



Number 17, Spring 2021

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Message from our president



Dear PVW Members,

It has been such a privilege to serve as President these past two years. It has also, of course, been a bit strange, given how COVID has constrained our opportunities to meet face to face. The need to quarantine last year and cancel in-person events really disconnected us in important ways. Honestly, I stumbled onto the idea of monthly emails to everyone in PVW because I was missing all the activities I've enjoyed being with PVW members. What, no workshop? No spring luncheon? No chance to introduce our newly-selected members to the great folks in PVW? It was disorienting and upsetting, to be sure. Reaching out has been an important way for me to sustain a strong sense of our community. And it's meant a lot to me that many of you would email me back.

Some things continued - new member selection, plein air paint-outs, exhibitions-gone-online, members' artwork displayed on our website.

PVW thrives because of the energy and dedication of its volunteers and members. Think about it - we don't have an office or a gallery or a physical presence except for our temporary exhibitions and ourselves. We ARE our members. Each of us matters. Each of you brings special talents and qualities that help make us strong and vibrant.

So many things are yet to come. Of particular interest is our scheduled April 17 all-member Zoom meeting, where we'll elect our new President and officers. Then we'll enjoy the demo by Michael Holter.

Kate Niner is our Presidential candidate. Many of you know Kate from watercolor classes or from her work as a past Workshop Coordinator. And of course you have seen her gorgeous paintings, many of which have won awards. You will be in good hands with Kate Niner at the helm.

I'm excited for the future - so much new art you have created, yet to be viewed! And I hope to see you in person soon.

Linda Maldonado

*"Painting is easy when you don't know how, but very difficult when you do."
– Edgar Degas*

What's Happening...

A year ago we were unaware of the massive changes our world was about to undergo, but we've since developed new skills and coping strategies to survive and thrive. Now we're into 2021 and hopefully you are feeling there is sunshine in our lives, with the prospect of COVID vaccinations to release us from restrictions and isolation.

The PVW Board will be meeting to examine the possibilities for 2021. One schedule change already made is moving the PVW luncheon to Sunday, July 25. We're very hopeful that we can actually meet in person for this event, but also aware that we don't know what will happen between now and then.

We will have a **SUMMER EXHIBITION** online show from May 1 - July 31. Registration deadline is April 9th.

The mentor volunteers have been in touch with our newest PVW members. We are looking forward to the time when we can all meet them, as well as our 2019 new members for whom the pandemic curtailed PVW activities and participation.

Be sure to check out each month's Featured Artist on our website, a wonderful way to appreciate the artist's body of work.

And remember that we have an extensive library of instructional art DVDs - the list of titles is on the members-only website section. If you're interested in getting a creative nudge from these resources, Linda Maldonado is the video librarian and can mail them to you for a 3-week borrowing period.

Volunteer Opportunity - External Awards Chair

Chica Brunsvold has been overseeing reciprocal awards with the Virginia Watercolor Society, the Baltimore Watercolor Society, the Southern Watercolor Society, and the National Watercolor Society for several years. She is ready to turn it over to a new volunteer. These reciprocal awards benefit all participants and generate good will and camaraderie. Chica has been an energetic and dynamic force for nurturing and sustaining these reciprocal awards with other art groups and we are all profoundly grateful to her for ensuring that we have these rewarding relationships.

Thank you, Chica, for the years you have devoted to this venture, which provide such benefit to PVW members. If anyone would like to volunteer to fill this important position, please contact Chica or any member of the board.



New Members



Please welcome our three new members! Unfortunately because of the Covid quarantine we were not able to host the New Members' Coffee and had to cancel the annual luncheon. We'll look forward to meeting up again in person (hopefully soon).



Anne Cordes: When I was 5 years old my mom took me with her to paint. We sat on a hillside as I watched her and I've been fascinated with little tubes of watercolor ever since. After receiving a BFA in painting from Brigham Young University I married and raised two kids. Early on we lived in Germany for several years where I loved to sit on the banks of the Rhine and paint. I sold my paintings at a local venue there. I retired a few years ago so that I'd have more time to pursue painting. I love the fluidity and staining process of watercolor and enjoy exploring the transparency and light inherent in this medium. I've been a signature member of the Baltimore Watercolor Society for a number of years and look forward to being a part of PVW.

Milton Shinberg
www.shinbergart.com

I am a happy art and architecture polyglot, enjoying drawing and photography and the piano for many decades. I began taking classes at the Art League of Alexandria in 2010. My efforts include five solo shows, some of watercolors and others with photography. Each has spurred growth through the perspective of harvesting those I like most, but even more in the opportunity to change direction.

I have adjusted my aim after preparing a major series of lectures on architecture and art for Catholic and American Universities in the fall of 2020. The insights I gained from that process have already informed and inspired my recent watercolors and I trust will continue to do so. I'm now pursuing a tilt toward more abstract approaches to both subject and color, while composition still takes first place!



New Members



Stacy Lund Levy

<https://bakerartist.org/portfolios/stacy-lund-levy>

I have enjoyed creating art in many forms since preschool, but early on was encouraged by my parents to put the majority of my energy into studying my other passion, science. I earned an undergraduate degree from Hood College in Biochemistry as well as a Masters Degree at The Johns Hopkins Art as Applied to Medicine program. I initially worked as a medical illustrator for the University of Maryland, then went freelance and established Lund Art Studios. Not having a 9 to 5 job as a medical illustrator enabled me to draw and paint subjects that were more acceptable to hang on the living room wall. I was also able to take on a variety of clients, jury shows, teach classes and workshops, give demonstrations, and exhibit my artwork. I work primarily in watercolor, but also create collage and wearable art. I am a signature member of the Baltimore, Pennsylvania, and Philadelphia Watercolor Societies, as well as a board member of the Baltimore Watercolor Society. I am thrilled to have been selected for membership in PVW and look forward to getting to know this group of artists.



Stacy Levy



Members' News...

Salon Eight (Connie Boland, Leigh Culver, Margitta Hanff Potts, Emilie McBride, Joan Kirk, Yoshimi Matsukata, JoAnne Ramsey, and Donna Sturm), will be exhibiting at River Farm from April through September, 2021.

Amy Arons is currently collaborating with the owner of an Etsy shop (Ketubata) designing and painting ketubahs. (A ketubah is a Jewish marriage contract.) The shop owner crafts the text in Hebrew and English, and Amy creates a wreath design to surround the text. As a production partner with Ketubata, Amy is also offering custom watercolor commissions of ketubahs.

Beth Ayres was invited this year to become a member of the Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society (MPSGS) of Washington, DC. The MPSGS was founded in 1931 and is the oldest miniature art society in the United States. Membership in the society is by invitation, and eligible artists are elected by Members. This unique art form traces its roots back to the book paintings and illuminated manuscripts set in the 7th century. Beth's miniature paintings and drawings aim to create something that draws the viewer into an intimate, concentrated little world. As a new member, Beth will be participating this year in the Society's educational tours, demonstrations, and workshops relating to miniature art techniques.

Karen Beach's "Cartful of Coconuts" was juried into the 49th Annual Exhibition of the Florida Watercolor Society 2020. The exhibition can be viewed at <https://floridawatercolorociety.org/annual-show/>



Cartful of Coconuts

Gwendolyn Bragg's transparent watercolor on Torchon paper, "Shades of the Past - Mexico," was accepted into the Southern Watercolor Society 44th Annual Juried Exhibition, in Quincy, FL.

Noreen Brunini and Marshall Carolus have been accepted as Signature Artists in the Baltimore Watercolor Society.



Members' News...

Deb Cohan received a 3rd place award for “CLANG, CLANG, CLANG” at the Baltimore Watercolor Society (BWS) exhibition at the Mansion at Strathmore. The painting was featured in the promotional advertising as well as in the welcome banner.



Vivaldi Concert

Jane Coonce won 3rd place with “Vivaldi Concert” at the McLean Project for the Arts/McLean Art Society show called “The Show Must Go On.”

Leigh Culver's "Still Standing--Hydrangea Cathedral" was juried into the National Watercolor Society's member exhibition, online from May 1-June 27 at www.NWSExhibition.com and on YouTube at NWSStream. Leigh and **Peter Ulrich** will be presenting "An Evening with Whistler" on zoom for the Baltimore Watercolor Society's annual member meeting on May 27th at 7:00 p.m.

Janice Ducharme had 3 paintings (“Pond Play,” “Future Champion,” and “Remembering Rosie”) accepted into the Manassas 2021 Banner Art Competition. This is an annual competition where artists are invited to submit 3 digital images of paintings which are then converted to banners which are hung on all the light poles in the historic downtown section of Manassas. The 70+ winning pieces remain on display from through Fall.



Remembering Rosie

Jean K. Gill, AWS, NWS, had works accepted in the 154th Annual International Exhibition of the American Watercolor Society in NYC and in the 12th Annual Signature American International Watermedia Exhibition in Fallbrook, CA. She won the NWS Award in the PWCS's 120th International, an Award of Merit in the PWCS Online Members' Show, a Silver Award in the VWS annual, the Blick's Award in the Missouri Watercolor Society's International Exhibition, and the Sandra Thompson Memorial Award in the WCWS 2021 Rockies West National Exhibition.

Members' News

Christine Heyse taught an online workshop, “Painting Beautiful Reflections in Water,” for the Delaware Watercolor Society in March and it was very well received. Chris hopes to present more online workshops in the future!

Linda S. Holz had a watercolor painting juried into the show “Dreams and Nightmares” at Gallery Underground, Arlington, VA.

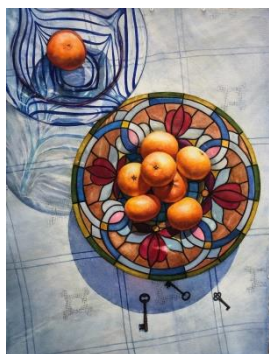
Linda Maldonado and Elise Ritter are part of the “Ambient Light: Real and Imagined” show now hanging at Gallery Underground in Crystal City, Arlington. The show is available to see in person through March 26, Monday-Friday 10am-6pm. More information is available at galleryunderground.org/2021/02/ambient-light

Janet Hansen Martinet had three paintings accepted in the Historic Manassas Banner Art Contest this year. She also had two pieces juried into Art at the Mill: Burwell-Morgan Mill, on view Saturday, April 24 - Sunday, May 9.

Sue Moses had plenty of extra time during the Covid pandemic and decided to paint her brother's Sheltie, Shadow, in his favorite very relaxed position. Shadow has been her brother's companion throughout his 7-year battle with cancer.



Covid Turned my World Upside Down



Keys and Glass

Karen Norman earned a 2nd place award with “Keys and Glass” at the Baltimore Watercolor Society Signature Members Exhibition, which took place at Strathmore Hall Mansion earlier this year.

Antonia Plazibat has a solo exhibit of 16 paintings at Leesburg Town Hall running from March 1 - May 31. More information is available in this article:

<https://www.leesburgva.gov/Home/Components/News/News/9105/5957>

Paint Out!

PVW will hold its first paint-out of the year at **Meadowlark Gardens Park** in Vienna, VA on **Thursday, April 15**. The park is enormous and by mid-April should have lots of spring flowers. The Visitor Center and restrooms are open but with reduced occupancy.

Bring a lunch and the usual items for plein air painting - stool or easel, water bottle, hat, long-sleeved shirt, sunscreen, and so forth. Invite a friend if you'd like. We will observe standard Covid precautions - masks, social distancing, and hand washing.

Please check in with Ginnie Luster or Florence Setzer at the Visitor Center between 10:00 and 10:30 a.m. so that we will know that you are there and can give you any additional information. We will meet for lunch and to share our paintings at 12:30 in the picnic area, which is to the left of the parking area as you enter.

Meadowlark Gardens is located at 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna, VA 22182. From the Beltway, take Leesburg Pike west, then in 2.5 miles turn left onto Beulah Road, then in 1.75 miles turn right onto Meadowlark Gardens Court.

Please notify Ginnie, glnlstr@aol.com, or Florence, setzerf@netscape.net, if you plan to attend.



See you there!

In Memoriam

Virginia O'Rourke died in December, 2020. She had been a member of PVW for decades and was very active while she lived in Northern Virginia. She continued to paint through her 98th year and her beautiful paintings are a testament to her talent and passion for art.

Jack Harding passed away on December 12, 2020 from complications of the COVID virus.

Gina Clapp Gina Clapp passed away after a long and heroic battle against a rare form of cancer. Gina was born on June 11, 1945 in McKeesport, PA. She graduated from Boston University, where she earned a BA in political science. A few years later, she earned a master's in public administration from Syracuse University. She was hired by the Peace Corp and as the desk officer for five countries in Central America, she spent several years traveling.

As a young girl, Gina traveled from McKeesport to the Oakland neighborhood in Pittsburgh-usually the only child among a streetcar full of steelworkers-where she took Tam O'Shanter art classes at what is now the Carnegie Museum of Art. (She was preceded in this program by notable Pittsburgh artists Andy Warhol and Philip Pearlstein.) In the 1980s, Gina studied art at the Corcoran School of the Arts in DC, and began a career as a watercolor artist. Two years following the death of Cuning, Gina and Gene got a new dog, Isabelle.

Early in the 1990s, Gina began what would become two decades of teaching adult watercolor classes at the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop (CHAW). Gina's class became one of the Workshop's most enduringly popular offerings. There she made some of the best friends of her life and had profound effects on the lives of her students-including accomplished judges, architects, and U.S. Congress employees, among many others-all with aspirations to develop their artistic abilities. She nurtured their skills and creative instincts, enabling many to become excellent artists. Gina promoted the value of a strong community among the students as a group, as well as strong friendships among individuals. These ties were reinforced as many continued learning during summertime "art camps" that Gina hosted annually in the mountains of western Pennsylvania. So many DC area artists will miss her artistic advice, sardonic humor, and the twinkle in her eye when she tells stories.



And last, but definitely not least...



Workshops • Exhibitions
Annual Luncheon
Paint Outs • Trips

www.potomacvalleywatercolorists.org

Thanks to Peter Ulrich for the
PVW Brochure/Rack Card above!

If you'd like to pass a few to friends, contact
Linda Maldonado.