

Reminder: Members' Day is June 27

Minnesota Watercolor Society Members' Day is Saturday, June 27, from 9am to 3pm at the Hyland Lake Park Reserve Visitor Center, in Bloomington. We hope to see you there!

The two morning demo artists are Carol Wingard, who will demonstrate batik painting with watercolor, and Georgia Kandiko, who will create an atmospheric European cityscape using wash techniques.



Georgia Kandiko "Sunday Fun Day, Rome"

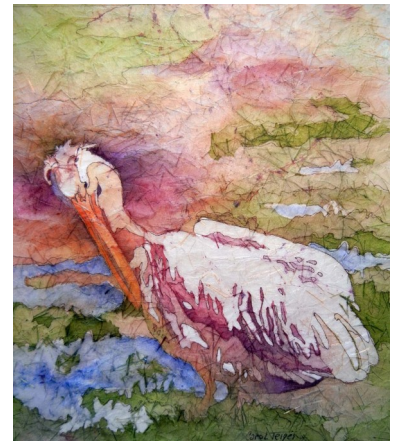
After lunch (either purchased with registration or bring your own) Pat Undis will do a plein air demo. This will be followed by painting time on the grounds and an informal critique for those who wish to stay.

If you want to attend but have not yet registered, do so soon! The deadline for registration is June 19 and the maximum number of participants is 60. You can find the registration form on the MNWS website at www.minnesotawatercolors.com. Scroll down the home page until you come to the announcement about Members' Day, then click on the link within that announcement to get to the registration form. The registration form was also in the March/April and May/June issues of the newsletter.

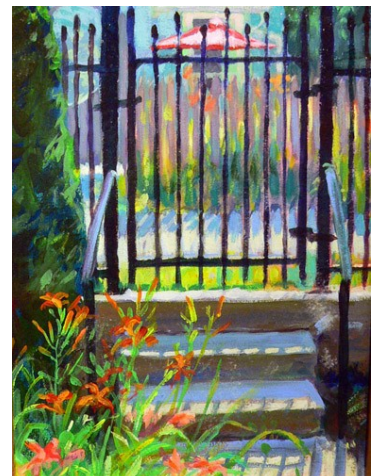
Join us and whet your appetite for a summer of great painting!

The Hyland Lake Park Reserve is located at 10145 Bush Lake Road, Bloomington, MN. For directions, go to <http://www.threeriversparks.org/parks/hyland-lake-park.aspx>

Questions? Contact Wendy Westlake, 1-507-259-1481, westlakewatercolor@yahoo.com, or MarySue Krueger at 612-716-4829, marysue@marysuekrueger.com.



Carol Wingard, "Pelican"



Pat Undis, "Garden Gate Octagon House, Hudson"

From The President



Hello Members!

Our May demo by Frank Zeller was so fun and very well attended. He stressed the importance of seeing big shapes and not worrying about painting “things.” I think we should all say, “shapes not things!” out loud five times before beginning a painting. We also appreciated his great set up as all were able to see the image and color clearly! We are going to take some cues from him and try to replicate his system. Thank you, Frank!

I’d like to welcome Tara Sweeney to our Board. She’s volunteered to step up to the Membership Chair position. Thank you, Tara. We look forward to working with you. Our Board is close to complete now with almost every position filled. Only Marilyn Jacobson is doing double duty as both Program Chair and Northstar Watermedia Society Liaison. Thank you for all your hard work, Marilyn, and to all our board members, Thank You!

A reminder that our Members’ Day is coming up at Hyland Lake Park Reserve Visitor Center on June 27, 9AM – 3PM. It should be a fantastic day filled with great demos, plein air painting, time with friends and the opportunity to get acquainted with other members. You can find more information in this issue and on our homepage. We’re limited to 60 so register soon!

I’m sure you have personal goals as an artist and I hope this summer offers you the time and freedom to accomplish some of them. Your MNWS Board has also been considering how we can grow and improve. As we look to the future we’ve set these as top priorities for 2015/16:

- Reach out to artists of all ages especially younger artists. We are considering scholarships and other opportunities for college students and young artists.
- Update our website. We’ve assembled a team who will be taking on this job over the summer.
- Membership Survey. We want to make sure we are in touch with our membership and their needs.
- Improve our AV set up at our monthly programs. This has been an on-going battle and hopefully we’ll see improvements in the coming year.

We believe these goals support our mission statement, which is printed on every newsletter. Perhaps you have an idea that will help us achieve these goals. Perhaps you can lend a hand or some expertise. We’d love to have you come alongside us, so talk to a board member and get involved. It’s your Watercolor Society!

Wendy

MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

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Northstar Liaison OPEN

BRUSHSTROKES

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Website

www.minnesotawatercolors.com

BrushStrokes Newsletter

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MNWS BrushStrokes Editor

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Watercolor Reflections

Column by Vera Kovacovic, MNWS Member

THE FEAR TO FAIL – OR – MAKE GLORIOUS MISTAKES

I really enjoy Neil Gaiman's take on making mistakes. I appreciate this reminder that it's OK to totally "mess up" a painting and to stop myself from ripping it up out of sheer frustration. Instead, there is always something to be learned, gained and explored.

I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes.

Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're Doing Something.

So that's my wish for you, and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make New Mistakes. Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody's ever made before. Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is: art, or love, or work or family or life.

Whatever it is you're scared of doing, Do it.

Make your mistakes, next year and forever.

[From Neil Gaiman's 2012 New Year's blog entry (and possibly from other places as well)]
<http://journal.neilgaiman.com/2011/12/my-new-year-wish.html#sthash.yULrA6MV.dpuf>

And this excerpt from Neil Gaiman's commencement speech at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia:

When things get tough, this is what you should do: *Make good art*. I'm serious. Husband runs off with a politician? Make good art. Leg crushed and then eaten by a mutated boa constrictor? Make good art. IRS on your trail? Make good art. Cat exploded? Make good art. Someone on the Internet thinks what you do is stupid or evil or it's all been done before? Make good art. Probably things will work out somehow, eventually time will take the sting away, and that doesn't even matter. Do what only you can do best: Make good art. Make it on the bad days, make it on the good days, too.

[<http://uarts.edu/neil-gaiman-keynote-address-2012>]

Editor's Note: The commencement speech has been made into a book by Neil Gaiman, designed by Chip Kidd, entitled Fantastic Mistakes: Neil Gaiman's "Make Good Art" Speech. Published by William Morrow in 2013.



UPCOMING MNWS WORKSHOPS

KEIKO TANABE: 4-day, October 22-25, 2015. **Only a few spaces left!** Description and registration on page 6 of this newsletter and available on the MNWS website, under Events:

http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/p_events.html

Questions? Call or email Clare Ritter: 612-618-7274, ritte009@umn.edu.

Use the MNWS Facebook Fan Page to Stay In Touch

By Therésa Weseman, Publicity Chair

Minnesota Watercolor Society member meetings are over until September. However, that doesn't mean you can't stay in touch with other watercolor enthusiasts. While nothing can replace the value of face-to-face networking, using social media can be a great way to make connections with other artists.

MNWS online networking channels

- Facebook
- LinkedIn
- Twitter
- YouTube
- Flickr
- Google+

Links to these social media sites are available on the MNWS website at www.minnesotawatercolors.com. Scroll to the bottom of the home page and click the social site you'd like to see. For example, click on the Facebook icon. This will bring you to Facebook. Search "Minnesota Watercolor Society's Fan Page." Once there click to join. We are a closed group to keep solicitors out of the group. So it may take a day or two for you to be accepted.

Don't know what to post? Here are some suggestions:

- Announcements that can't wait for the newsletter. The newsletter prints six times a year, so timely information is better to post on the Facebook fan page.
- Art events happening in Minnesota
- Photos of paintings and events
- Classes
- MNWS meeting notices
- And other art related interests

I look forward to seeing your posts. Or if you are uncomfortable posting to Facebook feel free to email me at tweseman@earthlink.net and I will post for you. However, I highly recommend using Facebook as a tool to promote yourself as an artist. **We have over 360 members on our fan page.** I wish you a great summer with plenty of time to paint.

Northstar Activities

Members' Meetings are usually the third Thursday of each month, 7 pm, at the Roseville Skating Center, 2661 Civic Center Drive, Roseville, MN.

- June 18 - demo by Grace Haverty
- June 18-20 - Workshop by Grace Haverty
- July 1 - Deadline for entries, NSWS National Juried Exhibition (see further information on page 7)

Throughout the summer - Wednesday Morning Plein Air Paint Outs. Sponsored by Northstar Watermedia Society, open to ALL painters, including non-NWS members. Find the full schedule and contact names and phone numbers at:

<http://northstarwatermedia.com/resources/group-paint-events/>

For more information about the Northstar Watermedia Society and their activities, visit the website: www.northstarwatermedia.com.

Save the Dates – Fall Members' Show

"Brilliant Passages," the 2105 MNWS Fall Exhibition will be held at the Ames Center in Burnsville, MN.

Exhibition Schedule

The exhibit will run from November 5 - December 12, 2015

October 28: Submission Deadline - early entry is fine, don't wait too long (65 members submitting one painting, after which the submissions are cut off)

November 2: Drop off art

November 6: Opening Reception 6 - 8 PM

December 13: Artwork pick-up date

In conjunction with the event, there is a mini-workshop planned with our own Andy Evansen from November 2 - 4 at the Ames Center.

The complete Prospectus will be published in the September/October issue of the MNWS Newsletter. Meanwhile, watch for the Prospectus on the MNWS website.

Suzi McArdle, Fall Exhibition Chair

Meet our Board Members by way of their Art

As space allows, we are introducing our Board Members in the newsletter by including a painting or two by one or more of them. In this issue, we bring you Peter Sohal, Technology Chair, and Marilyn Jacobson, Program Chair.



Peter Sohal
The Reflective Birch



Marilyn Jacobson
The Catch

KEIKO TANABE WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

“Capturing Light and Atmosphere of Landscape”

Date: October 22-25, 2015

Location: Ames Center, 12600 Nicollet Ave., Burnsville, MN 55337

Hours: 9 AM to 4 PM Thurs-Sat; 12 to 5 PM on Sunday

Cost: \$360 Members, \$395 for Non-Members. A deposit of \$175.00 due immediately secures a spot in the workshop. Balance is due no later than September 19.

Cancellations: in writing prior to September 17 for a full refund minus \$15.00 service fee. No refund after September 17 unless spot can be filled from the waiting list. In that case, full refund minus \$15.00 service fee.

Supply List: will be sent after final payment.

Lunch: on your own, several restaurants within walking distance.



ABOUT THE ARTIST: Mostly self-taught, Keiko started her art career in 2005. Since then her paintings have been juried into or invited to participate in many international watercolor exhibitions. Most recently she was chosen to be an invited guest of honor in exhibitions in France, Italy and Spain. Her paintings have been featured in leading art publications in the U.S., Europe and Japan and in several self-published books of her art. She is a sought-after workshop instructor, conducting more than 80 workshops around the world since 2011. Born in Japan, Keiko currently lives in San Diego, California. For more of Keiko's work, see "Watercolor Artist" magazine, Dec 2010 pp 36-43 (featured article) and Oct 2014 pp 54-55, and www.ktanabefineart.com.

COURSE CONTENT: This workshop is designed for those who would like to gain a better understanding of methods and techniques to capture light and atmosphere of the subject. Through various exercises and step-by-step demonstrations, Keiko will show you how to take the initial inspiration through the simplification process to an expressive painting that is strong in composition and content. Subject matters include landscape, cityscape, waterscape and interior composition, which will be demonstrated in a manner that is more representational and impressionistic rather than abstract.

Make checks payable to MNWS.

Mail to: Clare Ritter, 4108 Sheridan Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55410

Phone: 612-618-7274 E-Mail: ritte009@umn.edu



WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FOR KEIKO TANABE

Name _____

Address _____



Phone (_____) _____ - _____

Email _____

Workshop fee in full: \$360.00 Members; \$395.00 Non-Members
\$175.00 deposit secures a spot in the workshop

MAKE A COPY AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Poem by Judy Lieber (submitted by Emmy White)

Ya gotta DO watcha GOTTA DO! FOLLOW YOUR BLISS.
FOR ME, I'D RATHER do faces THAN LANDSCAPES. IT'S MORE INTERESTING AND EASIER, AS WELL. ALL THE INFORMATION IS THERE, ALL OVER THE **FACE**...(Get it? & IT'S ALMOST LIKE CLIMBING A MOUNTAIN: (Is that why they call it the west FACE or the east FACE?!)
(HAHAHA....THAT'S A JOKE, SON!)
FIRST I see ONE LEVEL...kinda flat....hmmm....a forehead. Then, to my right.... a nice oval shape!...AN EYE! CAPTURE IT!
THEN TO MY LEFT.....ANOTHER ONEGOT IT!
DOWN &.....WOW@@@A PROTRUDING OUTCROPPING! LOOKS LIKE A SCHNOZ....ETC.

Painting a portrait is SO MUCH FUN &....
LIKE IT IS FOR AN ADVENTUROUS EXPLORER, RATHER SCARY, AS WELL.

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.

Mary Axelson was chosen as Corporate Art Force artist of the month for April 2015. The interview may be viewed at <http://artforceminneapolis.tumblr.com/post/115857647166/april-artist-of-the-month-mary-axelson>.

Rita Ryan has a watercolor show at the Lakeville Area Art Center, 20965 Holyoke Ave., Lakeville, MN, through July 31.

Northstar Announcement

Northstar National Watermedia Exhibition

NorthStar Watermedia Society is sponsoring a national show at Hopkins Center for the Arts, September 8 - October 18, 2015. Reception will be September 13, 2:00 to 4:00 pm, with awards at 3:00 pm.

Judge and juror will be Jack Richeson, founder of Jack Richeson & Co., Inc., a world-wide manufacturer, importer, and distributor of quality artists' materials. Over \$4000 in cash and other prizes will be awarded.

Deadline for entries is July 1, 2015. Register online through callforentry.org. After signing in to CaFE, click on View all Calls. Then, under Search - Keyword, type in Northstar. Details can also be found at northstarwatermedia.com/exhibitions.



MNWS NEW MEMBERS

Vera Cziok
Penny Gutman Link
Sonja Kendall
Janet Kneer
Linda Prince
Tina Seber
Marietta Turner

Welcome New Members!

We have 316 current paid members.

MNWS *calendar*

Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m., except June, July, and August

June 27 Members' Day

*Location: Hyland Lake Park Reserve, 10145 Bush Lake Rd.,
Bloomington, MN*

No meetings in June, July and August.

**Don't forget Members' Day, June 27!
More 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.

--MNWS Mission Statement

“To further the 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

