

## Members' Day 2004

by MarySue Krueger

Some in attendance might say that MNWS' Members' Day 2004 was for the birds. At least that's what the birds seemed to think as they sailed back and forth among the rafters of the Bryant Lake Park Pavilion,



▲ Display Artist Charlotte Laxen with one of her



▲ Demo Artist John Neuse at play.

adding their voices to the conversation of the artists below. They only contributed to the spontaneity and exuberance of the day.

More than 60 people came out on this perfect June Saturday to enjoy demos and displays by eight regional guest artists. The day started with a lively, entertaining demo by Jon Neuse, whose abstract approach took us all back to the time when making art was a child-like pleasure, done for the sheer joy

of what might happen. At the same time, display artist Charlotte Laxen enchanted everyone with her intensely atmospheric impressions of life southern France.

Then it was on to the luminous work of demo artist Jane Freeman, whose tale of moving from abstract art to realism as a way of recovering from a serious brain injury made us all realize what determination and perseverance can accomplish. *(continued on page 3)*



▲ Members Day co-organizer Pat Undis introduces Demo Artist Jane Freeman.

## Help Restore Lake Harriet Bandshell

The Lake Harriet Bandshell is one of the Twin Cities' most beloved landmarks. People of all ages have come to the shores of Lake Harriet for music and entertainment, leisurely picnics and community events . . . maybe even a little plein air painting!

Now this beautiful landmark is in disrepair. Keeping the Bandshell in good condition takes money, and times are tight.

In conjunction with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, local businessman Mark McGowan has organized an all-volunteer restoration of the Lake Harriet Bandshell. This remarkable restoration effort will be free to taxpayers!

*(continued on page 3)*

### Going Away Potluck Party for Carol Gray

Place: Edina Art Center,  
4701 West 64th St.  
Edina, MN 55435

Date: Tuesday, September 14  
Time: 6:30--8:30 p.m.

RSVP: Karen Knutson  
(952) 934-0876  
artbykknutson@att.net

or  
Terrie Christian  
(763) 546-5266  
terriec@citilink.com

Carol and her husband, Bob North, are moving to Colorado Springs at the end of September and we'd like to express our thanks for adding so much to our community in support of the arts. Please come to this farewell party and bring an appetizer to share. No gifts are necessary. Bring a story or memory about Carol to share with the group (or leave in writing for Carol to read later). Beverages are being provided by the Edina Art Center (612) 915-6600.

Let's party!



## MESSAGE *from the President*

Summer's over already. I remember telling myself back in May that I was going to do a lot of plein-air painting, and expand my horizons by venturing into oil painting as well. Camping trips, kids' sleepovers, family reunions and yardwork tend to eat up much of that 'painting time'. Quite alright, that's good stuff too. I did devote a lot of time to teaching and art fairs, and I managed to paint a few watercolors that I am happy with. But I still haven't tackled those plein-air oils I wanted to try.

I'm angry with myself, because it's been such a gorgeous summer. I'm also angry because it's due in part to laziness, or rather a fear of leaving my 'comfort zone'. It's taken me a great deal of time to achieve some level of confidence in my painting. That comfort zone can be a blessing and a curse, however. One of the biggest obstacles I see in beginning painters is a fear of failure. Washes are too weak, we worry unnecessarily about little details and lose sight of the 'big picture', because watercolor has a reputation for being an unforgiving medium. ("If I don't paint this little dot now, how will I get it back?!") We all have to go through that, and eventually you realize that not everything you paint is gonna be a masterpiece. But you keep painting until things start clicking, and then you get comfortable. You reach a point where fewer paintings end up in the 'discard portfolio', and it gets to be really fun!

However, we need those challenges to keep us growing as an artist. Personally, I love painting my landscapes, but I think more plein-air painting is a step I need to take to keep growing. That means leaving the comfort of the studio more often, and using oils at times when the weather's not ideal. Time to overcome that fear of failure all over again. I've signed up for a plein-air oil class this fall, with expectations that my on-site paintings will help my studio watercolors take another step. It just might be another ten years to the next comfort level, so I'll apologize for my crabbiness now. If you find you're running out of ideas, try a new surface, switch from flat brushes to rounds, do something to break up your routine.

We've all overcome some of our fear of failure simply by picking up the brush and painting. It's not easy to show something you're proud of and risk it being rejected, and there are a lot of critics out there. Art is for a diverse bunch, and you're never going to please them all. Just keep painting, experimenting, and growing. Our watercolor society is a great resource for all of us. There are so many wonderful artists, the meetings give us a chance to swap ideas and the shows provide an opportunity to display all those 'badges of courage'. I'm looking forward to seeing you and your paintings at our Fall Show. There's always something there to inspire another painting breakthrough!

## Fall Show Schedule of Events

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| * Saturday, August 28, 12-3 pm         | Deliver paintings                                 |
| * Friday, September 3                  | Fall 2004 Show, <b>September Splendor</b> , opens |
| * <b>Thursday, September 9, 6-9 pm</b> | <b>Reception &amp; Awards Ceremony</b>            |
| * Friday, October 8                    | Last day to see the show!                         |
| * Saturday, October 9, 11-2 pm         | Pick up paintings                                 |



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INFORMATION•VOICE MAIL LINE

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### BrushStrokes Newsletter

BrushStrokes is published monthly, September through June. Deadlines are the 15th of the month. Send letters to the editor and art related stories that help inform or educate members to:

**MnWS BrushStrokes Editor**

1830 Dutch Heritage Ct.

Baldwin, WI 54002-5155

[lbaur@mac.com](mailto:lbaur@mac.com)

(please do not use [lbaur@att.net](mailto:lbaur@att.net)--account no longer active)

### Advertising Placement

For ad rates or to place advertising, contact

Mary Hanson 952-476-6896

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## Members' Day

(continued from page 1)

At the same time, display artist Susan Armington captivated viewers with mixed media and collage, combined to create large, mythic "geographies," almost topographic in their dimensional qualities.

Delicious box lunches arrived right on time (although we'd all been enjoying cool,



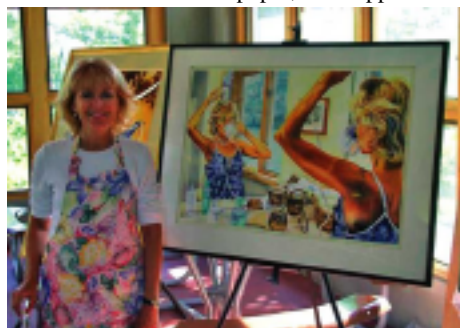
▲Display Artists Andy Evensen chats with the crowd.

sweet fruit and yogurt snacks throughout the morning), and after a short break to eat in the sunshine, we were all back for Monica Isham's multi-layered watercolor abstract demo. It was fascinating to watch the depth of color emerge as she added each intense wash. Display artist Andy Evensen was an

*A huge thanks to Pat Undis, MarySue Krueger, Sandy Muzzy and all the rest of the volunteers who made the day possible!*

intriguing contrast with his impressionist landscapes, so fresh from the brush they might still be wet.

Joye Moon gave the final demo, a joyful exercise that showed us just how important the water is in our chosen medium. (Hint: She wets both sides of the paper, then applies the



▲Demo Artist Joye Moon.

paint in rich brush loads and watches for serendipity.) The work of display artist Flora Shinkle was a perfect compliment as Flora showed us how subjects that are realistic in their origin can evolve into wonderfully abstract paintings.

When the day ended, everyone came away

with a renewed sense of what it is to be an artist and the many ways that our love of watercolor can be expressed. I, for one, can't wait for next year.

Neither can the birds.

A huge thanks to Pat Undis, Sandy Muzzy and the rest of the volunteers who made the day possible. You all make me proud to be a member of the Minnesota Watercolor Society. ■

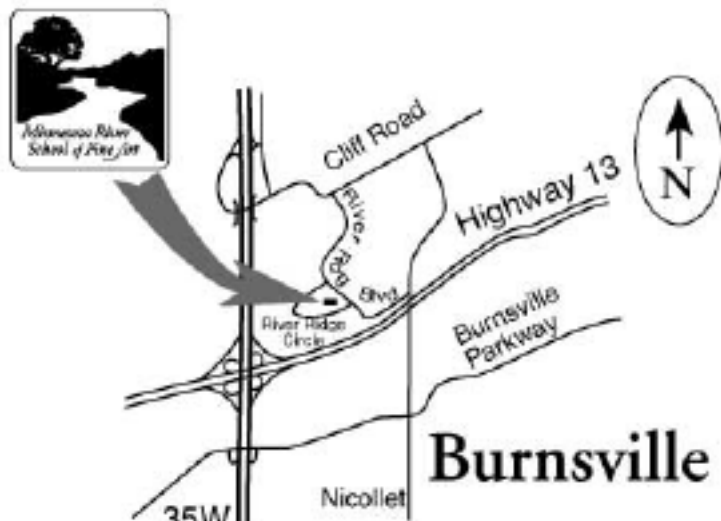
## Lake Harriet Bandshell

(continued from page 1)

The restoration will be celebrated with "Lake Harriet Live", a day-long free music festival beginning at noon September 19.

This free, annual festival will feature the Minnesota Orchestra and top local performers such as R&B star Mick Sterling, jazz vocalist Debbie Duncan, and rock 'n' roll favorite, Boogie Wonderland.

Now, here's where you come in: in addition to the music and lots of fun food, "Lake Harriet Live" will also feature display and sale of artwork with a Minneapolis Park and Recreation theme by local artists. (Artists will be asked to donate a portion of the proceeds to the Bandshell Restoration.) If you'd like to get in on the action and sell some of your work depicting Minneapolis Park sights and themes, while helping to restore and this striking local landmark, please contact Liz Loney (email: LLoney77@aol.com) for details. ■n



▲From Hwy 13, turn left on Nicollet, take first left onto River Ridge Blvd. Turn right at the stop sign and then left onto River Ridge Circle. From Cliff Road, turn right on River Ridge Blvd and right on River Ridge Circle.

## Don't Miss . . . Gloria Miller Allen Demo!

No time to take the fall workshop? Don't despair . . .

A Demonstration by

**Gloria Miller Allen**

will be held at the Minnesota River School of Fine Art  
on

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

**7-9 P.M.**

(\$5.00 fee will be charged.)

Please RSVP to: Dianne Jandt, email: [artistjandt@aol.com](mailto:artistjandt@aol.com)  
phone: (952) 891-2375

or John O'Leary, email: [olryjhn@aol.com](mailto:olryjhn@aol.com)  
phone: (952) 888-0638

## MEMBER *happenings*

Send member news to: *Brush Strokes*, 1830 Dutch Heritage Ct., Baldwin, WI 54002, or email to [l.baur@mac.com](mailto:l.baur@mac.com). Deadline for the October issue is September 15.

**Dick and Jan Green** had paintings accepted into the 12th annual juried art exhibition at the MacRostie Art Center in Grand Rapids, MN. Dick had a painting accepted into the San Diego International Exhibition (Oct 1--31). Dick served as juror for watermedia at the Fine Arts Exhibition at the Minnesota State Fair. Dick and Jan are displaying watercolors at Martin Luther Manor in Aug-Sep.

**Mary Hanson** had her painting "Triple Latte" selected as one of the winners of the Dunn Brothers Local Flavor art contest. Look for it in an upcoming issue of *The Rake* newspaper and in a traveling show at select Dunn Bros. coffee shops.

**Sandy Muzzy and Jeanne Long** will be exhibiting (and selling) their paintings at the Bloomington Byerly's Restaurant (98th Street South and 35W) during the months of August and September.

**Karen Knutson** received signature status this year with her painting "Frank Lloyd Wright Influence" at the Red River Watercolor Society

**Kathy Braud** is the recipient of a Five Wings Art Council Individual Artist Grant 2004. These grants are awarded from monies being distributed from Minnesota state legislative and private funds. Kathy is using the grant monies to attend two in-depth painting workshops, one with Andy Evansen (MnWS) and one with Arne Westerman (AWS, NWS). Kathy's painting "Visions of Tulips" won Grand Prize in the Morrison County Fair. Kathy was also the demo artist at the Grand Cities Art Fest in Grand Forks, as well as the t-shirt artist for the Cannon Falls Art Festival. Her "Masa Sunfish" appeared on the literature, advertising and t-shirts for the Cannon Falls Art Festival.

### YOU ARE INVITED.

Dear members: It's been a year since I began preparing for this home show. You'll find a variety of subject matter--landscapes, figures, architecture, motion, ships & boats, florals, nudes, and abstracts. Come, bring a friend, page through my latest book "Painting from Life" and see the original works from the book. Hope you enjoy the show.

Watercolors by **Doug Lew**

**Where:** 4382 Browndale Ave. Edina,  
MN 55424

**When:** October 1--4 pm to 7 pm  
October 2,3--12 noon to 5 pm



## SANDY MUZZY

will be offering classes in her home studio this fall. Learn fun and creative ways to develop your watercolor skills. Small classes with lots of individual attention. Call (952) 854-7677 or email [giggles@pclink.com](mailto:giggles@pclink.com).

## MEMBER *happenings* (cont.)

**Andy Evansen** will display his paintings at Hennepin County Medical Center Sep-Dec 2004. Andy is also the guest demo artist for the Red River Watercolor Society on September 14.

Congratulations Everyone! ■

## Welcome!!

### NEW MEMBERS

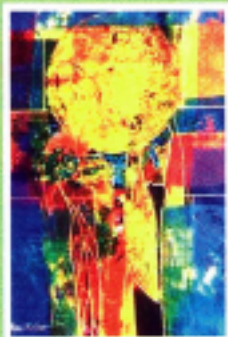
We have 313 paid members to date.

- Kathryn Wiley
- Trudi Ann Remund
- Chris Wilson
- Pat Bores
- Debra Zyla
- Mari-Sue Howes
- Linda Carter
- Kathy Mogelson
- Jeanne Kosfeld

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Lana Grow  
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Cheng-Khee Chee  
June 13-17, 2005





## the WORKshopper

Send Workshop listings to: *Workshopper*, 1830 Dutch Heritage Ct., Baldwin, WI 54002-5155, or email to lbaur@mac.com. Deadline for the October issue is September 15.

**Marian Alstad.** Travel to Taos, Santa Fe, Bandalier Monument and more while painting watercolors with Marian. September 18-27, 2004. For a booklet with full details, contact Babette Wheeler Custom Travel at 952-445-8151. ■

**Mary Ann Beckwith** *Watercolor Dynamics: Experimental Watermedia and Collage Techniques.* Fall Watercolor Workshop at the Phipps Center for the Arts. Monday-Friday, Sept. 27 - Oct. 1, 2004. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Class Fee: \$349 Circle Members Fee: \$299. ■

## Northstar News

### Workshops

**September 13-17: Arne Westerman**

**May 2005: Carla O'Connor**

### Meetings

**September 16. Arne Westerman demo.**  
(\$5.00 fee)

**October 21. Karlyn Holman demo.**

**November 12. Fall Show Reception 7-9 p.m.** (Fall Show is at Century College in White Bear Lake.)

Meeting location is Centennial United Methodist Church, 1524 W. County Rd. C2 at Snelling in Roseville.

## NEXT BrushStrokes

- Fall Show Award Winners!
- Meet our Spring Workshop Instructor, Karlyn Holman

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## Gloria Miller Allen Workshop Participants!

Here's how to find your workshop:

Go to the Bloomington Civic Plaza, the building that houses the Bloomington Art Center (see map at left). Enter through the East Entrance and take the stairway or the elevator to the 2nd floor. (Look for the signs directing you to the workshop.)



s "Hiding Places" by Gloria Miller Allen



Take some time for  
Yourself.

Sign up for a class or workshop.

Today!

[www.EdinaArtCenter.com](http://www.EdinaArtCenter.com)

612.915.6600

## MNWS *calendar*

*Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. Note-- September events will be held at locations other than our usual meeting place.*

**September** .....  
 Sept. 9: Fall Show Awards Ceremony  
 @ Bloomington Art Center, 6-9 p.m.  
 \*no regular September meeting

Sept. 13: Gloria Miller Allen demo @  
 Minnesota River School of Fine Art

**October** .....  
 October 14: Cheng-Khee Chee demo.

**November** .....  
 October 11: Calvin deRuyter demo.

**LOCATION:** Christ Presbyterian  
 Church, 6901 Normandale Blvd.,  
 Edina, MN (Corner of 70th St. S. and

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### MnWS Membership Dues:

- ☐ Single: \$25
- ☐ Couple/Family: \$35
- ☐ Seniors (65+) \$20

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Marian Alstad, Membership Chair  
 4011 Chicago Ave. S.  
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 by providing a  
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 with education and exhibi-  
 tion opportunities, and to  
 promote  
 public appreciation and  
 greater visibility of the art."*

— MnWS Mission Statement