



VISUAL INTEREST

The Society of Watercolor Artists' Newsletter

The Presidents Message



To Yupo or Not to Yupo, that is the question. As you know, we must present a proposed rule change to the group for three meetings before taking a vote of the membership. At our January meeting we had the chance to listen to some members' ideas about the proposal to allow the use of Yupo in our annual shows. We'll discuss this at our next two meetings (February and March) and vote at our April meeting. All comments are welcome. Send them to me via email mmaryps@aol.com or snail mail at 6655 Shady Glen Circle, Benbrook, TX 76132. To help in your thinking about the issue, here are rules of a variety of other societies:

National Watercolor Society: Membership Show Prospectus says: "Work must be water-based media on paper."

American Watercolor Society: open to all artists working in water soluble media: watercolor, acrylic, casein, gouache and egg tempera on paper. Canvas is not accepted.

Western Federation of Watercolor Societies: "...must be water media on paper or yupo presented in a primarily aqueous manner. Water media includes watercolors, acrylics, inks, gouache, casein, egg tempera, watercolor pencils and watercolor crayons. Collage materials must be painted by the artist with water media. Non water based media may be integrated into a primarily aqueous painting as a minor element (20% or less of the surface).

Watercolor Art Society-Houston: "Artwork must be at least 80% watermedia on paper, clayboard, or yupo."

New Mexico Watercolor Society: Acceptable work for juried exhibitions shall include aqueous material defined as transparent and opaque watercolors (gouache), acrylics, egg tempera, casein, watercolor pencils, crayons and water soluble ink. No water-based oils. Collage is acceptable using plain white papers painted with water-based media. All paintings shall be executed on approved paper. Approved paper is defined as cotton rag paper, cotton rag paper-mounted board, Yupo, watercolor canvas and Oriental papers. All other supports that are NOT approved include: clayboard, Masonite, canvas and wood. All finished artwork will remain unvarnished, framed and matted under plexiglass.

Utah Watercolor Society: "must use water media: transparent watercolor, acrylic, gouache, acrylic inks, tempera, casein, water media-treated collage paper, water-based monotype, may use minor amounts of other media (ink, pastel, graphite) All supports acceptable: (WC canvas, clayboard, etc. Framing under glass or plexi not required.)

Texas Watercolor Society: paintings must be primarily water media on paper. If collage or pastel is used, for example, it must be in conjunction with the water media and not be the dominant element.

Western Colorado Watercolor Society: "limited to water media with the appearance of watercolor on paper, Yupo or unstretched watercolor canvas."

Sharon Markwardt - Demonstrator for February



Sharon's art shifted to "Western" when she began riding horses. Her favorite subjects are boots and animals... "I enjoy animals and studying their relationship with each other and with us. I believe they have personalities which I try to express in my paintings." Her belief that good composition, strong design, and draftsmanship is crucial to painting is apparent in her work. Sharon has a degree in Art and is a signature member of SWA.

January Demo and Critique



Diane Petrushka

David Maxwell

Congratulations Painting of the Month Winners



First Winner
Colleen Erickson



Second Winner
Carolyn Jehring

Featured Artist - Carolyn Jehring



Carolyn with Dog Beach Court Carolyn at Arts Google
"Sultry Daylily" "Texas Blue Forever" "Delightful Intrusion"

Carolyn Jehring is a Texas native born in Ranger. Her art education began when, as a child, her older brother made her copy the Sunday funnies to keep her out of trouble. As an adult she has attended classes with Loretta Schapansky Phillips, Martha Spurlock, Martha Howell, Vern Johnson and Margie Whittington. She considers them her mentors and good friends

Carolyn has actively painted for the past seven years in watercolor, oil, soft pastel and acrylics. Color is the common denominator when she paints in any medium. "I love the soft to brilliant colors of watercolor and acrylic...color is so creamy and buttery in oils. Watercolor is a myriad of discoveries and will probably take the rest of my life to explore."

She enjoys teaching art to children, adults and senior citizens. "I teach my students what I have learned from my instructors. My students teach me a few things as well...we have a great time in class. The challenge is to learn how to make our paintings better. Every spring, my students at Franklin Park at Cityview exhibit their art work. April 24th of this year is our four year anniversary of exhibiting. Students act as docents and answer any questions about the artwork regardless of whether it's their painting or someone else's"

Carolyn has enjoyed exhibiting in Jazz by the Boulevard for four years with fellow artist friends. Arts Goggle is another event that she participates in every spring and fall. Carolyn is workshop chairperson for SWA and membership chairperson for ECAC. She has degrees in Speech and Hearing and Language Pathology from East Texas State University. Carolyn, as a Speech Pathologist, has also been a kindergarten teacher for FWISD.