



Editor Jean Nelson Ah Fong

Fall Edition 2024

From Our President:

After having spent 20 years in the heat and humidity of South Carolina, I didn't think "Idaho heat" would bother me. But to be honest, I really hated those days above 100 degrees and recent smokey conditions. I hope this finds all our IWS & PAPI members have survived the hot and fiery summer without incident to property or family.

We are closing in on the weekend for our 2024 Annual Meeting. (September 13-14) I think it will be one you won't want to miss. The theme of the weekend is CREATIVITY. There is still space in the events and at the banquet in the Riverside Hotel in Boise. The registration form is attached to this newsletter. Come join us!

October 14th to the 21st brings us our first ever G.O.A.T. Exhibition at the Boise Cascade Building in downtown Boise. G.O.A.T. stands for Greatest Of All Time and it is a very special exhibition to honor and recognize our Merit and Distinguished Merit Members. If you have achieved Merit or Distinguished Merit status, the deadline to enter is coming up on Sunday, September 15th at 9:00pm on ArtCall. There is no fee or jury-in status, as long as you have been recognized as a Merit or Distinguished Member. Merely sign up and enter your painting. A viewer's choice prize of \$150 will be awarded. An artist's reception will be held on Thursday, October 17th from 2:00-4:00pm. Come and see the amazing paintings of our G.O.A.T. members!

Plans are in the works! In 2025 we will host a series of small workshops in the winter and spring taught by our very own IWS members. The Annual Exhibition and Workshop with Kathleen Giles as our juror is highly anticipated. If you would like to check out her work, google: kgilesstudio.com.

In addition, we will be announcing our 2026 juror at the meeting and possibly an exciting 3-day workshop as part of our 2025 Annual Meeting. As you can see, there are lots of opportunities to both grow and share your skills as a watercolor artist.

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at our upcoming meetings, critiques, exhibitions and workshops.

Carol HasBrouck Browning

IWS President



IWS 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, September 13 & Saturday, September 14

LOCATION - Riverside Hotel & Resort
2900 W. Chinden Blvd.
Garden City, Idaho

THEME – CREATIVITY IGNITED

AGENDA

Friday, September 13

9:30am – 11:30am

Creative Calm: Finding Balance in Artistic Endeavors - \$15

Presenter Terra Feast is a Professional Development Manager for Boise State's Extended Studies and an adjunct professor of art education.

Terra will share research that supports how developing and maintaining creative practices can yield a wealth of benefits from personal enrichment to community engagement; and how the pursuit of perfection can diminish those returns.

Participants will learn first-hand about artmaking experiences that are relaxing, enjoyable, and contribute to your wellbeing. As part of this session, participants will be guided through an easy, low-risk creative exercise intended to bring awareness to the mental and physical experience of making art.

Lunch on your own

1:00pm – 4:00pm

Sketch-Booking & Sketch-Noting Workshop - \$25

This workshop will be led by Connie Pepper, IWS South Central Regional Director. She has won numerous local, regional, and statewide awards and her work is currently being shown in galleries across Idaho.

Sketch-booking: learn to use a **daily sketchbook** to experiment and practice painting, drawing, doodling, collage - indoors and outside.

Sketch-noting: Learn to **take visual sketch-notes** when in a workshop or class. Also, discover ways to map travels and experiences in a sketchbook with sketch-notes. Illustrate with sketch-notes while journaling. **A**

supply list will be sent to all who sign up for the workshop.

5:30pm – Social Gathering

Dinner on your own

Saturday, September 14

9:30am – 12:30pm

New & Creative Substrates for Watercolor - \$0

Laurie Johnson and Joni Frey, both Distinguished Merit members of IWS will present options beyond paper.

They will be sharing ideas on different substrates to experiment with (paper, yupo, masonite, canvas, illustration board to name a few). Also some examples of each...particularly how you can use gesso to take the worry out of "ruining" expensive paper with a botched painting. If you have painted on a unique

substrate and would be interested in showing your process, please give Laurie a call BEFORE the workshop and talk it over with her (208-215-1588).

Lunch on your own
2:00pm – 4:30pm

Feedback Forum - \$0

Your Regional Directors: Jennifer Von Bergen, Connie Pepper, Les Scott and Cali Ward, and Exhibition Chairman, Scott Muscolo will take the lead and include their own colorful commentary.

This informal critique will be a fun opportunity to share your work with IWS members across the State and get valuable feedback. Plus, it is a great opportunity to experience the creativity of your fellow artists.

5:30 – 6:45

Annual Banquet - \$35

7:00 – 8:15

Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

Since the board determined it is in the best interest of the organization to stagger our officer terms, the only position on the ballot this year will be that of a new Vice President. Annual Meeting Agenda and Ballot will be sent out shortly. Voting will be electronic, same as last year.

RESERVATION

Artist's Name _____

- Creative Calm: Finding Balance in Artistic Endeavors - \$15 \$ _____
- Sketch-booking & Sketch-Noting Workshop - \$25 \$ _____
- New & Creative Substrates Art Talk – No Charge \$ 0
- Feedback Forum – Statewide Critique – No Charge \$ 0
- Banquet & Annual Meeting - \$35 per person \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS AT THE RIVERSIDE

Priced for the conference - \$173 per night.
When reserving rooms for this conference, call:208-343-1871
Ask for the Idaho Watercolor Society group rate.

FOR ANNUAL MEETING RESERVATIONS - DEADLINE – FRIDAY SEPT 6th

Send this form with payment to:
Carol HasBrouck Browning
71 W Arnaz St.
Meridian, ID 83646

For questions contact Carol at: hazy1900@gmail.com



Maximizing Artistic Flow

The Case for Multi-Project Painting Linda Aman

Each of us has our own unique approach to our work. I work on multiple pieces of art for several reasons. When I focus on just one painting, I sometimes get bogged down, becoming too detailed or even overworking it. I can also start overthinking and lose interest. By working on several paintings simultaneously, I can step back, assess, and ponder the original piece. This approach often leads to more completed paintings. For example, the other day, working on a second piece provided me with the solution I was missing in the first one.

There are times when my skills or techniques aren't quite up to the task, requiring some research. By switching to a second or third painting, I maintain my passion and productivity without losing momentum. It's easy to get off track if you spend too much time away from painting.

This year, I painted an important commission for the Idaho Falls Symphony. They wanted an abstract painting representing both Idaho Falls and the Symphony. I struggled with how to approach it, so I decided to work on two paintings simultaneously, experimenting with different methods, colors, textures, and themes. When I encountered issues with one, I switched to the other. An amazing thing happened: by playing off both paintings, I ended up with two pieces to offer the Symphony. They chose one, and the director purchased the other! I wouldn't have created two had I easily completed the first one without interruptions. Both paintings turned out better due to what I learned by alternating between them.

Over time, I often work on multiple paintings at once. This gives me what I call "Ponder Time," allowing me to refine my skills and achieve better outcomes. It also means I have another painting to finish, which keeps me motivated to paint more and experiment further.

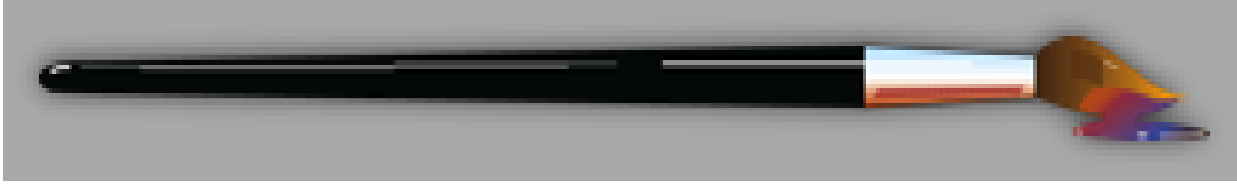
I'm curious—do you focus on one painting at a time, or do you work on multiple pieces simultaneously? I'd love to hear your response.

Email linda@amanarts.com www.amanarts.com

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THE LOADED BRUSH



By Hugh Mossman

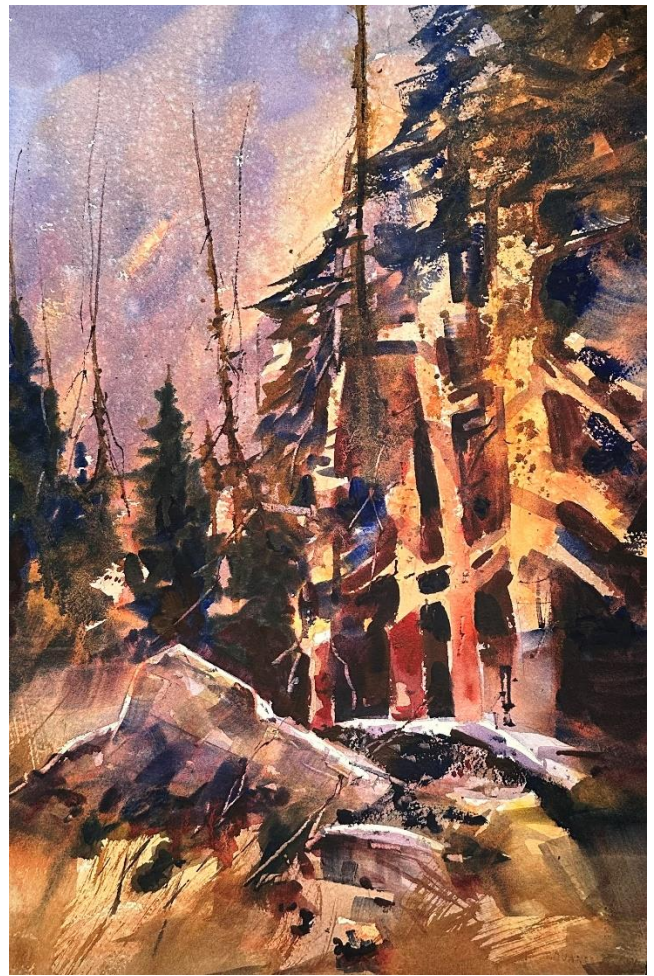
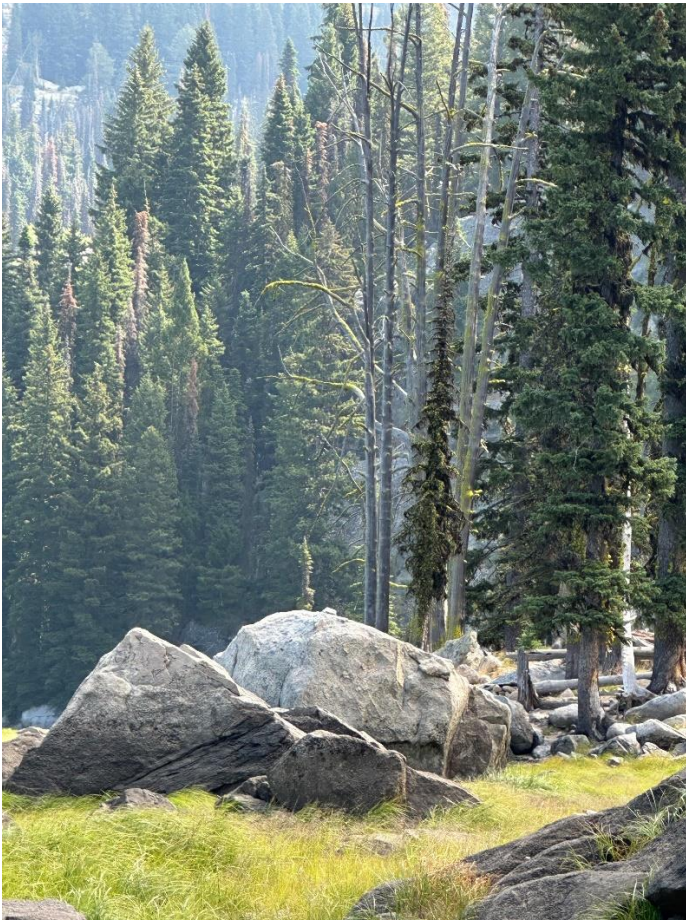
ARE YOU A POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE PAINTER?

I like to think of myself as a positive person, you know, trying to focus on the bright side of things. When it comes to watercolor, however, sometimes you need to be negative. As a traditional watercolorist, I tend to start a painting by laying down a light wash first, followed by medium value shapes and then finishing with my darkest values. All too frequently my nice clean initial wash is buried under layers of glaze and dark, completely losing that fresh glow of light. Maybe this is fine if you want "black paintings" like Goya, depicting the horrors of war.

The fix is to be more negative. Negative painting is simply the process of identifying shapes that are to be preserved and then just painting around those shapes. The results can be rewarding and definitely add more light to your work when those clean washes show through, especially when balanced against darker layered washes.

Many of you already use negative techniques, but even if you do, try this experiment. Pick a subject to paint that has some repetitive shapes, like a fence, trees, boats or even people, and do a quick sketch of those shapes. Next, lay down a light wash over those shapes with transparent colors, mixing them together if you like. Let the first wash dry and then paint around those shapes with a nice balance of medium and dark values. I think you will like the way those negative shapes glow in light. (you can also achieve this using various masking devices, but I don't like the mess and look of masking)

I tried this myself and have included my reference photo and watercolor as an example. As a positive person, I think the negative painted trees do have a nice feel of light.



Reference photo

A SURPRISE AND EXCITING NEW IDAHO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY EXHIBITION

For Our Very Own G.O.A.T.s – **Greatest Of All Time!**

IWS is honoring all members who have made signature status (Merit and Distinguish Merit) with an exclusive one-week exhibition – Oct 14th – 21st

This is open to all state-wide signature members.

Enter the painting you think is the best you have ever painted. It can be from any year.

Go to Art Call to enter

Entry Deadline Sept 15th

Artist reception - October 24th 2pm to 4pm

Boise Cascade beautiful lobby

Cherry Woodbury

Regional News – Summer 2024

South Central Region News Connie Pepper

Our South Central IWS members will be meeting again after a summer break!

Beginning on the 2nd Tuesday in September and running through May we will be meeting in the 2nd floor classroom provided graciously by Magic Valley Arts Council (MVAC). The MVAC classroom is multipurpose and designed to do art! It has two sinks, big tables, comfortable chairs, a TV screen for projecting images, and a library full of donated art books and magazines and other “art stuff”. We are fortunate to be able to use these spaces. While we meet to paint and share ideas, we include painters new to watercolors in the hopes that they will join IWS and become active members.

Watercolor classes are popular at MVAC, and IWS members and others were able to learn from Hugh Mossman in May. He did a great job of challenging us to move ahead with our art work.

Back to the “summer break”! We did include some painting sessions outdoors at various locations in and around Twin Falls. Dianne Nevarez, a dual IWS and PAPI member, arranged with venues and published a schedule. Thanks to Dianne we painted at the Orton Botanical Gardens (a Twin Falls garden of sustainable plants), Centennial Park on the banks of the Snake River, Rock Creek Park, Ritter Island, Thousand Springs and more.

A very enjoyable experience!



Hugh
Mossman
workshop



The Banks of the Snake River

East Region News – Summer 2024
Les Scott

Our upcoming show at the Willard Art Center in Idaho Falls is gearing up to be a biggie this year. The theme and title for this year's show is "The Wonderful World of Watercolor." The show will focus on the versatility of watercolor or gouache as the primary painting media and only using a secondary media such as gold leaf, ink, or pencil to enhance the artwork. I was concerned that the limited scope of this theme might result in fewer paintings being submitted and I was totally wrong. This has been our biggest turnout yet with 49 paintings being submitted by 27 artists. This show will be in the Carr Gallery at the Willard Art Center in Idaho Falls from September 5th through November 10th. This show will be in conjunction with the IWS Annual Traveling Show which will also open on September 5th and run through September 25th and will then be followed by our annual Feature Artist Brad Schulze whose paintings will be on display through November 10th.

I also have our contracts in place for our Winter Exhibition at the College of Eastern Idaho in February 2025 and The Art Museum of Eastern Idaho (TAM) for the Spring of 2025. Don't forget to check for updates on the IWS Web Page Calendar. The calendar on the web page has been greatly improved and I try to keep our regional events up to date.

Les Scott – East Region Director

News from your editor

Dear Gentle Reader,

I, your editor, am packin' it up and retiring. It is a fun job! You get to read the news FIRST! It is mostly just copy and paste and one can do it from anywhere in the world! Our contributors are very easy people with whom to work. I will deliver templates and past letters to look through. If you are looking for a way to serve IWS, please consider taking over the job. Contact me or any of the board members if you are interested. Thanks,
Jean

IWS Social Media group news: Janet Murphy was instrumental in rebranding the IWS last year by creating a new logo. She was also a key member in helping get the social media group off the ground by helping create and post pertinent information about our members and activities in Instagram and Facebook. She has stepped aside as of September, but will be assisting as needed in the future. Katie Harris will now take the lead in all things social media, along with Renee Galligher. A huge thank you to Janet Murphy for the beautiful new logo and all the guidance with social media!

Tammy De Weerd's Awards in the Arts.

This year Meridian is honoring our own Joyce Green! We hope to see you at this event to honor Joyce!

From Meridian Arts Commission

We are thrilled to announce this year's recipients of the Tammy de Weerd's Awards in the Arts! Please join us on Saturday, September 21 at 6:30 to honor the winners in a ceremony taking place at the final Concerts on Broadway performance at Meridian City Hall. These awards recognize outstanding contributions to the arts within our community, and we couldn't be more excited to celebrate these remarkable individuals.

The awards are presented in four categories: Excellence in the Arts, Support of the Arts, Arts in Education, and Student Excellence in the Arts. Each category highlights the exceptional talent, dedication, and passion of those who have made an impact on the culture of Meridian. These awards not only celebrate the incredible achievements of our local residents, but also pay tribute to the legacy of our former Meridian Mayor Tammy de Weerd. During her 16-year tenure, she was an advocate for the arts, setting a vibrant cultural tone that continues to be seen throughout our community.

We warmly invite you to join us in celebrating these extraordinary individuals who have enriched our city's artistic landscape. This is a night that will be filled inspiration, music, and a shared love for the arts--we look forward to seeing you there!

President: Carol HasBrouck Browning

Vice President: Don Belts

Secretary: Nancy Inaba

Treasurer: Dennis Hazlett

WFWS Delegate: Shelly Johnson

Corresponding Secretary: Jane Wilson

Membership Chair: Lynn McConnell

West Email Chair: Karyn deKramer

Communications: Renee Galligher/ Jane Shimon/ Katie Harris

Rotunda Exhibition: Bonnie Liles and Beth Trott

Annual Show: Scott Muscolo

Travelling Show Coordinator: Teresa Wade

West Director: Cathy Anderson and Jennifer Von Bergen

East Director: Les Scott

Southeast Director: Cali Ward and Barbara North

Southcentral Director: Connie Pepper