAIN**
2711 Main St.
Houston, TX
77002

If you need
more directions
Please call

ART SUPPLY
(713) 652-5028



email vikki: artsupply@swbell.net