

UWS Paint Spot

Utah Watercolor Society

January/February 2010

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Sylvia Larsen	801-269-1691
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Dale Minson	801-553-1612
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Brienne Brown	
bmbrown@gmail.com	
Constant Contact	
Jana Winters Parkin	801-434-9749
Social Networking Chair	
Neena Plant	
nplant84107@yahoo.com	
Website	www.utwatercolor.com
Email	utwatercolor@utwatercolor.com

President's Message

Welcome 2010, it's finally here! First, a great big thank you to all members for your entries for this year's Western Federation Show. We have a record breaking number of entries and each is breathtaking. Good luck to everyone that entered. If you were like me you painted your heart out into the last hours of the due date, wondering "why am I doing this?" The answer is because you must. This show promises to be spectacular!

January and February are the heart of the ski season, my favorite time of the year. Nothing beats mountains covered with snow. I thought when retired I would ski every day. Well, I retired and there are so many things that fill my days I feel fortunate to just get one or two days of skiing during the prime ski season.

The other thing I thought I would be able to do when I retired is to paint every day. I find that it's impossible with the events and commitments that make up my life. I kept a quote from Georgia O'Keeffe on my desk throughout my working years. It addressed the things that you must do during your life before you can get back to painting, such as looking for photos of friends, taking your dog to the vet. I never realized that it would be a prophecy of things to come, and I'm betting there are things that keep you from painting as well.

As I was burning the midnight oil to finish my Western Federation paintings, I noted that my painting skills were very rusty. It took much longer to do simple passages with the desired watercolor effects we've all come to know and love. Have you ever had that frustration, you know what you want but can't seem to remember how to make it happen? Painting is like an athletic event or playing music; practice makes perfect. How do I scratch out the time to practice when I don't even have time to paint? The answer is that the act of painting is practice. Your painting may not turn out the way you want, but that's part of the learning process. Sometimes it's what not to do instead of how to do it.

I'm not much of a New Year's resolution person, but the third week of November I made a resolution to spend at least six hours a week on my art. That may not seem like much, but when I add it up at the end of the month, I hope to have at least one painting completed, which will be one small step toward realizing my dream of retired life. Many of you have moved way beyond where I am and spend a lot more time painting. I'm interested in hearing how you carve out time for your art. Life happens, but art is an important part of all our lives as shown in the commitment of joining the UWS. Let's share our different ways of how to get painting time while balancing the rest of what we must do in our busy lives.



Maura Naughton

More Mini-Workshops on the Way - How to Get on the List!

Our mini-workshops have been filling up fast. Ian Ramsay's November workshop was full and he was gracious enough to do another one in January. That one was full immediately, and I have a long waiting list. To assure yourself a spot in future mini-workshops (Willamarie Huelskamp on March 5-6 and Steve Sheffield on April 9-10) be sure to give me a \$50 non-refundable deposit at our monthly meetings. That deposit gets you on the list, and the balance of \$75 can be paid a month before the actual workshop dates. Also note that UWS Board members have preference, and, of course, UWS members have preference over non-members.

The signups for Willamarie Huelskamp will be at the January monthly meeting. I am sure her workshop will fill up that night, so again, bring your checkbook and give me at least a deposit of \$50, or even better, the entire amount of \$125. Steve Sheffield signups will be at the February monthly meeting.

These workshops are an excellent way to learn from local professionals. We usually have only two a year, but we are lucky to have Steve Sheffield in April. If any of you have suggestions for the November 2010 mini-workshop, please let me know.

Heather Woods Quinton, UWS Mini-Workshop Chair, 801-571-4797 woodsquinton@yahoo.com

February Mini Show

Get painting, and remember the total measurements for the paintings including the frame is 12 inches.

The show will be at the Michael Berry Gallery [163 East 300 South Salt Lake City].

Mark your calendars--Paintings will be received on February 13th (Sat.). The artist reception will be the next Wed the 17th of Feb. The show will go for one month closing March 13th and will be included in the gallery stroll on the 19th of February.

We appreciate the Gallery for their generous contribution to the success of this show. Let's make it a great show this year. This is a show all members can enter.

Contact Kristine Groll 801-518-4538 for any questions.

UWS Member Profile

Luminous color is what Marian Dunn is striving for, both in her paintings and in her teaching. She explains "luminous" as resembling the "glow coming through a stained glass window". Her paintings and her students attest to the wonderful colors that are her hallmark, colors unclouded by overwork or dull pigments. She is a popular teacher due to her broad background in art and sense of fun she brings to the class. "She brings out the best in you" is the comment from many of her students.

Marian received her BFA from U of Utah and started her MFA in Visual Perception. She never completed her formal degree because her studies led her into a public television project on Arts and the Humanities. She created and hosted the 36-program series over four years for teachers in the public schools. It included music, dance and art and required her to know more than just art. She needed to take elocution lessons, public speaking and learn "speaking to" the camera. She even hosted the semi-annual fundraising drives, playing straight man to Barney Rosenblatt during those years.

Initially, Marian used oil and acrylic as her medium and was exposed to other media through classes at the U. It was on resuming her studies after a respite that she realized her son was in possession of her acrylics, and she began painting with what she had at hand - watercolor. Because of that turn of events her expertise in watercolor took off. Although she has been in UWS since its inception in 1974, it wasn't until 1983 that a friend talked her into entering a show and she realized it was fun. She continued to enter UWS and Western Federation of Watercolor Society shows becoming a Signature member in 1994 and to date has been in 20 shows.

While at a workshop in La Romita, Italy in 1999, a classmate encouraged her to teach. Marian's response was "I don't do that" but the friend encouraged her and set up a class for her in Mill Valley, California which turned Marian onto the teaching of art. She teaches painting in acrylic and watercolor now, and recently did a collage class as well. She has taught



Marian Dunn



in Myrtle Beach, Monterey, Dordogne (France) and has returned twice to La Romita as a teacher and is excited to teach again there in September of 2010. She advises her students to "never quit pushing yourself. It's the process you should love, not the product". In watercolor she recommends transparent paints, mixing her own greens, greys and blacks. She is a fan of quinacridone colors, Fabriano paper and large round synthetic brushes. Evaluating your painting in a mirror or painting left handed will help the right brain engage. Lifting, scrubbing or reworking are not beneath her if it works to perfect a painting.

To view Marian's list of teachers reads like "Who's Who" in national and local art circles. She has studied with Christopher Schink, Skip Lawrence, Carole Barnes, Polly Hammett, Alex Powers, Milford Zornes, Charles Reid, Edward Betts, and Carla O'Connor (to mention a FEW national artists). Locally she includes LeConte Stewart, Alvin Gittins, Paul Davis, Osral Allred, Harrison Groutage, Ed Maryon and Connie Borup as her mentors and teachers.

Some folks are gifted in art, Marian is unusually gifted in friendship as well as art. Her list of teachers doubles as her list of friends. She is very involved in the art community because she seems to be connected with everyone there.

"My art friends have been some of my closest. One year I had planned to travel to San Miguel with Ed and Judy Maryon and Harrison and IvaLou Groutage from Utah State University. My Dad died just before we were to leave. Being an only child I was near comatose with the trauma of it all. Immediately after the funeral they took me by the hand, put me on the plane, fed and cared for me in the most wonderful way possible. I could never have managed without their TLC."



Ancient Onion, above; White Prince, middle.

It's In The Mail!!

If you haven't already received your UWS Directory, you should soon. They have been printed and mailed. Many thanks to all who worked very hard to make sure we were "error free" this year - Maura Naughton, Brianne Brown, Susie Diston, Bessann Swanson, Nancy Lund, Sue Martin, Dave Coulam, and all the members of the board who looked at many drafts of the directory.

When you get your directory, please look over your information for accuracy. If you find, horror of horrors, any corrections that need to be made, please notify me, Gene Klatt, either by phone or email. We'll print corrections in the next newsletter so everyone will know how to call or send you cards, letters, packages and telegrams.

We have about 40 fewer members than in 2008 and I appreciate all the recruitment efforts people are making to bring our membership up. Annual dues won't be due again until June, 2010, so there is still plenty of time for someone joining in December or January to get in on many of our great meetings and workshops. So keep on recruiting for members and continue inviting your watercolor friends to join us.

Don't Stop Painting! Let's Show Our Very Best!

Our Spring Open Exhibition will coincide with the Western Federation Show this year, and because we are hosting that outstanding event, it is also a perfect opportunity to show off our very best local water media art work. This will be a very exciting time, so pull out your paint brushes and your enthusiasm!

The Utah Watercolor Society will be presenting the Annual Spring Open Juried Exhibition in conjunction with Gallery Stroll the third Friday in May at pARTnership Gallery. We are lucky to have Carla O'Connor with us to judge the show. Her work is innovative, expressive, colorful, interesting.

The most important thing you need to know right now is that digital images will be accepted up until and including our March 2nd UWS meeting, but no later. So let's get to work! This may be the best Spring Show ever!

UWS Events Calendar 2010

JANUARY

- 5 Member meeting 7:00 pm, at Wheeler Farm. Sheri Meidell, book illustrator will be guest speaker and demonstrator.
- 15, 16 Mini Workshop with Ian Ramsey at Sons of Utah Pioneers Building

FEBRUARY

- 2 Member meeting 7:00 pm, at Wheeler Farm. Marian Dunn will be guest speaker and demonstrator.
- 13 Paintings due for annual Mini Show due at Michael Berry Gallery from 1:00-5:00 pm. 163 East 300 South Salt Lake City

MARCH

- 2 Member meeting 7:00 pm, at Wheeler Farm. Linda Moyer will be guest speaker and demonstrator.
- 13 Pick up paintings from Mini Show at Michael Berry Gallery, 1:00-5:00 pm. 163 East 300 South Salt Lake City

APRIL

- 6 Member meeting 7:00 pm, at Wheeler Farm. Steve Sheffield will be guest speaker and demonstrator.

MAY

- 4 Member meeting 7:00 pm, at Wheeler Farm. Carla O'Connor will be speaker and demonstrator.
- 3-7 Spring Workshop with Carla O'Connor [details to be announced]

JUNE

- 1 Member Meeting 7:00 pm at Wheeler Farm. Lester Lee will be guest speaker and demonstrator.

*Unless otherwise noted, all general meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of each month at Wheeler Historic Farm, 6351 South 900 East, in the main barn. Social hour is at 7 pm. Business meeting begins at 7:30 pm, followed by the guest speaker.

Wheeler Historic Farm -- Tuesday, December 15, 2009, 7:00 PM

The Utah Watercolor Society and the Intermountain Society of Artists will hold a conjoint meeting at Wheeler Historic Farm December 15, 2009. UTRECHT ART in SUGARHOUSE is presenting the program and bringing in a speaker and demonstrator, "The Artist Hines", a full time artist living and painting in Sausalito, California.

Utrecht will provide surprise packages to members in attendance, and those who would like to participate in our annual gift exchange may bring a small painting or an original painted card, and exchange it for a like gift at the meeting.

The refreshments will be a potluck array of favorite holiday treats provided by members of both organizations attending this special occasion.

Come and enjoy this holiday meeting, the final one for 2009.

Are You Going To Have a Show in 2010?

Whenever any members of Utah Watercolor Society have a show of their work, such as at a local Library or one of the many galleries in Utah, please let me know. I will publish the location and dates.

Since the Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication, I will need to know as far in advance as possible. The best way to contact me is via email: sylj39@gmail.com

— Sylvia J. Larsen, UWS Newsletter Editor



Utah Watercolor Society
 PO Box 581005
 Salt Lake City, UT 84158-1005
www.utwatercolor.com
utwatercolor@utwatercolor.com

NON-PROFIT ORG
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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PLEASE GIVE US YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Spark Up Your Paintings With Orange

The color orange is not a color that we as humans choose to wear very often. That is unless one is on a chain gang or becomes a Tibetan monk. Artist Suzanne McWinnie calls the color “very brazen”.

Suzanne is not known for “quiet paintings”. She stated that the color orange gives her paintings a visual punch, and “they invariably provoke a response from the viewer.” She generally mixes her oranges from transparent reds and yellows, thus enabling her to create glazes. The opaque pigments such as the cadmiums can very easily become muddy.

Transparent pigments used as glazes can be applied many times. For transparent oranges, Windsor & Newton Indian yellow mixed with W&N permanent alizarin crimson or brown madder. Schmincki’s permanent orange or red 3 are also effective transparents which retain a fresh look.

For shadows that really show off the orange colors are either blue-green or violet combined with ultramarine blue with a touch of burnt sienna, which falls in the orange range. Burnt Sienna works best as an orange when contrasted with blue.

Orange is prominent in nature which means using the color in landscapes and still life paintings brings brightness and warmth like no other color.

– Sylvia J. Larsen

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