

Bonnie Crouch's Conversion From "Pretty Paintings" to Painting with Emotion



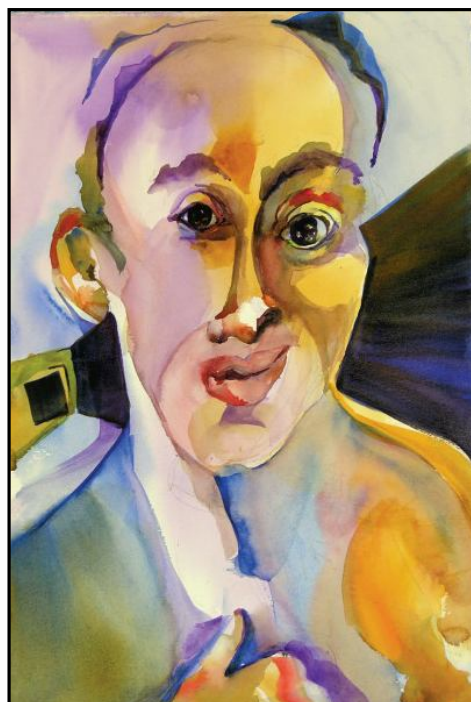
Bonnie Crouch has been painting for 15 years, working toward mastering the techniques of good painting, which is something many painters strive to do. But a series of events occurred over the past year, moving her to now enthusiastically paint how she feels about her subjects instead of how she thinks she should be painting them. She'll describe and demonstrate how she made this transformation at our November 12th meeting.

Her approach to painting is bold and intuitive rather than analytical. She'll talk about the steps she took to open herself to her emotional response to her subjects and how this new approach has made painting a lot more fun!

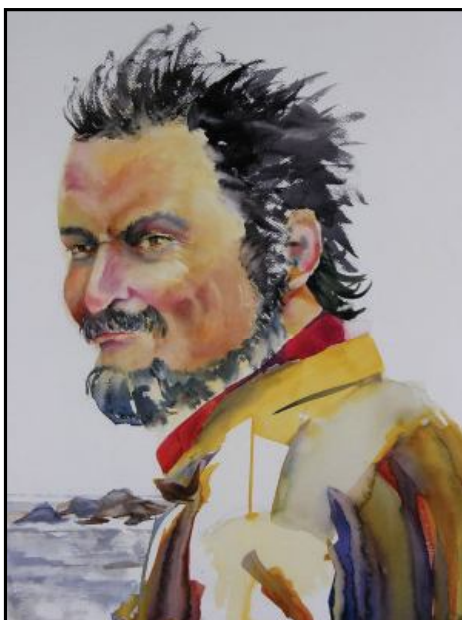
If you are looking for that "inner voice" to help you paint come listen and see if Bonnie's experiences can help you.



"Conjuring"



"Going My Way"



"Larger Than Life"



"Embracing Ruby"

from the President

The 2009 Fall Member's Show is now hanging at Bloomington Art Center. If you have not had a chance to see it, it is worth the trip before it closes on November 13. It is a lovely show with a wide variety of styles and some exceptional work. You can check out the award winners in the newsletter.

We were very fortunate to have a wonderful workshop for our members in October, led by Myrna Wacknov. It was a fun workshop with lots of camaraderie among participants, but more importantly, the concepts presented in this workshop were really useful and pertinent to anyone who paints. Myrna is a portrait artist, so we worked with portraits as a subject, but the real point of the workshop was to explore the elements and principles of design. This is a universal subject for all artists and applicable to all subjects.

One statement that Myrna made during the workshop caught my attention. She said, "We need to learn the language of art." When I thought about this statement, I realized how important it is. For anything that we do, we have a vocabulary and language which we use to communicate with others. In art, we are letting our image speak for us and therefore, need to be very clear about how we present it. Thus, we must understand "the language of art." Our language includes those elements of design that we covered in the workshop (shape, value, line, color, texture, direction, size) and the principles of design (harmony, dominance, repetition, variation, contrast, unity, balance and gradation). We must learn these concepts and understand them in order to speak clearly and communicate our message to the viewers.

I would encourage you to take advantage of the workshops and instructors which MnWS brings in each year. Many are nationally recognized artists and instructors who have a wealth of information to impart. I have found that if I take a workshop from an instructor with a different style or subject from my work, it pushes me to understand the language from a different perspective and makes my work stronger. The more time we spend learning the language the more fluent we will be when we try to use it in our painting. I don't work with portraits or figures very much, but Myrna's workshop forced me to pay closer attention to the design elements, helping me to reinforce them in my mind.

I challenge you to learn more about design, color, value, perspective and all of the important elements involved in painting. This will strengthen your painting and take you to new levels of expression. We should never be beyond the point of learning more. MnWS is committed to providing educational opportunities for all of its members. Please join us for the next workshop or demonstration.

September Board Meeting Highlights:

- ▶ December meeting Easel Night
- ▶ January meeting TWSA slides, pot luck and misc. art sale
- ▶ Membership total is 311, update of e-mail addresses is being made
- ▶ Spring show will be at the new Silverwood Gallery
- ▶ Duplicate books in our library will be on sale at the Jan. meeting
- ▶ Theresa Weseman has taken over the advertising position that Mary Hanson has had for a number of years. **Thank you Mary!**
- ▶ Members may submit watercolor tips for the newsletter

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www.minnesotawatercolors.com

BrushStrokes Newsletter

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MnWS BrushStrokes Editor & Advertising
10910 Quebec Ave. S., Bloomington, MN 55438
tweseman@earthlink.net

Nov. Mini Show —

For our November 12th meeting the mini show theme will be: *Land of Plenty*

Annual Easel Night

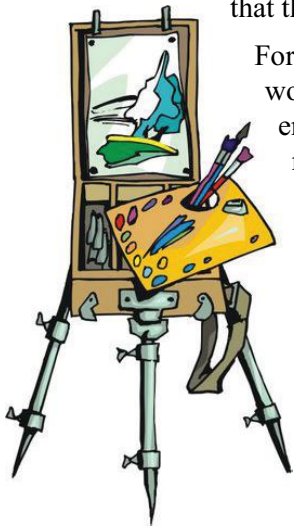
We will be holding our annual Easel Night this year on December 10 at our general meeting, beginning at 7 pm. There will be a sign-up sheet at the November meeting for those who wish to display their work, or you can send an e-mail to Catherine Hearing (cathy@chearding.com) saying you wish to display. We ask that you bring up to 3 paintings and an easel on which to display them. The paintings do not need to be framed, only protected.

Half of the displaying artists will be set up at one time and the rest of the members will be able to circulate throughout the room and talk with each artist about technique, subjects or anything at all. It is a chance to look at fellow members' work and gain some insight into how each piece was done. Last year's event was well attended and many people said that they had a wonderful time.

For those who do not wish to display work, we invite you to come as well and enjoy the chance to talk with fellow members about their work. If you do plan to display, please sign up or let us know, as it will help us to plan. If you do not have an easel to bring, we will have extras.

Hope to see you on December 10.

Catherine Hearing



MnWS NEW MEMBERS

Annette Atwood-Piper	Susan Mischke
Anne Bendt	Marie Panlener
Grace Bergstrom	Larry Pray
Sandra Cunningham	Jannine Primus
Tom De Rosier	Lloyd Rogoski
Carol Enck	Angela Romeo
Dianne Fenyk	Mary Ann Simmons
Gloria Ferguson	Larry Sonnek
Mary Beth Hammond	Judith Spiegel
Penelope Holt	Susan Voigt
Maryanne Kinane	Karin Wallgren
Patricia Kness	Sandra Yarnes
Kathleen Miller	

We have 339 paid members.

(Check the label on your newsletter to see when your membership dues are due.)

Watercolor Tips...

By Marian Alstad

How to keep paint tube covers from sticking

Cut small squares from plastic bags to place between the cap and the tube. The covers will never stick. Also save the caps from discarded tubes of paint for spares if one should crack.

How to keep masking fluid fresh longer

Store in zip lock bags. This helps avoid leakage problems.

Art fairs in the early years

When I see the current art fair display set-ups my memories go back about 35 years when some of my art friends and I decided to try selling our paintings that way. Now artists have the luxury of tents and screens to display their art. Back in the beginning we were always inventing displays. Some of the gimmicks we came up with were hinging old window screens together and using drapery hooks for the art. They were extremely vulnerable in the wind. There was no shrink wrap or clear bags to keep paintings clean and dry. There was no shelter from the elements either. We suffered wind, rain, heat, and cold. If we got rain, many of our paintings and mats were ruined. Frames were damaged in the wind.

We did many other shows as well, but the Uptown was the big show for the season. We began in Uptown's third year with a space on the mall, which was considered overflow from the main Hennepin Lake area. It turned out to be easy walking and less congested so soon all artists wanted a spot there.

The initial entry fee was a painting donated for sale at an auction. The price of entry increased over the 20 years. There were no toilets, and gas stations were far away, restaurant and bar toilets were plugged and filthy. I began putting a coffee can in my car for emergencies. We returned home dusty, sunburned, and exhausted. We had good sales and the show was a fun social event. Old friends would stop in to chat. Somehow we kept it going for 20 years. Jeanette Stjordahl convinced me to join the Twin City Watercolor Society during that art fair, and here I am still a member.

Marian



Minnesota Watercolor Society 2009 Fall Open Exhibition

by Sonja Hutchinson

Our 2009 Fall Exhibition “Ripples and Reflections” is now hanging in the Atrium Gallery at the Bloomington Art Center. If you have not done so, I encourage you to get out to see the show and enjoy all these works together. It will be hanging through November 13. Our membership has created a unique show with continuity of subject matter and great diversity in approaches and styles. It is a wonderful example of the talent and creativity within our organization.

The opening reception was a lively and well attended event. Our fall workshop artist Myrna Wacknov was the judge for the show and brought her own special style to the evening. Drawing from her years of experience as a career artist, she was able to articulate the core elements of design, shape, value, technique and mood that informed her selections for awards. We are featuring the award winning paintings in this edition of our newsletter. Take a moment to congratulate these artists when you see them. There is still one award to be given out: the People’s Choice Award, so make sure to cast your vote for your favorite painting if you haven’t already.

I want to thank the experienced mentors and many volunteers who helped bring this show together. It is the many active members that make our exhibitions great. Your generosity of time and energy make the Minnesota Watercolor Society a dynamic organization.

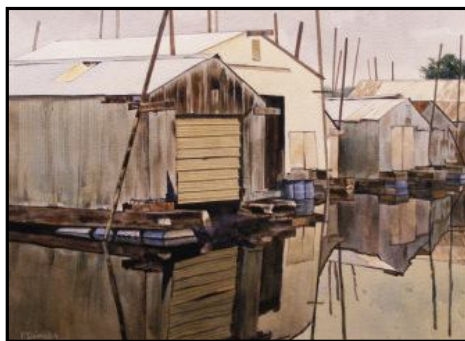
If you do have a painting in the show, please be sure to pick it up on Saturday, November 14 between 9 – 11 am. Thanks again to all of you for helping to make this a wonderful show.



Artist: Cida Smith
Title: “Effervescence”
Award: Best of Show



Artist: Terry Genesen-Becker
Title: “Minnesota Canopic Jar #4, Raven”
Award: Founders Award



Artist: Fred Dingler
Title: “Red Wing Boat Houses”
Award: First Honors



Artist: James Turner
Title: “Dream Fall 3”
Award: Second Honors



Artist: Kathleen Sovell
Title: “Water Bounty”
Award: Third Place



Artist: Kristine Fretheim
Title: “Echeveria Study”
Award: Award of Merit

tion "Ripples and Reflections"



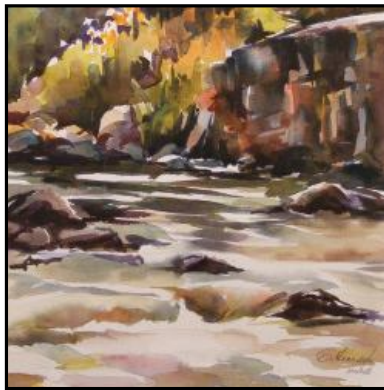
Artist: Vera Kovacovic
Title: "Atmospherics"
Award: Award of Merit



Artist: Carol Larson
Title: "Spring Thaw"
Award: Award of Merit



Artist: Derek Davis
Title: "Evening Walk on the River Bank"
Award: Honorable Mention



Artist: Catherine Hearing
Title: "Ripples & Eddies"
Award: Honorable Mention



Artist: Ruth Hoglund
Title: "Quiet Cove"
Award: Honorable Mention

Thank you award sponsors:

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Congratulations

The following MnWS members exhibited at the State Fair.

- Julie Allen
- Marian Alstad
- Kathy Braud
- Nancy Carney
- Judy Fawcett
- Kristine Fretheim
- Susan Gainen
- Suzanne Galloway
- Terry Genesen Becker
- Catherine Hearing
- Linda Krueger
- MarySue Krueger
- Barbara Lanzo
- Mary Joan Milbrandt
- Diane Posselt Monroe
- Sandy Muzzy
- Barb Parisien
- John Salminen
- Kathleen Sovell
- Pat Undis
- Jan Fabian Wallake
- Emmy White
- Pearl Ziegenhagen

exhibits

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

► **Calvin deRuyter's** exhibit "Grounded Vision" will be on display October 1 - November 28 at the Great River Arts Association, Little Falls. Go to www.greatart.org for more information.

► **Sue Pavlatos** will be exhibiting at Art Attack, November 6, 7 & 8, Northrup King Building, 1500 Jackson St., Minneapolis, MN. Sue will also be exhibiting at Celebrating Color, November 19 – December 12, Gallery Editions, Apple Valley, MN. Call 218-349-7045 for information on both exhibits.

Minnesota Watercolor Workshops

March 6 & 7, 2010 (Sat & Sun)

Andy Evansen www.andyevansen.com

Loosen Up With Andy

Cost \$95

Learn how to loosen up your watercolors with Andy Evansen. He'll be teaching a three-wash technique to get you to see the big shapes in your paintings. He strives for a blend of realism and impressionism, and will get you to stop worrying about meddlesome details. Drawing tips will be discussed as well, to help give you the confidence to paint large and fast. Andy will be demonstrating each day, and will try to cover subjects ranging from skies, water and trees to figures and buildings. Come ready to paint!



May 10-14, 2010 (Monday - Friday)

Charlotte Huntley, AWS

www.charlottehuntley.com

Creative Color Workshop

Cost \$395 Members

\$435 (Nonmembers)

The most important aspect of a painting is how to let your inventive mind plan your painting so that the painting will tell your individual story. All this is done before you start painting. Charlotte will present her renowned form of layered pointillism, a major part of the workshop, and how to think creatively. Reference will be made to, "Painting...a QUEST toward Xtraod'nary", which she co-authored with Judi Betts, and will be available for purchase at the workshop.



Workshop Registration

I would like to register for the following workshop(s)

☐ **Andy Evansen/Loosen Up With Andy**
March 6 & 7, 2010 (Sat & Sun) \$95
Location: Hopkins Center for the Arts

☐ **Charlotte Huntley AWS/Creative Color Workshop**
May 10-14, 2010 (Mon – Fri) Members \$395
(Nonmembers) \$345
Deposit \$125 by April 26, 2010
Location: Roseville Armory

For detailed information about the artist or workshop visit our Web site at: www.minnesotawatercolors.com

For inquiries contact:

Kathleen Sovell, Workshop Chairperson

Phone: 612-374-3195

E-mail: JKSOVELL@comcast.net

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____@_____

MNWS does not share e-mail addresses with others.

Please send fee or \$125 deposit for Charlotte Huntley's workshop.

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

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to Minnesota Watercolor Society and mail with form to:

Workshops
Susan Zinschlag
2353 Glacier Way
Hastings, MN 55033-3757
Phone: 651-437-9327
E-mail: s.m.zinschlag@att.net

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Call for artists

Arts in Harmony 2010

The 15th annual National Juried Show sponsored by the Elk River Arts Alliance deadline is Dec. 4. The show hangs at the Sherburne County Government Center February & March 2010. Arts Alliance website www.elkriverart.org.

Artists loved "Wacky Portraits" workshop



Each day Myrna Wacknov took one of the elements of composition, shape, value, line, color, and texture. She had many examples of other artists' work, demonstrating each of the above elements. Students would then be assigned one element and then draw a color combo out of an envelope. Then they went to work. They did the same portrait and everyone's work was unique. At the end of each day, participants looked at what they accomplished.

Upcoming MnWS workshops on page 6.

workshops and classes

Want to find more workshops?

Visit the MnWS web site at www.minnesotawatercolors.com and click the "Happenings" link at the top of the page.

To include your listings on the web site please e-mail information to webmaster@minnesotawatercolors.com

MEMBER happenings

Send member news to:

BrushStrokes, 10910 Quebec Ave. S., Bloomington, MN 55438 or e-mail tweseman@earthlink.net. Images are welcome and used as space permits.

- ▶ **Terry Genesen Becker** received the Terrell Malott Graham Award at the 13th Annual Taos National Exhibition of American Watercolors, Millicent Rogers Museum, Taos, NM
- ▶ **Victor Perlbach's** entry in the Spring Juried Show, "Morris Co-op," was published in the local Morris, MN newspaper with a short article on his work. In July, Victor presented a framed print to the Morris Public Library, and had an afternoon showing at the Prairie Renaissance Cultural Alliance Gallery, in Morris.
- ▶ **Dianne Jandt** had an exhibit of her paintings and photographs at Fairview Ridges Hospital in Burnsville during the month of October.
- ▶ MnWS members were well represented at Edina Art Center's 25th Annual Member's Juried Art Exhibition. This year 97 works were accepted into the 2009 Exhibition. The following MnWS members were in the show: **Marian Alstad, Molly Bergum, Suz Galloway, Anne Marie Graves, Georgia Kandiko, Mary Sue Krueger, Judy Lieber, Jean Meyer, John O'Leary, and Kathleen Sovell.**

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 Hamline Ave. and left into Civic Center Drive before Lexington Ave.

Upcoming Show:

November 12, NWS Member Show Awards and Reception. Show runs October 25 - December 11, at Century College West Campus, White Bear Lake, MN

Upcoming Meeting:

December 17, Discussion of watercolor challenge given at October meeting.

Spring Workshop: April 2010, Christina Acosta, acrylics

The new Northstar web site: www.northstarwatercolorssociety.com.

MnWS calendar

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

- Nov. 12** Bonnie Crouch Demo
- Dec. 10** Easel Night
(see inside for details)
- Jan. 14** TWSA slide show,
pot luck & art swap
(art swap details at
November meeting)
- Feb. 11** Karen Knutson Demo
- Mar. 18** Spring Show Opening
- Apr. 11** TBD
- May 13** Charlotte Huntley Demo

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:**

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

MnWS Membership Dues:

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

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opportunities, and to promote
public appreciation and greater
visibility of the art."*
— MnWS Mission Statement

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