

## March Demo—Getting into the abstract mind of an artist!

Have you ever wondered how abstract artists get their ideas? **Karen Knutson**, nationally acclaimed abstract artist demonstrating at the March 14th meeting, is primed to reveal her secrets. According to Karen, the abstract thought process is not that different from the traditional painting process. Karen will lay out the process of her painting, starting with a 30 minute study, going to a color study, and then developing the finished painting, combining the design from both studies.

Recently completing a challenge of painting 30 paintings in 30 days, Karen will talk about goal setting and the importance of following through. (To see these paintings, go to her blog, [www.karenknutson.blogspot.com](http://www.karenknutson.blogspot.com).) Karen will discuss some of the big breakthroughs that she had in developing good design in her paintings, and she assures that you will not be bored with mundane, analytical talk.

Members are encouraged to bring pencils and a small sketchbook or paper to this demo in order to be instructed in the execution of a design study that may definitely change the way you think about composition.

Karen has won many prestigious awards and is a signature member of a number of watercolor societies around the country. For more information, and to see more examples of her work, visit her website at [www.karenknutson.com](http://www.karenknutson.com).



The Journey

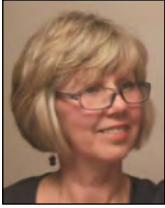


Waiting for Mr. Right



Memories of Home

## From The President



Dear Members,

Edgar Degas once said, “Only when he no longer knows what he is doing does a painter do good things. Everyone has talent at 25. The difficulty is to have it at 50.” Have you recently painted in a way that was so foreign to you that it felt awkward and uncomfortable? Are you painting the same way you always have just because you win awards, it’s easy, and you know the territory? Do you see painting differently from you’re used to as fearful, or fun? One of my goals this year is to paint more playfully. As I have aged, I do find it’s more difficult to do “good things” artistically than when I was 25 and in college. I can easily paint the same way I was taught years ago but I really don’t want to anymore. So what if I fail? The more I play, the more I will learn. I would encourage you, too, to try something new this year even if you think you may fail at it. It just might be something that will bring you to your next artistic level. It’s fun to paint like you’re clueless. It’s called play-time and that’s good!

Our February meeting was on Valentine’s Day. Thank you to our demo artist, Gail Vass for her incredible watercolor demo. Please view Gail’s stunning watercolors on her website at [www.gladart.net](http://www.gladart.net) in case you missed the meeting. It was her very first public demo and she did a wonderful job! Special thanks, too, to Jack O’Leary for bringing those Thin Mints!

The Spring Show is fast approaching. Once again, it will be at Minnetonka Center for the Arts. Please note that all paintings need to be “For Sale” this year. Volunteering with the shows is a great way to learn how to put on an exhibit and to experience all the fun behind the scenes while making new friends in the process. Contact Laura if you would like to help out.

At our February meeting our board and members voted in Wendy Westlake as Vice President. Wendy is currently our Program chair and will continue in that position, too. If you are interested in the Program position please contact me or Wendy. Clare Ritter is our Hospitality Chair. Dianne Jandt will be our Signature Membership Chair and Theresa Weseman has decided to be our Publicity Chair. We now have a full board and I am so very thankful and appreciate each one of them. Thank you board members!

Karen Knutson will be our demo artist at our March Meeting. Back in January, Karen decided she was going to do 30 paintings in 30 days, post her work and writings online via Facebook and her Blog. I got hooked and couldn’t wait to look online each day to see what new painting she did. She is an amazing artist and a fantastic art instructor, so mark your calendars and don’t miss this date!

Happy Painting!

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### BrushStrokes Newsletter

BrushStrokes is published September, October/November, December/January, February/March, April/May, June

### MNWS BrushStrokes Editor

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v-dudl@umn.edu

## MNWS MEMBER happenings

### Send member news to:

Brush Strokes, 1455 Jefferson Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105 or email v-dudl@umn.edu. Images are welcome and used as space permits.

- Six of our members participated in the recent exhibit of ten women artists at the Burnsville Performing Arts Center. The show, called "A Path of Light," featured the group Ten Brushes. These watermedia artists include MNWS members **Kathy Braud, Barbara Duffy, Marilyn Jacobson, Deb Magelssen, Barbara Parisien, Wendy Westlake.**
- **Judy Meyeraan** won an Award of Merit for her watercolor "Wild and Crazy Floral" at the Arts in Harmony Show, currently on display at the Sherburne County Government Center in Elk River.
- **Lana Grow** received an award for her painting, "Invitational Viewpoint," at the 2012 National Watercolor Show in California. Her painting, "Auspicious Journey in Time," was accepted in the Shanghai Zhujiajiao International Watercolour Biennial Exhibition, and "Controlling the Choices and not the Outcome," was accepted in the 21st Annual Juried Exhibition of the International Society of Experimental Artists now being held in Gloucester, Massachusetts. Also, she received a merchandise award for her painting, "Central Dialogue," in the International 2012 Red River Watercolor Society Show.

## Opportunities for Artists

**Call for entries** to the biannual International Watermedia Exhibit presented by the **Pikes Peak Watercolor Society**. Deadline for entries is March 20. The exhibit will be in the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum from June 7 through September 7. For more information, go to [www.pikespeakwatercolorssociety.org](http://www.pikespeakwatercolorssociety.org).

**Open call for visual artists** for the sixth volume of **International Contemporary Artists**, an international art book that presents the works of artists all over the world. Details can be found at [www.incoartists.com](http://www.incoartists.com).

The **Pennsylvania Watercolor Society** is calling for entries to its 2013 International Juried Exhibition. Deadline for entries is May 25, and the exhibition runs from October 5 through November 15 at the Crary Art Gallery in Warren, PA. The prospectus is available at [www.pawcs.com](http://www.pawcs.com) or by contacting John W. Walker, Exhibition Chair, at 4077 Bowser Road, New Freedom, PA 17349 (717-235-5310) ([pwsjuriedshow@gmail.com](mailto:pwsjuriedshow@gmail.com)) with a SASE.

**Artists are invited to participate** in the 19th annual "Under the Spreading Walnut Tree" **art festival in Two Harbors**, Minnesota. Deadline is April 6, 2013. For more detailed information and to receive an application, please contact event coordinators Christine and Terry Williams at 612-695-2341 or e-mail [artist\\_terrywilliams@yahoo.com](mailto:artist_terrywilliams@yahoo.com).

## MNWS NEW MEMBERS

Linda Bergquist

Vicki Choinski

Nancy Deans

Sharon Dillon

Judy Gittus

Sherri Wagner

We have 283 paid members.

## In Memoriam

**Jean Zera**, a lifetime member of the MN Watercolor Society, passed away on Sept. 23, 2012. She had a passion for both watercolor and oil painting. Her daughter, Lori Zera, says "Thank you all for helping her grow as an artist and a person."

The photo below shows examples of Jean's work.



## Don't Forget the Mini-Show

- A Mini-Show is a way for members to display one painting at our monthly meeting.
- Participants may also opt to submit their work for a critique. Members with a painting on display will be entered into a drawing for a prize.

## From the Library

We still have many books and DVD's that are long overdue. Please check your book shelves, your DVD players, your Fibber McGee closets and the trunk of your car. Who knows what you may find? There are 3 Don Andrews DVD's I'm especially interested in getting back. Two of them have been out since March 2011 but I can't read the name on the card. Other people are waiting for these items so please be diligent in returning them. Thanks! Mary Brainard, MNWS Librarian

## Workshops and Classes

### To find workshops and classes:

Visit the MNWS website at [www.minnesotawatercolors.com](http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com) and click the "Happenings" link at the top of the page.

To include your listings on the website please e-mail information to [info@minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:info@minnesotawatercolors.com)

## Northstar Activities

**Meetings** are held the third Thursday of the month at The Roseville Oval at Roseville Skating Center, 2661 Civic Center Dr. *Directions from MPLS, take Hwy. 280 to Hwy 36 and East to Snelling North Exit, turn right on County Road C, drive past Hamline Ave. and left into Civic Center Drive before Lexington Ave.*

### Workshops:

- Judith Bergerson, April 13-14, 2013, Collage
- John Salminen, Fall, 2013

**Art on a Line:** May 17-19, 2013

**New web design** by Calvin deRuyter:  
[www.northstarwatermedia.com](http://www.northstarwatermedia.com)

For more information, visit the Northstar website:  
[www.northstarwatermedia.com](http://www.northstarwatermedia.com).

## Watercolor Reflections

Column by Vera Kovacovic, MNWS member

### UNDERSTANDING WHAT THE JURORS WANT

Recently, when looking for a watercolor magazine at Barnes and Noble, I discovered the glossy European journal, THE ART OF WATERCOLOUR, a quarterly, which provides an overview of what's hot in the international watercolor world. The 9th issue includes a lovely portfolio of Joseph Zbukvic (an Australian painter), plus works of other great watercolorists from the Shanghai Biennial.

Since we are now in the period of submitting works for various spring shows, such as the MNWS Spring juried show, I thought that I would share some insights from the journal on understanding "What the Jurors Want" by Janine Gallizia. She is critiquing paintings that readers of the journal submit and provides a list of criteria for selection.

Often, we might have conflicting notions: paint for the jurors or paint for fun. Can these two be reconciled? One has to decide that for oneself. However, the decision to submit a painting for a show assumes that one is rather mindful to present a good painting. For Janine, it means that "you must put yourself in the shoes of the jurors, that's part of the game you accept to play merely by entering a competition." Below are Janine's criteria although the ranking of importance may vary from judge to judge. For example, some may prefer value over color, others design/composition over value. Not to mention one important consideration - your painting must stand out just to be selected.

1. composition/design
2. tonal value
3. choice of subject matter
4. treatment of subject matter
5. color
6. shape
7. technique

With that I wish you all to keep painting and have fun whether you are submitting work for shows or not!

## Upcoming MNWS Workshops:

- ▶ Nancy Carney 2 day — March 23 - 24, 2013
- ▶ Linda Baker 4 day — May 17 - 20, 2013 (*details on page 5*)
- ▶ Don Andrews 4 day — October 3 - 6, 2013

**"GOOD STARTS-GREAT FINISHES"  
4 Day Watercolor Workshop  
Instructor: LINDA BAKER, aws/nws**

**Date:** May 16–19, 2013 (Thursday- Sunday)

**Location:** Hopkins Center for the Arts, 1111 Main Street, Hopkins, MN 55343

**Hours:** Thursday, 6-9pm, Friday & Saturday, 9-4, Sunday 12-5

**Cost:** \$300. (MNWS members) \$325. (non-members) A deposit of \$100 or more will secure a spot in the workshop. Registration is due April 1, 2013. The balance due must be received by April 16, 2013.

**Workshop content:** In this workshop, Linda will share her techniques and enthusiasm for capturing a strong light source in her paintings. The use of light is a major focus of her painting along with dancing shadows and rich shaded areas. Through pouring, wet into wet, and direct painting she will demonstrate how to glaze and layer the light. Working from your own photos and sketches, she will assist you in composition and design for a more dramatic result. New to this workshop is a segment on finishing. Students are invited to bring work that they feel is finished and Linda will assist them in taking it to the next level. Daily demonstrations, slide presentations, and personal one-on-one consultations and critiques add to a fun-filled workshop.



**About the artist:** Linda Baker, aws/nws, has won many awards including the National Watercolor Society, San Diego International, and the High Winds Medal from the American Watercolor Society. Her work has appeared in numerous publications, including The Artist's Magazine, American Artist, Watercolor Magazine, along with L'Aquarelle and The Art of Watercolor. Her work is included in Splash 12 and she has two instructional videos available. She is a sought after workshop instructor and national juror including American Watercolor Society in 2012. Currently, she has work in the Shanghai Biennial and has been accepted into the 146th AWS Exhibition of 2013.

**Cancellations** in writing must be received no later than two weeks prior to the workshop to qualify for a full refund. If the workshop is cancelled, money will be promptly refunded.

**Lunch** is on your own. There is a refrigerator plus map to local restaurants.

**Supply list** will be sent upon receipt of registration form & payment.

**Registration form with payment is due April 1, 2013**

**Make checks payable to: MN Watercolor Society**

**Mail to: Sandy Koeger, Workshop Registration, 6695 Flycatcher LN, Apple Valley, MN 55124**

**Phone:** (952) 891-2345 **Email:** [Zandvy@aol.com](mailto:Zandvy@aol.com)



-----Detach and Return-----

**Linda Baker Workshop Registration**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Workshop fee in full:** MNWS Members \$300. Non-Members \$325  
**Deposit needed to hold a spot in the workshop \$100.**

**Make check payable to MN Watercolor Society**

**Mail registration form and payment to:**  
Sandy Koeger, Workshop Registration  
6695 Flycatcher LN  
Apple Valley, MN 55124

**Amount Enclosed**

**Balance Due**

## Members' Day, Saturday, June 22...Save the Date!

Head into summer with new painting ideas and old friends. Once again, MNWS Members' Day will be held at Fish Lake Regional Park Pavilion, located just west of 494 off Bass Lake Road in Maple Grove. We'll start off with two morning demos inside the enclosed pavilion. Lisa Fertig will take us on a spontaneous adventure in color, texture and composition as she demonstrates her approach to abstracts. Catherine Hearing will show us how color and light intertwine to create compelling shapes in her realistic paintings.

After a catered box lunch, we'll move outside for a plein air demo by Dan Wiemer, whose confident outdoor painting style is punctuated with bold calligraphic flourishes. Dan's demo will be followed by painting time on the grounds and an informal critique for those who wish to stay.

The registration form for Members' Day is in this issue of BrushStrokes (see opposite page). Get more information at MNWS monthly meetings and please consider volunteering to help make Members' Day a success. Volunteer opportunities are listed at the bottom of the registration form.

Questions? Contact Deb Magelssen, 651-464-5326, debmagelssen@yahoo.com, or MarySue Krueger at 612-716-4829, marysue@marysuekrueger.com.

## Spring Show – Information and Dates to Remember

Up Close, the 2013 MNWS Spring Exhibition, will be held at Minnetonka Center for the Arts, 2240 North Shore Drive, Wayzata, MN 55391. The juror is Megan Rye. You can find the full prospectus online (<http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/springshow2013/2013%20Entry%20Form.pdf>) and in the December/January issue of BrushStrokes.

### Event Schedule:

- Fri, Mar 8 Postmark and payment deadline
- Fri, Mar 22 Accepted artists contacted by email
- Sat, Mar 30 Drop off art at Art Center 11am--3pm
- Thu, Apr 4 Exhibition Opens
- Thu, Apr 11 Reception 6--8pm  
(Awards Ceremony 7pm)**
- Thu, May 2 Exhibition Ends
- Sat, May 4 Pick up art at Art Center 11am--3pm



**Serenity | Julie Allen**  
Award of Merit, 2012 Spring Exhibition

**Minnesota Watercolor Society Members' Day  
Saturday, June 22, 2013  
RAIN or SHINE –Fish Lake Regional Park Enclosed Pavilion  
14900 Bass Lake Road, Maple Grove MN 55311  
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM  
REGISTRATION FORM**

Please fill in the information requested and return the completed form with a check made out to MNWS Members' Day for the total amount.

Mail to: MarySue Krueger  
18321 Tristram Way  
Eden Prairie MN 55346

**Registration forms must be received by Friday, June 14, 2013.**

Directions: From I - 494, take Bass Lake Road (County Road 10) west 1 mile to the park entrance. Pavilion is about ¼ mile into the park.  
Maps available at [www.threeriversparkdistrict.org](http://www.threeriversparkdistrict.org)

Questions? Contact Deb Magelssen, 651-464-5328, [debmagelssen@yahoo.com](mailto:debmagelssen@yahoo.com)  
or  
MarySue Krueger at 612.716.4829, [marysue@marysuekrueger.com](mailto:marysue@marysuekrueger.com)

----- Cut here -----

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee ..... **\$25.00**

Box lunches are available for \$9.00. Sandwiches are on Hoagy buns. All choices include fruit, side salad and dessert. Beverages will be provided. Please select from the choices below.

- Turkey                                       Egg Salad
- Roast Beef                                     Veggie Wrap
- Chicken Salad

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ box lunch(es) at \$9.00 each for a total of.....\$\_\_\_\_\_.

Total amount enclosed..... **\$\_\_\_\_\_.**

**I volunteer to help with Members' Day:**

- Check-in                                       Artists' assistants (4 needed)
- Refreshments and lunch                 Cleanup

## MNWS calendar

Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

- March 14** Karen Knutson Demonstration  
*Location: Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Blvd., Edina, MN (Corner of 70th St. S. and Hwy 100)*
- April 11** Spring Show reception and awards ceremony.  
*Location: Minnetonka Center for the Arts, 2240 North Shore Drive, Wayzata, MN 55391*
- May 9** Jack O'Leary Demonstration  
*Location: Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Blvd., Edina, MN (Corner of 70th St. S. and Hwy 100)*
- June 22** Members' Day (see details on pages 6 and 7)

Sign up for the Linda Baker workshop, May 16-19, 2013.  
(See page 5)

**Members' Day Information Inside!**

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Mail your application and check payable to Minnesota Watercolor Society to:**

Carol Wingard, Membership Chair  
10427 Fawns Way  
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

### MNWS Membership Dues:

- o College Student \$15
- o Single \$30
- o Couple/Family \$40
- o Seniors (65+) \$25

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

o Check here to have your name removed from the list sent to our exhibition award donors who mail product information to our members.

“To further development  
of the watercolor artist  
by providing a  
supportive environment  
with education and exhibition  
opportunities, and to promote  
public appreciation and greater  
visibility of the art.”  
--MNWS Mission Statement

10427 Fawns Way, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-5117

