

The SCENE is the monthly newsletter of the Southwestern Watercolor Society.

***<http://www.swswatercolor.org>***

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 7:00 - 9:00 pm.

Lovers Lane Methodist Church, Ashbury Hall, 9200 Inwood Road,  
Dallas, Texas (northeast corner of Northwest Highway and Inwood Road.)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Dalynn Montgomery, SWS President



Dear SWS Friends,

I hope you are enjoying the spring. I thoroughly enjoyed the Spring Paint-out with several of our friends who made the trip out to Wills Point and Edgewood. I thought the Heritage Park on Saturday was especially wonderful. We had the whole place to ourselves, the weather was absolutely perfect and there was plenty of subject matter to choose from! I spent the whole day in one spot which is a rarity for me. All went well except the DaVinci cobalt turquoise in my brand new travel palette escaped and ran out into many of my better-behaved Daniel Smith paints.

This month there is lots going on for SWS! I was excited to see the 90 paintings accepted into the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies exhibition when a group of us helped with the framing last week. For our new members: WFWS is an organization of 10 watercolor organizations west of the Mississippi. Each of the 10 organizations takes turns hosting the annual exhibi-

tion and this year it is OUR turn. We have planned a wonderful reception for Saturday, May 6th in Grapevine at the Tower Gallery on Main Street. This awards ceremony will be from 5-7 pm. Please plan to visit the exhibition and tell your family and friends about it!! Evite everyone to see the show which will be open through the month of May. After seeing the art in person, I can assure you that there are many exquisite pieces in the show.

At the May membership meeting we will celebrate the end of the 2022-2023 year with a pizza party and a presentation by Michael Holter discussing varnishing watercolor paintings. The May meeting will be our last meeting before our summer break. Over the summer the SWS board and exhibition team will be hard at work planning and preparing for our membership exhibition in September. Please go to the website: [www.swswatercolor.org](http://www.swswatercolor.org), sign in as a member to go to the "Members Only" menu and sign up for volunteer positions to help make our exhibition a success. We need your help and there are a variety of tasks to suit your talents and schedule.

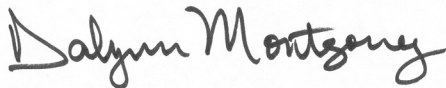
I hope you have been busy painting and preparing to enter this year's membership exhibition. You can find information about the prospectus here in the newsletter and on the website. Please don't let your inner critic keep you from entering the annual exhibition. There is accomplishment in 'trying' even if you don't get into the show!

All of our event sign-ups will be online via the website. Our volunteers will continue to help our members who aren't computer savvy or who don't have access to a computer or the ability to pay online. It is my intention to have a computer station at the members meetings to help anyone who would like assistance. Members can also call to ask for help if they cannot come to the meetings but still need help.

Our hospitality committee would appreciate having members sign-up on the new SWS website to bring cookies and treats to our meetings when they start back up in September. Those cookies don't bring themselves and most of us look forward to that little treat during our breaks at the meetings. I think even our guest artists enjoy them, so let's make sure we have some onhand. To sign up: Go to the website> Log In as a member>go to the "Members Only" menu> Volunteering and scroll to the bottom to find the cookie sign up.

I want to thank all of you for making SWS the fine arts organization that it is. I know we are all so thankful to Naomi Brotherton and others for founding SWS 60 years ago! Speaking of Naomi, we all wish Naomi a wonderful 103! Naomi celebrated her birthday in April.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events and exhibitions and SWS outings.



Dalynn Montgomery  
President, Southwestern Watercolor Society

## ARTIST'S SPOTLIGHT

### Beth Boyer Menking

In 1989, Beth Menking and her father took a watercolor workshop taught by SWS member Jane Jones. It was Beth's first real introduction to watercolor. She says she has learned a lot from Jane, but the demands of family meant that she could only make art sporadically until recent years. She loves all media, but the challenge of watercolor is especially appealing to her.

Beth tends to paint landscapes, seascapes and non-objective abstractions that express the spirit of nature, although she paints other subjects as well. Scenery



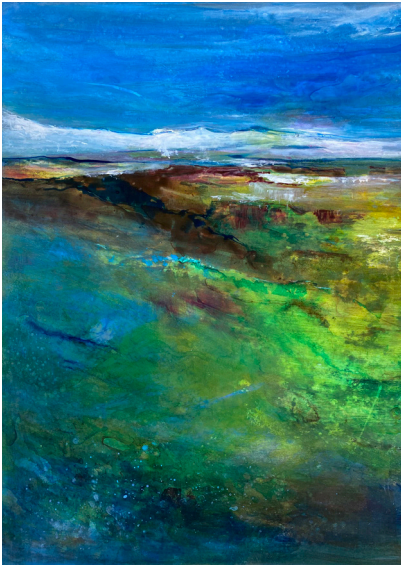
attracts her because it is ever changing and when her paintings work, she is able to share God's beauty with others. She wants to interpret her vision of nature's serenity or awesomeness and convey her feelings of wonder. Her paintings can be inspired by the view out her window or an old photo, but her paintings are based on memories or reactions rather than faithfully depicting the details of the subject matter.



Beth's five children and fourteen grandchildren have always been the primary focus of her life, but now she has more time and can paint more often. With her active family she has had to be very adaptable and so it is no surprise that she is just as flexible in the way she paints. She doesn't spend a lot of time planning the paintings; she is very intuitive. She says her process is organic rather than linear and she often doesn't know what she will paint until she is in the studio and starts to work. She may have a vague idea of where she is headed, but sometimes a painting that







started out as a landscape can evolve into a seascape. She confesses that she is not a great planner, so she credits the Creator for her results.

Painting provides a way for Beth to learn about herself. In life, she's had to balance many different priorities, so flexibility has been a great asset. Her artwork too can look disordered in the early stages, but during the process she begins to add structure to bring it all together. Lately she has noticed that when a painting doesn't seem quite finished, she may begin to do some doodling on top and that becomes an additional element that provides structure and interest. She has always loved to draw, and the incorporation of

more line may be an intuitive reflection of who she is. She believes that drawing is a critical skill for her, and she strives to do some drawing every day.



Beth's design sense is also intuitive, but she credits Jane Jones for helping her enhance her understanding. She starts a painting by determining her basic shapes and colors and dividing the picture space into three unequal sections. Each of those pieces needs to be able to flow into the other. Then other parts of the structure become apparent as she works. She continually checks throughout to make sure that strong elements and principles of design are being incorporated.

In 2017 Beth decided to enter the Southwestern Watercolor Society exhibition with a painting she had done quickly a week before the deadline. It had little pre-planning and was one of the fastest paintings she had ever done, not only was it accepted, but it also received an award. She went on to have paintings accepted four more times in the next five years and earned her SWS signature. She also won an award in the Visual Art Society of Texas show with a small square seascape that features a colorful sunset and was also quickly completed. These experiences taught her not to think too much. For her, overthinking can ruin the painting.



Beth says that she has enjoyed being a mother and grandmother and it taught her to take life one day at a time. She knows that extensive planning is essential for other painters, but that is not the way she works best. Her paintings are about her questions, not about answers, so she does better letting them unfold naturally. Her search for a unique style is ongoing, but she feels confident that she is making progress. She has sold some paintings and taken on some commissions, particularly abstractions, and will continue to enter exhibitions. She doesn't compare herself with others, she just wants to see where painting will lead her and to find out where she fits in the art world.



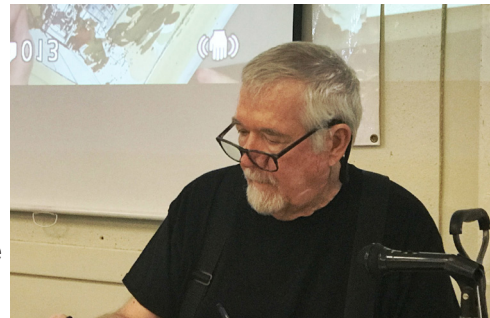
# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Bill Dale's Fast and Loose Portraits One-Day Class

On Saturday, May 20 from 9:30 to 4:00 pm, Bill Dale will be giving a one-day class about creating "Fast and Loose Portraits."



This workshop will give participants insight into his approach to painting portraits with watercolor. Painting from one of Bill's reference photos or one of their own, students will receive step by step instruction and a lot of individual attention. In addition to watercolor technique, Bill will be teaching the basic proportions of the head and the planes of the face (although students can also trace their photo onto watercolor paper).



In addition, Bill Dale will share the many watercolor tips and tricks that he has picked up over the years. This class is not to be missed. There is only room for 16 students. To find out more or register, go [here](#).

## Fall Workshop Seats Going Fast

Registration for the Fall line-up for workshops was opened at the March meeting and spaces are filling fast. Check out these great opportunities and sign up today.



### September

AWS signature member [Stan Miller](#) will be giving a three day workshop called "Painting the Portrait and Landscape in Watercolor," as well as doing a demonstration at the membership meeting and judging the annual exhibition. The workshop will be from September 12 to 14 and registration is open now. To find out more or register, go to the [SWS Workshops page](#).

### October

[Laurie Goldstein-Warren](#) will be describing her approach to "Dynamic Pouring" at the membership meeting and she will provide instruction to students in her three day SWS workshop from October 10 to 12. To find out more, or to register, go to the [SWS Workshops page](#).

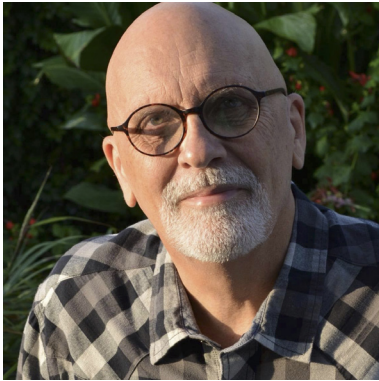


### November

The featured artist in November will be [Sarah Yeoman](#) who will be helping Dallasites to understand The Light of Watercolor in a three day workshop and in her demonstration in November. The workshop will be from November 14 to 16. To find out more, or to register, go to the [SWS Workshops page](#).



## May Membership Meeting/Celebration- May 9, 7:00 pm



To celebrate the end of the 2022/2023 membership year, SWS will have a very special meeting in May. To begin the meeting, SWS will provide free pizza and desserts and people will have time to socialize with other watercolor lovers. Whether you are a long time member or this is your first meeting, this is a time to get to know other SWS enthusiasts.

After that, Michael Holter will describe how to varnish watercolor paintings. This method of protecting works on paper is becoming more widely accepted in watercolor exhibitions and SWS will be accepting varnished paintings for the first time in 2023. He plans to explain the how and why to varnish paintings rather than framing under glass.

Traditionally, watercolor paintings on paper are matted and are behind glass in order to protect them but that makes the paintings heavy, fragile, and the surface is reflective. Plexiglass, which is even more expensive than glass will not break but scratches easily and there is still a glare. Varnishing is beginning to be an acceptable alternative.

There will be no Painting-of-the-Month competition at the May meeting.

The 2023/2024 membership year begins in June. **There will be no meeting in June, July, or August.**

## Western Federation Exhibition to Open May 6

The Southwestern Watercolor Society will be presenting the opening reception for the 48th annual Western Federation of Watercolor Societies annual exhibition on May 6, 2023 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. SWS is the host and one of the ten western watercolor societies that comprise the Western Federation. Members of WFWS include Arizona Watercolor Association (AWA), Colorado Watercolor Society (CWS), Idaho Watercolor Society (IWS), New Mexico Watercolor Society (NMWS), San Diego Watercolor Society (SDWS), Southern Arizona Watercolor Guild (SAWG), Southwestern Watercolor Society (SWS), Utah Watercolor Society (UWS), Watercolor Society of Oregon (WSO), and West Texas Watercolor Society (WTWS). This year the exhibition is juried and judged for awards by the internationally known artist, Mary Whyte. ([www.marywhyte.com](http://www.marywhyte.com)). Everyone is welcome to the opening reception and to see the exhibiton.



The WFWS Exhibition will run from May 7 - June 2, 2023. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 5:00 pm, Saturdays from 12:00 to 6:00 pm, and the gallery is closed on Sundays. The Grapevine Glockenspiel Clock Tower Art Gallery is located at 636 S Main in Grapevine, Texas 76051.



# Membership Show Slide Preview To Be Held In July

SWS Call for Entries for the 60th annual membership exhibition opens May 1st. Entries will be accepted until June 30th. The preview slide show will be on Saturday, July 8, 2023, 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library at 1515 Young Street, Dallas, TX 75201. This is a secure location with free parking under the library in the basement.

The Preview Slide Show is an opportunity for anyone interested in seeing all the images that were submitted to the juror. The slide show is the only membership activity during the summer and gives members a chance to get together to talk about watercolor paintings and share refreshments. They also enjoy guessing which of the submitted works will be accepted by the juror. This year the selections and judging will be done by Stan Miller, AWS.

Everyone is welcome to come see all of the entry slides that will be sent to the juror.



## RECENT EVENTS

### Mary Whyte Meeting and Workshop Delighted SWS



Rather than doing a painting demonstration, Mary Whyte used Powerpoint to give a presentation with tips about being a painter and sharing the background of some of her wonderful paintings. Her key tips for painters were to 1) Have something to say, 2) Have the ability to say it, and 3) Have the courage to say it. She described how she found people to be her subjects and how she got them to pose for her.

The group enjoyed hearing specifics regarding the different series she did that focused on the African American Gullah women of the Low country of the South, American Vets, homeless people, blue collar workers and other groups. When she sees someone who might be a good

representative for that series, she introduces herself and asks them to pose. This has led her to have some fascinating experiences. She explains that her paintings are based on sketches done from life, photos, memory and her imagination.

During the workshop, Mary demonstrated her techniques while painting from posed live models. People who attended the workshop also painted from life and feedback shows that Mary was very helpful and encouraging as they were challenged to create paintings. Many were very pleased with the paintings they were able to produce.



## April Painting of the Month

The April winners of the SWS Painting-of-the-Month in the Non-Signature Category were selected by a vote of members present at the meeting. The winners were:

- 1st Paula White, "Light Overcomes Grapes-Dark" (right)
- 2nd Betty Reuscher, "Bunny" (middle)
- 3rd Celeste McCall, "Paula's Roses" (left)



The winner in the Signature Category in March was Bill Dale for "An Old Friend I Happened to See." Mary Whyte made that selection and told Bill how much she liked the painting.

The Painting of the Month competition is held most months. Winners are selected from original artworks brought to the meetings. Submissions must be original works in watermedia on paper by members. The Signature Category includes members who have earned the SWS signature (five acceptances to SWS membership exhibitions.) The Non-Signature category is open to any member who would like to share their work.

Painting of the Month competitions will resume at the September meeting. In May we have a special program and then SWS goes on hiatus and will not meet until then.

## Pam Wilson and Naomi Brotherton Honored in April



At the April meeting of SWS, the 103rd birthday of the last surviving founding member and namesake of the highest exhibition award, Naomi Brotherton was celebrated. Members signed cards and shared a piece of birthday cake in her honor. A former president and original member, Naomi has always been a key supporter and contributor to SWS.

Pam Wilson, long-time SWS treasurer was surprised to be given special recognition for her years of exceptional service to the society as she steps down. Pam

has long been one of the go-to people in the group who answered questions about how things have been done, volunteered for special projects, and provided support to all of the leadership activities. In the Fall, Pam decided that she would leave the Board after this year because she wants to spend time on other things. However, she was instrumental in transitioning the financial side of the society's business to the new online platform. That major undertaking is sure to pay off in greater efficiency and reliability for SWS. Pam was previously honored by SWS in 2019 with a life-time membership. Her contributions have been exceptional.



# BOARD NEWS

## Call for Entries for the 60th SWS Membership Exhibition

Entries are being accepted from May 1st to June 30th 2023 for the 60th annual membership of the Southwestern Watercolor Society based in Dallas, Texas. The juror of selection and judge for awards will be Stan Miller, AWS (<https://stanmiller.net/>). There will be more than \$8000 in cash and merchandise awards and the exhibition will run from September 5th to September 29th at the Lillian Bradshaw Gallery of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 4th Floor, 1515 Young Street, Dallas, TX 75201.

SWS membership is necessary to submit show entries, but the membership fee entitles SWS members to also enter the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies exhibition in the Spring of 2024. To join the Southwestern Watercolor Society go to [www.swswatercolor.org](http://www.swswatercolor.org).

All entries must meet all the requirements in the exhibition prospectus. To find out more or to see the prospectus and enter, **search for the Southwestern Watercolor Society on CaFÉ** ([www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org)). For questions contact [info@swswatercolor.org](mailto:info@swswatercolor.org).

## 2023-2024 Officers Elected at March Meeting

Every year during the Winter and early Spring a nominating committee selected from the Board of Directors and membership offers up a slate of officers and committee chairs for election by the membership at a Spring membership meeting. The Officers are elected from those nominated by the Committee or from the floor at the time of the election. Elected officers for 2023/2024 are

President:	Dalynn Montgomery
1st VP, Programs:	Tom Brown
2nd VP, Membership:	Jan Venuso
3rd VP, Workshops:	Constance Corbett & Beth Menking
4th VP, Exhibitions:	Robyn Jorde
5th VP, Communications:	Kay Byfield
Treasurer:	Janet Southern & Lola Chambers
Recording Secretary:	Gene Painter & Cheryl Sonsteby
Parliamentarian:	Paula Vining

Committee Chairs are volunteers and are not elected. These members have agreed to serve during the 2023/2024 membership year:

**Paint-Outs:** Dan Killebrew, Raymond Mosier  
**Professional Standards/Signature**

**Membership:** Gail Delger

**Membership Emails:** Kay Byfield

**Public Relations:** Lynn Rushton Reed

**Website:** Gene Painter

**Scene Newsletter Editor:** Lori Williamson

**Artist of the Month:** Kay Byfield

**Hospitality:** Alice O'Leary, Sheilagh Cooper

**Property/Videography:** Kent Perigo, Michael Holter

**Photographers:** Sheilagh Cooper, Alice O'Leary

**SWS Cafe Tech Support:** Mary Jane Journey

**DVD Library:** Irina Kartunov, Toby Jeffers, Judith Pafford

**Stepping Stone Scholarships:** Jan Venuso

**Education Coordinators:** Irina Kartunov, Nancy Hagquist, Judith Pafford

**Painting of Month:** Nick Kuntz, Lynn Hake

**Historian:** Jonesy McConnell

**Western Federation of Watercolor Societies**

**Representative:** Gail Delger, Dana Brock

**Social Media:** Shahrzad Afshinpour

**Public Art:** Lynn Rushton Reed

**One-Day Classes:** Gail Chandler, Irina Kartunov, & Barbara Gilbert



## CONTACTS

### **PRESIDENT**

Dalynn Montgomery

### **1st VP PROGRAM CHAIR**

Scott Bodell

### **2nd VP - MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Trish Poupard, 626-862-9869  
trish@trishpoupard.com

### **3rd VP - WORKSHOPS CHAIR**

Constance Corbett  
Beth Menking

### **4th VP - EXHIBITIONS CHAIR**

Dana Brock

### **5th VP - COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR**

Kay Byfield, 214-532-5559  
Communications@swswatercolor.org

### **RECORDING SECRETARY**

Gene Painter

### **TREASURER**

Pam Wilson

### **PAST PRESIDENT/ PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Paula Vining

### **PAINT OUT CHAIRS**

Robyn Jorde  
Dan Killebrew

### **SCENE EDITOR**

Kay Byfield, 214-532-5559  
Newsletters@swswatercolor.org

## Southwestern Watercolor Society MAY MEMBERSHIP NEWS

# **Total Members in April 428**

## **Welcome to our newest members!**

Linda Sharp

Burl Washington

Belinda Senevey

Jay Weesner

Victoria Sudderth

## **Renew Your SWS Membership**

The next SWS membership year starts on June 1, 2023. Although you can join any time, members who have not renewed their annual membership by June 30 will be removed from the directory and will no longer have membership benefits until they rejoin.

To maintain your membership and be eligible to enter the SWS membership exhibition in September, the Western Federation exhibition in May, and to access to all the SWS member information, please renew now! Go to

[swswatercolor.org](http://swswatercolor.org)

and click [JOIN.](#)

# ADVERTISEMENTS



**Watercolor Classes  
with  
Kay Byfield**  
Creative Art Center of Dallas  
[creativeartscenter.org/classes](http://creativeartscenter.org/classes)

**Basic Watercolor (Beginners)**  
6/15-8/3, 6:30 - 9:30 pm

**Intermediate/Advanced Watercolor (2 Classes)**  
6/14-8/2, 10:00-1:00 pm or 6:30 - 9:30 pm

**SIGN UP NOW!!!**

More Information:  
[ArtSpeaksKayByfield@gmail.com](mailto:ArtSpeaksKayByfield@gmail.com)

## SWS SCENE NEWSLETTER AD RATES

\$2.00 per square inch with 10 - 12 pt font

Payments for SCENE ads must be received no later than the 10th of the month prior to publication. Please mail check made out to SWS to **Pam Wilson**, SWS Treasurer, 8405 Ardsley Place, McKinney, TX 75072 or pay online using **PayPal**.

Send proofed copy to SCENE editor, Kay Byfield, [SWSNewsEditor@gmail.com](mailto:SWSNewsEditor@gmail.com) by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

## MEMBER TEACHER LISTINGS

*Teacher listings are available to members for a small annual fee of \$25. For more information, contact [kaybyfield@gmail.com](mailto:kaybyfield@gmail.com)*

LISTINGS ARE FROM JUNE - MAY FOR THE  
2021-2022 MEMBER YEAR

Deena J. Harkins, M.Ed. & B.F.A. 479-317-0685  
Teaching Beginner – Advanced Zoom Watercolor Workshops  
Workshops: [www.deenajharkinsart.com](http://www.deenajharkinsart.com)

Jane Jones – SWS, ACA, TWS, NWS, NOW, WFWS, WCWS, PWS - [janejonesart@yahoo.com](mailto:janejonesart@yahoo.com), 972-407-6978, [www.janejonesart.com](http://www.janejonesart.com). Critique every other month starting November 2022

Kay Byfield, MFA, SWS- 214-532-5559, Kay Byfield, ArtSpeaks Studio, [ArtSpeaksKayByfield@gmail.com](mailto:ArtSpeaksKayByfield@gmail.com), Traditional Watercolor, all levels, [www.CreativeArtsCenter.org](http://www.CreativeArtsCenter.org)

Trish Poupard, SWA, WW (626) 862-9869  
WC classes - Old Settler's Rec Center, McKinney  
Wednesdays 1-4pm [www.McKinneyParks.org](http://www.McKinneyParks.org)

Member Teacher Listings Rate: \$25 per year for three lines (135 characters)