



Waterworks

L. L. McGuire, Ed.

May, June, July 2020

WFWS Update and Project Chairman's Message

5/20/20

We were so excited and prepared to host everyone in Idaho as “Watercolors Rock the Gem State”. However, our train encountered rock fall after rock fall (aka COVID19) in the final 3 months, and we had to switch tracks multiple times in hopes of arriving at our destination safely with all passengers seated!

Our amazing WFWS-45 Dream Team had quite the grand event awaiting your arrival – the exceptional 45th Juried Exhibition at the elegant Idaho State Museum, the gorgeous Gala Reception with deliciously catered local delicacies and concert pianist, the Convention with Art Talks by top IWS artists, trade show, Basque dancers performance, sightseeing activities, and more. We wanted this to be something truly memorable and bring IWS together to enjoy each other and the best of watercolor!

Due to the pandemic, the Convention and recently, the museum cancelled. But not to be derailed, we bring you WFWS's first Virtual Exhibition Part 1 and 2 on our YouTube Channel AND a newly added surprise 3 day show that displays these gorgeous matted paintings in an art-as-therapy healing gift for the community at the Riverside Hotel Ballroom! We hope you will make time to come Breathe Life in Boise...you will be glad you did!

WFWS-45 Online Show and 1st Virtual Exhibition: Released June 5th!

You now get a front row seat to see the WFWS-45 Awards and Exhibition beginning **June 5th** on our new online **YouTube channel at Idaho Watercolor Society: WFWS-45 Part 1: Welcome and Awards, and Part 2: Exhibition**. Enjoy seeing and hearing the comments of juror Stephen Quiller on the award-winning paintings in Part 1.

Thanks to Ron Odom and Laurel Lake McGuire for creating our gorgeous WFWS-45 catalog, which is free to all those who entered WFWS-45 and to all IWS-100 Club members. \$15 to purchase by check or cash at the door.

New 3 day WFWS-45 Show: “An extraordinary exhibition for abnormal times” June 5-7

The Riverside Hotel has generously gifted their ballroom for “Watercolors Breathe Life into the Gem State”. We gratefully thank them for sharing our vision and their resources to help us all heal through art. Social distancing and masks will be expected. Although it is customary for the host to frame the 100 winners identically for exhibition, we have not done that for this brief show, so distance from the art must also be respected. See invite on back cover.

Gratefully, the journey has been well worth the ride because of treasured times spent with extraordinary and skilled traveling companions. Our Team Leaders (10 to begin with) planned monthly for 3 years. Our Team members (about 50) joined us for quarterly Meet & Eat potlucks. Our wonderful sponsors, IWS and IWS-100 cheered us on! Our vision was to unitedly bring a memorable semi-national water media WFWS Exhibition and Convention to Idaho for the first time for all to be uplifted. This has all been “virtually” realized!

This is an exceptional accomplishment and show for IWS for our first time hosting WFWS! A huge THANK YOU to each of you who have played any part in this very historic WFWS-45 journey!

Stay safe and enjoy the ride!

Anne Watson Sorensen
WFWS-45 Project Chairman
Pam Grant
WFWS-45 Co-Chair



**WATERCOLORS
ROCK *the Gem State!***
2020 WFWS - 45th

The regular Presidents message has been preempted by this important news. It will return next newsletter.

We all have the same thing on our mind, Covid-19. In a moment everything changed dramatically. I could let Covid-19 and the media consume my thoughts. All of us have felt losses, concerns for our health, not seeing family, friends, missing simple outings. We also feel the loss of art events we all looked so forward to.

Instead of dwelling on loss, I make a choice each day to spend time with thankfulness. I choose to trust in my faith and find the good around me.

I appreciate that at this time in history we can use some powerful technologies to communicate. I am thankful to see my family, friends, and art community on Zoom, Facetime, Facebook, etc. I am calling relatives more, sending note cards, and checking in on friends to see how they are doing. I am “touching” lives with new methods.

I find real blessings in slowing the pace of things and appreciating simple pleasures and walks with my husband.

Now to the art scene...

It only took a couple of days to realize I had to change direction and perspective with my art community and to connect online. A big task for me, but amazingly rewarding. I had ideas of how I might teach online written out for years on poster board. I just never put my plans to work. These times encouraged me to move forward. Now I teach online and see my students smiles (no masks online) and laugh with them.

My art has also taken some new directions and I have time to experiment without a deadline.

Linda Aman – Aman Arts

Choosing Thankfulness

Artists never have to be bored; we have endless opportunities to grow. We can capture the beauty around us, paint our emotions and share gifts of art to friends and neighbors.

I am using this time to grow in my artwork and the world of technology.

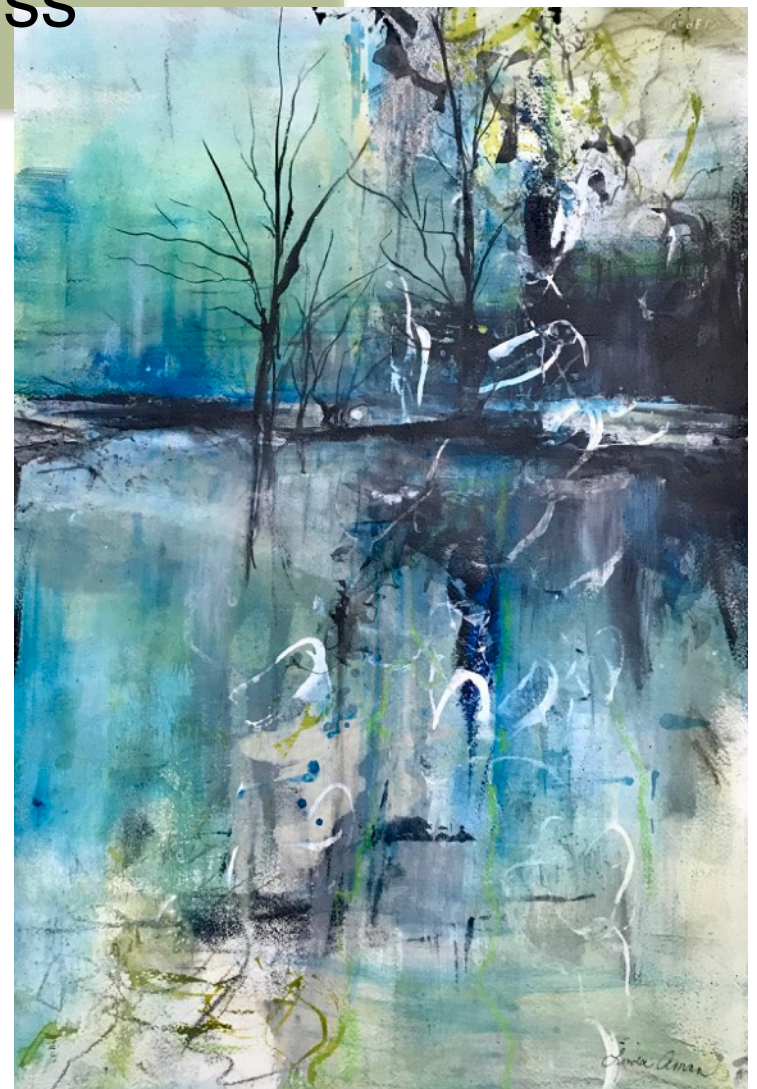
I am excited for what comes next.

I am thankful for:

- Communicating with family, friends, neighbors, artists
- IWS and all the talented artists
- Learning new skills (technology online teaching)
- Taking time to ponder – slowed pace
- Opportunity to reach out to those in need
- Time to read-study new ideas

What is your new view? I would enjoy hearing what you have found in thankfulness during this time.

Blessings and stay safe. linda@amanarts.com
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THE LOADED BRUSH

By Dwight Williams



My Lax Records

For years I kept three large notebooks of 35mm slides of paintings that were taken before any of us had digital cameras. Each notebook held between 400 and 500 slides of older paintings. Several things need to be made clear before I get to my main thought.

First the 1400+ slides do not represent the entire history of my paintings. I know that 1400 is less than half. In the old days, beginning in the earliest 1960s, I never gave a thought about keeping any record of what I'd done. In looking back I've made a conservative estimate of paintings that were, at the time considered worth keeping. I figure there were five or six thousand.

Second, I was also very sloppy in how I took photos of the early work. Even maybe into the 80s I took finished work outside and set them in bright shade. I often did not get them square enough with the camera. Lighting was not consistent. Later I got blue flood lights and set up photography in the studio which was better. My record keeping in other ways has always been lax. Information about finished work worth keeping, titled and photoed, was not recorded. Only some I remember where they are, or where they went originally. Represented by galleries on the northwest coast, San Francisco, Billings, the midwest, several, over time, in the Treasure Valley and outdoor festivals made it hard to know where paintings ended up.

Considering all of that, my point to you must be obvious now. Don't allow yourself to make those mistakes. Some of you may have been keeping good records all along, but if not, take heed! Fortunately any safe record keeping is much easier now with all of the digital means we have.

The happy result for me came from the mind of IWS member and good friend Scott Muscolo. In my studio he saw the three large notebooks of old slides and asked if I had ever had them scanned. I had not. He was surprised said he thought long history of my work ought to be better preserved. He was, of course, absolutely correct and soon after that I had it done. That old collection and many newer photos of paintings are now saved digitally several ways including in a bank deposit box.

As I said above they were not all in good photographic shape. But for interest, here are some that look ok from decades ago.



Region News

There is not much new from the regions in this quiet time. But I imagine Connie's words from the South Central speak for most....

SC IWS News

Our South Central members are really missing our 2nd Tuesday painting get togethers! We are hopeful to be able to resume again in September. In the meantime, our members report doing lots of paintings and that they are trying out some new techniques. Online learning and back to painting "snail mail" cards has been popular. Painting does take us away! Keep up the good work!

Thank you to all of the hard working IWS members who did so much to make all of the arrangements for the WFWS conference scheduled this year in Boise. We are disappointed that the conference had to be cancelled and that we will miss out on all the excellent planned activities, classes, vendors, and the opportunity to hang out with our painting friends. Putting the conference together was no small task and it looked like it was going to be great. We commend you for your dedication, hard work, time, and most of all enthusiasm!






Idaho Watercolor Society
 PO Box 9093
 Boise ID 84707-3093


«FNAME» «LNAME»
 «STREET»
 «CITY» «STATE» «ZIP»

WATERCOLORS
Breathe Life
 INTO THE GEM STATE
 an extraordinary exhibition for abnormal times

We invite you to attend the 45th Annual Juried Show of the
 WESTERN FEDERATION OF WATERCOLOR SOCIETIES (WFWS).
 Hosted in 2020 by the IDAHO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY (IWS)
 at The Riverside Hotel Ballroom.



Friday, June 5, 10:00 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturday June 6, 10:00 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sunday June 7, 10:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.



Enjoy a world-class collection of 100 water media paintings from a safe social distance in the Riverside Hotel Ballroom ... where everyone will be required to wear face masks to protect themselves, and these valuable, unframed treasures of art!


Juror: Stephen Quiller

Exhibition: 100 paintings out of nearly 1000 entries representing 8 western states
Awards: 21 paintings with \$10,000+ in cash prizes and merchandise
People's Choice Award: Vote for your favorite at this show
 (Most paintings are for sale)

"We invite you to quietly engage. Immerse yourself in the comfort of this beautiful art. Let the creativity of this show help guide your own path to the new normal. Our world has changed, but the healing qualities of art have not," Anne Watson Sorensen, WFWS-45 Project Chairman.

Admission: FREE, but face masks are required for entry

The Riverside Hotel Ballroom



2900 W. Chinden Blvd., Boise

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2020 Summer Workshop Joanne Duffin
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Sept Annual Meeting David Dillon
2019 Sept Workshop Chair Open-Dennis Hayzlett acting
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