



## Painting the Figure

**Janet Flom demonstrates her unique gestural approach!**

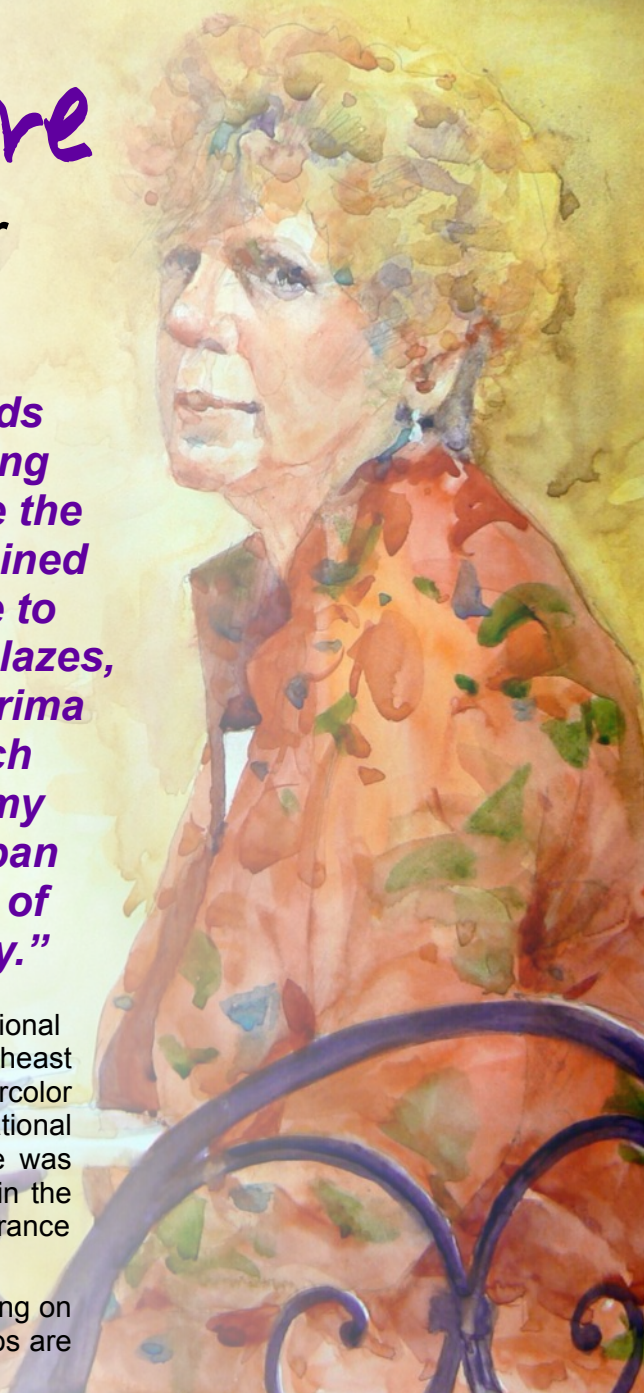
Thursday, May 11 at 7:00 p.m.



*“Watercolor lends itself to my working style. I don’t have the patience or sustained interest over time to paint in layered glazes, so a direct, alla prima approach is much more suited to my short attention span and artistic goal of fresh paint quality.”*

Janet’s watercolor paintings have earned numerous national and international awards, including top honors in the Northeast Watercolor Society in New York, and the Northwest Watercolor Society in Seattle. She holds signature status in the National Watercolor Society and several other organizations. She was founding president of Red River Watercolor Society and in the fall of 2013 Janet was featured in art publications in France and Great Britain.

In addition to teaching and lecturing, she is currently working on a series of articles on watercolor for publication. Her studios are located in downtown Fargo and Moorhead.



## From the President

### *Hello Artist Friends And Members!*



*It's happening again* – that rush of spring awakening the senses with the smell of warm earth and fresh blooms, skeletal trees transforming to lacey green and a cacophony of bird songs in the air. Let's celebrate with our Spring Show at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. It runs April 13 – June 18 so there is plenty of time to take it all in. Member artists will be doing demonstrations from noon – 2:00 pm. on Saturdays and Sundays during the show, too. Make a date, don't be late, come see - come see - come see.

In May, join us in welcoming Janet Flom as our demo artist. Janet lives in Fargo ND and has been recognized by many national watercolor societies for her outstanding paintings. She has completed over four hundred commissioned portraits in watercolor, oil and terra cotta, with faces and gurus her favorite subjects. Watercolor is Janet's preferred medium due to its immediacy and versatility. This promises to be a great evening with an expert and is also *our last regular meeting until fall*.

But there is more. It's an odd numbered year, which means that we are hosting a Members Day in June. This full day event is at the Fish Lake Pavilion in Maple Grove on Saturday, June 10. It will be a fun experience with colorful watercolor painting demos in the morning, a plein air demo in the afternoon, plus, time to paint in a beautiful setting. Grab a friend, send in your registration forms and bring your palettes. All the details you need are in this issue and on our website at [www.minnesotawatercolors.com](http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com).

Before we take a break for summer, I want to thank Mary Brainerd for her stewardship in maintaining our watercolor resources library. Our library holdings are now listed on our website. That means you can peruse all our books and videos before a meeting and request something you want to check out ahead of time. With that new enhancement, Mary is planning to retire as librarian and is looking for someone to take over. Please contact Mary if you are interested in supporting this fine collection for our members.

Summer is just around the corner. Bring on the sunscreen and bug spray.

-Sonja

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**Northstar Liaison** (Open)

Website: [www.minnesotawatercolors.com](http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com)

**MNWS BRUSH STROKES NEWSLETTER**  
Editor Gail Vass

5809 Three Oaks Ave., Maple Plain, MN 55359  
Gail@GladArt.net

**Proofreader** Jeanne Long

Published January/February, March/April, May/June,  
Summer, September/October, November/December





"May I Come In" by David Smith



"Something to Crow About" by Paula Len

## MNWS New Members

- Nancy Brunzel
- Violet Duak
- Jo Geaslin
- Linda Hansen
- Julia Jaakola
- Christine Karlberg
- Patricia Kimble
- Lori Kinstad
- Cnythia Lilly
- Connie Luhman
- Diane E. Nelson
- Wenwen Liao-Manfred
- Liao Changlin
- Richard A. Marcy

Welcome  
New Members!

We have 331 current  
paid members.

## MNWS Member Happenings

Send member news and quality images to Editor, Gail Vass:  
Vass@mchsi.com or Gail@GladArt.net (Images used as space permits.)

- **David Smith** was accepted into the 150th American Watercolor Society Exhibition in NYC for the third time and received his AWS signature status. His painting "May I Come In" also won an award at the AWS Exhibition: High Winds Medal.
- **Julie Allen's** painting, "50 Marbles" was juried into and honored with Fourth place in the 2017 Arts in Harmony International Exhibition. She was also invited by the American Swedish Institute to be in their traveling show. The exhibit at the American Swedish Institute begins on April 9th and ends May 21, 2017.
- **Paula Len** received a Blue Ribbon for a mixed media watercolor piece "Something to Crow about," in the Sun City Center, Florida Annual Art Show!!

(Member Happenings continued on page 6)

Membership  
Renewals  
Are Due!  
(See pg. 6)

## Membership Application

### MNWS Membership Dues:

- College Student **-\$15** •Single **-\$30**
  - Couple/Family **-\$40** •Seniors (65+) **-\$25**
- (Dues will increase June 1, 2017. See page 6.)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your application and check payable to:

Minnesota Watercolor Society

Hadji Bensfield, Membership Chairperson

5900 Oxford St. Unit 13

St. Louis Park, MN 55416

Or you may apply on line at [www.minnesotawatercolors.com](http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com)

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

# Minnesota Watercolor Society Presents...



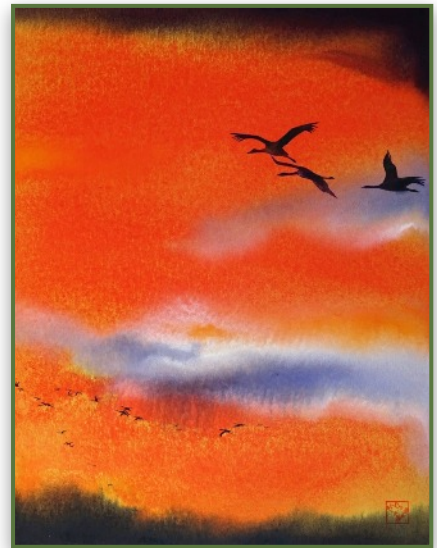
**Best of Show**

Misty Flight by David Smith



**First Place**

Escape by Jim Turner



**Second Place**

Show Me the Way by Kay Stratman



**Emerich Stordahl Founders**

Coming Home by Karen Knutson



**Third Place**

Asphalt Ephemera by Richard Green



# 2017 Spring Show Awards!

Juror, Lyz Wendland  
MN Landscape Arboretum

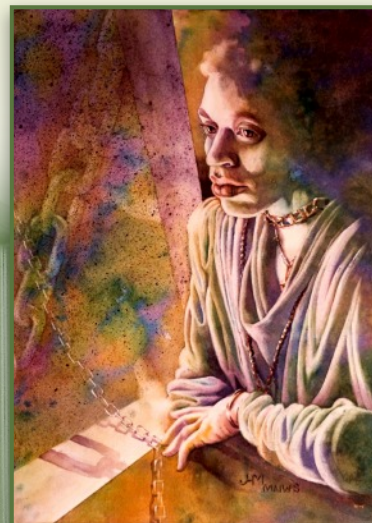
## Congratulations!

Winning artists were announced at the opening reception Thursday night, April 13th in the auditorium. A full crowd was gathered in celebration of the winners and of all 64 of the great paintings juried into the show.

### Merit Awards



1- Banjo by Sandra Driscoll



2- Chains by Judith Meyeraan

Jim Turner - Escape



### Honorable Mentions



1- Diva Dahlia  
By Julie Allen



2- November Tempest  
by Jerry Ohm



3- Three Little Beets  
By Katherine Robinson

## Membership Renewal is Around the Corner!

The MNWS membership year is from May 1 through April 30 of the following year. Membership dues will increase as of June 1, 2017.

For members whose dues are paid through April 30, 2017, if you renew before June 1 your membership renewal fees are as follows:

- Student \$15.00
- Single \$30.00
- Couple/Family \$40.00
- Seniors (65+) \$25.00

After May 31, 2017 renewal fees increase to:

- Student \$20.00
- Single \$35.00
- Couple/Family \$45.00
- Seniors (65+) \$30.00

Renewals can be completed in the following ways:

- Online via the Minnesota Watercolor Society website at (<http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/join/>)
- Thursday evening, May 11 meeting
- Via check mailed to:  
Hadji Bensfield  
MNWS Membership Chairperson  
5900 Oxford St Unit 13  
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

If you have any questions about membership, please contact Hadji Bensfield through the Minnesota Watercolor Society website at (<http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/boardmembers>) and click on the word 'membership,' or via e-mail at [blessedbygod123@aol.com](mailto:blessedbygod123@aol.com).



*Spring is here . . .*

*. . . and there is a sense of new energy and fresh start, right in step with the budding nature and the opening of first blossoms. Perhaps it is time to do a bit of spring clearing in our studios, and create space for new art to come in.*  
— Vera Kovacovic

## MNWS Member Happenings (Continued from page 3)

- Four of **Tara Sweeney's** figurative watercolor and mixed media paintings were on view March 9 through April 7 in the JURIED FIGURE SHOW at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts. Also, **Tara and her son, Nate Christopherson**, have been awarded a 2017 Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative grant to illustrate a series of 29 objects from the American Swedish Institute's historic collection, each one representing a letter of the Swedish alphabet. They will work in ASI's public galleries as resident artists this summer.

*"With almost every breath I take I get a new sense of the linden tree, of ripened wheat, of hay, of mignonette. If I can paint three good pictures then I shall go gladly, with flowers in my hair."*

— Paula Modersohn-Becker

*"Throw open your windows and let the scenery of clouds and sky enter your room!"*  
— Yosa no Buson

## Looking Ahead...

**The MNWS Fall Exhibition**, "Luminous Light" will be at the Hopkins Center for the Arts, September 23 - October 29. The reception will be Saturday, September 23, 6-8 p.m.

**Watercolor Portrait Workshop** with **Fealing Lin** October 26 - 28, (Thursday-Saturday) 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Burnsville Ames Center



# Minnesota Watercolor Society

# Members' Day

**Saturday, June 10**

Fish Lake Regional Park Pavilion  
in Maple Grove

**Rain or Shine!**



Please provide the information requested and return the completed form with a check made out to **MNWS Members' Day** for the total amount.

Mail to: MarySue Krueger  
18321 Tristram Way,  
Eden Prairie, MN 55346.

**Registration forms must be received by Friday, June 2, 2017.**

For directions and maps visit [www.threeriversparkdistrict.org](http://www.threeriversparkdistrict.org). Select **Parks and Trails**, then **Parks** for the link to **Fish Lake Regional Park**.

**Questions?** Contact MarySue Krueger, 612.716.4829 or email: [marysue@marysuekrueger.com](mailto:marysue@marysuekrueger.com).

## 9:30-11:00 Demo

**Tara Sweeney** demonstrates her signature approach to portraits—a three-layer/four value/hold-the-whites approach that results in lively brushwork and vibrant color with a split primary palette.

## 11:15-12:45 Demo

**David Smith** demonstrates his techniques for working wet into wet, pouring, glazing, spattering, and spraying; techniques that keep his realistic paintings fresh, and exciting.

**Lunch** (Order a box lunch, or bring your own.)

## 2:00-3:30 Plein Air Demo

**Larry Ehrlich and Marty Owings**

demonstrate their buddy approach to plein air painting. Larry will use pen and ink with color washes, while Marty uses watercolor to paint the same subject.

## 3:30-5:00 Free Painting Time

**Members** invited to paint outdoors, followed by an informal critique.

----- CUT HERE -----

## MNWS Members' Day Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee **\$40.00**

Box lunches are available for **\$9.00**. Sandwiches are on Hoagy buns. All choices include side salad and dessert. Beverages will be provided. Please select from the choices below.

Turkey \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Salad \_\_\_\_\_ Roast Beef \_\_\_\_\_ Veggie Wrap \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ box lunch(es) at \$9.00 each for a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_.\_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_.\_\_\_\_\_

**I volunteer to help with Members' Day:**

Check \_\_\_\_\_ Artists' assistants (up to 4 needed) \_\_\_\_\_ Refreshments and lunch \_\_\_\_\_ Clean up \_\_\_\_\_



5900 Oxford St Unit 13, St. Louis Park, MN 55416

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

*"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."  
-MNWS Mission Statement*

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Permit 4665

## MNWS CALENDAR



Programs are held the second Thursday  
of the month at 7:00 p.m. Sept.- May only.  
Location: Christ Presbyterian Church,  
6901 Normandale Blvd., Edina, MN  
(Corner of 70<sup>th</sup> St. S. and Hwy 100).

Opening Reception  
in the Reedy Gallery

**2017  
Spring Show  
Award  
Winners!**

•  
**Members'  
Day  
Registration**

**APRIL 13 -  
JUNE 18... MNWS Spring Exhibition  
at MN Landscape Arboretum**

**MAY 11.... Janet Flom Demo**

**JUNE 10... MNWS Members' Day**



**SEE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ON PAGE 3**