

Art Facts Newsletter

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Lucille Hulbert, Founding Member, Shares Her Thoughts

Lucille started SWWS because the art society in Oregon was closed to Washington residents. Gayle Weisfield and Lucille met every two months in 1979 to develop SWWS. Mr. Weisfield, who was an attorney, set up the by-laws and did the work of getting SWWS incorporated with the State of Washington as a not-for-profit corporation in February, 1980. Twelve people were founding members of SWWS. They combined the annual meeting and awards banquet so folks who lived in outlying areas could attend both with one trip into town. They visited elementary schools, spoke to art classes, did mini watercolor classes, donated art supplies to schools, printed greeting cards of their artwork, and in general did local art promotion. Lucille went around to businesses in Vancouver and stimulated a lot of community participation. She got eight community leaders to serve as judges in the art show. For example, she got a woman from the garden society to pick the best floral in the art show. She solicited the business community for the funds to give cash awards to the winning artists. In 1980 they were able to use the porch of one of the houses on Officer's Row for an art show. It was a lot of work as they first had to clean off all the volcanic ash! They did not sell any paintings, but it stimulated a lot of interest. At first they just did four meetings per year. One was in December, as a Christmas party, and one was a summer picnic.

ON JURY-UP and QUALITY:

This is how they selected Active (Juried) members: Each member brought three paintings, then three of the original twelve members judged the



Lucille Hulbert, founding member of SWWS

paintings, and those who were selected became the active members, and those who were not selected became the associate members.

“ I wanted SWWS to be about QUALITY, not politics . . . and PERSONAL FULFILLMENT to be the reason to become a juried member.”

Lucille had the following comments on jury up and the two tiers of the association: “I wanted SWWS to be about quality, not politics. I still feel that the reason for a person to become a juried member is personal fulfillment.” She was quite candid regarding keeping the prospectus with framing and matting requirements, “or else your art exhibit will look like bad hobby art.”

Lucille said that Barbara Van Nostern's work in bringing good quality art instruction to SWWS was one of the primary ways that SWWS became a quality, fine art organization.

ON INCREASING PARTICIPATION:

Here are Lucille's ideas on how to increase the level of member participation in SWWS:

“Do cash awards for the art shows. Get sponsors for the cash awards. Don't try to do something every month or you will burn out.

“Host a workshop or an event that you can invite artists to (art teachers and their students) who live in the outlying counties of the SWWS geographic area.”

ON A SCHOOL PROGRAM:

Teams of three people go to schools, do a class(es). Buy and furnish students with brushes (buy 25-30 Robert Simmons nylon brushes) since, while students have access to adequate paint, they do not have adequate brushes. Do it like an “Artist in Residence” program. Third graders are the best age. Draw with the brushes (do not introduce pencil for drawing). Do very simple drawings. Let the kids be creative. 🍷

Calendar

April 18-25, 2010 **Spring Show** at Westfield Shopping Town (Vancouver Mall). Chris Stubbs will judge the show on Monday, April 19th.

April 22-24, 2010 **Spring Workshop by Chris Stubbs**, (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) at Westfield Shopping Town (Vancouver Mall). It will focus on still lifes. Cost is \$125 for members / \$225 for non-members.

April 23, 2010 **Spring Awards Potluck**, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

October 3-10, 2010 **Fall 2010 Show**, Westfield Shopping Town. Ruth Armitage will judge the show on Monday, Oct. 4th. Awards Potluck date and location TBD.

Oct. 19-23, 2010 **Fall 2010 Workshop by Lian Zhen**, (Tuesday through Saturday) location to be determined. Cost of the workshop is \$350 for members / \$450 for non-members.

March 13, 2010 **AHA, Ron Ranson** demo on "Painting Skies." Location to be determined.

For artists who like to experiment or those of us whose paintings just get away from us occasionally . . .

"Just because something doesn't do what you planned it to do, doesn't mean it's useless."

— THOMAS A. EDISON

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(J = Juried member; A = Associate member)

Classes and Workshops

WATERCOLOR CLASSES presented by **Sena Lowry** — **Saturdays from 9–2** at the Crossroads Community Church, North Pod, Room 401, 7708 N.E. 78th St., Vancouver. Instruction is free. Bring your own supplies. Some materials are available for a small fee. For more information you may call Sena at 360-892-4557.

ILLUSTRATION presented by **Diana Thewlis** through the **Clark College Mature Learning Center—Jan. 7–Feb. 4 at the new Columbia Tech Center on Mill Plain, Room 331 from 1:00-3:50 p.m.** Learn the basics of illustrating from an experienced instructor and professional illustrator, Diana Thewlis. Topics include narrative illustration for books, painting for greeting cards and calendars. An overview of illustration past, present, and future will be presented. Demonstrations of techniques in mixed media, acrylic painting, and collage will expand your artistic "tool box." Relax and enjoy learning in a supportive atmosphere with hands-on assistance and group critiques. Some drawing and art background will facilitate your learning experience. For more information, contact Diana at 360-314-2567, or via email at dthewlis@comcast.net. See Diana's work on her website at www.dianathewlis.com.

Member News

Jean Rosenstein (1927-2009) (associate member), passed away in her home on November 12th of lung cancer. While she was most active in the Society of Washington Artists, she maintained membership in our society also. Our condolences go out to her husband, her five children, two grandchildren and all those who were close to her.

Annual Meeting a Great Success

The evening started off with a great potluck meal, and while everyone ate, each table brainstormed and wrote down their ideas to improve our society. See all your responses on the next page.

Following the meal was the business meeting where next year's officers were approved and all four by-laws changes were accepted. You should receive your copy of the updated by-laws by email, or regular mail for those without email.

Following dinner and business, demonstrations by Barbara Van Nostern, Lee Baughman, and Susan Cowan were given. A huge THANK YOU goes out to these three gracious and talented artists who donated their time and talents. The demos were enjoyable and very educational.

All in all, a very successful and productive meeting.



Each table recorded their ideas for improving SWWS.



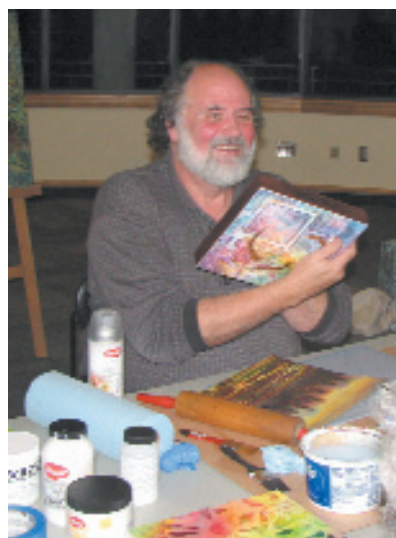
President Sheila Martinson leads the group through the business portion of the meeting.



If you missed the annual meeting . . . you missed three great demonstrations given by these lovely people—Susan Cowan, Barbara Van Nostern, and Lee Baughman. Thank you!



Barbara Van Nostern responds to questions about putting color into shadows.



Lee Baughman holds up a completed cradle mounted project.



Susie Cowan makes Yupo look fun as she wields a roller to put on the paint.

SWWS “Four Questions” Results

If you were unable to attend the Annual Meeting, Sheila Martinson would still love to hear from you regarding these four questions. This also goes for anyone who attended but has more things to add. Email your ideas to Sheila at smartinson57@q.com. This feedback will be particularly helpful to the new board as they set their priorities for 2010.

1. In your opinion, what is the purpose of the SWWS? What should it be?

- A stage that gives artists opportunity, access to venues, education, networking, supportive environment, encouragement to artists, inspiration, interaction with other artists.
- Having potluck dinners.
- Educating the public about art.
- Going into elementary and middle schools, helping kids find talent.
- Encouragement and education.
- Supporting the arts.
- Encouraging excellence in watermedia.
- Meeting like-minded people.
- Promoting the arts within the community.
- Providing a place to show art.
- Chance to met other artists.
- Keeping art creativity alive.
- Being an art environment, nurturing.
- Forum for sharing ideas, knowledge.
- What we have now.
- Sharing art with the community through schools is iffy.
- Enrichment, growth.
- An avenue through which we can put our artwork on display.
- Providing support and education such as workshops, mentoring for artists.
- Meeting other artists in the local community.
- In our mission statement, it is unclear whether the term “community” means the artist community or the community at large.

2. How can the SWWS support your artistic growth? More workshops? More frequent critiques? Other ideas?

- Workshops: evening workshops for working people.
- Sponsor critique groups, choice of multiple locations, set up by neighborhoods.
- Shows: more ribbons or awards given to more paintings.
- Signature membership? Juried shows.
- More one-day workshops.
- Workshops should be after the show, not before.
- Have instruction available for new members on how to get ready for a show.
- AHA’s are great.
- Nationally known artist doing the workshops.
- SWWS artwork on the SWWS website.

- Bring information (workshops) from outside the local area.
- The artist has to be willing to give up part of a Saturday to take advantage of AHA’s.
- More critique groups . . . Nice to have a place to go for a critique group.
- Seems like we are doing a lot, especially AHA, perhaps Clark College serves that function?

3. Is selling your artwork important to you? How could the SWWS help you sell your paintings?

- Selling through the society is a bonus, not primary.
- Have descending entry fee for additional show entries.
- It is important to exhibit artwork.
- Have other show venues than the mall, i.e.: new library, Firstenberg Center, Hilton during an event such as wine and jazz festival.
- Lower SWWS commission, have show entry fee be \$10 for first painting, \$5 for second . . .
- Sort of, not the reason for joining.
- Have a “not for sale” option for artwork at SWWS shows.
- Member webpages on the SWWS website is a good idea, provides consistent format, charge each artist a fee, artist keeps updated. Particularly helpful to people timid about building their own website.

4. What are you willing and able to do to support the growth and continued existence of the SWWS?

- Volunteer for things . . . It is confusing as to where and when to volunteer.
- Put volunteer opportunities in the newsletter.
- Associate members get ribbons only. Gives them incentive to strive for juried membership.
- Pay dues.
- Do a frame co-op as framing costs are prohibitive.
- Non-juried members should be able to hold office.
- Hold an annual new-members welcome party with older members present to answer questions.
- Create calendars to sell at the fall show.
- Studio home tour.
- Phone tree, hot line, more personal contact
- Artists helping artists is a great thing and needs to continue.
- Enter shows.
- AHA
- Mini workshops.



"Rob" by Diana Thewlis
Best of Show Award Winner
Society of WA Artists 2009 Fall Show



"Canada Goose" by Bobbie Myers
Honorable Mention
Society of WA Artists 2009 Fall Show



"Veronica" by Jean Rosenstein
Honorable Mention (posthumously)
Society of WA Artists 2009 Fall Show

WINNERS' CIRCLE (SWWS Members in Other Shows)

Diana Thewlis won the Best in Show Award for her watercolor painting titled "Rob," that she entered in the Society of Washington Artists Fall 2009 Members Only Show. Congratulations Diana. This makes it a double header for her as she also won Best in Show in SWA's other show this year. Both times the winning painting was a portrait.

Honorable Mention awards went to two other SWWS members in the same show—Bobbie Myers with her watercolor "Canada Goose," and Jean Rosenstein with her oil painting "Veronica" (awarded posthumously).

OTHER VENUES

The Gresham Art Committee Seeks Artists

If you are a local or regional artist looking for a venue to exhibit your work, the Gresham Art Committee (GAC) offers a great location in the City Hall Visual Arts Gallery and on their web site.



The GAC was founded by the City of Gresham in 1981. Their primary focus is to coordinate art exhibits and artists' receptions in the City of Gresham Visual Arts Gallery, and to assist in the acquisition of art works for City Hall. Their curated art shows feature local and regional artists representing all media (i.e.: painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, digital art, photography, jewelry, metal works, fabric construction, mixed media, and other 3-D objects). The eight exhibits scheduled for 2010 are entitled: "Color Explosion," "Along the Open Road," "Light Play," "Juried Show," "All That Jazz," "Elements," "Urban Landscape," and "Nature's Wild Side."

Visit <http://www.greshamartcommittee.org/> and click on the "Current Show," "Past Shows" and "Show Submissions"

links to view gallery images and artist and submission information. In addition, use the "2009 Show Schedule" link to view and download a Prospectus for each upcoming show.

They look forward to hearing from you!

The Sixth Street Gallery Art Challenge is Back!!!

MOSAIC Arts Alliance/Sixth Street Gallery would like to invite you to participate in their monthly Art Challenge. The purpose of the challenges, where artists are given a different theme each month, is to encourage artists to experiment with new media, size formats, and themes each month. The resultant art will then be displayed in their Green Room for a month. Art work may be for sale or just on display for visual delights, the choice is yours.

Upcoming 2010 Art Challenges (occasionally subject to change so be sure to check their website often):

January: Letters/Type, runs from Jan.; 1 to Jan. 24

February: Music & Dance runs from Jan 27 to Feb 21.

March: Underwater runs from Feb. 24 to March 21.

For more information, contact Traci Donahue at traci@sixthstreetgallery.com, or call her at 360-693-7340. Visit their website at <http://www.sixthstreetgallery.com/> for current information and to obtain the Challenge flyer.

Art Facts Newsletter

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Visit the Southwest Washington Watercolor Society online at: swswatercolor.org

Newsletter Guidelines

ARTICLES & PHOTOS:

Articles and photos concerning past or upcoming events, member news, and newsletter suggestions, in order to be considered for publication, must be submitted by the **NEWSLETTER DEADLINES which are the 15th of Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct. and Dec.** Photos must be JPGs or TIFs of at least 300 dpi. Submitted materials may be subject to a space-available basis. It is preferred that text be submitted in the body of an email with photos attached and the **subject line showing "SWWS Newsletter."** Send to:

Email: vistatype@gmail.com

Phone: 360-694-0079

Mail: **Bobbie Nelson, 2407 Main St., Vancouver, WA 98660**

ADVERTISING

BC size (3.5" x 2") = \$15 per issue

1/4 page (3.625" x 4.625" or 7.5" x 2.25") = \$25 per issue

1/2 page (7.5" x 4.625") = \$45 per issue

Full page (7.5" x 9.625") = \$80 per issue

Inserts = \$150 per issue

- **PAYMENT must be received at time of ad submission** in order to be included in the upcoming issue.
- **CHECKS** should be mailed to **2407 Main Street, Vancouver, WA 98660** and made out to "SWWS."
- **CAMERA READY PDFs with fonts embedded** are preferred for ads. For best print quality, PDFs should be created using "highest" or 2400 dpi "press ready" quality. "Web quality" at 72 or 96 dpi is not acceptable for the printing process.
- Ads may be submitted IN COLOR but may be converted to grayscale if necessary for the printed version of the newsletter.

Membership Dues are Due Jan. 1st!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Annual Dues (due January 1st):

JURIED* Member – \$30

ASSOCIATE Member – \$20

* JURIED membership is based on your work being juried by the Membership Committee.

- A \$5 late fee will be added to dues paid after April 1st (except new members).
- New members who join after June 30th pay for a half year only - \$10.

SIGNED: _____

Please complete this form, checking the appropriate box, enclose check for your dues, and mail to:

SWWS
P.O. BOX 2876
VANCOUVER, WA 98668-2876