



**Next Meeting: May 18, 2011 – Cottonwood Center for the Arts
427 E Colorado Ave., Colorado Springs, CO**

MAY 2011

The Pikes Peak Watercolor Society: founded to promote, educate, and encourage artistic excellence in watercolor painting among members and within the community.

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Meeting Times

Social: 6:00 pm-6:30 pm
Meeting:
6:30 pm-7:30 pm
Program:
7:30 pm-8:30 pm

Hosts & Chefs

**Chefs: Roberta Povelite &
Shannon Ryder**
**Hosts: Jan Oyler &
Reveille Kennedy**

May Program



**Kirk
Gillespie
demos
M. Graham Paints**

Kirk will be showing M. Graham paints while demonstrating their efficiency, brilliance, and non-toxic qualities.

President's Message

*Input provided by PPWS President
Loren Yukawa*

This will be an abbreviated message this month to leave room for an article by Kathy Murray. Kathy handled our first Watermedia entry process, which was all digital and allowed for electronic entry. Kathy wrote down some valuable tips about things to do and not to do to when you enter a juried competition and submit your images for jurying.

This is the time for us to get nominations for PPWS Officers for 2011-2012. We need one or more people willing to be on the slate for Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The VP must be a signature member, the Treasurer and Secretary may be either. The secretary position is a shared position with Joan Judge; if you are elected to that position, you will not need to do it all by yourself. So, this is an easier way to take over an officer position. If you are willing to handle any of these positions, please contact one of our Nominating Committee members: Liz Engel, Dennis Palsgrove, or Dick Williams.

Notifications are out for International Watermedia XVII. As usual, I was pleasantly surprised for some of our members who were selected, and also surprised by some of our members who were not selected. However, everyone please remember that's why we have an independent juror who makes the selections. The PPWS does not have any input into who or what images the juror selects, and this is a good thing. This year, John Salminen had an especially difficult task. We received a large number of very impressive entries as you saw last month if you attended the meeting. There just were too many good entries for the number of slots available. Our entries have gone up from 131 artists and 319 entries in 2007, to 148/385 in 2009, to a whopping 185/494 this year.

Loren

Lessons Learned The Hard Way

*Input provided by PPWS
WM 17 Intake Chair Kathy Murray*

I was recently privileged to be the intake chair for the International Watermedia XVII show. I say privileged because, although it was a ton of work, I also got to see each and every entry for the nearly 500 paintings submitted. I learned a lot.

I learned a lot about how to enter a show. No, not "how to get accepted in a show", just the mechanics of entering. I watched the entries that were done well, and I watched the blunders. It was painful mostly because, over and over, I found myself saying "dang it; I have done that myself!" So, in the interests of friendship, I'm going to share.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression".

You have heard that advice your whole life. In art, this first impression comes way before the judge starts making decisions. You have to first get your painting in front of the judge.

Did you read the prospectus? I mean, did you read the prospectus? The organizers of the show do not put all those words out there for fun. For Watermedia 17 we had: entries mailed to a wrong address; entries mailed without allowing time for delivery by the deadline; and entries sent in incomplete. Don't even get me started on the people who could not follow the printed instructions on how to label their images.

PPWS was being a kinder-gentler watercolor society, so right up until the deadline, I was chasing down artists all over the US and other countries to get their missing stuff and our president was driving all over town picking up mail that had been sent to weird places. Most shows won't do that. PPWS may not do it again. I'm personally lobbying for the "rules are rules" approach.

Did you know that the entry form is actually important? It was not created solely to annoy you. The people receiving the form use the information to log in your entry. They need to know who you are and how to contact you. They need to know the details about your painting, including the title, size, medium and value. Being able to read what you wrote is critical. After they are finished copying all this into a database or log book, the actual form goes to the judge.

Whoops! Really? Yep, we're back to "You never get a second chance to make a first impression".

The judge is going to have this little piece of paper in his hand when the image of your painting goes in front of him for judging. That's where he makes his first cut, "accepted" or "declined". Neat or sloppy, there it is. Can he read what you wrote about the title and size? If he cannot figure it out, he may just decline your whole list.

Now, this same little piece of paper goes over to the committee, which will send out the results letters. You had better hope they can reach

you. Electronic entries get electronic responses, so we'd also better hope your email address is good.

Lastly, this same little piece of paper will be used to build the catalog for the show and the wall cards for the show and the check-in of delivered pieces and the check-out when the show is over.

The entry form is almost as important an item as your painting. Respect it.

Yes, entry forms that have to be printed as a little 1/3 sheet on a prospectus are hard to deal with. But, deal with it. Get your copier to make it bigger and grab your finest point micron pen and fill it out carefully and then copy it back down to original size if you want to before mailing. Or, go to the show's website and see if they have provided an electronic form. You can type those. The entry people will be happier with bigger and neater than with original tiny size written with a smudged sharpie.

The final point is the image. The majority of shows now want digital images only. No more slides and only local shows do live entry. There have been dozens of workshops and demonstrations on how to photograph or scan your image. Learn it and keep practicing. If, however, you are not comfortable doing it yourself, get a reliable photographer to do it or pay for a scan. This is not an endorsement, but the Kinkos in downtown Colorado Springs has a large flatbed scanner, and for a very reasonable fee, they will scan your painting and put the image on a CD. Check out resources near you.

My point is, don't send in a bad image. For Watermedia 17 entirely too many lousy images came in from people who should, according to their biographies, know better.

Here are some big black bullets:

- don't include any part of the mat in the image;
- don't include any part of the frame in your image;

· don't include the kitchen tablecloth or the living room carpet in your image; and

· don't include a portrait of yourself or anything else reflected in the glass in your image.

Also, you are not so famous that a quick snapshot of the painting hanging on your wall, crooked, wavy, and keystoneed, is going to get you into the show.

At least one of everything I just mentioned was submitted to Watermedia 17. John Salminen has to look at the slide show and cut more than 400 paintings. Cut, declined, returned to sender. All those bad images will be included in the more than 400, I can guarantee it.

The judge has too many fabulous, fantastic, beautifully presented paintings from which to choose to bother with "well, it looks like crud here, but it might be nice in person." Not.

Entering a show is like applying for a job. You want to make a perfect impression with your image, your presentation, and a neat clean typo-free resume and application.

Respect your own work as an artist. It's worth it.



I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way - things I had no words for.

Georgia O'Keeffe

Crowing & Bragging

Input provided by Laurel Bahe & Joan Judge



Carol Naylor sold two paintings and will be exhibiting at El Tesoro Restaurant in May.

Mary Taylor sold one painting.

Johanna Cellucci received an Honorable Mention Award and sold her painting, Colorado Columbine, in the Colorado Watercolor Society 2011 State Watermedia Exhibit.

Kang Lee Sheppard received Honorable Mention at Fireside Gallery Show and sold two paintings.

Donna McFarland sold one painting.

Liz Engle had one entry accepted into the First Pres Citywide Show.

Karen Strandridge sold three paintings at the Lasko Fine Art April Reception and had a painting in Western Colorado Watercolor Show in April.

Reveille Kennedy sold one painting at the Rocky Mountain Cancer Center and one print on Etsy.

Don Fujimoto has two pieces in Colorado Springs Art Guild and one received Honorable Mention.

Laurel Bahe has a "One Artist" show at Art Hardware. Stop by.

Kathleen Murray will be having a solo show in May at Dorothy Oliver's Fusion Design Gallery, 309 Union in downtown Pueblo. It will be an eclectic representation of all her work focusing on color. The reception will be on May 6th in conjunction with Pueblo's First Friday Art Walk, 5 to 8 pm.

Call for Entries

Input provided by Linda Blaize

The National Watercolor Society 91st Annual Exhibition *

Deadline: July 9, 2011

Awards: Approximately \$25,000
Jury of Selection: Ted Nutall, chair,
Mary Ann Beckwith, Judy Morris
Juror of Awards: Harold Gregor
Prospectus:
www.nationalwatercolorssociety.org
or SASE to
Nancy Schiershke, 505 Vaquero rd., Arcadia, CA 90505

Pennsylvania Watercolor Society's 32nd International Juried Exhibition

Deadline: June 1, 2011

Prospectus: www.pwswc.com
Digital entry only at
pwsjuriedshow@gmail.com

Watercolor West *

Deadline: June 30, 2011

Prospectus:
www.watercolorwest.org or
send a SASE to: Francesca Brayton,
3961 Toland Circle, Los Alamitos,
CA 90720
Awards: \$12,000 in cash and prizes.

SouthWest Art

Deadline: August 1, 2011

Prospectus:
www.southwestart.com
or prospectus and guidelines

* denotes approved show toward signature membership

Newest Members

Input provided by Barb McAdams

Terri Madden

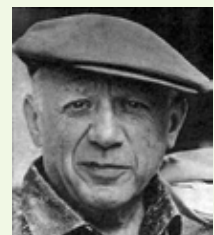
970 Shannon Road
Girard, OH 44420
330-539-4643
temadden@neo.rr

Gayle Higgins

3120 Ogden Court
Colorado Springs, CO 80920
719-282-0727
640-9134
gayle@higgins1.net

Kathy Ford

16595 Remington Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80908
719-495-3862
719-351-9132
fordske@aol.com



*The artist is a receptacle
for the emotions that come
from all over the place:
from the sky,
from the earth,
from a scrap of paper,
from a passing shape,
from a spider's web.*

~Pablo Picasso

Minutes

Input provided by Laurel Bahe & Joan Judge

Minutes of the Pikes Peak Watercolor Society meeting which took place on: April 20, 2011



Loren Yukawa called the meeting to order a little after 6:30 pm.

He thanked the Hosts, Mary Piche and Liz Engle, and thanked the Chefs, Judy Swanson and Debra LaPlant. The fruit bowl was a success. Loren announced that five AWS members have entered the Watermedia 17 show.

Kathy Ford was introduced as a guest, and new member.

The minutes from the March meeting were unanimously approved as published in the April newsletter. The motion for approval was made by Karen Strandridge and seconded by Margaret Pasolli.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Margaret reported that since some of the PayPal entries were still transferring over to ENT, and the last check deposit didn't take place until April 4, the total for all our entries was not accounted for in this report. But, we now have a grand total of \$22,185.79 in our accounts! The total of all the deposits for the entry fees is \$6,859.30. Of the total 185 artists who entered, 73 paid by using PayPal - so it was a good thing to have. Love all these statistics and can't wait for all the workshop payments to come in!

Margaret also announced that she was taking payments for the Salminen Workshop. The total price

for members is \$300.

Marketing: No report

Membership: Barbara McAdams reported that we have five new members, one local, one from Cascade, CO, and three from other states.

Barb also presented our newest PPWS Signature Member, Laurel Bahe, with her official name tag. Laurel dressed exquisitely for the occasion!

Newsletter: No report

Programs: Reveille Kennedy announced that the Chuck Danford demonstration was moved again. The May program will be a demonstration of M. Graham products by Kirk Gillespie.

Hosts and Chefs: Susanne Truax announced that someone was needed for the May meeting, for which Reveille Kennedy volunteered.

Members Show: Karen Strandridge said that a venue is needed for the Members Show. Several possibilities were discussed including Cottonwood and/or Stargazers Theater. Some additional possibilities were suggested including UCCS' former TRW building planned for renovation and available for community use. Also, The Fine Arts Center was mentioned, and an invitation has been extended to them for the Watermedia Exhibition in the hope that they might consider PPWS for possible exhibits.

International Watermedia: Kathy Murray did a fantastic job of accepting, sorting, categorizing, and helping folks with their entries. She put together a "Lessons Learned" PowerPoint presentation to help members identify some of the pitfalls of entering shows. The presentation was shown at the end of the meeting and will be included in the Newsletter. Loren pointed out the

problems some entrants had with photographing their work. He also did a magnificent job of cropping, aligning, and renaming work.

Changing Show: No report.

Library: Becky Plack reminded all that the profits from magazine sales are used to buy new books and videos. Please buy magazines.

Group Orders: No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Loren reminded the group that a nominating committee was needed, and as no one had volunteered, he would need to appoint. Liz Engel, Dennis Palsgrove, and Dick Williams volunteered. Thank you to the new nominating committee.

Loren reported that Liz Huffman's health has improved and is at tonight's meeting. He also reported that Juanita Robinson needs our thoughts and prayers. Reveille mentioned that Mary Ann Bransby is now at Village at Skyline. Marlene Hackford said she is now living there as well.

Kang Lee reminded all that there are classes going at Sheppard Institute.

The meeting was adjourned for a break before viewing the Watermedia entries.

Program: We viewed the 494 entries into Watermedia in approximately 41 minutes. Very inspiring!

Respectfully submitted by Laurel Bahe and Joan Judge, Secretarial Team.



April Newsletter
Correction

Please note:

Pennsylvania Watercolor Exhibition is NOT a qualifying show for signature membership.

Photos of PPWS Meeting - April 20, 2011
Program: Viewing of International Watermedia XVII Entries



Tonight's meal got rave reviews!



Laurel Bahe receiving her long-awaited Signature pin.



A very well attended meeting...



Welcome back Liz!



Karen Standridge reporting on the Members Show



Barb McAdams giving the status of our growing membership



...after which we viewed all of the 494 entries into Watermedia.