

MnWS *calendar*

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

- Sept. 11** Charlotte Laxen
- Oct. 9** Fall Show (Plymouth Congregational Church)
- Nov. 13** Rick Kochenash
- Dec. 11** Easel Night
- Jan. 8** TWSA Pat Undis and Karen Knutson may narrate
- Feb. 12** Fred Somers
- Mar. 12** Ellen Jean Diederich
- Apr.** Spring Show
- May 14** Nels Femrite

Location: Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Blvd., Edina, MN (Corner of 70th St. S. and Hwy 100)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Marian Alstad, Membership Chair
4011 Chicago Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55407-3142

MnWS Membership Dues:

- Single \$30
- Couple/Family: \$40
- Seniors (65+) \$25

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

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

Wholesale Framing Supplies

Contemporary hardwood frames, Nielsen metal frames, matboards, custom cut mats, foamboards, glass & plexiglass, framing tools & supplies. Online ordering & framing advice.

www.metroframe.com

Call for a free color catalog.
952-941-6649 / 800-626-3139

METROPOLITAN PICTURE FRAMING

Wet Paint inc.
Artists' Materials & Framing

1684 Grand Avenue Saint Paul
651.698.6431 info@wetpaintart.com
www.wetpaintart.com

Your most complete local source for
watercolors & mediums, brushes,
watercolor papers, pads & blocks

— MnWS Mission Statement —
"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."

4011 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407-3142



Painting from my heart by Charlotte Laxen, September Guest Speaker



Demo on the terrace of Artstudy in Giverny

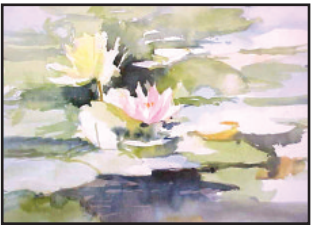
Have you ever had a dream? I believe that they are God-given and really meant to come true. This is the story of a dream come true, how a girl from a farm in Southern Minnesota came to paint in Monet's Garden in Giverny, France.

When I look back at my life so far, I see touch points, things that individually would not have indicated the path I am on, but that collectively have led me to where I am today. This experience parallels the way I paint: from the inner leading of my heart.



"Lunch in Paris"

The love of watercolor as a painting medium was born in Gerald Korte's class at St. Cloud State University in the 70's, and the love of teaching was born in Lanesboro, Minnesota, where I was asked to teach my first watercolor workshop years later. My love for painting France was born in 1991, during my first visit there. I was visiting Paris and taking the train to Poitiers at the invitation of a French family whose son we had hosted the previous summer. I came back from France wanting to share all that I had seen and felt.



"Water Lilies"

By the time I got to paint in Monet's Gardens, I'd been working in watercolor for about 35 years. So how did I get to this magical place?

Years ago, as a young mother, I was sitting in a doctor's office looking at a magazine, when I came upon an article about a program through the Monet Foundation that allowed students to paint for an extended period of time in Monet's Gardens in Giverny, France. In that moment my dream began.



"Rose Trees and Geraniums"

I clipped the article (I hate it when people do that!) and kept it for years. Much later, I checked on the requirements, only to find out that that particular program no longer existed. Disappointed, I figured that my dream was over before it began. I went on with my life, but the dream stayed somewhere in the back of my mind, waiting to re-surface. When it did, some years later, I googled "paint in Monet's garden" and the ArtStudy Giverny website came up, presenting me with the opportunity of a lifetime. "Paint all day Monday and each evening in Monet's gardens as well as other beautiful locations near by. Stay near the Gardens and be treated to French cuisine and warm hospitality with all the details taken care of." Amazing! Through a plan larger than my own, I found myself not only painting there, but actually teaching a workshop there in August of 2007.

I remember the first night alone with my students in the gardens, such a different place with all the visitors gone for the day. The light and serenity were almost palpable. At first, more than four acres of flowers seemed overwhelming, even though I had prepared myself with a year of plein air painting in the U.S. One single flower is what I chose to paint that evening. Now, when I look at that painting, I am back at the same spot in the gardens, with the same scents and colors washing over me.

Continued on page 3.

Fall Open Exhibition at Plymouth Congregational Church

by Catherine Hearinging



By the time you receive this edition of Brushstrokes, the postmark deadline for our Fall Open Exhibition will have passed. I am writing this in mid-August and we are well on our way to filling up this show.

It looks like it will be a fun show. Just a reminder for a few important dates regarding the show:

- **Saturday, September 20**
Drop-off at Plymouth Congregational Church
9 a.m. – noon
- **Sunday, September 21**
Exhibition opens
- **Thursday, October 9**
Reception and Awards Ceremony
6 – 8:30 p.m. (Awards 7 p.m.)
- **Saturday, November 15**
Pick up art at Plymouth Congregational Church
9 a.m. – noon

Thank you to all of you who have submitted entries for this show and to all of you who have volunteered to help with the show. Our volunteer coordinator will be contacting you shortly to line you up for your volunteer positions.

exhibits

- **“Capturing Nature’s Beauty: Two Artists Inspired by the Arboretum”** Carol (aka: Gray) McIntyre & Karen Knutson will be exhibiting at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Reedy Gallery, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska, MN 55318, Oct. 29, 2008 – Jan. 4, 2009. Opening Reception is Sunday, Nov. 2, 2-4 p.m. Two artists begin with the same inspiration, follow their creative muses along different paths and present contrasting views. (See Workshop Listings for their class/gallery talk offerings during this exhibition.)
- **Edina Art Center: “24th Annual Members’ Juried Art Exhibition,”** features artwork created by members of the Edina Art Center and at all levels from beginning to professional. Artists’ reception 5-8 p.m. with Judges’ comments 6 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 4, and continues thru Oct. 27, 4701 W 64th St., Edina. www.EdinaArtCenter.com, 612-915-6600.



Come join our MnWS board

From left to right: Deb Chapin, Ceceile Hartlieb, Mary Brainard, Thérèse Weseman, Katherine Hearinging, Jack O’Leary, and Dan Weimer. Photo taken by Karen Knutson

“Painting from my heart” continued from page 1.

The students were as entranced as I was, their faces aglow with wonder and amazement. They spoke in awe of the privilege of being in Monet’s own gardens, and they chose their painting spots almost with reverence. The painters, all at different levels of expertise, had each come for different reasons and with different needs.

No one went away from the garden empty-handed; it is a healing place.

When I later viewed many of Monet’s paintings at the Musée Marmottan in Paris I felt a kindred spirit and an understanding that transcended the paintings themselves. Now I have been offered a new opportunity to return to Monet’s Garden in June of 2009, to teach a watercolor workshop during the time of the poppies and the roses.

A Native American judge at an art show once said that whatever is inside us will come out on our paper and that is the story each one of us must tell. Painting has been the only constant in my life, the recording of my heart and soul-sometimes bright and colorful-sometimes dark and melancholy. Each time I paint, there comes a time when the vision I’d imagined takes its own turn and I need to go in a new direction. I am privileged to be on this journey of the heart.

Check out Charlotte’s workshop, Paint in Giverny, France, June 12-June 19, 2009, on page 5.

MEMBER happenings

Send member news to: BrushStrokes, 10910 Quebec Ave. S., Bloomington, MN 55438 or email to tweyman@earthlink.net. Images are welcome and will be used as space permits.

- Jeanne Long won the bronze medal at the Red River Watercolor Society's 15th Annual National Juried Watermedia Exhibition. This was her first national show.
- Kathy Braud's piece "Reflection" on exhibit in the "Spirit of Woman" through the Artist's Eyes Art Show, Bremness Gallery, Ann Bickle Heritage House, Glenwood, MN received "Best of Show".
- Dick Green has a painting accepted into the Watercolor West XL national exhibition at the Brea Civic & Cultural Center in Brea, CA. Oct. 11 – Dec. 19.
- Dick Green has a painting accepted into the National Watermedia Oklahoma 34th Exhibition, Oklahoma City, OK. Nov. 1 – Dec. 30.
- Jan Fabian Wallake will be judge & juror for the New Mexico Watercolor Society, Sept. 2008. She will instruct a watercolor workshop in Albuquerque, NM. Jan will also instruct a workshop in Ft. Worth, TX in Oct.

- Many members were selected to be part of the 2008 Minnesota State Fair Fine Arts Exhibition. They were: Julie Allen, Terry Genesen-Becker, Joyce Ells, Elizabeth Franklin, Kris Fretheim, Catherine Hearing, Karen Knutson, Judy Lieber, Sandy Muzzy, Virginia Olsen, HeeJune Shin, Gail Speckmann, Tara Sweeney, Wendy Westlake, Emmy White, and Nanci Yermakoff.

Northstar Meetings

Held 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 Hamlin Ave. and left into Civic Center Drive before Lexington Ave.

Upcoming Meeting & Demo:

September 18 Wendy Westlake

Questions? Call Georgianna Ruzich 763-424-5164 or Carole Jernigan 651-459-5103

Upcoming Fall Workshop:

Love Transparent watercolor? Learn from a master! "Painting with a Purpose" with Tom Francesconi

Date & Time: Oct. 13 - 17, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Cost: \$350 (Member) & \$375 (Nonmember)

Location: Presbyterian Church of the Way, 3382 N. Lexington Ave., Shoreview, MN

For more information or to register call Georgiana Ruzich 763-424-5164 or Joe Greenwald 651-633-7593.

To view Francesconi's work check out his website: www.tomfrancesconi.com.



A Huge Thank You

to MnWS members for remembering us with cards, balloons, creative cards and poems at our 90th (180 total) birthday party at the Edina Art Center.

We will be painting forever,
Harry & Lois Heim

Minnetonka Center for the Arts

Fall Watercolor Classes with Terry Genesen-Becker

WATERCOLOR BASICS

Skill Level: Beginner

All technical aspects are covered including pigment characteristics, brush handling, texturing, masking and paper stretching. Class exercises are designed to increase confidence, explore value, color mixing and composition. Imaginative assignments integrate content and technical skills. Supply list will be provided at first class.

Enrollment limited to 12; ages 16 and up

A420 Wednesdays, Oct. 1 - Nov. 19
(8 sessions) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
\$173 Members / \$192 Non-members

CONTINUING WATERCOLOR I

Skill Level: Advanced Beginner

This course is for the painter fresh from Watercolor Basics and provides more directed experience in the media. Material covered will increase familiarity with value structure, composition, color use and painting techniques. Bring supplies to first class. **Prerequisite: Watercolor Basics or instructor's permission. Please Call!**

Enrollment limited to 12; ages 16 and up

A425 Thursdays, October 2 - 23
(4 sessions) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM
\$72 Members / \$80 Non-members

CONTINUING WATERCOLOR II

Skill Level: Intermediate

Continue developing skills and personal expression in a course that encourages exploration while increasing familiarity with watercolor techniques. General emphasis on individual confidence and growth. Bring supplies to first class. **Prerequisite: Watercolor Basics or instructor's permission. Please Call!**

Enrollment limited to 15; ages 16 and up

A426 Thursdays, October 2 - 23
(4 sessions) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
\$86 Members / \$96 Non-members



Need to know more? Call for a catalog, or go to our web site.
952.473.7361, ext. 16 • minnetonkaARTS.org/classes

2240 North Shore Drive • Wayzata, MN 55391
952.473.7361, ext. 16