

# PHS HalfSheet

A Publication of the PHILADELPHIA WATER COLOR SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1900

Cheryl Schlenker, President

Madeleine Kelly, Editor

## President's Message

"I am not young enough to know everything." I saw that quote recently and since I am not young enough to *remember* everything, I promptly forgot who said it. But the words rang true as I think of struggling through the internet and trying to make sense of what it tells me to do. What the next generation takes for granted seems magical. So we are in the midst of trying to improve our online entry process for exhibitions, and the feedback we received recently from several members was invaluable. We hope that we can continue to make online access easier, and we will be using our website to communicate more and more information. Huge thanks are due to Nick Mohler, Mick McAndrews and Annie Strack for being available and being able to help direct us on this journey. We will not stop publishing our newsletter in paper form, but will try to consolidate mailings to save postal costs. Speaking of costs, we have made some exciting changes to our budget this year. The report by Dee Casner, our treasurer, is written elsewhere in the *Half/Sheet*.

This spring we were thrilled to award \$500 scholarships and a year's membership to each of the 6 young students chosen by their faculties at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, the Hussian School of Art, Tyler School of Art, Moore College of Art and Design, the University of the Arts, and the High School of the Creative and Performing Arts. Look for their names inside.

We are trying something new this year. Our annual membership meeting will be held at GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, in Reading, on the same day as our gallery



talk by Richard Ressel and demo by Kass Morin Freeman, September 20th. It will be a short meeting, held between the two events and there will be refreshments. We realize that Reading is a bit of a drive for many of our members; by combining the 3 events, we hope to improve attendance and save driving time.

Our newsletter editor, Joe Grubb, resigned this spring after doing an excellent job on the last *Half/Sheet*. Madeleine Kelly has stepped in to take on this issue, but if anyone would like to volunteer to take on the position permanently, please let me know.

By the way, it was Oscar Wilde who wrote the quote above. I just remembered.

Trying to stay young,

Cheryl Schlenker

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our new  
*Honorary Life*  
*Members*

Herb Appelson  
David Coolidge  
Charles McVicker  
Lucy Graves McVicker  
Lorraine Sierchio  
Marjean Willett

## Wyeth's Inspirations

I opted to take the Kuerner house tour during our Plein air event on May 27th and found myself overjoyed to find I was about to hear how Andrew Wyeth made decisions when painting which reflected his strong feelings for Carl Kuerner and his farm.

Being in the farmhouse helped me visualize the days when farming was hard. Harsh winters made it difficult keeping the house warm. I learned that life on the farm was demanding for Mrs. Kuerner causing her a great deal of stress while raising her children. The kitchen was untouched exposing old wallpaper. A small table sat in the room where Andrew and Carl talked for hours while sipping a hot drink on a cold winter night.

Andrew's sketchbook was in the kitchen. Many pages displayed small drawings of ideas he was rehearsing for his next painting. They were beautiful. The guide showed us how he changed the grounds and hills to fit his paintings. He did not paint exactly what was in his view but took areas of the farm or animals and other things to fit them into the story of his art. It was inspirational. One of his paintings was of Carl Kuerner when he was dying. He lay on a small bed under a cover, exposing only his head and feet. A large hill loomed outside the window over his bed. A piece of furniture near his feet is where, if I remember correctly, Andrew sat watching his best friend. However, Andrew painted his friend covered with ice, not a blanket, and the position of the hill was reversed.

Many of his paintings were done in the same manner, composing images that were the essence of his thoughts and feelings. The knowledgeable tour lady shared many details of Andrew's and Carl's lives which painted a clearer picture for me of Andrew Wyeth's motivations and inspirations.

Jane Mc Govern  
Board Member

## When did YOU join the PWCS?

As some of you have already noticed when reviewing your Profile Page on the PWCS website, your "Member Since" date reads 20 May 2013. That is the date the PWCS database was uploaded to the new website. It does not reflect the date you actually joined.

Although I have managed the membership database off and on since 2005, I don't really have accurate records of when each of you joined. It may be of historical significance to have these records as complete as they can be, and if the correctness of this date matters to you, please let me know the year that you joined and I will update the records manually.

Siv Spurgeon

PWCS Membership Chair

sivspurgeon@comcast.net

### PWCS Membership Categories

#### **Associate Membership**

*Having paid annual dues.*

#### **Signature Membership**

*Having paid dues as an Associate Member and been accepted into **two** annual PWCS International Exhibitions while a member in good standing.*

#### **Honorary Membership**

*Bestowed by the Board on any individual for special service to the PWCS.*

#### **Life Membership**

*Having paid dues for ten years, Members can purchase a Life Membership for \$500.*

#### **Honorary Life Membership**

*Having paid dues for the past ten years and upon attaining age 72, a Signature Member can request Honorary Life Membership.*

# Treasurer's Report

Dear Fellow Members,

As treasurer, I thought I would highlight some of the recent changes to our budget. You may remember that in March of 2014, we researched other options for our investment funds; namely the Endowment fund and our Reserve fund. At that time we moved both of these funds to Vanguard accounts. I am pleased to report they are both doing well. In fact, our Endowment fund is going to provide over \$4,500 in interest to support the 115<sup>th</sup> anniversary show awards. Therefore, **line item #445 Endowment Fund Income is raised to \$4,500.** Thanks to an additional award donation, the principal now stands at \$75,500.

This March, we contacted the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HSP). We met with the Director of Archives, Matt Lyons, who was excited with the nature and condition of our documents. He was impressed with the handwritten minutes from 1900 into the 1950s. HSP will not only store our records in a protective environment, but will also do any restoration that is needed. This allowed us to close the safety deposit box. Therefore we have removed line **item #610 Archives and have saved \$1,000.** (To view the archives you will be able to go online to [www.hsp.org](http://www.hsp.org) once they are cataloged.)

Our mission is *"to serve our members and the advancement of watercolor art and works on paper and to educate the public ..."* In striving to meet that call, we've made the following budget changes.

- We have increased **line Item # 615 Student Awards to \$3,000 from \$1,800.** We now give 6 art student scholarships of \$500 instead of \$350. This year that amount was made possible by a generous anonymous donation.
- We have been privileged to show at West Chester University. As a public education institute, they do not charge a venue fee. But their long time

director John Baker is retiring and they are renaming the gallery "The John Baker Gallery". They have established a fund to maintain and upgrade the gallery. In appreciation for former and future WCU shows, we have committed to donating \$1,000 per year for the next 5 years.

- We also have enjoyed exhibiting at The Community Arts Center in Wallingford and are afforded free meeting space for board meetings. To support the center, we have increased **item #613 to \$2,000 every other year, and \$500 for the years we are not exhibiting there.** We have contracted a partnership to exhibit in the CAC gallery every 2 years beginning in 2017.
- In recognizing our members' continuing support, we felt YOU as members, deserved more! Accordingly, we have raised the amount and number of awards for our Members' Show. **So line item # 701 members' exhibition now stands at \$2,500.**

Being frugal as we go on, we plan to do all snail mailing within the newsletter. Look for your board ballot in this edition. The **Dues Notice** and **any future prospectus** may either be printed within the newsletter or there may be an address to send a SASE, if you prefer not to go online.

I hope you've found this information helpful.

Respectfully, your treasurer,

*Dee Casner*

## Keeping Us Current

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](http://PWCsociety.org) website, clicking on your name in the upper right hand corner to get to your Profile page, and updating your personal information.

**PHILADELPHIA WATER COLOR SOCIETY**  
**HISTORIC SUGARTOWN PLEIN AIR ON CHESTER COUNTY DAY**  
**October 2015**

We are excited to be offering a special opportunity to paint and sell our paintings during historic **CHESTER COUNTY DAY** at Historic Sugartown. We know this opportunity will be a special occasion for us all. **CHESTER COUNTY DAY** is a one-event when about 10,000 people purchase tickets to tour of historic homes and buildings in one section of the county each year. This tour benefits the Chester County Hospital. This year the village of Sugartown will be on the tour and they are opening it up for us to do Plein air painting the day of the tour and have our paintings for sale that day as well.

**Here is the special summer opportunity.....**Sugartown has agreed to allow our members the opportunity to go to Sugartown over the summer and complete one or two Plein air paintings. These paintings as well as any we complete on Chester County Day can be sold Saturday during Chester County Day. Historic Sugartown will set up racks to allow these to be for sale in an indoor viewing area. There will be a \$ 10 charge to participate that goes to support the Historic Sugartown Association and a commission of 25% on any paintings sold.

**Information for painting during the summer.**

1. You can paint from July 1, 2015 to October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 at Historic Sugartown. If you go during the week, the buildings are normally closed, so remember rest room facilities and water are available only on Saturdays.
2. All paintings must be painted on the property during this time period.
3. All participants must be members of the PWCS.
4. An application form must be filled out and the \$10 registration fee paid to participate. This form is attached.

**Plein Air Painting on October 3, 2015**

1. On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, painting can take place all day during Chester County Day until 4:00 pm.
2. All paintings must be painted on the property.
3. All participants must be members of the PWCS.
4. An application form must be filled out and the \$10 registration fee paid to participate. This form is attached.
5. Paintings will be for sale and will require a price tag attached to each painting with name of artist, name of painting, and price. These will be placed upstairs of their Garrett House (the fieldstone building) outfitted as a gallery with lights and hooks .
6. Artists are responsible for hand delivery and pick up of their paintings at Historic Sugartown. All entries must be ready to hang with wire, backing and framed under glass. The artist is responsible for any insurance on his or her work during the show
7. The Historic Sugartown and PWCS reserve the right to photo all art for promotional use.
8. A commission of 25% will be taken by Historic Sugartown.

**INFORMATION ABOUT HISTORIC SUGARTOWN**

Historic Sugartown village is located in Chester County. Here is their description: *Along Sugartown Road in Malvern stands the remarkably intact and lovingly restored, 19th-century village of Sugartown. In the early 1800s, with the American Revolution behind them, Sugartown's early residents established a school, general store, businesses and meeting places, creating a vibrant crossroads that provided goods and services to its surrounding farming community. The village was soon known as Shugart's Town, after tavern keeper Eli Shugart, and served as a vital stop for weary travelers hauling wagonloads of goods to the markets of Philadelphia and other parts of the county. Sugartown remained a social, educational, commercial and municipal center throughout the 1800s.*

*Today, Sugartown offers a window into American life in an early 19th-century rural crossroads village. Through the preservation efforts of Historic Sugartown, Inc., visitors experience how people came together to conduct business, exchange news, and shared their lives as a community*

The parking is free and there is a bathroom.

Here is their web site; <http://www.historicsugartown.org/>. The address is 690 Sugartown Road, Malvern, PA with parking. By **GPS**, enter 273 Boot Road, Malvern, PA- it should bring you right to Historic Sugartown's parking lot.

**SEE NEXT PAGE FOR FORMS**

## PHILADELPHIA WATER COLOR SOCIETY

### 2015 CHESTER COUNTY DAY PLEIN AIR HISTORIC SUGARTOWN, MALVERN, PA

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### Painting #1

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Price \_\_\_\_\_ Artist's name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Painting #2

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Price \_\_\_\_\_ Artist's name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Bees Knees

One of the things I remember about our outing at Keurner's Farm, other than the painterly opportunities just everywhere, were the birds and the bees. While staring at an open "tractor garage" I became aware of a large bee buzzing continuously around the front, then lifting up over the roof and back down again. What's he doing up there, I wondered.

I had to get back to my painting. Setting up my chair, I was determined to catch the juxtaposition of a hard metal cylinder resting behind wispy strands of sun-struck weeds. They radiated against the metal. The bee again. It was difficult to focus on my drawing as my eyes kept watching this busy bee who just wouldn't settle anywhere. Aha! Another slightly smaller bee arrived and, yes, they were doing a dance on the same path. This kept up for quite a while. It looked like they would bump into each other, then part, then bump...like a dance. I grabbed my camera and tried to catch a shot of at least one of the bees. Picture above. Can you see him/her? Of course I realized what was going on...It's Spring!



Wonder how many little bees there will be.

Jane Mc Govern

# The 115<sup>th</sup> PWCS Anniversary International Exhibition of Works on Paper

By the time you read this, you will already know the list of artists that were selected to be a part of this exhibition. From approximately 350 images, our juror of selection, Elaine Daily-Birnbaum had the difficult responsibility to choose 100 that make up our exhibit at the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, in Reading, PA. ([www.goggleworks.org](http://www.goggleworks.org))

Entries from India, Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan added to the great diversity of works submitted to the exhibition. From those chosen, Jeanne Dobie had the honor to award over \$6,500 in prizes. Congratulations to all of our award winners, and to all those who were selected to be in the exhibition. I also feel that everyone who entered deserves congratulations for following through on a path that is demanding and precipitous. There is a bit of luck involved, we all realize, and many worthy paintings do not always get selected.

We have had much generosity this year in our donations towards awards and towards the catalog. Dorothy Nofer once again contributed generously to her endowment in her husband, Frank's name. Gerry Lenfest made our catalog possible by a very supportive donation. Many members helped out with donations when they paid their dues. The catalogs should be ready by the annual Members' Meeting to be held on September 20, sandwiched between the gallery talk by Richard Ressel at noon and the watercolor demonstration at 2pm by Kass Morin Freeman. Our awards reception will be held at the end of the show, on October 25, when artists will be able to pick up their works. Every member and every person who entered will receive a catalog in the mail, of course.

As I write this, I have had a chance to see the entries, and I am dying to see which ones will get in and which ones will win awards. And I can't believe I have the chance to meet some of these amazing artists when they deliver their works. Donald Leong and Terry Boyle deserve a lot of credit for handling all the details and work that a show of this stature entails. Please consider volunteering to help in any way, we always have a great and inspiring time.

Hope to see you at the show!

Cheryl Schlenker



Photo by Dee Casner

Don Leong at the Kuerner's Farm Paint Out

## Congratulations!

to our

**6 student scholarship winners!**

***Philadelphia High School for the Creative and  
Performing Arts:***

Laura M. Rivera-Calderon

***The Hussian School of Art:***

Heather Berry

***Moore College of Art & Design:***

Davinica Nemztow

***Tyler School of Art:***

Max Vesuvius Budnik

***The University of the Arts:***

Ji Su Kim

***Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts:***

Bennett Shipman

These fine students received \$500 scholarships as well as a free year's membership and entry to PWCS exhibitions for one year. They were selected by their faculties for excellence in creating works on paper. We were able to raise the scholarships this year from last year's \$300 because of a generous anonymous donation. The PWCS Board of Directors voted to continue these awards at this level throughout the coming years. *Thank you to Kathy Firpo for spearheading these endeavors.*



## Candidates

**Deena S. Ball (Vice President):** teaches children and adults at many schools and art centers in the Philadelphia area. Deena received her BA from Colby College, and continued her studies at PAFA and Tyler school of Art. She is a signature member of the PWCS, BWS, PWS and a state juried member of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen. She has been a juror and served on educational committees. Locally, her work can be found at Hardcastle Gallery, Artist's House Gallery and Station Gallery. Deena's watercolor paintings have been included in Splash 12 and 13 and her work was in a featured article in Watercolor Magazine.

**Jane McGovern: (Vice President):** Jane is a resident of Elwyn, PA. A signature member of PWCS, she has been a member of the Board since 2006. She has been in charge of slides and digital image submission for our Annual Exhibitions for the last 7 years, and volunteers her time for many of our activities. She co-chaired the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibit. She works primarily in watercolor and has won many awards for her work.

**Dee Casner (Treasurer):** Dee is a resident of Elwyn, PA. She had served the past 6 years as our treasurer. She is a member of the Community Arts Center and Delaware Valley Art League, where she served as president from 2004 through 2008. She works in pastel, acrylics and watercolor, and is hoping for her 2<sup>nd</sup> acceptance into a PWCS Anniversary Exhibition.

**Madeleine Kelly (Corresponding Secretary):** An artist and educator, Madeleine Kelly has judged numerous exhibitions. Her favorite artist quote, "Creativity is piercing the **mundane** to find the **marvelous**." - Bill Moyers. Her paintings have been selected for various national & international juried exhibitions. Recipient of numerous awards, she is also a signature member of the Philadelphia Water Color Society and Maryland Pastel Society. She has been published in magazines and newspapers including a *Philadelphia Inquirer* feature and an *American Artist Magazine* feature. Her artwork can be seen gracing the set of the recently released feature indie film "The Suspect"



## PHILADELPHIA WATER COLOR SOCIETY

### The Nominating Committee recommends the following Slate of Officers and Board Members for 2015 - 2016

(Write-in nominations also accepted)

Vote "yes" or "no":

Vote for One (2 year term)	Treasurer	Dee Casner Other: _____	_____
Vote for Two (1 year term)	Vice Presidents	Deena Ball Jane McGovern Other: _____	_____
Vote for One (3 year term)	Board Member Corresponding Secretary	Madeleine Kelly Other: _____	_____

**To Vote:** Please mark your ballot and bring it to the Annual Membership Meeting, on Sunday, 9/20/15 or mail your ballot by September 13, 2015.

**Mail Ballot to:** Cheryl Schlenker  
120 Sycamore Mills Rd.  
Media, PA 19063

**Your Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Officers and directors who remain on the board to complete their terms: Cheryl Schlenker, Kathy Firpo, Wendy McClatchy, Terry Boyle, Mick McAndrews, Annie Strack, Donald Leong, Mimi Barclay Johnson

The Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, September 20, 2015 at 1PM

GoggleWorks Center for the Arts

201 Washington Street, Reading, PA 19601, Tel: 610-374-4600

[www.goggleworks.org](http://www.goggleworks.org) for directions

Gallery Talk by Richard Ressel will be held at 12 noon,  
and Demonstration by Kass Morin Freeman will be held right after the members' meeting.

# Calendar

## 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary International Exhibition of Works on Paper

### *GoggleWorks Center for the Arts*

Saturday, Sept. 5 through Sunday, Oct. 25

- **Shipped works due:** Aug. 24-28
- **Hand delivered works due:** Mon., Aug. 31,  
11am-4pm.

September 20, 2015, 12 noon - 4 PM  
- **Gallery Talk** with Richard Ressel, NWS  
- **Short General Meeting**  
- **Watercolor Demonstration** with  
Kass Morin Freeman AWS, NWS  
*Refreshments will be served.*

- **Awards Reception:** Sun., Oct. 25, 1 - 3pm
- **Pick up of works** (after awards reception):  
Sun., Oct. 25, 3pm  
and  
Mon., Oct. 26, 11am - 4pm
- **Return Shipping begins:** Tues., October 27th

## Philadelphia Water Color Society Board of Directors

Cheryl Schlenker, President	610-891-1840
Donald Leong, Vice President	484-593-0163
Annie Strack, VP & Social Media	610-925-2815
Mimi Barclay Johnson, Recording Sec.	610-525-1443
Jane McGovern, Images Receiver	610-565-6943
Madeleine Kelly, Corresponding Sec. (pending )	610-662-5626
Dee Casner, Treasurer	610-566-0676
Mick McAndrews, Webmaster	610-518-6960
Terry Boyle, Publicity	484-681-4467
Wendy McClatchy	610-353-1213
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Please email relevant information to Madeleine Kelly at [PWCSociety@gmail.com](mailto:PWCSociety@gmail.com),  
please put NEWSLETTER in the subject line. Submissions are accepted and/or edited at the discretion of the editor.