

March 2017



President's Message



You might think "oh, just another Monet book." But this one is special. It's Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies by Ross King, historian and writer. Google it or check it out at Amazon, where you can read a short excerpt and even reviews.

What did I learn from the book? As a painter myself, the importance of places, both where they're painted and where they eventually are to hang; and about this artist; how he painted; what, and *how*, he saw; and how essential it was for him to paint "en plein air." (He did not just 'make up' his water lilies, he grew them to paint them!)

History of places: Monet was determined to have a permanent exhibition of "some" of his huge water lily paintings. It had to be a large

circular space where you would be immersed in a water lily world. The book is partly about his scheming to get such a space, which turned out to be the Orangerie in Paris, large enough, but poorly lit then, and consequently under-appreciated when they were unveiled. It talks about how Monet created his pond at his house at Giverny by playing local politics, and the immense studio he had built to finish and hold his enormous works.

How Monet painted: Monet was a "super star" painter by then and liked to sell his paintings for big prices. He was a stickler for painting "plein air", and went out to his pond with its water lilies in all kinds of weather. His daughter took care of him and assisted him getting to the pond. She took all his stretched canvases (several at a time) on a cart and watched quietly as Monet painted, switching canvases as the light changed, some of them studies for much larger finished pieces.

Monet, the temperament: He would have temper tantrums, stab and tear up paintings of water lilies he had been working on and could be in a "funk" for days. He also produced many water lily paintings that are masterpieces – as we all know! Clemenceau, the French Prime Minister, was one of the few who could "tame" him, and really made possible the realization of his ultimate masterpiece at the Orangerie.

What Monet sees: The book talks about that in some depth (eye problems plagued him as he neared completion of the great work). He "sees" the lilies in his way, his interpretation of the lilies growing and floating on the pond, as well as the depths of the pond itself. Seeing the paintings in person, in the Orangerie, now remodeled, its skylights flooding the water lilies with changing natural light, is worth the trip to France.

Officers for 2016/2017

George Wittenberg	President
Annette Garner	President-Elect
Cheryl Hall	Treasure
Sue Buford	Secretary

Meetings are held at the

**ARKANSAS ARTS CENTER
9th & Commerce / MacArthur Park
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203**

Use the south entrance

**Meetings start at 7 pm but come early for
the social hour with cookies and drink.**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 2017

- 15 5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member Meeting –
Michael Holter demo
15-18 Michael Holter workshop

April 2017

- 16 Last day of 46h Annual Exhibit
17 10-3 pick up paintings from AAC
(shipped paintings returned by AAC)
19 5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member meeting
Richard Stephens Demonstration

May 2017

- May 17 5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member Meeting

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

MSW workshop policy is to offer two 3-4 day workshops each year using non-member instructors.

These workshops are lined up for the future.

Make your plans now.

March 2017	Michael Holter
October 2017	Kathleen Conover
March 2018	Iain Stewart
October 2018	Lori Goldstein Warren
Spring 2019	Michael Bailey

If you have any suggestions for future workshops, please contact Paula Kalina at ptkalina@hotmail.com

WAYS TO BE IN TOUCH

WEBSITE:

www.midsouthernwatercolorists.com

On the website you can find the latest VIEWS, information about workshops and exhibitions, and see galleries of past exhibition paintings by members.

GOOGLE GROUP: With membership you will receive announcements, information and the newsletter via this group. If you are NOT receiving it in your email, either check your spam folder or contact Marlene Gremillion to ensure she has your correct email information.

FACEBOOK: We are on Facebook, just go and “like” us!!!

DIRECTORY: Be sure that MSW has your correct information. Contact Marianne Hampton if you have had any changes.

NEWSLETTER: Our newsletters are available online through our website and received through the GoogleGroup system. If you wish to receive a printed copy, contact sandymarson44@comcast.net

REGIONAL ADVISORS: We have several members from throughout the state and neighboring states that work with MSW. See list included here.

Sarah Merkle- El Dorado includes Union, Ashley, Chicot, Drew, Bradley, Calhoun & Northwest Louis.

Linda Larey- Texarkana, TX includes Columbia, Ouachita, Sevier, Miller, Little River, Lafayette, Hempstead, Nevada

Mary Ann Stafford includes Pulaski

Judy Coffey-Houston, TX, advisor at large

Charlotte Rierson - Fairfield Bay includes Cleburne, Van Buren and Stone

Janis Gill Ward - Fayetteville includes Washington, Benton, Carroll, Madison

Kay Aclin -Ft. Smith includes Crawford, Sebastian, Franklin, Logan, Johnson

Gloria Garrison- Russellville includes Pope, Newton, Yell, Scott

Sheila Parsons- Conway includes Perry, Conway, Faulkner

Sandy Barksdale - Cotter includes Boone, Marion, Baxter, Fulton, & Southern Missouri

Sue Coon- Mt. View includes Searcy Izard, Stone Sharp, Lawrence, Independence, Jackson

Sally Papich - Jonesboro includes Randolph, Clay, Greene, Poinsett, Craighead, Mississippi, Crittenden

New Members

Cynthia (Cyndi) M. Kudryk #1659

David Belling #1660

Debbie Farnam #1661

Randy Globus #1662

Nancy Harkins #1663

Sara Kahn #1664

Rosienid Pere #1665

Tana Smith #1667

Rita K. Friend

Returning Members

Carol C. Roberts #784 (1666?)

Cheryl Kellar, Artist www.cherylkellar.com

March 4, I'm in an exhibit at the Arkansas Artists Retreat in Bella Vista. Spring Cleaning: Freshen Up Your Home with Fine Art 6-8 pm.

March 31 and April 1, Arkansas Made Arkansas Proud, Locally Made Market at War Memorial Stadium, open until 3 on April 1.



When I judge art, I take my painting and put it next to a God made object like a tree or flower. If it Clashes, it is not art." Marc Chagall

TOWNSEND WOLFE

We respectfully announce with sincere condolences to his family and to the cultural world of Arkansas, that Townsend Wolfe, former Director of the Arkansas Arts Center, died recently. Along with many of his other brilliant accomplishments, he was instrumental in encouraging and promoting the newly-formed Mid-Southern Watercolorists in 1970 and had a lasting impact upon our organization.

Townsend Wolfe and MSW founder Doris Mapes made it possible for MSW to exhibit at the AAC in the beginning. Had it not been for both of them it would have never happened and we'd have been stuck in a bank, a mall, or some other small venue. Although the board at the AAC wanted to remove MSW from exhibiting at the AAC several times, both Townsend and Doris convinced them differently. Once Doris asked Reita Miller to represent MSW and speak to the AAC executive board to let them know we did more than exhibit at the AAC, but also contributed many thousands of dollars in artwork to the fundraiser Tabriz, donated our Best of Show painting to the AAC Foundation, volunteered hours at the then volunteer restaurant the Vineyard, taught classes at the Museum School, plus numerous other ways that we supported the AAC as a group and as individuals. They agreed for us to keep exhibiting at that time. Later, when a new director was named after Townsend retired, we were "let go". The late Fran Otten was the person who heard that news first as she was exhibition co-chair that year. She called Doris, and then Doris called Reita, who talked with the AAC new director, and the compromise was that MSW was to exhibit at the Decorative Arts Museum and have our meetings at the AAC.

Reita worked for CALS (Library) Butler Center at that time and that's when we started rotating the exhibit between the CALS Butler Center, the Historic Art Museum, and then the Decorative Arts Museum.

For the past three years, with Arkansas Arts Center director Todd Herman at the helm, we have been privileged to hold our Annual Juried Exhibition at the AR Arts Center once again. We don't know what venue we will secure for the next few years, but have a rotation plan in place by the Board. Hopefully, if conditions allow, we will return to the AAC for future exhibitions.

Frances Otten of Little Rock, AR, passed away January 13, 2017. Fran was an accomplished artist with a specialty in watercolors. She was a past president of Mid-Southern Watercolorists as well as the Arkansas League of Artists. She had several exhibits and won many awards for her work.

Please participate in the MSW auction at each regular meeting. The books are donated by Anne Lyon. This donation adds to the Annual Awards Program.

THE MICHAEL HOLTER WORKSHOP IS FULL. CONTACT PAULA IF YOU WANT TO BE ON THE WAITING LIST. Come to the March 15th MSW meeting to see Michael in action.

<p>"An artist is not paid for his labour but for his vision." James MacNeill Whistler</p>
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Lyn Whaley, Chair of the 47th Annual Juried Exhibition

February 10, 2017 – April 16, 2017

Organized by the Mid-Southern Watercolorists

The beautiful visions of the Mid-Southern Watercolorists return to the Arts Center as spring returns. This exhibition marks the third year of a three-year relationship between this outstanding regional arts organization and the Arkansas Arts Center.

In 2020 the Mid-Southern Watercolorists will celebrate fifty years of creations from the hearts and imaginations of watercolor painters of the mid-south. Their works are widely exhibited in regional and national venues and treasured in individual collections. Each year their finest offerings are brought together in this juried exhibition.

Now in its 47th year, the Annual Juried Exhibition received 137 entries from 72 artists. The guest juror of this year's exhibition is American impressionist, Michael Holter. Mr. Holter is a signature member of The National Watercolor Society, the Southwestern Watercolor Society and the Society of

Watercolor artists. His highly recognized work has received numerous awards and can be found in private and corporate collections in the US and several foreign countries.

MSW President, George Wittenberg, says, "The annual exhibition at the Arkansas Art Center is Mid-Southern Watercolor's premier event. It continues to elevate watercolor as a painting medium, which is a goal of the organization. The MSW membership and painters from all over the world enter their paintings in hopes the judge will select theirs for many reasons, not the least of which is so it can hang on the wall of the Arkansas Arts Center. Many MSW members' paintings have been selected by the Arkansas Art Center's Foundation for their collection. It is an honor!"

Awards MSW 47th Juried Exhibition

MSW Gold Award - Susan Gibson

MSW Silver Award – Carrie Waller

MSW Bronze Award – Richard Stephens

MSW Presidents – Sara Kahn

Austin Wiggins Memorial Award– David Belling

Ark. League of Artists - Mary Ann Stafford

Carolyn Baker Award – Judy Coffey

Kaucher 1st Timer Award – Gary Simmons

Doris Mapes Memorial - Luanne Stone

Lyda Merkle Memorial Award – Charlotte Rierson

Arkansas Materials Award - Donna Munn

Cheap Joe's Materials Award – Jacquelyn Kaucher

BLICK Materials Award – Nancy Harkins



Susan Gibson "RAINBOW" MSW GOLD AWARD



George Wittenberg



Carrie Waller "Afternoon Tea" Silver Award



**Gary Alexander and Gary Weeter
New Diamond Signature Members
Louanne Stone, New Signature Member**



**Richard Stephens "Railroad Trestle"
MSW BRONZE AWARD**



Mary Ann Stafford



The crowd.



Louanne Stone "Grandma's Silver"



Alexander "Swilley Barn"



**Jacquelyn Kaucher "Paper Whites"
Cheap Joe's Art Stuff Award**



**Sara Johnson and Mary Ann Garnett admiring
Charlotte Rierson's award winning painting.**

**A big thanks to all that made this show
possible. Visit the show and pick up a catalog.**



Selma Blackburn "Pondering"

Charlotte Rierson, Coordinator of the North Central Arkansas Art Gallery invites you to exhibit your artwork. The gallery is located in the Conference Center, Fairfield Bay. April 3 is Deadline to send application form. You may submit up to 5 pieces of artwork. The day to bring your art is April 18 (Tues.). 10:00 am.

A selection committee will decide on the work to be exhibited. Each month an artist is featured with press coverage. Members who have been on the front page of our local paper are the following: Annette Garner, Susann Waggoner, Mary Ann Stafford, Sandra Marson, Judith Beale, and Charlotte Rierson. Next month Joyce Hartmann will be featured. Contact Charlotte – chardon@artelco.com for forms.



January Featured Artist Annette Garner

“The seed of your next art work lies embedded in the imperfections of you current piece. Such imperfections (or mistakes, if you’re feeling particularly depressed about them today) are your guides- valuable, reliable, objective, non-judgmental guides – to matters you need to reconsider or develop further.” David Bayles and Ted Orland, “Art and Fear”