

FWS Florida Watercolor Society

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President's Message

by Jackii Molsick

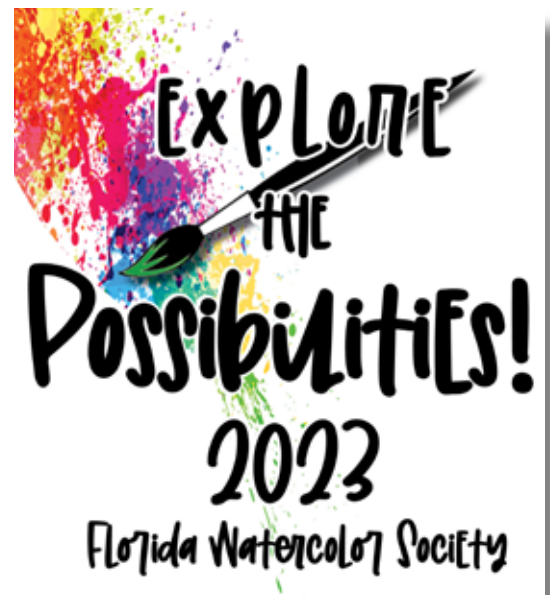
This is the year to **Explore the Possibilities!**

Welcome to 2023, and the 52nd year of the Florida Watercolor Society! It promises to be a stimulating year, filled with all sorts of ways to explore new painting possibilities!

I'm Jackii Molsick, a Florida native resident who has lived on both of our coasts, but am now happy to call Central Florida home. I live in the little community of Yalaha, a native word that means "yellow-orange". Think Gamboge! Where exactly is Yalaha? Across the lake from Leesburg and and 45 minutes south of Ocala, where we'll have our Convention this Fall.

But before we even talk about Convention, have you explored our new website yet? "Wow!" is all I can say! Big kudos go out to Digital Director Ron Malone, our whiz Secretary Lynda Mifsud, Treasurer Nina Tarnuzzer, Exhibitions Director Nancy Murphree Davis, and Communications Director Robin Lee Makowski. What a beautiful new site to showcase our events and shows, host even more of your personal portfolio work, watch replays, access newsletters, check your dues status, browse the Membership Directory, and the list goes on. Be sure to check out everything and visit the site often for updates!

This year, FWS will offer TWO monthly online events beginning in February: the Last Sunday CONFABs, and also, the ever popular Third Thursday Demo Nights. What's a CONFAB? Well, it could be an



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

artist's discussion, a panel presentation, or a short demo/discussion on a technique. Or it might be an information-sharing session by members. BUT, whatever the program is, it will be entertaining! The CONFABs will be scheduled the last Sunday afternoon of the month at 2 pm ET. via Zoom. Then, also via Zoom, you will be able to tune into the Third Thursday evening demos, and we will kick off the season with the one of our 2023 Workshop instructors, Kathy Durdin, on February 16th at 7 pm ET. All events will be publicized via email, website, Facebook, and Instagram, too. Zoom links will be sent to your email, so be sure your information is up-to-date in your profile on the website.

In addition to our Annual Exhibition and Annual Online Show, we are hosting an Online Volunteer Show for all those who volunteered at last year's Convention in Punta Gorda. Thank you to Communications Director Robin Lee Makowski for coordinating this for all who worked so hard. Additionally, we will also host another themed, non-juried online show, *Weathering the Storm*, which will be open to ALL MEMBERS. The theme recognizes the loss and resiliency of all of those who weathered the hurricanes here last year, as well as other types of "storms" we all live through. There will be a \$200 People's Choice Award in the form of a Gift Card to Cheap Joe's Art Stuff for the winner.

Let's talk about our September 28 – 30, 2023 Convention & Trade Show in Ocala at the Hilton! It may seem like a long way off, but a lot of work happens behind the scenes leading up to that. We have an exciting line-up of workshops planned during the week of Convention, and a three-day online workshop with Fealing Lin in August. Our juror & judge is nationally acclaimed landscape watercolorist, Andy Evansen from Minnesota. We are lucky to have Andy join us for a four-day workshop, ***Bold and Loose Watercolors***, September 25 – 28. Then we have two wonderful two-day workshops, that will be presented by Kathy Durdin, ***Expressive Portraits & Dynamic Composition***, and Teresa Kirk, ***The Beauty of the Mark***. Workshop Registration begins April 1st for members, so mark your calendars!

Registration for the Convention begins June 15th, and yes, we will have a Trade Show, as well as another Bargain Bazaar! Then, the 52nd Annual Exhibition will take place at the beautiful Webber Gallery on the campus of the College of Central Florida.

So much is happening, and there will be so many Possibilities to EXPLORE! We hope you'll mark every date on your calendar and plan to learn a few (or a lot) of those possibilities this year!

Your 2023 FWS President,
Jackii Molsick

NEWS FROM OUR VPS

News from Roberta Romeo, 1st VP & Membership Chair

2023 MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Did you know the Florida Watercolor Society Board works year-round preparing for the next year's Convention; evaluating and finishing up the previous year's Convention; preparing for Exhibitions and Newsletters; contacting vendors; finding exciting demonstration artists, workshop instructors and judges; preparing budgets and overseeing expenses as we work to be good stewards of FWS funds; securing venues around the state for lodging and Exhibition space; and our FWS visionaries are looking to present our members with current and up-to-date information on platforms that give our members the best experiences. Phew! Those folks must always be busy!



Roberta Romeo
FWS 1st VP

I hope each of you takes a few minutes to consider how you can help support your Board with your time and monetary contributions.

And what an exciting opportunity FWS is introducing to its members! New for 2023 are Sponsorship levels to support this nonprofit organization of watercolor artists. There are specific benefits for each level to include recognition of sponsorship at the opening Reception, in the Annual Exhibition Catalog, in Newsletters, and on the website, invitation to the critiques by Exhibition Judges, Cocktail Hour, Special Event seating tickets, and more. Won't you join me in supporting the Florida Watercolor Society and LEVEL UP to a Diamond or Platinum Sponsorship level?

As FWS 1st Vice President and Membership Chair, let me encourage you to promote FWS to your friends in your individual art societies or art centers, and persuade those friends to join this great state watercolor society. You can even join as a Basic member if you are out of state or a student! Did you know that FWS is one of the leading state watercolor societies in the nation? That is something to be proud of!

2024 CONVENTION UPDATE

2024 will offer exciting instructors from landscapes to portraits. I am thrilled to have internationally-renown, award-winning artist and author, Stephen Quiller as the judge, juror, and four-day workshop instructor for our 53rd Annual Exhibition! Stephen has won the Gold and Silver Medal of Honor at the AWS International Exhibitions in 2014 and 2018, and is a signature member of AWS and NWS.

Also joining us will be award-winning artist, Kim Johnson Nechtman, AWS, NWS, TWSA, as our second four-day workshop instructor for the 2024 FWS Convention in St Pete, and as our 2025 Online Show judge. Our Exhibition will be hosted at the expansive gallery in Creative Pinellas, a beautiful site tucked away among the palmettos. Follow some of the meandering paths from the museum into the beautiful Florida Botanical Gardens for some inspiration for your next painting series, or a little farther for some early Americana inspiration in the Heritage Village. So many fun and great experiences are coming our way.

Your 1st VP and Membership Chair,
Roberta Romeo



NEW FWS MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

FWS Membership/Sponsorship Benefits and Options

Membership Feature or Requirement	Basic	Associate/ Participating	Diamond	Platinum
	<i>Students and non-residents</i>	<i>Progressive Exhibition Status</i>	<i>Member Supporter</i>	<i>Member Supporter</i>
Membership Period	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Jan 1 - Dec 31
Join Anytime	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Florida Residency Requirements	No	Membership and Exhibitions	Only for Exhibition	Only for Exhibition
Voting Privileges	No	Yes, if Eligible per Bylaws	Yes, if Eligible per Bylaws	Yes, if Eligible per Bylaws
Member Newsletter	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Online Demo Access	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
YouTube Video Access	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
FWS Private YouTube Video Access	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Annual Exhibition Eligibility	No	Yes, if Current on Dues	Yes, If Eligible and Current on Dues	Yes, If Eligible and Current on Dues
Online Exhibition Eligibility	No	Yes, if Current on Dues	Yes, If Eligible and Current on Dues	Yes, If Eligible and Current on Dues
Opening Exhibition Reception	Yes	Yes	Honored	Honored
Show Catalog	Yes	Yes	Yes, Catalog Recognition	Yes, Catalog Recognition
Critique by Exhibition Judge	Not Eligible	Eligible for a fee	Critique Fee Included for Sponsors	Critique Fee Included for Sponsors
Special Cocktail Hour After Juror's Demo	No	No	Yes	Yes
Annual Convention Entry Ticket	No	No	Entry Ticket Included if Eligible	Entry Ticket Included if Eligible
Gala Awards Dinner Ticket	No	No	One (1) ticket Premium Seating; Recognition at Gala	Two (2) tickets Premium Seating; Recognition at Gala
Special Badge Recognition at FWS Events	No	No	Yes	Yes
FWS Workshops	Member Rate	Member Rate	Discounted Rate TBD	Discounted Rate TBD
Newsletter Special Recognition	No	Awards News	Yes, 6 months Special Recognition	Yes, 12 months Special Recognition
Recognition on FWS website, in Show Catalog and at Convention	No	No	Yes	Yes
Annual Dues	\$35	\$50	\$500	\$1,000



News from Katherine Leathers, 2nd VP & Awards Chair

Greetings FWS Members,

Thank you for your recent votes to elect me to Florida Watercolor Society Board of Directors. I am pleased to be a member of the FWS Board and look forward to serving this year as your 2nd Vice President. Recently, I attended the FWS January Board Meeting at the Hilton Ocala where our 2023 Convention & Trade Show will be. There I met and worked with the rest of the FWS Board, and I can see now that it's going to be an exciting year!



During this year, I will be communicating with FWS vendors, Pathfinders, Signature Members, and Associate-Participating Members to ask for donations to the FWS 2023 Annual Awards. Donating will be easy on our new website! I will also be preparing the certificates for the 2023 FWS Annual Awards and our new Signature members.

I welcome your comments and suggestions, and look forward to meeting all of the FWS members and attendees during the 2023 Annual Convention. Come and find me at the Bargain Bazaar. We will be accepting donations of unwanted or gently used art supplies of all kinds to sell, so if you have something you want to donate, please let me know!

If you would like more information on me, I invite you to visit my website at www.katherineleathers.com.

Katherine Leathers
FWS 2nd VP

News from Gwen Kodad, 3rd VP & Convention Demo Organizer



Hello FWS Members,

I am honored to be part of the Florida Watercolor Society Board of Directors and just attended my first board meeting in Ocala. I was amazed at the organization and dedication of the Board members and I am pleased to be part of this talented and hard-working group.

I'm especially excited about my role as 3rd Vice President, as I will have the responsibility to identify topics and demo artists for our breakout sessions at the upcoming 2023 Convention in Ocala. I'd love to hear from those of you with ideas and suggestions for topics or artists you would especially enjoy seeing. From personal experience, I always enjoy the demonstrations of new techniques, products, and/or approaches. But sometimes I need a practical workshop to help me stay on track with rules, regulations, and requirements.

Share your thoughts with me on what you want to see in Ocala in September, 2023. Contact me at 3rdVP@floridawatercolorsociety.org.

Gwen Kodad
FWS 3rd VP



UPDATES FROM OUR FWS SECRETARY

BYLAW REVISIONS PROPOSED

FWS is always looking to improve how we work for the better. We have two revisions for your consideration and membership vote this month. Watch your email for the membership survey vote, as two items will be of interest to all of you.

EXPAND ELIGIBILITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS: We are proposing to change the requirement that the offices of President and Vice Presidents must have achieved a P1 towards Signature status. Our Board and several members have shared their belief that this unnecessarily restricts participation from qualified candidates who could bring skills to the Board that would otherwise be restricted from consideration. In addition, we are proposing that we consider candidates for the position of Exhibitions Director based on their equivalent qualifications they may bring from other locations. Two sections of the bylaws are proposed for change.



Lynda Mifsud
FWS 2023 Secretary

MEMBERS - THE FOLLOWING IS VERY IMPORTANT AND MAY AFFECT YOUR ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION! PLEASE READ!

CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP DUES DEADLINE TO MIDNIGHT, MARCH 31 ANNUALLY: All FWS members have the same annual renewal date of January 1st. FWS is offering a 90-day grace period during which all members will receive access to member benefits. With the new proposed deadline of March 31st at midnight, we are returning to our traditional model of requiring all members to be renewed within 90 days of the renewal date to be eligible to enter the Annual Exhibition. This deadline also applies to new members. They must join no later than midnight, March 31st to be eligible to enter the Annual Exhibition. ***This proposed change means that ALL MEMBERS – new or renewing – must be a member in good standing (dues paid) by midnight, March 31st to be eligible to enter the Annual Exhibition, no exceptions.***

FWS will conduct a rigorous communications campaign to provide notice of their membership dues deadline and advise of the consequences of failing to renew by that deadline. We will post this notice on social media and advise art societies in Florida of this rule change to provide notice to any potential new members.

You may wonder how this affects eligibility for the Online Show. FWS is making a schedule change for the Online Show. The entry window for the 2024 Online Show will not open until January of 2024. New members joining after Convention will continue to have their membership extended through the NEXT calendar year. 2024 dues will need to be current to be eligible to enter the Online Show.

Please watch your emails for the membership survey vote coming soon by separate email to all members. Let your voice be heard by responding no later than March 15. If you haven't already, please make sure you have info@floridawatercolorsociety.org in your contacts so you don't miss any emails from us.

[Please Click for Markup Links](#)

DIGITAL DIRECTOR UPDATES

New Website Launched!

The FWS Board has been hard at work since Halloween to move our website and membership management to a new software platform. We owe everyone on our Migration Team a big “thank you”, especially our project planner, Lynda Mifsud.

Many of you have signed in and updated your membership. There are a lot of new features we know you will enjoy, and assist you in staying up to date with many upcoming FWS events. Please watch the short [video](#) to get a better handle on all the features available for you to use.



Ron Malone
FWS Digital Director

Some of the main differences...

- New look and feel.
- More paintings and historical information.
- YouTube integrated into content.
- More member-controlled privacy settings.
- Multiple photo albums available for uploading your works.
- Printable membership cards.
- Members-only directory is easier to use.
- Allows for more Members-only pages in future.

Last Sunday ConFabs

Starting February 26, FWS will be hosting a monthly ConFab on the last Sunday of each month, 2pm – 3pm EST. ConFabs are forums for watercolor artists engaged in informal conversations about the watercolor medium and topics applicable to all painting media. Featured artists will share knowledge and experience on their topic. Some sessions will be more like a “panel discussion” and others more like an interview. Please join us to ask your questions LIVE through the Q&A Zoom feature.

Our first ConFab, February 29th, 2 PM, will introduce two new FWS Board member artists, Katherine Leathers and Gwen Kodad. They will be sharing their watercolor experience, tips, and paintings.

We would love to hear your ideas for topics. Here are a few of our ideas:

- Where and how to store digital images of reference photos and paintings.
- Whiskey Painters of America, a unique miniature watercolor painting society.
- Best practices in composition and design.
- How to prepare paper and transfer the drawing.
- Tips and tricks for entering shows requiring submittal of digital images.
- Watercolor resources, clubs, societies in our area.
- Vendors, new products, and new methods.
- My favorite “tip” or “trick” I use for painting.
- How to market and sell my paintings.
- Paint: quality, value and how to find a color with another brand.
- Preview of the 2023 Convention.

continued...

DIGITAL DIRECTOR UPDATES

continued

Our YouTube Channel


We continue to add new video content which has drawn over 1,130 subscribers. In June, the demo videos from the 2022 Convention will be available to view on the channel. To connect to our channel, go to YouTube>Florida Watercolor Society Today or click this link: [Florida Watercolor Society Today - YouTube](#).

Comments, Suggestions, Questions

Please send any comments or questions you have about the new website or upcoming ConFab topics to Ron Malone at digitalmedia@floridawatercolorsociety.org. Any general questions may be addressed to info@floridawatercolorsociety.org. We will get back with you as soon as possible.

Ron Malone

FWS Digital Director



**LAST SUNDAY
CONFAB**

February 26th, 2-3pm, features two new board members, Katherine Leathers, 2nd Vice President and Gwen Kodad, 3rd Vice President. During the 1-hour session we will explore their watercolor experiences.

- Lively discussion!
- Interesting art-related topics!
- Great conversation!
- Join us!

***If I could say it in words
there would be no reason to paint.***

~ Edward Hopper



IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2023

- Jan 1** - FWS membership renewals are due. New membership levels available 1/1/2023.
- Jan 3-22** - FWS 2022 Volunteers are invited to submit paintings for the 2023 Volunteer Thank-You Online Show.
- Jan 14** - FWS 2023 Online Exhibition Review & Awards program. Replays on the FWS YouTube Channel.
- Jan 15** - FWS 2023 Online Show on the website and ready for viewing!
- Feb 4** - FWS 2023 Volunteer Show on the website and ready for viewing! Works by 2022 FWS Volunteers.
- Feb 6** - Entries open for ***Weathering the Storm*** Online Exhibition - non-juried, themed fundraiser show.
- Feb 16** - FWS Third Thursday Demo, 7pm, featuring **Kathy Durdin**. Members only. Email invitation will be sent. Her workshop will be offered at our 2023 Convention.
- Feb 26** - FWS ConFab series starts at 2pm - continues on the last Sunday of every month through September.
- Mar 15** - 52nd Annual Exhibition Prospectus emailed to Members & posted on Upcoming Exhibitions page.
- Mar 16** - FWS Third Thursday Demo series, 7pm., featuring **Fealing Lin**, national award-winning watercolor artist. Members only. Email invitation will be sent. Her online workshop will be offered in August.
- Mar 20** - ***Weathering the Storm*** Volunteer Exhibition posts online. People's Choice voting begins.
- Mar 26** - FWS ConFab Last Sunday, 2 - 4pm
- Mar 31** - **Deadline for renewing AND new Members to pay 2023 dues to be eligible to enter the Annual Exhibition! 2023 dues accepted on the website with a credit card ONLY.**
- Apr 1** - Workshop registration opens for Members only, 2023 - dues must be paid to receive Member discount.
- Apr 3** - 52nd FWS Annual Exhibition opens for entries.
- Apr 20** - FWS Third Thursday Demo, 7pm, featuring **Andy Evansen**. Members Only - Email invitation will be sent. His workshop will be offered at our 2023 Convention.
- Apr 30** - FWS ConFab Last Sunday, 2 - 4pm
- May 1** - Workshop registration opens for Non-members.
- May 18** - FWS Third Thursday Demo, 7pm., featuring **Teresa Kirk**. Members only. Email invitation will be sent. Her workshop will be offered at our 2023 Convention.
- May 28** - FWS ConFab Last Sunday, 2 - 4pm
- May 30** - Last day for People's Choice voting for ***Weathering the Storm***.
- May 31** - People's Choice award winner announced for ***Weathering the Storm***.
- Jun 7** - Deadline for entering the Annual Exhibition.
- Jun 15** - FWS Third Thursday Demo, 7pm, featuring **Donna Morrison**. Members only. Email invitation will be sent.
- Jun 15** - Registration for Convention opens.
- Jun 25** - FWS ConFab Last Sunday, 2 - 4pm
- Early Jul** - 52nd Annual Exhibition jury notification on or before July 6th.
- Jul 20** - FWS Third Thursday Demo, 7pm, featuring **Pat Dews**. Members only. Email invitation will be sent.
- Jul 30** - FWS ConFab Last Sunday, 2 - 4pm.
- Aug 17** - FWS Third Thursday Demo, 7pm, featuring **Janet Rogers**. Members only. Email invitation will be sent.
- Aug 24-26** - **Fealing Lin** Three-Day VIRTUAL Workshop via Zoom.
- Aug 27** - FWS ConFab Last Sunday, 2 - 4pm
- Sep 24** - FWS ConFab Last Sunday, 2 - 4pm (subject to change)
- Sep 25-28** - 2023 pre-Convention Workshops begin.
- Sep 29-30** - 2023 FWS Annual Convention & Trade Show.
- Sep 29** - 52nd Annual Exhibition opening Reception.
- Sep 30** - Exhibition Gala event with presentation of Awards and new Signature Members.

Please visit the NEW FWS website often for all the current information and to register for the live events and Workshops.

Please check and update your profiles both for FWS and CaFE with any new information.

*******Dates are subject to change. Check website often and read email blasts*******



2023 NON-JURIED ONLINE CHALLENGE!



**WEATHERING
THE STORM**
2023 FWS NON-JURIED
MEMBERS CHALLENGE
ONLINE EXHIBITION
ENTRY WINDOW OPEN
FEBRUARY 6TH - MARCH 3RD
SHOWING ONLINE
MARCH 20TH, 2023

The Situation: There are many kinds of storms. Of course, if you ask a Florida resident, the first thing that comes to mind is a hurricane, especially so for our artist friends on the southwest coast. But most of us often battle storms of many kinds - emotional, financial, relationship, health, and otherwise.

The Challenge: We are challenging FWS members to interpret what *Weathering the Storm* means to you. Paintings must comply with the rules and guidelines for our Annual and Online Shows. There are no size limits in either direction, but please realize if you paint something 5" x 7", when it's enlarged on the computer screen, it's going to be fuzzy.

The Subject Matter: *Weathering the Storm!* What kind of situations challenged you in 2022? How would you creatively express those challenges? The (stormy) sky is the limit!

The Process:

1. Work must be watercolor or watermedia, original, and not shown in any previous themed Challenges or FWS shows. Work shown in this exhibition will not be eligible for any other FWS shows. If you already have something completed that fits the theme, it's eligible.
2. **2023 Dues must be paid** to be eligible to enter. Open to all FWS Members only.
3. Deadline for submission is **March 3rd, 2023** or when 100 eligible submissions are received, whichever happens first.
4. Do NOT show mats or frames in your digital images! Show artwork only in your submission.
5. LABEL your jpeg entry with your last name, first initial_title.jpg: Smith|StormyWeather.jpg. Size your image to 1800 pixels on the long side by 300 dpi resolution. If you need help, ask.
6. Fill out the registration form on the website and upload your sized and labeled image. **Entry window opens February 6th.** A link will be sent.
7. The Non-refundable **Entry fee is \$20. One submission per artist** (the website says you can submit more, but **submit only one!**)
8. Non-members must join before entering. Florida residency restrictions apply. Out of State artists may join as Basic members and be eligible for this and other **non-juried** member exhibitions. Please read the requirements for each level of membership.
9. No restrictions on classroom work. No violence or obscenity, please. The first 100 eligible submissions will be accepted.
10. All proceeds collected from entry fees and optional donations related to this challenge will fund the Healing Arts Purchase Award, other awards, and/or support projects and events for FWS members.

The Skinny:

- Entry window will be open **February 6th - March 3rd**. Whatever submissions we have by deadline or the first eligible 100+ submissions will participate in the show. You will receive confirmation of receipt of your entry via email.
- The show will be posted on **March 20th** via the FWS website.

But WAIT! There's MORE!

- There will be a **People's Choice Award** - a \$200 Gift Card from **Cheap Joe's Art Stuff!** All visitors to the website will be able to cast **one vote** for their favorite artist or artwork through March 30th. Winner will be announced on March 31st. Good luck!
- You will be able to list a price if your work is for sale, but FWS does not handle any sales, so any inquiries will be referred to you to manage. FWS does not take a commission, but donations are always needed and welcomed! Several pieces sold during the last two challenges. Please let us know if you sell your work so we can mark it with a red dot!



Kathy Alesman • Finding Center



Terry Denson • Hope is an Ember



Sue Beach • Empty Beach



Julie Billing • Confusion & Disruption



Debra Wicks • Hiding



Rosie Brown • Miss You, Mami

*All submitted work will be reviewed by the Compliance Committee and artists will be notified of acceptance status via email. Some work may be disqualified due to violent or obscene content, media, quality of digital submission file, member status, or for other reasons. The Compliance Committee's decisions are final.

Submitting work implies you understand that we will publish your painting via the FWS website with your name, title, and hometown for the period indicated above.

That said: we want you to have fun with this, give you a creative outlet, a chance to show your work, and win a gift card! Questions? Email fws4news@gmail.com **Good luck and thanks for your participation and support!**

[Click to Download the Prospectus!](#)





Self-Reflection

by Nancy Murphree Davis
FWS Exhibition Director

Hello, Artists!

A new year has begun for FWS and I think the changes we are making will simplify and enhance experiences for our artists. Our 2023 Non-Signature Member Online Show is complete and available for viewing! Congratulations to all of the talented artists who were chosen for the show. Thank you, too, to the artists who entered but were not chosen.

If you watched the live Exhibition review and critique by judge and juror, Bob Burrige, you learned that even the selected paintings can be improved upon. Personally, my skin is pretty thin and I have difficulty receiving criticism without taking offense. I've heard from several artists who feel quite differently and greatly appreciated the blunt assessment, and feel they can make better decisions about what to enter in the future. I think my biggest take-away, from this judge, at least, is that judges tire of seeing the "same old ideas" and, if I hope to be selected for shows or win awards, my paintings need to do something unexpected to stand out. Technical ability may get you in the door of some shows, but a fresh approach in subject, point of view, color, or composition may be required to receive accolades.

I painted a self-portrait in 2019 that has won awards in several shows. I've done only a few portraits and don't consider it my very best work; I only entered this painting in these shows because it fit the shows' theme. (My mother posted publicly that she found it "unflattering". Haha!)

Anyway, I considered the first award a fluke. After the second award, I realized that it holds the interest of the viewer longer than most paintings to figure out what they are seeing and what it could mean. Reflecting on my pieces reviewed in FWS Exhibitions, I got lots of "very nice negative painting" and "the eye is drawn through the composition nicely."

I aspire to hearing "Wow!" someday!

Nancy Murphree Davis

FWS Exhibition Director

exhibitiondirectorfws@gmail.com



Self-Reflection by Nancy Murphree Davis
Watercolor on Paper

THIRD THURSDAY DEMOS RETURN!



2023 Third Thursday Demos

February 16th, 7:00 pm

Kathy Durdin,

FWS, WW, SW, TWS, GWS + 6

presents

How the Substrate Makes the Painting

Kathy will be one of our two-day Workshop* instructors, September 27th-28th, in conjunction with the 2023 Convention in Ocala.



We are happy to announce our 2023 Third Thursday Demo line-up, each Third Thursday at 7:00 pm, monthly from February through August.



March 16th

2024 FWS Online Show Judge & Juror,

Fealing Lin,

NWS, TWSA, WW, SDWS, MWS

***BOLD and LOOSE
WATERCOLORS***



June 15th

Donna Morrison,

NWS, SWS, FWS

***HOW TO SIMPLIFY &
ACCELERATE YOUR PAINTING***



April 20th

2023 FWS Annual Exhibition Judge & Juror,

Andy Evansen,

AWS, PAPA, RWS, TWSA

***BOLD and LOOSE
WATERCOLORS***



July 20th

Pat Dews,

NWS, AWS D.F.

ABSTRACTING NATURE



May 18th

2023 FWS Two-Day Workshop Instructor.

Teresa Kirk,

FWS, SW, ACT, KWS, GCWS

***SETTING THE STAGE FOR
THE BEAUTY OF THE MARK***



August 18th

Janet Rogers,

AWS, FWS

STUDY OF A YOUNG GIRL

*2023 Workshop Registration opens April 1st for FWS Members; May 1st for Non-Members on the FWS Website



FLORIDA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

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2023 FWS ANNUAL EXHIBITION

The 52nd FWS Annual Exhibition will be hosted by the Webber Gallery in Ocala, September 25th - October 26th, 2023.

The juror and judge for the 2023 Annual Exhibition will be **Andy Evansen**.

The 2024 Online Show judge will be **Fealing Lin**.

Details soon - watch your FWS emails!

[Webber Gallery Website](#)



Sponsor an Exhibition or Memorial Award

Please consider donating as a memorial to someone you have known or loved. Those who have lived, loved art, and made it a part of their lives may want to be memorialized by having their name live on with Florida Watercolor Society. For those lucky enough to be alive now, you may want to include FWS into your will or estate planning.

Want to sponsor a named award for yourself or business? Named and Memorial Awards of \$250 or more will be listed in the FWS Catalog and on programs for our events. They may be one-time awards or an ongoing annual award. For more information, please contact treasurer@floridawatercolorsociety.org.

In Memoriam - M. Stephen Doherty (1948 - 2022)

A plein-air landscape painter based in Croton-on-Hudson, New York, M. Stephen Doherty was born in New Orleans. In addition to his painting career which took him on world-wide travels, he was a prolific writer and served as Editor-in-Chief of *American Artist*, *Watercolor*, and *Plein Air* Magazines. He also wrote several books, including *The Watson-Guption Handbook of Landscape Painting*; *Creative Oil Painting*, and *Color Choices*. He served as an exhibition judge for Arts for the Parks, Watercolor West, and the International Society of Pastel Organizations, and was on the advisory board of the New York Academy of Art, the Florence Academy, the Portrait Society of America, and the American Society of Portrait Painters.



Steve died of a heart attack in November. He will be missed!



2022 -2023 FWS TRAVELING SHOW



Nearly forty of the paintings from the 2022 Annual Exhibition in Punta Gorda, including seven award-winners, are currently showing through February 26th, 2023 at the [Ormond Memorial Art Museum & Gardens](#) in Ormond Beach. The Reception was January 13th.

There was room for additional work, so four of the artists in the show, Steve & Janet Rogers, Jerry Chesley, and Robin Lee Makowski, brought additional work. Steve & Janet, who are Ormond Beach residents, also gave an Artists' Talk on January 16th.

Many thanks to Kristin Heron and the staff at OMAM for their hospitality!



Jerry Chesley talks about his work at the Reception. Many thanks to Jerry for coordinating and moving the Traveling Show work between venues. No easy task!



Steve & Janet Rogers work the crowd at the FWS Traveling Show Reception in Ormond Beach.



Always good to see Sheryl Fletcher Coon & Sue Hanssen! At the Reception with 2023 FWS President, Jackii Molsick..



Diane Lary, Jerry Chesley, OMAM Curator Kristin Heron, and Robin Lee Makowski enjoying the Reception.

A Painting Is Born...But When?

by Robin Lee Makowski

FWS Communications Director



We all create. Some paintings take longer than others. Some hit the PIA stage and go into the closet for what can be a very long time. With fresh eyes, and possibly an extra cup of coffee, you come across it and it sparks interest again, so you finally finish it. You post it on social media as an accomplishment, then it goes back in the closet for another year because you don't feel like framing it just then. Down the road, an entry deadline comes up for an appropriate show, so you dig out the painting, sign it, date it, and enter it into a show. After all, it's never left the house or been shown anywhere... Or has it?

The very second that painting hits the internet, it's time stamped. It's been born, shown, and is out there in the world. It exists. When the Compliance Committee – and FWS is not the only organization that does this – vets the work for eligibility and finds it on social media posted a year earlier than you dated it in your entry, it's GOING to get booted. If it's obvious the changing of the date was to beat the created-by date, the artist will get booted, too, along with any and all entries, no refunds, and now faces possible reprimands.

“Oh, but it's never been out of the house before!” Doesn't matter. You posted it – it existed out in the world way before you said it did on your entry.

“Oh, but it wasn't finished, and I worked on it some more.” That was not stated in the post. Your post read, “Look what I finally finished!”, with a for-sale price on it, and there is no discernable difference between the image you posted two years ago and the image you entered now. You can't take a photo of a finished painting and post it in 2019, then claim it was new in 2021. And who puts a price on an unfinished painting?

Artists need to understand how much work goes into putting these shows together. We try to make it fair so everyone who enters has the exact same opportunities to impress the judge. The rules are for everyone, including the people who write and enforce them. Being put into a position to have to weigh the evidence and decide whether we need to boot someone or someone's work makes doing this Compliance job awful. We'd much rather put that energy into something productive.

Look at it this way: if anyone can go to your social media post and see the same image that was accepted into the show - and won an award! - and the post is dated a year or more before the completed-by deadline, they come to us very unhappy and point it out, especially since they followed the rules and did NOT get into the show. Then we must deal with it, including possibly taking back your award, writing a letter of reprimand, and issuing a suspension from entering FWS shows for up to two years. This is why we pre-vet the work before the judge even sees it. This takes many not-fun hours, but if the ineligible work gets into the show and then an infraction rears its ugly head, it's a lot worse for you. If there is an issue before judging, we deal with just the piece in question. Sometimes it's obvious it was painted in 2018 but then entered with a 2021 completed date. How do we know? You posted it! It's either on social media, or posted on your website, in some old show catalog, or some blog you wrote in 2008. Yes – we have found them that old!

OK – so if it's that much trouble for FWS, why go through it? Why is it such a big deal?

FWS promotes the best work by member artists at every level. We ask for new or newer work painted within two years for the Annual and Online Shows. We try to put on the very best shows judged by well-known artists to stay a cut above and not show the same work everyone else had. We have fewer restrictions than a lot of other organizations of our kind and more than some others. We create guidelines that all FWS artists need to follow which makes it fair for everyone. Plus, admit it: having a deadline for entry makes us work! Vetting the

work to make sure it complies with the rules is one way to keep the process fair and honest for everyone.

Believe me when I tell you if there is anyone who knows how to cheat and beat the system, it's me. I would never do it because it's wrong, and when it's your responsibility to enforce the rules, it should be taken for granted that you follow them, and I do – to the letter. I READ every word of any Prospectus multiple times and ask about anything that's unclear. Recently, a line in another show's shipping instructions said to seal the plastic sleeve with blue painter's tape and all I had was green, so I asked! They laughed at me, but if it's not crystal clear, I ask. I'd rather give them a chuckle than have them give me the boot.

My advice to you is if you're not going to show that new painting right away, don't date it! Don't post it! Don't put it on your website! Don't share it with anyone! If you send it just to grandma, she may post it to brag about you, then it's out there, and you may not even know it. Tuck it away safely until it's ready for its close-up and you enter it into a show. THEN take it out, shoot it before you mat or frame it, date it or not, put it on the internet, or whatever you're going to do with it. It's out there now and the clock is ticking on what shows you can enter it into. Always save American Watercolor Society for last since they don't care if the painting is twenty years old or if it's been shown in any other national or international shows besides theirs. National Watercolor Society cares about all that stuff, so I would suggest if you're going to throw your hat in that ring, give them first crack at the painting. They want new work that's not been shown nationally. If it's been in FWS, that's a regional, members-only show so it would be eligible for NWS, but if it's been in any show that has "national" or "open" in the title, it's not eligible. Plus, with NWS, it MUST be for sale. Lots to keep track of, but that's the painting world we live in.

Frank Spino created a video for FWS on *Organizing Your Art Life* that gives excellent tips for keeping on top of all the ins and outs of entering shows. Most of us are not at his level, but if you enter a lot of shows, this will be of great help. Too many times artists enter work in FWS shows that has already been shown because they "forgot" what they entered before, and there are no refunds and no swapping out after entering, plus if it gets selected by two different judges, you lose your spot. Thanks again, Frank! Check it out on [YouTube](#)

Also, please remember that if you enter it and it doesn't get in, it's still eligible to enter again IF it hasn't timed out. Just don't change the completed year on your re-entry! We already know what's that's supposed to be. And if it's in the closet for a while but you took a picture of it before you stashed it, take a fresh one for your entry. The date you created the image is in the metadata right on the photo file. If it comes down to someone having to check that data, you don't want to send up any red flags. This does not work if you have already posted it or entered it somewhere because Compliance will go by the oldest posting they can find, which is when the clock started on that piece. And if you post your works in progress, make sure you say, "work in progress", and don't post the completed painting unless you are ready to set the timer on it.

I hope this was helpful to some of you. Questions or comments are welcome. And - **please!** - READ the prospectus! It changes every year.

Happy painting and good luck!

Cheers! robin



***Those who do not want to imitate
anything, produce nothing.***

~ Salvador Dali

WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES

August 24-26, 2023 • FWS Online Workshop

Fealing Lin, NWS, TWSA, WW, SDWS, MWS

Fresh & Loose Watercolor Portraits

Fealing will teach a three-day Online Workshop in conjunction with the 2023 FWS Convention, and will be our judge & juror for our 2024 Online Show.



**\$275 Members/
\$300 Non-Members**

In-Person FWS Workshops in September 2023

Andy Evansen, FWS 2023 Annual Judge & Juror - September 25-28; \$550-M / \$600-NM

Kathy Durdin, September 27 & 28; \$200-M / \$225-NM

Teresa Kirk, September 27 & 28; \$200-M / \$225-NM

All Workshop registration opens April 1st for FWS Members / May 1st for Non-Members.

Workshops in Italy and France with Steve & Janet Rogers!

European Watercolor Adventures!

~ In Italy ~
Tuscany & Cortona*
May 20-30, 2023

~ In SW France ~
Two Workshops
October 8-14, 2023
October 16-22, 2023

You will begin in Tuscany & Cortona at the Tuscan Renaissance Center, a restored 12th Century Monastery. Explore the surrounding villages, photographing and painting the hill towns and vineyards. **Trip to Cortona is optional.* www.ilchiostro.com

Your headquarters in France will be the Domaine du Haut Baran, a beautiful manor home in the country, with a complete, furnished studio where you can paint 24/7. Touring charming villages and enjoying French Cuisine are highlights. With two instructors and our own guides, both workshops promise to create beautiful memories and experiences for all who attend.

www.hautbaran.com



[Click for an 8-page article on Steve in Watercolour Magazine from August, 2022!](#)

For more information and a complete list of all our workshops, visit

www.watercolorsbyrogers.com

paid ad



FLORIDA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPPORTUNITY

Greetings FWS Family,

First, I want to acknowledge our appreciation for the time, effort, and devotion to FWS by Nina Tarnuzzer, our Treasurer since 2019. She will be retiring from the Board at the end of 2023 and has been a joy to work with! We will miss her.



Nina Tarnuzzer
FWS Treasurer

This opens up a position for a new Treasurer on our Board for 2024. We are searching for someone who is an eligible FWS Associate Member to fill in this position. The duties of the Treasurer are ongoing throughout the year and include:

- Being responsible for the timely filing of submissions required by the State and Federal agencies for a non-profit organization.
- Reconciliation of bank accounts, financial reports, and budgets.
- Payments by check as required.
- Other duties assigned to the Treasurer.

If these are skills you have and you are interested in joining our FWS Board, please respond to Roberta Romeo at 1STVP@floridawatercolorsociety.org. Thank you for your consideration.



WANTED: UNWANTED ART SUPPLIES!

At the 2022 Convention, FWS held the first **Bargain Bazaar**, offering donated art-related supplies of all kinds from Board Members to raise funds for FWS. It was such a success that the Bargain Bazaar will be back in 2023 by popular demand! Many of you came in and took home lots of goodies at great prices. We want to do it again this year, but we need your help!

This is a great time to clean out those studio closets in the very, very back where it hasn't seen the light of day for a while! You know, where tubes of paint, brushes, stencils, DVD, books, and who-knows-what other treasures sit unused and unappreciated. We all bought the supplies and intended to "try that" one day and never got around to it.

Please consider donating unused new and gently used art supplies to the FWS Bargain Bazaar. You can drop them off in advance with one of our Board Members, or bring them to the Bargain Bazaar room at 2023 Convention in Ocala. We will let you know what day, time, and room to deliver them. All sales go to support FWS events and programs to benefit our members. Please let us know if you have any questions.



Thank you in advance,

Roberta Romeo, 1st VP
1stvp@floridawatercolorsociety.org

Katherine Leathers, 2nd VP
2ndvp@floridawatercolorsociety.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Meet our new Members joining between November and mid-January!



Koifetti Party •Joan Lok



*Hoi An Lanterns
Evelyn Espinoza*



Manatee Creek •Janet Ryder

Darrell Chatraw, Milton

Susan Convery, Plantation

Phyllis Stewart Dixon, Sebastian

Evelyn Espinoza, Hurlburt Field

Gary Green, Bradenton

Sarah Guidroz, Sarasota

Lauren Kerbelis, Winter Springs

Yeromenko Kseniia, Miami

Joan Lok, Apopka

Janet Ryder, Stuart

Terri Ulrich, St. Petersburg



*My Neighbor's Pear Tree
Darrell Chatraw*



*Garden and Gather
Lauren Kerbelis*

YES – There is an App for FWS!

It just got easier to stay in touch with FWS on the go.

Download the Wild Apricot Members app and sign in with your membership email and password for your account. There is a lot you can do:

- Interact with fellow members anywhere from your mobile device.
- Register and make payments for events, membership dues and more.
- View all existing event registrations.
- Update your member profile, including your address, phone, and email.
- View your membership card.

Use the QR code or download the Wild Apricot Members app from your app store! You will be glad you did.



MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS



Judy Nunno was awarded **Best of Show** by judge Edyi Myers in the Gold Coast Watercolor Society *Members Love Watercolor* show for *Basket Weaver*. She was awarded **First Place** by judge Diane Prater in the Palm Beach Watercolor Society *The Mystery of Art* show for *Elephant Ears*. *Way to go, Judy!*

Katherine Leathers received the **Third Place Award** at the Miami Watercolor Society 2022 Annual Fall Exhibition for her painting, *Golden Coconuts*. She also received the **Third Place Award** at the Gold Coast Watercolor Society 2022, Fall Exhibition, *Members Love Watercolor*, for her painting, *Palm Lights III*. *Congrats, Katherine!*



Dorothy Koliba's *Mama! Mama! I'm Hungry!* won **Third Place** at the Brevard-Merrit Island Wildlife Show. *Congrats, Dorothy!*



Camille Rosano is pleased as punch to win **First Place** in the Palm Beach Watercolor Society's show *Dream in Color* show in early November for *Mending the Net* from judge, Kelli Bodle. *Congrats, Camille!*

MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS



Roberta Oliver's *Family Portrait* was featured in *The Best Of Watercolor, SPECIAL ISSUE: Winners of the Splash 23 Art Competition, 2022. Congratulations, Roberta!*



Steve Rogers, AWS, NWS, TWSA, FWS, OAD (OLD AS DIRT), thanks jurors Andy Evansen and Linda Kemp for awarding his painting *Companions - 84 and 85* the **Carole Christiansen Memorial Award** at the 2022 Transparent Watercolor Society of America Annual Juried Exhibition. *Congrats, Cap!!*



Thomas Rebek, NWS, FWS, PBWS, GCWS, MWS, received a **Second Place** award for his painting, *Fine Dining* at the January 2023 Palm Beach Watercolor Society members show. *Congrats, Thomas!*



Evelyn Espinoza wrote, illustrated, and published an educational children's book on the culture of Japan, *Kimono Dragon Records*. She also won an **Honorable Mention** at Downtown Pensacola Show, Artel Gallery, Pensacola, FL for a portrait painting *Congratulations, Evelyn!*

MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS



Mary Walker received two awards from the Jacksonville Watercolor Society for **Town Gazebo**, Honorable Mention from judge, Michael Holter; and for **Can I Keep Her?**, an Honorable Mention from judge, Pam Wenger. Way to go, Mary!



Marilyn Wescott was awarded **Honorable Mention** for **Lefty and Poncho** in the Nature Conservancy's *Nature Inspires Art* contest. Her painting was on display at the Lake Wales Arts Center in November. *Congrats, Marilyn!*



Joan Lok was recognized in the Japan Embassy's 2023 Nengajo Contest, Most Traditional, Adult. Nengajo is a Japanese New Year card, and 2023 is the Year of the Rabbit. *Awesome, Joan!*



New member, **Delphine Poussot**, won a Merit Award for *Taking Off* in the International Gallery Juried Art Competition, Animal Section. *Congratulations, Delphine!*

MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS



This Old House by Carol Staub



Calamondins & Glass Gigantic by Frank Spino

Carol Staub (L) & Frank Spino (above) jointly staged a 50-painting exhibition titled **Start to Finish** at Gallery 14, Vero Beach, FL in December 2022 and January 2023.

Kudos, you two!



Linda DeRosa won **Second Place** at the Art Center of Citrus County from judge, Darla Goldberg, for her painting, **Silver Springs**.
Congrats, Linda!



George Stuart was “surprised, flabbergasted, and so happy” when he won **Best of Show** for **The Pale Rider** from judge, Harry Messersmith at the Art League of Daytona’s 2023 Annual Membership Show!

Way to go, George!

Art Instruction by FWS Member Artists

With just a click, you can find an instructor for you!

Contact the individual instructors for information or visit their websites for a list of their workshops.

- Anne Abgott
www.anneabgott.com
- Sue Downes Allen
www.sueallenart.com
- Sue Archer
www.archerville.com
- Elise Beattie, FWS, NAWA, NWWWS
www.beattieartworks.com
- Mary Alice Braukman
braukman@me.com
- Joanna Coke
www.joannacoke.com
- Jaimie Cordero
www.aquarellestudiosandgalleries.com
- Jeanne Dobie
www.jeannedobie.com
- Lynn Ferris
www.lynnferris.com
- Cathy Futral
cathyfutral@outlook.com
- Jean Grastorf
www.jeangrastorf.com
- Susan Hanssen
www.susanhanssen.com
- Ted Head, FWS
www.tedheadfineart.com
- Marilyn Johansen, FWS, MWS
marilyn johansen@gmail.com
- Tom Jones
www.tomjonesartist.com
- Patty Kane
www.artbypattykane.com
- Joseph H. Melançon
www.josephmelancon.com
- Donna Morrison, FWS, NWS, SWS
www.donnamorrison.net
- Janet Rogers, AWS, FWS
www.watercolorsbyrogers.com
- Steve Rogers, AWS, FWS, NWS, TWSA
www.watercolorsbyrogers.com
- Suzanna Winton, FWS, NWS
www.suzannawintonwatercolors.com

MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

We would love to hear about our Member's Achievements to publish in the Newsletter. Please send us only **one jpg** of good quality (not a screen shot) and only news about Awards or being published in a major publication. No FWS shows!

Limit: two announcements, one image.

Deadlines for the information are:

January 15th for February Newsletter

May 15th for June Newsletter

October 15th for November Newsletter

Email submissions with the jpeg attached and info about the show, award, and judge to fws4news@gmail.com.

If you would like to take out a personal ad to promote your workshops or yourself, rates are posted there ->

Place an ad for your workshop or class!

contact: fws4news@gmail.com

Advertising Rates (print-ready*)

Business card \$25 (2" x 3.5")

1/4 page.....\$50 (5" x 3.75")

1/2 page..... \$75 (5" x 7.5")

Full page.....\$125 (10" x 7.5")

*Print-ready means you build the ad to specs and send.

• Must be 300 dpi, jpeg format, built to the exact size ad you want.

• Add \$25 for ad set-up if you just send text and graphics.

• Ad submission deadline is two weeks prior to publication.

• Payment must be received prior to publication:

January 15th for February 1st

May 15th for June 1st

October 15th for November 1st



OUR SPONSORS

The success of the 2022 FWS Exhibition and Awards Program would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors and partners. We sincerely thank them!

SPECIAL THANKS TO



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Contact FWS at
info@floridawatercolorsociety.org
and let us know to whom you would like
your email directed.

