

# PWCS Half Sheet

A Publication of the PHILADELPHIA WATER COLOR SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1900

Cheryl Schlenker, President

Jane James, Editor

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**"In art, the hand can never execute anything higher than the heart can imagine."** Ralph

Waldo Emerson a poet, not a painter, reminded me with these words that a paintbrush is best led by emotions. Paint what you love. So, what if you are not feeling particularly loving at the moment? Lately, after the drearily dull cold months of this winter, I have noticed some of the sprouting and awakening that's going on in the yard and along the road sides. It seems that things in the earth are yearning for the sunshine of spring as much as I am. This feeling of rebirth and striving for life surely is translatable in paint. Finding a new slant on the glories of light striking tree branches and water can make my heart soar. I hope you can be stimulated by the coming warmth and sunshine to create something as high as you wish to go.



Warm thanks and high praises go out to everyone who helped make the Members' Show a beautiful success this year at the Hill School in Pottstown. Wendy McClatchy and Annie Strack co-chaired the event and received outstanding support from Ellen Nelson at the Boyer Gallery in the School. Juror Jill Rupinski spent many thoughtful hours deliberating the selections and awards, and was kind enough to offer her opinions in writing. It was extremely enjoyable to watch her work as she selected our award winners, and added 3 Certificates of Merit to our list. Some of the school students were brought in to see our selection and given assignments to pick their favorites. If you missed the opening on March 19<sup>th</sup>, you will still be able to see the exhibit until May 11<sup>th</sup>, when Ms. Rupinski will be giving a pastel demonstration and works will be picked up.

*continued on page 2*

## WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY TO HOST PWCS 113<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF WORKS ON PAPER

The new E.O. Bull Center for the Arts is welcoming us this fall to show off our juried exhibition. John Baker, head of WCU's Art Department (and always a genial host to PWCS) is very excited about the new building and gallery. He has a wonderful eye for arranging artworks within the space and we look forward to seeing what his talents will do with our selection of works on paper. Should you want to visit the gallery, its hours are Monday through Friday 9am to 4pm, and Saturday noon to 4pm.

Our juror of selection is Donna Zagotta ([donnazagotta.com](http://donnazagotta.com)) who has just been featured in the *Artist's Magazine*, and who is currently in the AWS exhibition in NYC. Our juror of Awards will be Jim MacFarlane ([jimmacfarlanestudio.com](http://jimmacfarlanestudio.com)), eminent watercolorist and President of AWS. We look forward to seeing what a diverse and exciting show these two will create for us.

Entries are due by June 1, and they will be by CD only. They should be sent to PWCS Entries, 13 Brandywine Drive, Elwyn, PA 19063. You may obtain a prospectus on our website ([pwcsociety.org](http://pwcsociety.org)) or e-mail [pwcsociety@gmail.com](mailto:pwcsociety@gmail.com) with a request. Jane McGovern will be the receiver of entries, and Jane James will be creating the catalog. Gail Grams and Cheryl Schlenker will be co-chairing the event. So fasten your seatbelts, start up your engines and consider your potential to shine!

## 2013 PWCS PAINT OUT AT VALLEY FORGE PARK

*Donald Leone*

Get your sketch books, supplies and easel ready for an exciting day at one of our country's most revered sites, Valley Forge National Historical Park. The area offers an amazing array of sights and color for the artist. The Paint-Out will take place Saturday, June 1, 2013, 8 AM–5 PM with a rain date Sunday, June 2, 2013

Coffee and donuts will be available in the morning in the parking area of the Maurice Stephens House.

Members may park in any public parking area in the park. Paint, sketch, take photos or whatever your heart desires in any of the public areas. Off limits are: The Washington Memorial Chapel, Washington Headquarters area and the Muhlenberg Brigade Hut areas. Please inquire if you are uncertain of the area.



Map of the Valley Forge National Historic Park: [http://www.nps.gov/yafo/planyourvisit/upload/VAFO\\_Map\\_2011.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/yafo/planyourvisit/upload/VAFO_Map_2011.pdf). Information about the park: <http://www.nps.gov/yafo/index.htm>. For additional information: [anniestrack@aol.com](mailto:anniestrack@aol.com) or 985-710-2316 on the day of the event.

## SIGNATURE MEMBER NEWS

**Marian Heath Axley**, PWS, exhibited her watercolor, "Whassup, Girl?" in the



second Shanghai Zhujiajiao International Watercolor Exhibition, November, 2012. Her painting was one of 9,000 submissions to the jury of fifteen international judges. The sole American judge was Nicholas Simmons. The exhibit consisted of approximately two hundred watercolors and is billed as "the world's largest watercolor exhibit." Approximately thirty Americans were selected including Charles Reid and Dean Mitchell. The China Artist's Association will exhibit her painting in two subsequent exhibits, The Shanghai Youth Palace and The Shanghai Oriental Pearl Tower.

**Denny Bond** received a First Place, Works on Paper, in the Art of the State exhibition at the State Museum in Harrisburg, PA. He was also the recipient of the Best of Show Award for his painting, "Illusion," in Watermedia Showcase sponsored by Watercolor Magazine, featured in the February, 2013, issue. Denny received a Merit Award in the Miami Watercolor Society Online Exhibition and the Georgia Newton Memorial Award and People's Choice Award in the Transparent Watercolor Society's 36th National Exhibition.

Congratulations to **S. Joanne Barry** who has become an honorary life member.

**Lisa Budd** received the Ogden Pleissner (2nd place) award for watercolor at the Salamagundi Club Annual Members Exhibition, the Utrecht Art Supply award at the Garden State Watercolor Society Open Exhibition, and the Pat Dews award at the 2012 New Jersey Watercolor Society Annual Open Exhibition.

**Diane Cannon's** work is published in two editions of the UK's *Artist & Illustrators Magazine*. "Five Ibis" is discussed as "Works in Progress" in the February 2013 issue. "Five Ibis" was

previously featured in *Splash 13*. The Masterclass feature in the March 2013 issue of *Artists & Illustrators* features the 14 step procedure that Diane used to create "Betula's II."

**Antonio Masi** had an exhibition at the Salamagundi Club Patron's Gallery



earlier in the spring, exhibiting for the first time original small paintings (9"x12") which were the creative spark for much larger (40"x60") award bridge paintings.

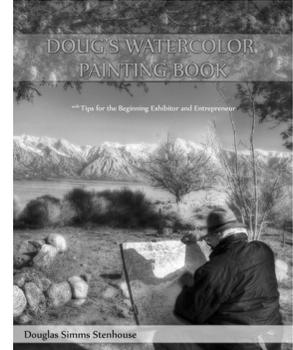
**Carole Pickle**, AWSdf, NWS, PWCS, has been awarded the Bud and Gretchen Marble Medal for her painting, "The View," at the 146<sup>th</sup> Annual International Exhibition of the American Watercolor Society held in New York City from April 2 to April 21 2013. She also qualified to become a member of the Dolphin Fellowship. This membership is obtained by merit alone in accordance with the point system which requires Signature AWS Members to win five points in one or more of the International Annual Exhibitions. Carole also won First Place, the Helen Watrous Award for Excellence, at the 34<sup>th</sup> Rocky Mountain National Watermedia Exhibition in Golden, Colorado, held from Sept. 14–Oct. 28, 2012.

**Ardythe Jolliff's** painting, "Tropical Splendor 3" was accepted in the Watercolor Society of Alabama's 72nd National Exhibition, 2013. Her painting, "Ornamental Blues" was accepted in the 36th Southern Watercolor Society's Annual Exhibition. "Starburst" was accepted in the Georgia Watercolor Society's 2013 Annual Exhibition and her "Waltz of the Flowers" was accepted and won an Honorable Mention at the Watercolor Art Society of Houston's 36th International Exhibition.

**Concetta Scott** had a one-person show in The Historic House at Green Spring Gardens in Alexandria, VA. The theme was To All Things Horticultural and/or connected with the gardens'

history. She exhibited watercolors, pastels, and alkyls.

**Douglas Stenhouse** published a book entitled "Doug's Watercolor Painting Book." It describes how to execute a transparent watercolor painting plus a number of other topics that are



important for artists to know about in order to succeed, as well as several examples of his paintings. It will be available through ECKO Publishing.

### In Memoriam

Jane Law  
John Silvasi  
Helene B. Thorpe

### President's Message continued

We are excited to announce that we will be having an updated website (finally.) Mick McAndrews is taking charge and working with Nick Mohler, a talented web designer. We hope to manage dues, accept entries, provide up to date galleries of our exhibits, communicate news items, and much more. We look forward to any input you may have.

I can't wait to see the submissions to our 2013<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition at West Chester University this fall. Deadline for entries is June 1<sup>st</sup>, so you still have time to go out and create that award winning masterpiece. I have to point out here another Ralph Waldo Emerson quote: "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." Have a wonderful and stimulating summer, and leave lots of trails!

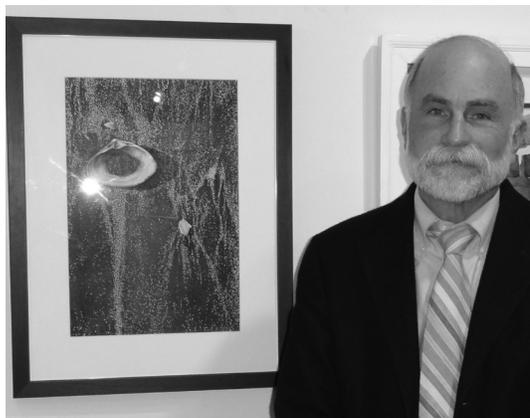
Cheryl Schlenker

## PWCS 2013 MEMBERS EXHIBITION – JUROR STATEMENT

Jill Rupinski

As a Juror, what I hope to see in a body of work is diversity, craftsmanship, and intelligence. When I walked into the room of entries for this show, I was pleased to find all of those attributes. The strength of the submissions made my job both interesting and challenging. For all who submitted, your work was worthy of being in this show. I saw aesthetic accomplishment, deft handling and care taken in presenting the work.

Every time I jury a show, I feel compelled to remind everyone that the process requires the juror(s) to make decisions at a specific time, given a specific body of work. With one juror it is therefore a highly personal decision. Because of this fact, I set certain parameters for myself when making selections. I rely on these factors: originality, or finding something surprising or new in a work; strength in the handling of materials, either traditional or contemporary; competence in the use of compositional elements, or how does the artist use value, mass, line, color and picture plane design; presentation, how does the frame contribute or take away from the work; and then an idea, or what does the work say to me or what emotions are evoked. With these elements in mind, I, below, share with you my thoughts and some of what I saw in the works that I chose for prizes.



Richard Ressel with his prize-winning "Among the Pieces"

My selections for prizes led me first to the Barbara Michel, "Brass Bench," with the texturally prepared surface. The watercolor floats across the gessoed surface with an ease that might with a less skilled hand become too distracting. The tree captures the eye, dominates the frame, but compositionally guides the viewer to the profoundly empty bench, dancing with light and color. The Richard Ressel, "Among the Pieces," drives the senses to virtually experience the movement of water, sand, the sea breeze, and the treasures that such elements can reveal. Ann

Bellenger's, "The Yellow Bird Trio," is so fun to explore with the layers of texture. The focal point puts the viewer right into the brush with the birds so one can hear the chatter. I describe, "Assateague Sunrise," as the creation of a serene sense of place with a perfectly balanced color harmony. Joe Grubb packed this work with detail, complicated gesture and sweeping space that belies the small size of the work. Mick McAndrews', "Fishin' Blues," intelligently creates an honest representation of a water scene, perfectly handled, and uncomplicated in a restrained, sophisticated palette. My eyes could not move away from the bold abstraction of, "Friends," by Elizabeth Forsythe. The shapes are as intertwined as the friendship of the characters represented. Teresa DeSeve makes a bold, personal statement with "Relic," which is emotionally charged with implied movement of form and content of image. The Virgil Carter, "You Must Turn Left Or Right," is a quiet street scene smartly composed on a long horizontal framework which amplifies the shift in color temperature between the two sides of the street. Cheryl Coniglio's "Biking the Canal," is an attractive handling of picture plane space using a sense of two-dimensional tension. The richly detailed work manages a solid focus in the building and reflection.

Congratulations to all in the show. Thank you for the opportunity to have been a part of this exhibition.



Annie Strack and Wendy McClatchy, Co-Chairs of the Members' Exhibition.

## REDESIGNED WEB SITE!

Mick McAndrews



Deena Ball's beautiful painting is at the top of each page of the new web site.

The PWCS Board of Directors is pleased to announce the launch of the newly redesigned Philadelphia Water Color Society website! <http://www.pwcsociety.org>. The original PWCS website served the organization well for many years but it was difficult to maintain and prevented PWCS from quickly and efficiently keeping Society members and visitors current with the many activities, events, shows and general information important to the Society and the larger art world.

The new website was officially launched on April 22 with little fanfare but much enthusiasm by the small group of PWCS Board members and our vendor of choice with whom we've been working for the last few months. It is a work in progress as we continue to enhance and add new functionality. We are targeting the end of June to have all planned work completed. At that time the new website will include on-line payment of annual dues, the ability to enter sponsored shows on-line and more! We think you'll find the new look and feel a dramatic improvement and perhaps best of all, modifying the new website will be easy by less technical members of the PWCS Board using our new content management system Wild Apricot.

Although it remains under construction, we are very proud of the redesigned PWCS website and you should be too!

## MAGGIE PRICE DIES

Although not a member of PWCS, Maggie Price was one of the guiding lights of the pastel renaissance and influenced a whole generation of new pastelists. A generous teacher and friend, she will be missed by all who knew her, either personally or through reading *Pastel Journal*, which she founded.

## CALENDAR

### Paint-Out

June 1, 2013, 8 AM–5 pm, Saturday  
rain date June 2, 2013

### 113th Anniversary International Exhibition of Works on Paper

West Chester University  
E.O. Bull Center for the Arts  
Rosedale Ave. and High St.  
West Chester, PA 19383  
Entries due: June 1  
Notification begins: August 1  
Shipped works due: August 26–30  
Hand delivery: September 7  
Show Opens: September 11  
Demo: September 28, 2–4 pm  
Awards Reception: October 5, 2–5 pm  
Gallery Talk October 9, 6:30–7:30pm  
Exhibit Closes: October 25  
Hand Pick-Up: October 26  
Return Shipping Begins October 28

### NEEDED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR

This is the last issue Jane James will edit. Is there someone in our membership (or who might become a member) who will take on the editorship? We will continue to use our web site and Facebook page for news.

## PHILADELPHIA WATER COLOR SOCIETY CONTACT INFORMATION

Cheryl Schlenker, President, 133th Exhibition Co-Chair	610.891.1840
Jane James, Vice President, <i>Half/Sheet</i> Editor	610.304.2694
Jane McGovern, Vice President, Slide Receiver	610.565.6943
Dorothy Flanagan, Corresponding Secretary	610.566.2029
Gail Grams, Recording Secretary	610.993.8799
Dee Casner, Treasurer	610.566.0676
Deena Ball, Site Selection	610.789.1003
Terry Boyle, Publicity	610.681.4467
Don Leong	610.269.7798
Mick McAndrews, Webmaster	610.518.6960
Wendy McClatchy	610.353.1213
Katherine Lofaro Firpo, Education & Outreach	610.667.1033
Siv Spurgeon, Membership	610.544.1829
Annie Strack, Facebook	610.925.2815

<b>PWCS:</b>	general information	215.569.3955
	email	<a href="mailto:pwcsociety@gmail.com">pwcsociety@gmail.com</a>
	web site	<a href="http://pwcsociety.org">pwcsociety.org</a>

**Half/Sheet deadlines:** July 15 for Fall issue, November 15 for Winter issue and March 16 for Spring issue

**Send information to:** Cheryl Schlenker, President  
120 Sycamore Mills Road, Media, PA 19063  
[pwcsociety@gmail.com](mailto:pwcsociety@gmail.com)

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"Biking by the Canal," watercolor by Cheryl Coniglio

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