



President's Message

"...Forget *perfection*,
there is a crack in everything,
that's how the light gets in."
--adapted from "The Light," by Leonard Cohen

Strange as it may seem, I didn't set out to be on the Board of MSW. I only joined to paint watercolors and become a better artist. I was hoping to just stay in the "shadows." So, you see, I am just like every one of you. I didn't and don't have gobs of extra time to do things for MSW. Just like you, I have family that needs me, I have pets that need me, I like to do things with my friends, I help out at my church...and, moreover, inside: I JUST WANT TO PAINT. It's an insatiable desire that is a part of me.

Still, MSW only exists because of its volunteers. Volunteers like you. MSW will not magically continue without help from members, like you.

In the next few weeks, our Nominations Committee (Reita, Marlene, and Selma) will be looking around for new volunteers to help this

organization continue with new Board members. And, our President-Elect, George Wittenberg, will be looking for volunteers to help with Membership, Exhibitions, Directory, and all the other things that we members take for granted will happen in the future. If they call on you, I hope you will seriously consider helping this organization. If they don't call on you, please call on them or me or any Board member, and let us know you want to help volunteer.

None of us have the perfect solution, we just do the best that we can with the talents and time that we have been given.

I hope you will consider devoting some of your time and talents in the coming year *to help keep MSW alive for generations to come!*

Jeannie Fry
President, Mid-Southern Watercolorists

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

February 2016

- 12 MSW exhibit opens at Ark. Arts Center
- 17 ***No Board Meeting**
***No Member Meeting**
- 19 **46th Annual MSW juried exhibit reception and awards presentation!! 6PM-8PM**

March 2016

- 16 5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member Mtg – Burr ridge Demo
- 17-19 9:00 – 4:00 Robert Burr ridge workshop

April 2016

- 17 Last day of 46h Annual Exhibit
- 18 10-3 pick up paintings from AAC
(shipped paintings returned by AAC)
- 20 5:30 Board Meeting
7:00 Member meeting

Important: *Your* MSW organization needs your help! Many people over the years have continued to support this group in their deeds, but they are growing weary. In order for this organization to survive and continue we need **you** to help by volunteering to be on the board this upcoming year in several necessary positions. **PLEASE** consider being involved and contact either Jeannie Fry or George Wittenberg to indicate how you can help! **Thank you!**

DID YOU KNOW ... if you hover over a picture on our website, you can pin it to a folder on your Pinterest account?

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 2016	Robert Burridge
October 2016	Frank Francese
March 2017	Michael Holter
October 2017	Kathleen Conover

If you have any suggestions for future workshops, please send the names to Paula Kalina at ptkalina@hotmail.com

ARE YOU DISAPPOINTED there aren't more pictures in this issue? I am too. Please send me your news, photos of your paintings, a description of why you painted it, etc., so we can keep our Views colorful and interesting. Cheryl@cherylkellar.com

ARCHIVES



(Photo from UCA online page)

The UCA curator has told Suzann there is a 20 year gap (1989 to 2009) for news of MSW. Search out your closets!

MEMBER NEWS

Oh, no! Look how empty this slot is. I'm sure there is news to share, but no one has sent me anything this month. Let's rectify this. Send your news to Cheryl Kellar before March 1 in order to be featured in our next newsletter. And keep the notices coming!!

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OF INTEREST TO PLEIN AIR ARTISTS

Here is your Plein Air on the White River, May 4-7, 2016 event registration form. **Early registration is encouraged.** It makes check in so much easier and quicker. We will once again be associated with the Cotter Trout Festival and our head quarters will be at the Cotter VFW.

Our Judge is David Tripp from Dallas, Texas.

Schedule of events will follow as soon as all confirmed.

Looking forward to seeing you in May. Bring a friend and introduce them to the joy of plein air painting on the White River.

FOR SALE

Doris Mapes's drafting table



The adjustable board is 24 by 36. The base is 27 by 27. Price is \$50. Contact Jeannie Fry if interested.

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.

WHY DID YOU PAINT THAT?



Big Island Palms was among the first watercolor paintings that I completed during a class I took at the Arkansas Arts Center. Jacqui Kaucher encouraged me to enroll in her Water Media class following an introductory class she taught through the Arkansas Extended Learning Center in 2007.

I had returned from a trip to visit my brother, who was a building contractor remodeling a Coach Leather Store on the Big Island of Hawaii. While there I spent many hours taking photographs around the island. When I returned to Arkansas, I wanted to paint something that would remind me of that special visit. Jacqui gently encouraged me along the journey. Her subtle suggestions allowed me to be creative, but coached me technically to explore colors not present in the original photograph. I have since taken several other AAC classes and workshops by noted artists from around the United States, but I have always returned to Jacqui's Water Media class for instruction and inspiration. - Bryan Kellar

SO why did you paint that?

I would love to hear from you, our members. Send me a painting you have done recently – or long ago – and tell us **why** you painted what you did. I think it's a great exercise, one that helps us go deeper into what makes our work unique and special, and wouldn't you love to know a little more about our fellow artists' motivation?

Cheryl@cherylkellar.com

Regional Advisors for 2015/2016

Charlotte Rierson - Fairfield Bay includes Cleburne, Van Buren

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

Bill Branch - Helena/Memphis, Tenn. includes Lee, Phillips, Monroe, Arkansas

John Keller- Searcy includes White, Woodruff, Prairie, Lonoke, St. Francis, Cross

Inis Ray -Pine Bluff includes Jefferson, Cleveland, Grant, Dallas, Lincoln

Richard Stephens-Hot Springs includes Hot Springs, Saline, Garland, Clark, Pike, Montgomery Howard, Polk

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

Officers for 2015/2016

Jeannie Fry	President
George Wittenberg	President-Elect
Cheryl Hall	Treasure
Selma Blackburn	Secretary

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.

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

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

DIRECTORY: The 2014/2015 issue is now out. 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 Cheryl Kellar. Cheryl also welcomes your ideas, pictures and information for the monthly newsletter. Send to Cheryl@cherylkellar.com

Mid-Southern Watercolorists, Inc.
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RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED



VIEWS

February 2016