

Brush Strokes

Volume 39, Number 2

www.minnesotawatercolors.com

March/April 2018

March Meeting

Bonnie Dyer Featherstone Demonstrates From Plein Air to Studio Technique

Thursday, March 8th at 7 pm

Bonnie Dyer Featherstone, BA

Christ Presbyterian Church

6901 Normandale Road, Edina, MN 55435

Bonnie Dyer Featherstone will demonstrate her process for selecting a subject, evaluating compositions and challenging herself to try something new, different and maybe even beyond her comfort level working from plein air sketches to create studio paintings. "Trusting my instincts rarely fails me. Capturing a subject in outdoor light brings such life to a



Lay in - Summer in the City



Summer in the City - Orange

painting. Being able to transfer the freshness of a field study to a completed studio piece—be it a figure, still life or landscape—is a journey of challenges. Look for the jewels you have in your journals, sketchbooks, and stashed under the bed. Really look at them. How many have you thought about re-doing but never got around to painting. Edit and discern whether they could come to life in a different color palette or in a larger format." This is great material for the depths of winter when no one in their right mind thinks about painting outdoors. Bonnie says, "I can't be too safe if I am going to continue to create fresh new paintings and continue to make breakthroughs in my work."

Although a classically trained artist, Bonnie tends to be more impressionistic in her style. She enjoys plein air painting and travels to locations locally, nationally and abroad. She spends time journaling, writing and co-authored a book on college planning and independent writing for news publications. Bonnie is an award winning artist in watercolor, oil and pastel media in local regional and national juried show/competitions. She is a signature member of The Minnesota Watercolor Society, member of The Lake Country Pastel Society and Outdoor Painters of Minnesota. Bonnie teaches intermediate and advanced students with a focus on composition, value and subject selection.

Bonnie has a BA from Michigan State University with majors in Art and pre-law. She has continued her art studies in the US with outstanding artists, and in Europe combining visual arts and culinary /decorative arts. Founding member of BASA(BVAS). Served on the District 191 School Board and The Metropolitan Council, and as President and Director of The Burnsville Community Foundation. She maintains a studio at River Ridge IV (formerly The Minnesota River School of Fine Art), does commission work, prepares for shows and juried competitions. Bonnie has recently curated three shows for The Ames Gallery.

From the President

Hello Artist Friends and Members!

With all those major winter activities like the Super Bowl, Winter Carnival and the Eelpout Festival out of the way you can now look forward to some stimulating watercolor events. In March our demo artist is Bonnie Featherstone, a lifetime member of MNWS. Bonnie paints in oils, pastels and watercolor and has contributed a great deal to our watercolor community. It will be a delight to learn how she assimilates all her painting experience to share with us. Our meeting will take place on Thursday, March 8 at Christ Presbyterian Church in Edina.

In April we will host our annual Spring Show at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts. This promises to be an outstanding exhibition of fine art from our members. Special thanks go to Mary Deziel, our Spring Show Chairperson, whose leadership has helped us to sponsor this event. You won't want to miss the opening on Friday, April 13th.

Our monthly programming is currently masterminded and executed by Tara Sweeney and Joel Kaplan. We are most grateful for the great artist demos and experiences they bring to our members each month. While Tara plans to take a break at the end of this programming year, Joel is hoping one of you will collaborate with him in researching and scheduling artist demos for our 2018-2019 program year. Please contact Joel or Tara to learn more about how you can assist.

Looking ahead, if you've got cabin fever, it's time to sign up for some summer fun with Nancy Carney. Coming this July, we will be sponsoring a two-day workshop featuring scenes around Lake Minnetonka. You can find more details about this workshop in this edition of Brushstrokes.

All of the programs and opportunities sponsored by the Minnesota Watercolor Society are the result of member contributions. Our Board is a lively group of volunteers to work and to serve with to deepen your relationship in the watercolor community. Please consider how you might support our mission and common interests. For details on upcoming positions, please contact one of our Board members. You'll be glad you did.

See you soon.
Sonja



MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Sonja Hutchinson, 952-484-6949
sonjahutchinson@mchsi.com

Past President: Wendy Westlake, 507-732-7778
westlakewatercolor@yahoo.com

Vice President: Carol Wingard, 952-942-7019
cjwin48@hotmail.com

Secretary: Bev Beckman, 612-812-0723
bkbeckman@comcast.net

Treasurer: Carol Larson, 952-294-8053
carol@caroljlarsen.com

Exhibition, Fall: Thérèse Weseman,
952-200-8592
theresaweseman@gmail.com

Exhibition, Spring: Mary Deziel, 952-358-0802
m.deziel@mchsi.com

Historian: Marian Alstad, 612-824-6460
mardi4011@aol.com

Hospitality: Louise Hall, 612-920-9072
louiseMhall4@msn.com

Librarian: Hadji Bensfield, 612-554-6709
blessedbygod123@aol.com

Membership: Hadji Bensfield, 612-554-6709
blessedbygod123@aol.com

Newsletter: Joannette K. Larson 651-210-4544
joannette@comcast.net

Program: Tara Sweeney, 651-649-0535
tarasweeneyart@gmail.com
Joel Kaplan 952-4894-2644
jkaplanslookout@comcast.net

Publicity: Kelly Kastner, 612-363-6672
kelynych26@msn.com

Signature Membership: Stephen Lackore,
507-281-0454 Islackore@yahoo.com

Technology: Laura Hanson, 612-203-9895
vandermolen_laura@yahoo.com

Workshops: Beverly Wood, 952-891-1883
bjwood48@hotmail.com
Kathy Schur: 651-455-0285
kathy.schur@inbox.com

Website: www.minnesotawatercolors.com
MNWS BRUSH STROKES NEWSLETTER

Editor/Design Joannette K. Larson joannette@comcast.net
2722 1st Street, White Bear Township, MN 55110

Proofreader Clare Ritter

Published • January/February • March/April • May/June,
• Summer • September/October • November/December
©2018 Minnesota Watercolor Society

April Meeting



Silver Dollar by Leslie Wilson



Bridges by John Salminen, Painting of the old fishing pier in Duluth, MN

2018 Spring Juried Exhibition SPRING CONTRASTS

Opening reception is Friday, April 13th from 6 to 8 pm
Awards by John Salminen at 7 pm

at Minnetonka Center for the Arts, 2240 North Shore Drive, Wayzata, MN 55391

Don't miss our Spring Exhibiton Opening Reception, this will be in place of our usual Thursday night meeting for April.

Minnesota artist John Salminen will judge the paintings accepted into the MNWS 2018 Spring Exhibition! John Salminen earned his Bachelor's and Master's Degree from the University of Minnesota. He lives and works in Duluth, Minnesota. We are honored to have him present awards for the spring show. <http://www.johnsalminen.com/>

Walnut Creek, California artist Leslie Wilson will select the paintings for the show. Leslie paints original watercolor paintings and commissions including landscapes, still life and figures in an impressionistic style. She also teaches continuing watercolor classes. Leslie earned a B.A. in Secondary Art Education from the University of Maryland. <http://www.lesliewilson.net>

Details for submission of art at <http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/springexhibition/>

<http://www.minnetonkaarts.org/watercolor-exhibition-contrasts/>

Northstar Water Media Society News

Meeting on the third Thursday of most months at 7 pm in the Rose Room, Roseville Skating Center 2661 Civic Center Drive Roseville, MN 55113

Guests are welcome.

Mar 15: Demo by:
Nels Femrite

Apr 7-May 13: Member
Exhibition, "Colors of Joy"

Apr 16-19: Workshop with
Ted Nuttall, "Painting Figures
from Photos"

Apr 19: Demo by:
Ted Nuttall

<http://northstarwatermedia.com/>

Summer Watercolor Workshop

Come join in the fun of painting out-of-doors the many inspirational scenes around Lake Minnetonka in Excelsior, MN with Nancy Patrick Carney with her colorful palate and whimsical people.

Nancy Carney, former MNWS member, had a studio and gallery in downtown Minneapolis where she taught painting for many years. Since moving to the Lowcountry region of South Carolina two years ago, the scenery has changed, but her love of plein air painting has continued. She would love to share some of her techniques with you in this two-day workshop. Students will meet at the Southshore Center each morning for classroom instruction, and then drive the short distance to Excelsior for outdoor painting. The last hour of the day will be spent back at the classroom to look and learn from each other's work. This techniques class is for those with some watercolor experience. See more of her artwork at her web site: www.nancycarney.com

FEES: \$100 deposit secures a spot in the workshop.

Register before May 30: Members: \$185. Non-members: \$200.

Register after May 30: Members: \$200. Non-members: \$225

Questions: contact Kathy Schur, phone 651-455-0285 or email kathy.schur@inbox.com



Cherry Spoon



Lluquillo Sketch

Workshop Schedule

Day One

- *Simplifying and Editing the Scene with Classic Compositions*
- *Why Strong Values Are of Number One Importance*
- *Painting on location, weather permitting*
- *Gentle Critique and Sharing*

Day Two

- *Some Techniques for Adding Collage to Your Paintings*
- *Painting on location, weather permitting*
- *Gentle Critique and Sharing*

2018 Summer Workshop Nancy Patrick Carney

Tuesday, July 24 and Wednesday, July 25, 2018

9am to 4pm meeting at the Southshore Center

5735 Country Club Road, Excelsior, MN 55331

REGISTRATION for Nancy Patrick Carney Summer Workshop:

Name _____ Member _____ Non Member _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____ Email _____

US MAIL REGISTRATION: Checks only. Send registration to:

Kathy Schur, 337 Betty Lane, West St Paul, MN 55118

Watercolor Reflections

by Vera Kovacovic

Musings on Creativity by scientist and poet Oliver Sacks and poet Mary Oliver.

In his impressive handwritten notes on creativity, Sacks had enthused about — underlined in two colors, — the “buzzing, blooming chaos” of the mind engaged in creative work. But, contrary to the archetypal myth of the lone genius struck with a sudden Eureka! moment, this chaos doesn’t occur in a vacuum. Rather, it coalesces from a particulate cloud of influences and inspirations without which creativity — that is, birthing of something meaningful that hadn’t exist before — cannot come about.

Creativity involves not only years of conscious preparation and training but unconscious preparation as well. This incubation period is essential to allow the subconscious assimilation and incorporation of one’s influences and sources, to reorganize and synthesize them into something of one’s own. The essential element in these realms of retaining and appropriating versus assimilating and incorporating is one of depth, of meaning, of active and personal involvement.

Mary Oliver so beautifully articulated in her meditation on the creative life: “The most regretful people on earth are those who felt the call to creative work, who felt their own creative power restive and uprising, and gave to it neither power nor time.”

<https://www.oliversacks.com/blog/>

*"Everybody
should be
quiet near a
little stream
and listen."*

—Ruth Krauss
"Open House for Butterflies"

Photographing Your Artwork for the Printing Press

It's all about pixels, resolution and color

by Joannette K. Larson

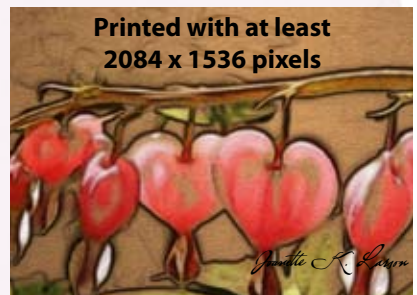
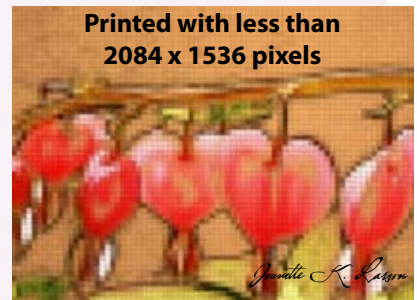
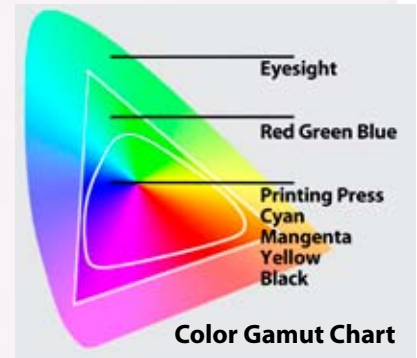
After the artwork is all done and before it's framed it's time to photograph it. Professional photographers are the obvious choice if you are preparing your artwork for prints or posters. They can be costly and well worth it but up to \$400.00 for a half day shoot or more. Color correction is done by another professional, either the photographer or a graphic designer. They will make sure the colors match as closely as they physically can to your original artwork.

However due to the Color Gamut, they will never look exactly the same as your artwork. Because the human eye sees 10 million colors, the monitor shows 16 million colors but the printing presses use far less colors, so compromises will happen. This color gamut chart, at the top right, shows the difference between the amount of colors for Eyesight, Red, Green, Blue printing, and commercial Printing Presses using Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black. And of course nothing will look the same as viewing art on the monitor because that is a transparent medium with light projected through the image. When a color is "out of gamut" for printing presses it will not reproduce properly.

Many good digital cameras can take a decent photo of your art if you use good lighting, have the camera at the same plane as the artwork and your artwork is securely flattened. The right settings are the most important part of taking the picture. Using the highest setting on your camera, usually around 2084 pixels at 72 ppi or more for one of the settings will be best for printing. Designers will reduce the 2084 pixels image to 7 inches with 300 dpi which is ideal for commercial printing presses. These digital images can be reduced for many uses such as postcards, newsletters and business cards. Never enlarge a digital photograph. Anything less than 2084 pixels as one of the settings will result in a great loss of quality for commercial printing presses. They may look fine on monitors and slides and even printing out on photo paper at home, but they will not work for commercial printing presses. For larger poster and print sizes use this handy chart at the bottom right.

Some functions in software programs like Photoshop can technically enlarge. They produce an inferior product due to "interpolation" which adds pixels. Then it tries to match the nearest color when adding these pixels as it enlarges. This is fine for noncritical works that are not color imperative, however this is not suitable for the printing press –or your artwork.

Joannette K. Larson is a graduate of Minneapolis Technical College in Commercial Art, Photography and Printing. She has had her own freelance graphic design business since 1994 servicing such clients as Dayton Hudson, Remanufactured Engines, Albertville Premium Outlet Mall and more. She enjoys producing watercolors, oils and pencil artwork and is currently serving as Editor of the Brush Strokes newsletter. <http://joannettelarsondesign.com/>



Camera Settings Chart		
Camera Sensor	Resolution WxH 72 ppi	Print Size 300 dpi
3 MP	2048 x 1536 =	7" x 5"
4 MP	2464 x 1632 =	8" x 6"
6 MP	3008 x 2000 =	10" x 8"
8 MP	3264 x 2448 =	12" x 8"
10 MP	3872 x 2592 =	13" x 9"
12 MP	4290 x 2800 =	15" x 10"
16 MP	4920 x 3264 =	17" x 11"
36 MP	7360 x 4912 =	24" x 16"



PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 2805

Minnesota Watercolor Society
5900 Oxford Street, Unit 13
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

www.minnesotawatercolors.com
www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaWatercolors

*"To further the development of the
watercolor artist by providing a
supportive environment with education,
exhibition opportunities, promotion
of public appreciation and
greater visibility of the art."*

Minnesota Watercolor Society Mission Statement

*To become a member of the MNWS please visit our website at
<http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/join/>*

MNWS CALENDAR

WELCOME!

MNWS **New Members**

Amanda Fullan
Ekaterina Andreeva
James Nutt
Kathryn Blake
Michael Roth
Nancy Dilks
Nicki Craig
Stephanie Stevens
Susan Olson
Susan Jane Donohoe
**We have 318 current
paid members**

Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7 pm September–May only.
Usually at Christ Presbyterian Church, 6801 Normandale Road, Edina, MN
(Corner of 70th Street and Highway 100) Check our website for locations that may vary.

March 8th, Thursday
Demo Artist: Bonnie Featherstone

May 10th, Thursday
Demo Artist: Keren Kroul

April 13th, Friday
Spring Exhibition Opening Reception



MEMBER HAPPENINGS

Check our Facebook page for more member happenings at www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaWatercolors

Karen Knutson

I am so excited to announce that my painting, "Proud in Pink",
got accepted into the American Watercolor Society's 151st
Annual International Exhibition to be held in New York City
April 9–28, 2018. This has been a lifelong dream of mine!

