President’s Message

Dear Members,

The Board of the Philadelphia Water Color Society would like to thank you for your continued support. So many of you have paid your dues on time, learned to use PayPal and worked through the kinks to apply to the 118th Anniversary International Works on Paper Exhibition.

As a Society we have a lot going on, the membership year transition and a very large Anniversary show with two demonstrations by Alvaro Castagnet. I am so excited to be able to attend the workshop he is teaching at Wayne Art Center. It is not often that I attend workshops because between teaching at various schools and art centers, working on PWCS and Farm to Table Plein Air plus attending to family going to a workshop is one of the first things to be squeezed out. When I was told Alvaro Castagnet was coming to do a workshop, I was determined to make the time and find the funds. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity for me. I urge you to take advantage of the opportunity to attend the Plein Air City Demo by Alvaro Castagnet at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

It is limited to 25 attendees. Another option will be his studio demonstration at the Wayne Art Center this will also have a limited number of attendees. Both events can be registered for on our website.

When a volunteer run Society becomes increasingly active in providing opportunities for the members a need arises for more individuals to volunteer. The Board of the Philadelphia Water Color Society is seeking new members, email me today and volunteer. Give of your time and talents to support a worthwhile organization.

Available positions may include but are not limited to: Recording Secretary, Members Show Coordinator, Possible Grant writer, Site Selection/ Jurors and Judges Coordinator, Administrative Assistant, Advertising and Assistant to the Workshop Coordinator.

You do not necessarily need to be located in the Philadelphia area, we have joined the 21st century and are now having meetings via the internet.

If you think you can help us please email, president@pwcsociety.org, remember to include some indication of your skillset so we can find an appropriate task for you.

Sincerely,

Deena S. Ball
President
Philadelphia Water Color Society

The next members news deadline is November 15, 2018

HELP WANTED

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL SHOW

Please email Al Richards intlshow@pwcsociety.org
Hopewell Furnace in Elverson, PA  
Wednesday, August 29th, 2018 9 am - 5 pm  
https://pwcs.wildapricot.org/event-2967328

Annual Members Meeting  
Community Art Center, Wallingford, PA 19085  
Tuesday, September 11, 2018 6 pm  
https://pwcs.wildapricot.org/events

PWCS 118th International Anniversary Show & Events  
Wayne Art Center - 433 Maplewood Avenue, Wayne, Pa 19087  
Juror of Selection: Alan Wylie & Judge of Awards: Alvaro Castagnet  
Exhibit: October 14 - November 20, 2018, Reception: Oct 21 @ 3 - 5 pm  
https://pwcs.wildapricot.org/event-2767846

Members Only Special Event City Demonstration by Alvaro Castagnet  
Thursday, October 11, 2018  
https://pwcs.wildapricot.org/event-2767856

Workshop, Alvaro Castagnet  
October 12 - 14, 2018  
https://apm.activecommunities.com/wayneart/Activity_Search/workshop-watercolor-with-alvaro-castagnet/6810

Demonstration, Alvaro Castagnet  
Sunday, October 14, 2018 4:30 pm  
https://pwcs.wildapricot.org/event-2767856

Gallery Talk, Kathleen A. Foster -  
The Robert McNeil Jr. Sr. Curator of American Art & Director of Center  
for American Art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Tuesday, October 23, 2018 @ 7 pm  
https://pwcs.wildapricot.org/events

Winsor Newton Product Demo  
Saturday, November 17, 2018 @ 10 am - 12 pm  
https://pwcs.wildapricot.org/event-2767849

2019 PWCS 119th International Exhibition of Works on Paper  
Judge of Awards: Liz Haywood Sullivan, Master Pastelist  
Community Arts Center, Wallingford, PA 19086

2019 Liz Hayward Sullivan Workshop  
September, 2019
Kathleen A. Foster from the Philadelphia Museum of Art will be taking a look at our exhibition and talking about some of the pieces. Kathleen was the curator of the show, *American Watercolor in the Age of Homer and Sargent*, last year at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. It will be very interesting to have someone speak who has such an extensive knowledge of the history of American Watercolor and has done so much to make the public aware of the art of watercolor.

Kathleen A. Foster is the Robert L. McNeil, Jr., Senior Curator of American Art and Director of the Center for American Art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, where she has worked since 2002. Currently, she is supervising the reinstallation of the Museum’s American Collection, as part of the implementation of the Facilities Master Plan.

Dr. Foster received her BA from Wellesley College and completed her MA, MPhil, and PhD at Yale University. She has taught at Williams College, Temple University, and the University of Pennsylvania, where she is currently an adjunct professor in the History of Art department. Before the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Dr. Foster served as curator of nineteenth and twentieth century art and as the Class of 1949 Curator of Western Art after 1800 at the Indiana University Art Museum. Previously, she held curatorial positions at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, including the role of chief curator and director of research and publications.

In addition to receiving numerous grants and fellowships, Dr. Foster has been a Whitney Fellow at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and a visiting fellow at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. In 2015, she was Edmond J. Safra Visiting Professor at the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

Below is a link to an article about Kathleen and this exhibition from The Inquirer

Tuesday, September 11, 2018
6 pm
Ballroom at
Community Arts Center
414 Plush Mill Road
Wallingford, PA 19086

Meeting Agenda
- Voting for new Board members
- Financial status of the organization
- Overview of last year’s activities
  - Next year’s activities
- Thanking Board members
- Welcoming New Signature members

REGISTRATION REQUIRED light supper is to be served
https://pwcs.wildapricot.org/events

Program
Longtime PWCS volunteer, signature member and teacher, Nancy Barch, will be speaking about what she feels makes a good painting to enter into shows.

Nancy Barch  http://www.nancybarch.com

As a signature member of the American Watercolor Society and the Philadelphia Water Color Society, the work of Delaware County Artist Nancy Barch has traversed the United States.

Ms. Barch has garnered a number of coveted awards for her work in a variety a media including Best of Show in the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society, the Elizabeth Shober Hooper Award and the Emerton Hietland Memorial Award from the Philadelphia Water Color Society, the Paul Remy Award from the American Watercolor Society, NY, the Daler-Rowney Award and Silver Brush Award from the Kentucky Aqueous Touring Exhibition, and the Peterson Memorial Award from the National Society of Casein and Acrylic Painters. In 2011, 100 Artists of the Mid Atlantic, published by Amazon.com books, has a feature article on Nancy’s experimental work.

Nancy also serves on the Board of AWS, on the committee that assist the jurors with the selection process, which gives her an inside look at what jurors look for.

Nancy has received commissions from the Liberty Properties Group, Scotties Tissues, the McDonalds LPGA Golf Classic, and the American Cancer Society. Her work is included in many corporate collections, such as Morgan Stanley, Liberty Properties, AIG, Bank America, FIS Corp, Montgomery, McCracken, Walker and Rhoades, Anapol Weiss and Lincoln Investments.

Light Supper will be served.
WINSOR NEWTON PRODUCT DEMO

Saturday, November 17, 2018
Time 10 am - noon

Wayne Art Center
413 Maplewood Ave
Wayne, PA 19087

NO FEE but registration requested
Spaces are limited

Marta Kepta will be demonstrating Winsor Newton products. Come see what new and different watercolor products there are and possibly get a few free samples to take home. Ask Marta your product questions and if she does not know the answer I am sure she will be able to send you to the right resource. While Marta is not currently exhibiting watercolors her website is interesting, take a look at www.martakepka.com

CLICK BELOW
if you are interested knowing more about or want to contribute to the
Don Patterson Memorial Prize Fund

Volunteers needed for the International Anniversary Exhibition of Works on Paper

Join in the fun! Meet the artists! See the paintings up close and personal! This is your chance to work behind the scenes with experienced show coordinators and Wayne Art Center staff. The show runs from October 14th through November 20th. Selected artists will be delivering their pieces on Sunday, October 7th where we will need people to greet them and check in paintings. Checking in means making sure the artist has followed all the directions and has a clean white mat, is the proper size, is properly framed for display, matches the image that was accepted into the show, is labeled, and has valid contact information. You will often have time to chat with the artists and perhaps learn a few tips.

We will also need people to uncrate the shipped works, and to inspect them for hanging. Arranging and hanging the paintings will take place during the 10th and 11th. A reception will be held on October 21st, and there are opportunities to help the hospitality crew. Have you hung a show?

Our judge of awards, Alvaro Castagnet, will be selecting the winners on Wednesday afternoon, the 11th, right after giving his members’ only demonstration in the Philadelphia Navy Yard in the morning. (See how to sign up for the demo on our website: PWCSociety.org.)

If you feel moved to get involved, you are making a great decision! You can contact Al Richards who is chairing the event at intishow@pwcsociety.org.
Did you know that PWCS gives out 5 scholarships of 400 dollars each? This year we had an anonymous donor add another 100 dollars to each award.

Congratulations Student Award Winners

Angela Barbalace / Mercer County Purchase Award in the Mercer County Artist 2018 Exhibition. Her painting/drawing will go to the Mercer County Culture & Heritage Collection. Her painting will also be included in this year’s National Society Casein and Acrylic Painters Exhibition.

DeEtta Silvestro's painting, "Looking Up" was accepted for the American Watercolor Society's 151st Annual International Exhibition. Her painting 'Café Napoli' received the Princeton Brush Company Special Award in the Missouri Watercolor Society's 2018 International Exhibition held in China.

Mick McAndrews was awarded Third Place for his painting "New Hope Afternoon “ and the People’s Choice Award for overall body of work in the Bucks County Plein Air Festival. He also received the Best Street Scene Award for his painting Malvern Morning in the Malvern Plein Air Festival sponsored by Gallery 222.

Geraldine McKeown was recently included in the publication Delmarva School of Art by Dana Kester-McCabe. The book celebrates the work of 47 artists who live and work on the Delmarva Peninsula. Geraldine also received the Andrew Wyeth Studio Award in the PWCS exhibition for On Location: Brandywine Plein air currently on display at the Chadds Ford Historical Society.

Radhika Srinivas’ painting “Christmas at Rockefeller“ has been accepted in the Salmagundi Club New York’s 40th Annual Open Exhibition for Non Members Upper Gallery, July 23, 2018 - August 03, 2018

what’s Happening … Members News

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Delaware Art Museum, Eye on Nature: Andrew Wyeth and John Ruskin

In April, we organized a trip to the Delaware Art Museum to see the Ruskin-Wyeth exhibit, Eye on Nature. Our docent for the tour included a small detour to see some of Ruskin's work that is included in the museum's Pre-Raphaelite collection. The work of these two artists, separated by 100 years and the Atlantic Ocean, was strikingly similar in the rendering of the beauty and details of the natural world.

If you missed it there you can still check out the Delaware Art Museum website for some details. https://www.delart.org/
Please take a moment to visit our wonderful *On Location at the Brandywine* SPONSORS by clicking on the logos below.
Don’t Miss
PWCS PLEIN AIR OPPORTUNITIES

Summer is here and painting days are more numerous. PWCS has arranged three Plein air painting days for the general membership. Please take advantage of this opportunity. There is nothing that compares to painting outside on location.

Full details and contact info is on the PWCS website. There is no fee, however it is helpful to those in charge if people sign up.

♦ Hopewell Furnace in Elverson, PA - 848 Acre Park, Historical Structures that illustrate the business, technology and lifestyle of our growing nation. Volunteers available at times in period costume. Wednesday, August 29th 2018 9 am to 5 pm

♦ St. David’s Chapel / Date TBD Historic Church Built in 1715

For more information on any PWCS sponsored Plein air events please contact George Gallatig: ggallatig@gmail.com

ATTENTION: PLEIN AIR DAY
COORDINATORS NEEDED

Do you know a great place to paint? Are you willing to coordinate a painting day and ensure parking, availability of bathrooms, maximum number of painters, etc.?

PWCS would do all the promo and coordinate sign ups via our website. As coordinator you will work directly with our Plein air Coordinator, Bruce Poulterer, to ensure a successful paint-out.

Idea and suggestions for paint-out locations throughout the five county area are welcome!

Please contact Bruce at poulterer@gmail.com
Volunteers Needed!

Consider volunteering with PWCS. Remember this organization exists because of the volunteer spirit.

Benefits:
- You would get to meet other like minded artists
- Learn of new opportunities
- Do something for a historic organization
- Possibly be part of an upcoming Board show

You do not necessarily need to be located in the Philadelphia area, we have joined the 21st century and are now having meetings via the internet.

If you think you can help us in any small way, please email president@pwcsociety.org. Remember to include some indication of your skillset so we can find an appropriate task for you.
We would like to Thank departing Board Members; Don Leong, Mick McAndrews, Bruce Poulterer, Cheryl Schlenker, Siv Spurgeon and Jeanne Gunther for their tremendous service and contributions to PWCS.

thank you
A Great Time...... Weather and All
On Location: Artists at Brandywine River Museum of Art

The weather report said rain and more rain. Fortunately it didn’t last. Though the atmosphere proved to be a little hazy and a bit muggy with some sun peeking through, it was generally fine for Plein air painting. At one point there was a little drizzle, however the Brandywine Museum folks kindly arranged to have drier areas for us to duck into if needed. Twenty-three artists participated in this year’s event, each painting revealing a different artistic view. Contributing to the Plein air experience were the tourists who enjoyed watching and chatting with artists as they worked.

This year our collaborative event sponsored by the Brandywine River Museum and the Chadds Ford Historical Society ran from Friday June 1 through Sunday June 3. The work was originally scheduled to exhibit from June 8 - July 8 but the date has been extended to August 31 at the Chadds Ford Historical Society. In addition, the show will be moved to the Greenville Country Club, Owls Nest Road, Wilmington, Delaware and will be on display there from September 2nd through the end of October.

It was a great experience and we are looking forward to repeating our Plein air event in the near future!

Jane McGovern, Archivist

If you haven’t paid your DUES that were due July 1st, please do so.
There is nothing quite like Plein air painting. The light, the atmosphere, the immediacy! But we all know that when venturing out into the woods artists must prepare and shield against those pesky and potentially dangerous Lyme Ticks. Lyme is a disease that is most prominently carried by the black leg tick, but is now carried by 1 in 3 ticks. Whether you like to garden, hike or paint Plein air you should consider adopting some kind of protection. Most of us invest in a bug spray containing Deet, wear long sleeve clothing and hats. However, there is one more thing you can add to your arsenal. Have you heard about Permethrin?

I had not! Not until speaking with George Gallatig, whose name will be on the ballot to fill the Board position of Plein air Director. George volunteers in the Meadow at Longwood Gardens and has his clothes dipped in Permethrin. And again when speaking with a friend who is about to go on Safari in Africa. She is having her clothing dipped. It is a stable (synthetic) form of an insecticidal compound produced by the chrysanthemum flower that doesn’t stain clothing. An apparently effective tick repellent that lasts through many washings. For more information: http://www.tickencounter.org/prevention/permethrin

It is readily available. If you Google Permethrin you will find many sources including Amazon. There are a few precautions, namely when wet it can be harmful to birds, cats and fish. But when dry it seems to be safe.

You might not be too keen to handle and spray chemicals yourself so you can send your pants and shirts that you wear while working or painting outside to another company; Insect Shield. https://www.insectshield.com/ George spent about $50 and the clothes were back in a week. The advantage of sending away as opposed to treating yourself is that it reportedly lasts for 75 washing as opposed to 5.

He also purchased a bottle of spray and sprayed all the socks he wears in the field.

Safer Plein air? Who knows. But if you have concerns about getting Lyme it might be worth a try.
The Joy of Mixed Media
Cheryl Schlenker

Watercolor is a magical medium. It is also extremely frustrating and almost impossible to correct. And that’s what led me to working with mixed media. Trying acrylic paint and collage materials to cover muddy watercolors and lost lights, I discovered that something more than just correcting was happening. Adding some line with Caran d’Ache, pencils, charcoal, and/or pastel brought some failed compositions to life. Why not convey my ideas using these materials right from the start?

Inspired by Nancy Barch, (a great mentor) I learned to lay down texture, and to think in terms of shapes, value and line using such tools as rubber scrapers, palette knives, sticks, self-made stamping forms, and whatnot. Initially creating a base with gesso, gel medium and torn paper, is quite satisfying. Watercolor paper or illustration Board works as substrate. Deciding your color palette at this point is important, although with mixed media nothing is unchangeable. (Think of that!)

Sometimes I have a plan, but usually the painting is a work in progress, becoming an entity on its own. Buildings, trees, people, interiors, or flowers often appear, and I am reminded of a game I used to play when I was a child. My friends and I would scribble a crazy snarl then dare each other to make something out of it. Mine usually ended up as an intricately murderous story scene.

The next step is so exciting! I use my darkest color choice and lay down some shapes by dripping fluid acrylics onto the textured surface, and then spraying some water in various places. I concentrate on making a good composition and save plenty of light values. (When I think of the importance of composition, I am inspired by Carole Pickle and Denise Athanas’ work, both frequent exhibitors in our shows.) Then I add the second color and tip the paper around to mix the two wherever they might meet. Pushing the colors a bit with a large brush or squeegee at this point helps pull the elements together. As they drag across the underlying texture, magical things can happen. I am always looking at the composition and trying to see if any images reveal themselves. If they do, I will push the painting to exhibit a bit of that reality. If they don’t, I keep going, adding and subtracting colors and finding interesting focal points until I like the abstract composition. I have to love the painting before I stop. Adding some collage can spark it up and sometimes torn up pieces of old paintings fit right in. Drawing varied lines can connect the dots and add a nice depth. I am always excited about the ways the different media respond to each other and can enhance the properties of each one.

If you feel you need a break from fighting with watercolor, there is a whole world of art materials available for you to explore!

You can view 21 of Cheryl’s paintings at Marple Library, 2599 Sproul Road, Broomall, until the beginning of September.
Violet Oakley (Famous members of PWCS - Part 1)

Artistic Heritage

Violet was born on June 10, 1874 in Bergen Heights, New Jersey. Twelve of her ancestors were artists. Of these, her father, Arthur Oakley, her maternal grandfather, William Swain and her mother, Cornelia were established as practicing artists.

Education

When Violet was 20, she began formal training at the Art Student’s League in New York City. Her early images, landscapes and still lifes were abstract, bursting with rich colors. In 1895, Violet accompanied her family on a trip to France where she enrolled in the Academic Montparnasse. Unfortunately Violet’s father became ill. The family found a doctor in Philadelphia who could cure him and so they moved to Philadelphia where Violet enrolled in classes at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

Howard Pyle was teaching an illustration class at the Drexel Institute near their home. Under the tutelage of Pyle, Violet was encouraged to undertake black and white illustration. Her work was accepted in books and magazines which included Collier’s Weekly.

Commissions

Violet lived in a third floor apartment at 1523 Chestnut St. in Philadelphia. Jessie Wilcox Smith and Elizabeth Shippen Green, classmates from Drexel moved into the same apartment house. All three began working for magazines like The Century, Harper’s and Collier’s.

In 1897 Pyle secured an important joint commission for Violet and her classmate, Jessie Wilcox Smith, to illustrate Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s book “Evangeline” for Houghton Mifflin Company. The head of the Church Glass Company in New York was impressed with Violet’s work and felt she had an aptitude for stained glass design. She designed an Epiphany window which resulted in Violet receiving two commissions for mural paintings. Meanwhile Violet’s illustrations in widely circulated magazines showed her talent for storytelling with palette and brush.

Next Issue - The Red Rose Inn

Pennsylvania Capitol Preservation Committee. Violet Oakley Capitol Exhibit 2001
- Jane McGovern, Historian
Membership Renewals

Please don’t forget to renew your membership on time.

Please use these PWCS dedicated email addresses!

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PWCS has a Facebook page  https://www.facebook.com/PhiladelphiaWaterColorSociety/

Please follow us on Facebook! If there is breaking news please contact Lena Thynell, Facebook manager, and she will review it and consider posting. Advertisements will not be accepted. lthynell@comcast.net
Lena Thynell has created an Instagram account for PWCS. SEARCH philadelphiawatercolorsociety

If you are an Instagram user, you can tag your photos with #philadelphiawatercolorsociety. You may also add @philadelphiawatercolorsociety in your text below a photo. If you use Instagram, make sure you “follow” us.

Don’t forget to update the PWCS database with your CURRENT contact information. It is simple, just click the LOGIN button at the top of the PWCS page.

So that you can continue to receive emails about events, the electronic newsletters and registration notices. If you have moved recently, changed your name, phone number or email address, please help keeping us current by logging in to the PWCSociety.org website, clicking on your name in the upper left hand corner to get to your profile page, and updating your personal information.

CATALOGS

Additional Catalogs for the 117th Annual International Exhibition of Works on Paper are for sale at 15 dollars per catalog. To purchase one email the pwcsociety@gmail.com and let us know if you are paying by PayPal invoice or sending a check. Or go to this link https://pwcs.wildapricot.org/
118th PWCS Anniversary International Exhibition of Works on Paper

Wayne Art Center
413 Maplewood Ave., Wayne, Pa. 19087
610-688-3553 www.wayneart.org

Shipped Works Due - No later than Friday, October 5, 2018
Hand Delivery - Sunday, October 7, 2018, 3 - 7 pm
Members Demo - Thursday, October 11, 2018
Show Opens - Sunday, October 14, 2018
Alvaro Castagnet Demo - Sunday, October 14, 2018, 5 - 6:30 pm
Awards Reception - Sunday, October 21, 3 - 5 pm
Gallery Talk - Tuesday, October 23, 2018, at 5 pm
Winsor Newton Demo - Saturday, November 17, 2018, 10 - 12 pm
Exhibit Closes - Tuesday, November 20, 2018, closes at 5 pm
Hand Pick-Up - Tuesday, November 20, 2018 5 - 7pm
November 21, 2018, 9 - 11 am
Return Shipping Begins - November 21, 2018

Board of Directors

Deena S. Ball, President 610-789-1003
Mick Mc Andrews, Vice President 610-518-6960
Cheryl Coniglio, Treasurer 215-491-4774
Jane McGovern, Historian/Archivist VP 610-565-6943
Radhika Srinivas, Corresponding Secretary 610-551-2228
Madeleine Kelly, News Editor, Catalog, VP 610-662-5626
Donald Leong, Archivist Director 610-269-7798
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Wendy McClatchy, Workshop Manager 610-353-1213
Katherine Lofaro Firpo, Edu. & Outreach 610-416-3540
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Bruce Poulterer, Plein Air Activities 610-356-3961
Al Richards, Director of International Exhibitions 610-637-8223
Diane Keesee, Director of Events 302-463-1743

The Half/Sheet is published in the Fall, Winter, and Spring.
Please email relevant information to Madeleine Kelly at newsletter@pwcsociety.org. Next Newsletter close is 11/15/18 please put NEWSLETTER in the subject line. Submissions are accepted and/or edited at the discretion of the editor.