

October Demo Artist — Emmy White

To be asked to do a demo for the Minnesota Watercolor Society is like being asked to fly on the next NASA trip to the moon. If I say “No” I might never have another chance to get real, real nervous. So I say “Yes” even though the experience will take me to my edge and force me to jump off.

I really don’t know what I can show you that you don’t already know and by the look of the current fall show at Colonial Church, I could definitely learn a lot from you. I like painting on full size sheets with big brushes and I use many colors of American Journey watercolor paint. I am asked if I am using gouache because often my paint appears thick and non transparent. It is just that I am using opaque watercolor along with the transparent.

I’ve taken Skip Lawrence workshop’s for about ten years and I should have learned by now some principles of watercolor painting. However, since his greatest gift to me has been to accept myself, encouraging me to paint what I feel, my ability to tell you exactly what I do is limited. One of the first workshops I took from him, he announced that he did not want to see us painting from photos. I panicked and did not think I could possibly have anything in my head that would be material for a painting. But I did it, and it was a successful painting. It is amazing and fun to explore memory and imagination.



“Water Break”



“Turkey’s Last Beer”

I will show a few slides of my recent paintings that will give you an idea of my style and my use of memory and imagination for seasonal subjects. November, being Thanksgiving month, a turkey painting may be the subject. I hope that the demo will give you ideas for your own journey.



Painting brightens my spirit, It’s like eating peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, it sticks to your innards, as my mother would say.



from the President



We had our Fall Show opening recently and I enjoyed Bob Bowman's thoughts as he recognized our award recipients. If you have shown in either the Spring or Fall shows please encourage people who haven't participated to consider it. I welcomed the encouragement I received when I had to consider the many details required to participate in an exhibition. There were forms to fill out that required measurements and a title and then there were the framing requirements! Deadlines can be threatening to inner peace. As someone who has had a picture hung in an exhibition, you can point out the very positive feeling experienced in seeing your picture in a formal setting amidst other works of art. It's fun to go to an opening with friends and family to see your work on the wall. This is a beautiful show and I hope many of you have been able to see it.

The Spring Show still needs a chairperson! We have our venue and have started the show planning so this would be a great time to jump in. Help will be available!

Remember to ask a friend to attend a meeting with you. We have so much to give to our members through our demos, newsletter, workshops and shows. I have been inspired through our programs. It's exciting to try new ideas. The workshops can be breathlessly busy but so much fun! First we have to let our fellow artists know about us, and, members, we need you to help.

Congratulations to our award winners and thank you participants for allowing us some time with your work. I look forward to enjoying artists' faces I know and a few new faces this spring. Winter is closing in and there are many alone times in the studio. Come to a meeting and have a painting ready for the mini show for all of us to enjoy.

November Mini-Show

"Harvest of Colors" is the theme for the Nov. 10 mini show. Artists who bring a painting to share get their name entered into a drawing for a prize.

MNWS Watercolor Workshop Line-up

- ▶ Joye Moon, Nov. 12 & 13, 2011 - full description on our website
- ▶ Cathy Herding, Jan. 14 & 15, 2012 - full description on page 6
- ▶ Pat Undis, Mar. 17 & 18, 2012
- ▶ Andy Evansen, May 14 thru 18, 2012

For more information visit www.minnesotawatercolors.com or contact Susan Zinschlag to register at 651-437-9327 or s.m.zinschlag@att.net



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Northstar Liaison	Marilyn Jacobson gjake@comcast.net

BRUSHSTROKES

Editor Therésa Weseman
Mailings JoAnn Nissen
Proofreader Jeanne Long

Website

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

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.

- ▶ **Kathy Braud** has work in Central Minnesota Watercolorists' 30th Annual Show and Sale, Saturday, Nov. 12 at Atonement Lutheran Church in St. Cloud.
- ▶ **Pearl Ziegenhagen's** plein air watercolors of France and Italy are on exhibit Sept. 20 – Dec. 12 at Wisconsin's Hudson Hospitals through the Phipps Center for Healing Artists Series.
- ▶ **Nancy Patrick Carney's** painting "Hot Town" won the People's Choice Award at the Northeast Minneapolis Artists Association's Fall Fine Arts exhibit in September.
- ▶ **Betsy LePlatt** illustrated her first book, "Mosquito." It was written by Virginia Kroll and is a book for young children. It follows a pesky mosquito as she buzzes about the forest.
- ▶ **Jim Kuether's** painting "The Bird's Nest" was accepted into the National Watercolor Society's exhibition in San Pedro, CA. Jim was also awarded signature status by NWS, and his painting won an award and will be part of the NWS 2011 National Tour which will include Bloomington Center for the Arts in Sept. 2012.
- ▶ **Kristine Fretheim's** painting "Earth Dakini Redux" received the Winsor Newton Award at the Watercolor USA 2011 Exhibition in Springfield, MO. Kristine also received a formal invitation to join the Watercolor USA Honor Society.
- ▶ **Jack O'Leary** will be featured at The Metroscapes Watercolor Consortium in Excelsior Oct. 30 – Dec. 3.
- ▶ Congratulations to the following MNWS members that exhibited in this year's Minnesota State Fair Fine Arts Exhibit in the watercolor division: **Julie Allen, Kristine Fretheim, Dick Green, Catherine Harding** (Merit Award), **Judy Lieber** and **Patricia Undis**.
- ▶ Congratulations to the following MNWS members that were selected to exhibit in the Bloomington Art Center 35th Annual Members' Juried Exhibition; **Terry Genesen Becker, Fred Dingler, Dianne Jandt, Jim Rogers, Therésa Weseman, Carol Wingard, and Sue Zinschlag**. The show will run Oct. 27 – Dec. 2.



"Hot Town" by Nancy Patrick Carney



"Mosquito"
Illustrated by
Betsy LePlatt

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.*

NWS Fall Show:

Oct. 30 – Dec. 2, Century College, White Bear Lake, MN

Workshops:

Greg Lipelt, April 19-22, 2012 (Thursday through Sunday)

Keiko Tanabe, October 2012

John Salminen, October 2013

More info is on the Northstar website: www.northstarwatercolorssociety.com.

Make connections with watercolor enthusiasts online

While nothing can replace the value of face-to-face networking, using online networking tools such as Facebook can be a great way to make connections with other artists.

MNWS networking channels:

- LinkedIn group
- Facebook
- Twitter
- YouTube

Links to MNWS social media sites are available on our website at: www.minnesotawatercolors.com.

Any ideas for more online channels contact Peter Sohal, technology chair, at info@minnesotawatercolors.com

Minnesota Watercolor Society 2011 Fall Open B

The Fall Members' Show, "Mosaic," is completing its run on Nov. 4 at The Colonial Church of Edina. This is our third show there, and 64 artists participated in the spirit of "the colors of autumn." Our Artist's Reception took place on Oct. 11 and it was a wonderful night of fellowship, food, art and artists. Our judge for awards was Robert Bowman, the Exhibits Director from the Minnetonka Center for the Arts. He presented his thoughts and insights on the topic of art, with specific insights on watercolor and the creative process. We are all thankful to Robert for sharing the evening with us. See page 7 for more from Robert.

All of the award winning pieces are currently posted on the MNWS website at www.minnesotawatercolors.com

The People's Choice Award will be determined after the show closes, and will be announced at the November meeting.

Thank yous go to all who volunteered to make the show a success. Special thanks goes to Peter Sohal and Therésa Weseman for their graphic and website work, Deb Chapin for her guidance, Sonja Hutchinson for her wealth of knowledge from past shows, Catherine Hearing for installation of the show, and Susan Gainen for soliciting sponsors.

This year our award sponsors are Wet Paint, Penco, Winsor & Newton, and Frameworks. Together they donated more than \$1,000 in prizes.

Once again I'd like to thank all volunteers who helped with art delivery, hospitality, food, photography, and art pick-up. I learned that this organization not only has artistic talent, but also has generosity and a willingness to pitch in and help!

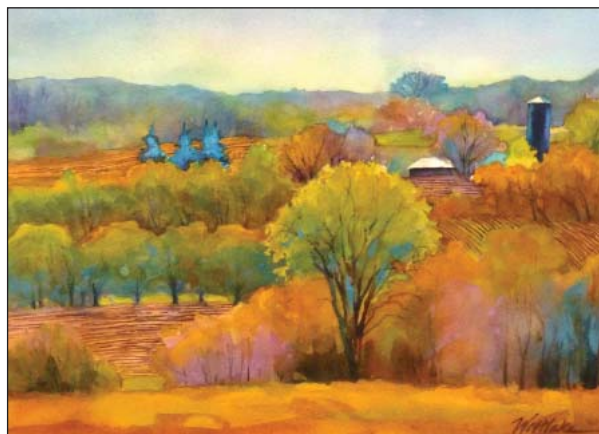
Victor B. Perlbachs,
Fall Show Chair



Artist: Julie Allen
Title: "Autumn Bloom"
Award: Best of Show



Artist: Catherine Hearing
Title: "River Rocks"
Award: Emrich-Stordahl Founder's Award



Artist: Wendy Westlake
Title: "Pastoral Patchwork"
Award: First Honor

Exhibition "MOSAIC, The Colors of Autumn"



Artist: Tara Sweeney
 Title: "Silver Lining"
 Award: Second Honor



Artist: James Turner
 Title: "Nest Dream"
 Award: Third Honor



Artist: Kathy Miller
 Title: "Harvest"
 Award: Award of Merit



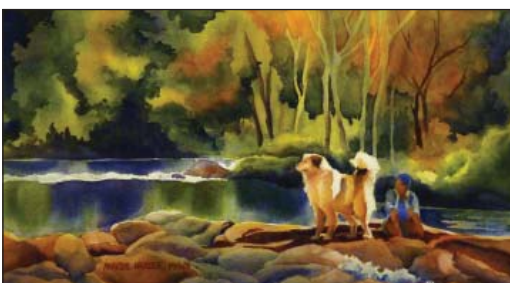
Artist: CeCeile Hartleib
 Title: "Golden Sunset"
 Award: Award of Merit



Artist: Kristin Grevich
 Title: "Bear Where!"
 Award: Award of Merit



Artist: Judy Lieber
 Title: "Beach Medley"
 Award: Honorable Mention



Artist: Mary Sue Krueger
 Title: "Fall Is In The Air"
 Award: Honorable Mention



Artist: Dick Green
 Title: "Ankiring Forbidden"
 Award: Honorable Mention



Two Day Weekend Watercolor Workshop with Catherine Hearing *(for all levels)*



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

Cost: \$100

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

Lunch is on your own, but many have lunch at the restaurant across the street.

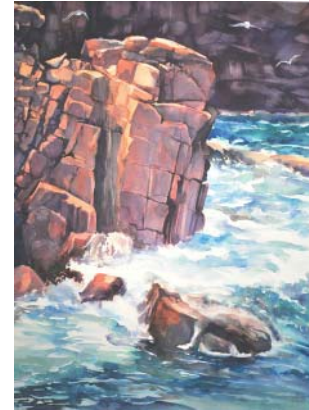
Supply list will be sent upon receipt of registration form & payment.

Registration form with payment is **due December 1, 2011**

Make checks payable to: MN Watercolor Society

Mail to: Susan Zinschlag, 2353 Glacier Way, Hastings, MN 55033-3757

Phone: (651-437-9327) email: s.m.zinschlag@att.net



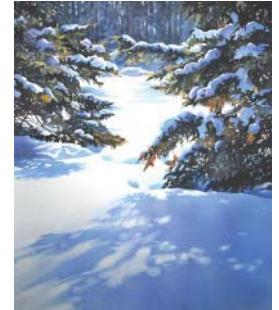
Take the Fear Out of Color *Strategies for Achieving Vibrant Color*

Dates: January 14, 2012 (Saturday, 9:00 – 4:00) January 15, 2012 (Sunday, 12:00 – 5:00)

Instructor: Catherine Hearing

Join us for this low-stress color workshop where you will learn how to mix clean, vibrant color. We will explore concepts of color value, intensity and temperature, color mixing and application of color. Move past the basics of color theory, explore structured color schemes and strengthen your color knowledge. This workshop will introduce you to some strategies that will help you to use color with confidence and create paintings that have more visual impact.

Catherine Hearing has been teaching courses in Color Theory since 2003, first teaching it at the Como Conservatory, in St. Paul, and later in private classes and workshops in the Twin Cities. Since she started teaching these courses, she has noticed that her own work has improved greatly and attracts a lot of attention for its vibrant color. Catherine has been painting in watercolor for the past 30 years. She shows her work locally and in the past several years has been showing her work in many national watercolor exhibitions. She is a signature member of MNWS and Red River Watercolor Society and has received numerous awards, both locally and nationally. To see more of her work, go to her web site at www.chearding.com.



-----Detach and Return - Registration Form -----

Name: _____

Catherine Herading – January 14 & 15, 2012

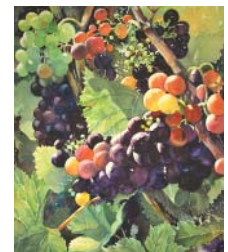
Address _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Email: _____

Workshop fee \$100. Make check payable to **MN Watercolor Society**

Mail form and payment to:

Susan Zinschlag, Workshop Registration
2353 Glacier Way
Hastings, MN 55033-3757



Judge Comments on This Year's Fall Show

Judging art is both a pleasure and a responsibility. It also begs a question, how to evaluate or compare the success of others' work? I see the judging as an extension of the critique process, in which knowledge of aesthetic/design principles and techniques, coupled with a sense of what the artist is attempting to do, enable one to develop a sense of what is or is not working to achieve the intended effect.

As we create, each mark or decision adds not just another element to the aesthetic effect of the piece; it also adds another rule, or guideline. At some point in the creation, we have made enough decisions or marks that they comprise a set of rules — an aesthetic program for the artwork. Each subsequent decision or mark can be judged by whether or not it fits into this program. This is what artists are doing as they contemplate a work in progress to determine what comes next, as if the answer will come from the work itself. It will. Their progress on the artwork has created a set of rules for what can or cannot follow. In this sense, we can judge an artwork on its own terms as having realized, or failed to realize, the potential of its maker's aesthetic program for the piece. Discussions of an artwork's formal properties often include references to a work's aesthetic unity, or cohesiveness. These are other ways to describe the artist's success at developing and following an aesthetic program for the artwork.

Finally, there's the 'it' factor of art — the story or point of view expressed in the work and the manner in which it is conveyed to the viewer. This is where things get personal and individual response challenges objectivity; there are aspects of art that can never be fully accounted for, quantified, or agreed upon, which is why art continues to be exciting, vital, and relevant to our lives.

These awards programs are an excellent way for your group's members to receive some insight in exchange for the effort and risk involved in submitting their artwork for examination and judging. Having the chance to hear your shows' judges explain their selections may or may not change the way your members approach their painting, but it may help them understand better where they fit into the art-making universe. There are ways of evaluating art that emphasize rules and technical issues, and there are ways of evaluating art that rely upon qualities less easily defined, and your members will probably have, over time, the opportunity to have their work judged by people representing almost every point along this continuum.

I made three trips to the show to give myself a chance to see everything as clearly as possible — to 'get over' some of the more extroverted pieces as well as to discover some of the quieter ones.

I wanted my list of honorees to include a variety representative of your group's efforts. The number of honors you ask your judges to designate allows them to honor a range of approaches, subjects, and styles, allowing the judge's selections to represent the breadth of your group's accomplishments rather than a narrowly defined sample.

"The more you like art, the more art you like." Collector and dealer Charles Saatchi's statement is true — passion for art is something that tends to expand outwards rather than collapsing in on itself. Even as we judge and select and critique, the making and enjoyment of art must be inclusive rather than exclusive. There's room for everyone.

Robert Bowman,
Exhibits Director, Minnetonka Center for the Art

Note From The Editor

Please help me thank Bev Beckman for her work mailing *BrushStrokes*. She has done a great job. I would like to welcome JoAnn Nissen who will be taking over the mailings. Also, please thank Jeanne Long for catching so many errors that I miss when she proofreads the newsletter.

Therésa Weseman,
BrushStrokes editor

Watercolor Reflections

Column by Vera Kovacovic,
MNWS member

"I have no interest in the dark and gloomy. To me, the delight of watercolor is in capturing the light within the white paper by surrounding it with successive washes of transparent color."

— Jean Grastorf

"Because watercolor actually moves on the paper, it is the most active of all mediums, almost a performance art."

— Nita Engle

"Watercolor and its application have become a moving force, directing and enriching my life."

— Theresa R. Einhorn

"I cannot 'sort of' be a watercolorist; I'm forever trying to be the best I can be."

— William H. Condit

"Watercolor is a medium that can be as demanding and temperamental as those who choose to paint with it. But it is a colorful and exciting medium all the same — well suited to describing the many moods of the subject, as well as those of the artist wielding the brush."

— Jean Burman

If you have ideas on what it means to be a watercolorist please e-mail Vera at vkovacovic@comcast.net.

MNWS *calendar*

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

Nov. 10 Emmy White Demo

Dec. 8 Bonnie Cutt will be joining us for the December meeting to introduce products and techniques with Golden Acrylics. After the break members can experiment with gouache, acrylics and watercolor on cards and also try some new materials and techniques. More information will be provided at the November meeting, like what supplies to bring. This will be a playful and interactive evening.

Jan. 12 TBD

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

MNWS NEW MEMBERS

Bonnie Friedmeyer

Leatha Hoffman

Heather Hultgren

We have 303 paid members.

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

Board Member Needed

The MNWS is currently looking for a Spring Exhibition Chair. If interested please email Deb Chapin at chapindeb@comcast.net or call her at 952-200-8592.

Thank you!

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:

- College Student \$15
- 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.

— 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.”

10427 Fawns Way, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-5117

