

THE WATERMARK

CENTRAL FLORIDA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

Published monthly August through May

GIVE THANKS FOR ART

PRESIDENT'S CORNER - November 2016



Mary Dall, President: November reminds us that the Holidays are just around the corner. (Didn't we just pack everything away from last Christmas?!) CFWS has a lot going on in the next few months so "fasten your seat belts!" First, get those jpgs off to our super volunteer, **Jane Brinckerhof**, for our wonderful juried show. They are due December 4th, but it is better to be early and you will be able to check one more thing off your 'to do' list-so don't delay. Send them in soon so that Jane can send the entries off to our judge, Jaimie Cordero, in a timely manner.

Mike Malloy has set this all up on our website for easy submission of pictures and monies. This is going to be our best juried show yet!. We are once again at the fabulous Winter Garden Art Association's **SOBO Gallery**, 127 South Boyd St. Winter Garden. Last year's reception was fabulous and our members sold some paintings! Our Plein-air on March 18th will be in Winter Garden in conjunction with the show making this a truly interactive experience.

Next, kick off the holidays by coming to (and assisting with) our **Holiday Party**, December 4th at the Germaine-Marvel building. Our party is always a fun time with lots of prizes, frivolity, fine art and food! Please call our terrific VP, **Teresa Chin**, if you can volunteer to help. If you can help with food and table assistance, please contact **Marge Reed**.

Then, on December 9th come out for a special evening. Our artists will be displaying at "**Hidden Gem: CFWS at the Art House**," 127 Quail Pond Circle, Casselberry, in conjunction with "Off the Beaten Path-Seminole County 2016." We received a special invitation to display as they loved our exhibit last year. We hope more of the general public becomes aware of watercolor in general and CFWS specifically, as we present a wide variety of styles, subjects and applications of the watercolor medium at this show. Participants can drop off their paintings on Friday December 2nd at the Art House after 10:00 am. On December 9th we will host a reception in the Art House from 6-8 pm. There will be "**Music In The Park**" with food trucks from 6-9 pm at the Casselberry Rec. Center, 200 N. Triplet Lake Dr. The Center will host a Boutique that evening from 5-9 pm and CFWS will

OUR NEXT MEETING

You are invited to the **2016 Holiday In-House Show and Party** of the Central Florida Watercolor Society taking place in the Germaine Marvel Building on December 4th, 2016 at 1:30 pm.

Please bring the following for the Covered Dish Buffet if your last name begins with...

A thru H: main dish/entrée

J thru R: dessert

S thru Z: appetizer, salad, or side

Paintings for the Christmas In-House Show can be matted and framed or just matted. One painting per person. There will be "People's Choice Awards!" Mini-painting size is 2 1/2" X 3 1/2" - any subject. You will put your mini in the clear sleeve of the mini poster display. Two boards are provided. They are on display during the meeting then put into the box for a drawing. One painting per member.

After checking in at the Greeter Table, please do the following:

- (1.) Pick up a door prize ticket - put the stub into the "Door Prize" box and
- (2.) Place the small paintings to be traded among the members in the clear sleeve of the mini poster display.
- (3.) Pick up 3 ballots for the "People's Choice Awards." Each painting will have a number. Vote for your favorites. During lunch we will pick up the ballots and the first, second and third place prizes will be awarded at the end of the party. Thanks to Terri Chin we have some great prizes!

centralfloridawatercolor.org

ArtBytes...

Mike Bisceglia, Teresa Chin, Donna Coulantes and Faye Tambrino had paintings accepted for the 2017 Rotary Club of Casselberry Community Art Calendar. The theme is "Our Central Florida Community." All of the original work will be displayed at the Art House through November 30th.

On October 15 VP **Teresa Chin** was torn between attending the CFWS *Plein-air* event and her commitment to Biodiversity Day at Mead. Sally Hall stepped up to assist with *Plein-air* but although at Mead Garden instead of Concord Park, Teresa still found a way to incorporate CFWS by providing our lovely brochures (produced by Janet Asbury) at the table she manned. It is said, "One hand washes the other." Folks interested in the native plants and information on Florida biodiversity might also be interested in using watercolor to capture images of nature. At least two people asked Teresa about the society and several picked up brochures. Thank you Teresa for advertising the society so well!



Marianna Ross tells us that John Carollo, a watercolor painter and sculptor, who was the 2015 WP Sidewalk Art Festival Poster Artist, will be Guest Artist for the Artists League of Orange Co. (ALOC) on Saturday, November 19th, at 2 pm in the Beardall Senior Center. It is located at 800 South Delaney Avenue (near Gore and Orange Avenue) in Orlando. Attendance is Free. For info, call Delores Haberkorn: 407.644.0069.



President's message (continued from page 1)

have a table indoors in the Ballroom for selling our wares. More info will be coming in a blast. **If a coordinator steps forward and we have enough interest, CFWS will participate in the boutique.**

You can pop in to the recreation center for a music, art fair and food truck event, then drive the very short distance to the Art House for a dessert or light snack at the reception and to admire the **Hidden Gem: CFWS show**. It should be a fun evening!

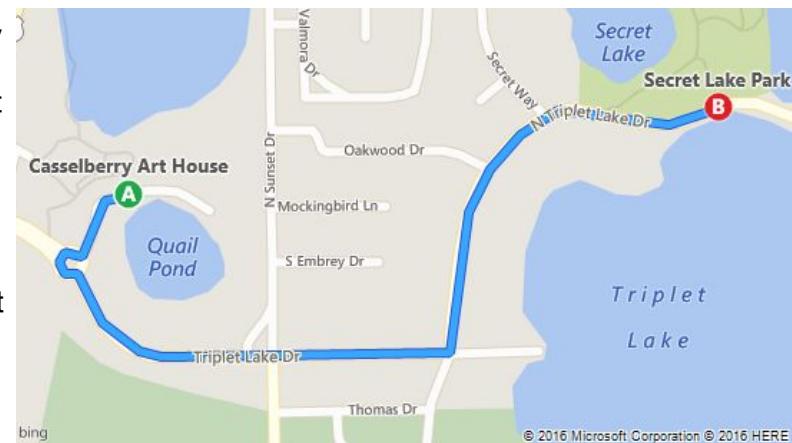
Lastly, a very special thanks to **Rebecca Wilkinson** for our wonderful demo at the November 6th meeting (and for hosting the *plein air* RSVP event on November 12th at her lakeside home). Setting the clocks back AND having a great demo is a great way to top off a Sunday!

Happy Thanksgiving! **Mary**

"Hidden Gem" Gallery Show

Drop off your paintings for the "Hidden Gem: CFWS show at the Casselberry Art House on Friday, December 2nd, between 10:00 am and noon. The reception is **December 9th** from 6-8 pm. The Casselberry Rec Center, just 1.5 miles down the road will be hosting a FREE **indoor** vendor fair as part of their Art & Music in the Park. CFWS has reserved a table that will be manned by various CFWS artists. If an artist wishes to have his/her own table to sell paintings, note-cards, etc. he/she could individually call Lynn Hoppes. Tables are provided at no cost, space is limited. Contact Lynn Hoppes at 407.262.7700 ext.1507 or email: lhoppes@casselberry.org for sign up and details. Information

is available on the Casselberry website. There will also be light refreshments served by CFWS at the ART HOUSE. A map to guide you from the Art House to the Rec. Center is provided to the right.



14th Annual Juried Member Show

This year's member show will be at SoBo Gallery in Winter Garden from February 2nd till April 1st, 2017. Member's entries should be sent to: mzzjane@cfl.rr.com beginning on November 1st.

DEADLINE for jpeg entries is midnight, Sunday, **December 4th**. We will accept good, sharp jpegs in any size. They must be cropped to show the artwork only. Cost to enter is \$25 for one entry, \$30 for two. We expect to hear back from our juror, Jaimie Cordero, by end of December and will email letters of acceptance/rejection at that time. Reception will be on February 2nd, First Thursday.
See page 7 for entry information.

Ken Austin and Chauncey Nelson are artists-in-residence at **FAVO**, faithartsvillage.com. This is a unique destination for those who want to support Orlando's growing arts community. Meet artists and see the new pieces they've created. There are food trucks and music at the first Fridays events from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Located off Colonial Drive, behind Park Lake Presbyterian Church.



Anne Pullin has a painting exhibiting on the internet at the National Annual Juried exhibition of the Sumi-e Society of America. Artists are listed alphabetically. www.sumieshow.org. Look for "Potpourri for Butterfly," pictured above. She also had a painting accepted into SoBo's November and December exhibitions.

Terri Chin has put together a book that outlines some exciting **Plein-air** outings to be set up for the third Saturday of each month, October through April (with possible date changes) We are looking for individuals to host one of these outings until we find someone who would like to be our *Plein-air* Coordinator. There have been some great group experiences in the past. Let's keep it going!

CFWS members, **Ginger**, **Nancy M.** and **Gina**, who paint together in Apopka, will be exhibiting at the North Orange Branch Library, 1211 E. Semoran Blvd. in Apopka, through November 29th. Hours are: Sun 1 - 5:30 pm; Mon-Th 9 - 7:30 pm; Fri - Sat 9 - 5:30 pm.

Don't forget to "Like Us" on facebook!

IMPORTANT DATES

SCHEDULE FOR THE 2016-2017 SEASON

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Nov 19 | <i>Plein-air</i> hosted by Rebecca Wilkenson at her Lake home in Chuluota from 10 am - 4 pm |
| Dec 2-30 | Casselberry Art House Exhibit "Hiddem Gem" Gallery Show Painting Drop off December 2nd, 10:00 am till noon |
| Dec 4 | Holiday Party , general meeting and In-House Member Show. See page 1 for food donation list and schedule of events |
| Dec 4 | Deadline for jpgs for Annual JURIED-Member Show Winter Garden Art Assn. SOBO Gallery (See page 7) |
| Dec 9 | Casselberry Art House "Hidden Gem" Reception 6 to 8 pm |
| Jan 8 | Nancy McDonald , artist, - general meeting and demo |
| Feb 2 | Opening Reception and Awards: CFWS Annual JURIED-Member Show Winter Garden Art Assn. SOBO Gallery |
| Feb 5 | Jaime Cordero , artist - general meeting and demo. |
| Feb 6-8 | Jaimie Cordero , Workshop in the Germaine Marvel Building \$300 for members (\$350 for not-yet-members) |
| Feb 18 | <i>Plein-air</i> at Lake Weston Park in Kingswood Manor hosted by Janet Asbury from 10 am - 4 pm with Demo by Cleetus Antony |
| Mar 12* | Caryn Dahm , artist - general meeting and demo. |
| Mar 18 | <i>Plein-air</i> at Sobo in Winter Garden |
| April 2 | Dana Dayodge , artist - general meeting and demo. |
| May 7 | General meeting - Social and/or demo. Election of officers. |

* Meeting moved to second Sunday due to Holiday

Plein-air Opportunities

November 12th the *Plein-air* will be at **Rebecca Wilkenson**'s Lake home at 1240 Brumley Road, **Chuluota** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. She will provide: Coffee in the morning, lunch and Ice Water all day. Please **RSVP** to: rdwilkinson@earthlink.net so she has an idea how much food to prepare. She will email you the directions to her home.

January 21st Cindy Sturla will host a *Plein-air* at Leu Gardens.

February 18th is the *Plein-air* will be hosted by **Janet Asbury** at Lake Weston behind Kingswood Manor, off of Lee Road. More information will be available in subsequent newsletters.

it has been confirmed that we will be having a *Plein-air* in **Winter Garden** on **March** 18th. Our members will be able to use the gallery facilities at SoBo to gather at 10:00 am. It will be the last week of our exhibition there.



RAFFLE

This watercolor, valued at \$750, by acclaimed artist Frank Francesc can be yours. It is a full sheet matted. **Jackii Molsick** donated it to CFWS. Just purchase a raffle ticket at one of our meetings. You need not be present to win. The donation is \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

Judi Kaye's been doing a great job of trying to get CFWS info out to the media and the public. When anyone sends you their PR info, especially members doing classes out in the community for kids, seniors, etc, please forward it on to Judi, jkworldtraveler@aol.com. She is always looking for ways to promote CFWS.

Margaret Wheaton announces a *Plein-air* event on Saturday, November 12th at the True Blue Winery, 604 Pink Apartments Road, Davenport, from 9 am till noon. Sponsored by the Davenport Arts & Cultural Alliance (DADA) they hope to make it a regular gathering. For information: Bonnie at bliss@pxgx.com, Ginger at 727.667.1393 or Lori at lorigibbs19@gmail.com.

Kelly Young, kelly@artandhistory.org, of the **Art and History Museums - Maitland** asks: The Maitland Rotary Arts Festival is this weekend and we were wondering if any members of CFWS might be available to volunteer? We are looking for artists to be present on Saturday and Sunday (11/12 and 11/13) to do a *Plein-Air* demonstration on the Waterhouse Lawn on our Lake Lily Campus. Hours are 10am - 4pm both days, but we are flexible due to the short notice.

November Demo

There were 79 members and 3 guests in attendance on Sunday November 4th to see **Rebecca Wilkenson** make her power point presentation and demonstration.

The awareness of water was an important influence in Rebecca's life. Moving to the west coast of Florida as a child and growing up by a lake, her early paintings were studies in reflections, some using egg yolk mixed with the watercolor.

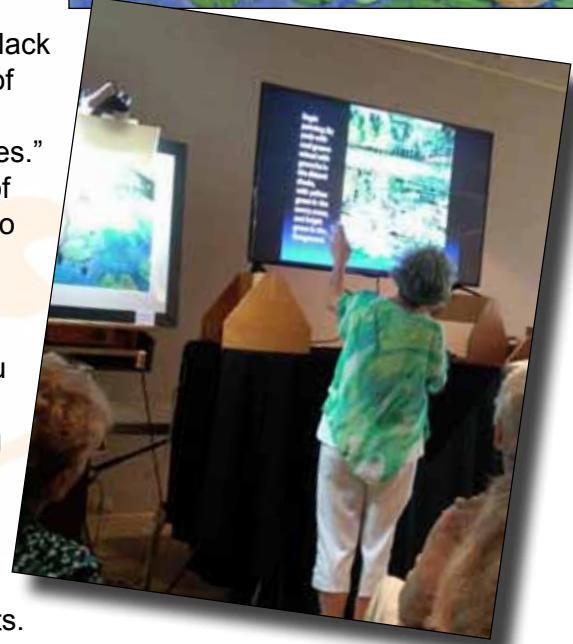
The winning entry from the last member show, "Queen's Bath" was inspired during a trip to Hawaii. The striking black background was a product of Hooker's green and Alizarin Crimson, and "a lot of washes." Rebecca paints the center of interest first and then goes to the textures and patterns in the water. She takes a lot of pictures and claims to work very slowly. "Sometimes you loose track of what you are trying to say in your painting and you need to step back or walk away." She believes in using "Liquid paper" in her highlights.

She shared with us her sketchbook with views of Japan and the poems they generated (haiku) - some had become full sized paintings.



After the break, Rebecca took us through her process step-by-step. She had taken photographs behind her house, first of a waterlilly and then of a landscape and showed us how she had cropped them for best impact. Then she walked us through slides that portrayed establishing contrasts, studying details and building reflections by layering texture. It was a fascinating "time lapse demo."

Thank you Rebecca.





Check under the bed and in the closets for unused art equipment treasures to sell. The **Sell/Trade Folder** will help you resolve what to do with those art items you don't use or would like to replace. Just take a picture and write a little description, include a OSRP (Owners suggested retail price) and put it in the book. We hope members will get in the habit of checking out the bargains!

ArtistsRegistry.com

Annual Members Juried Exhibition Artists' Reception will be Thursday, November 17, 2015 from 6 - 9 pm at CityArts Factory in the Community Gallery in downtown Orlando during the Third Thursdays Art Walk

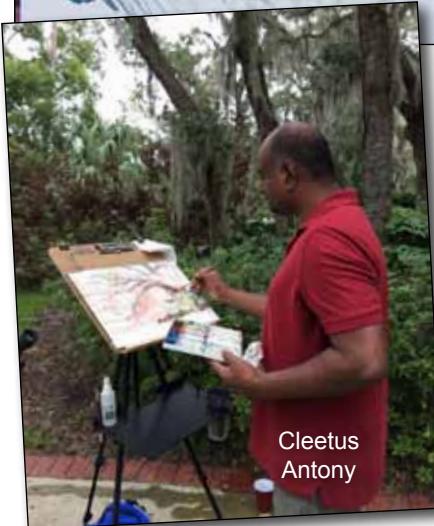
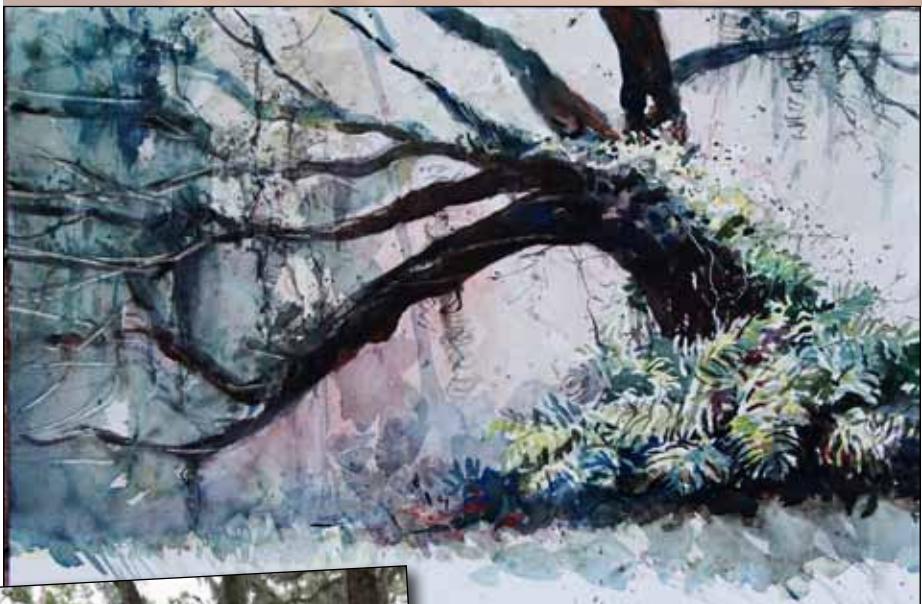
Anyone who has an announcement or other information to share on the **CFWS website** can submit it at: www.centralfloridawatercolor.org/submit/content/. The site is updated regularly.

CALL TO ARTISTS

Winter Garden Art Association. Submit on line at wgart.org. The prospectuses for future exhibitions are available at the website for the Winter Garden Art Association/127 SoBo Gallery at www.wgart.org/calendar.htm. This is a great way to show your work in our community! You can also contact **Kim Minichiello** at kimminichielloart@me.com for information.

The Historic Sanford Welcome Center Announces next month's theme for The Art Walk at www.sanfordartwalk.com/#artists-inquiry. People's choice awards monthly.

October Plein-Air



Lake Concord Park

A small but hearty group of painters appeared at Lake Concord Park in Casselberry on Saturday October 15th. It was a warm day with variable skies and there was a plethora of picturesque points to paint. Cleetus Antony and his apprentice, Amy, walked the park until inspiration accosted him and he decided to render one of the many lovely trees. Cleetus will be presenting a *Plein-air* Demonstration for us at

Lake Weston Park in Kingswood Manor this coming February. Faye Tambrino painted a stylistic version of the Art House, where we'll be having our "Hidden Gem" Show in December. Janet Asbury took pictures to work on in her studio, and Marcela Moglia worked in her sketch book.



Faye Tambrino
also provided the
photography



Marcela
Moglia



Amy
Antony

The **Gallery at Willow Creek**, located at 4725 E. Lake Drive, Winter Springs, Florida, invites local artists to exhibit. If you would like to be considered for a two month display please send a brief bio, your contact information and 3 jpgs of your work to both jeff@jlphoto-graphic.com AND ftambrino@gmail.com for review.

WORKSHOPS

Tom Jones will be performing a demo at ARTSYSTEMS OF FLORIDA, Winter Park on December 3rd during their Sidewalk Sale. Contact the Store at 407.679.4700 or 800.759.0946 Email: repro@artsystemsfl.com. Check out all of Tom's paintings and workshops on his website: www.TomJonesArtist.com.

Roberta Lerman's art class at the Maitland Senior Center is an informal class for all levels and meets on Wednesdays from 1:00 - 3:30 pm. The price is \$5.00 and includes a short demo at the beginning of each class. For information call 407.644.3542.

Nancy McDonald teacher... retired art educator offers Watercolor and Acrylic classes on Tuesdays 9 am to noon in the Fran Carlton Center, 11 Forest Avenue, Apopka. Call 407.464.6724. **Beginners** class starts in January 2017 This is an open ended class.

Local Art Shows

Nov 11-13

"Art Under the Stars"
Maitland Rotary Art Festival

Nov 12

Great Day in the Country
Oviedo on the Park 151 Graham Ave

Nov 19-20

The 20th Annual ArtWorks of
Eau Gallie Fine Arts Festival

Nov 19-20

24th Annual DeLand Fall Festival
of the Arts on Woodland Blvd

November 26 & 27

Winter Park Village Thanksgiving
Weekend Craft Festival

Around Town

Orlando Museum of Art



1st thursdays

Are you interested in painting live at the Orlando Museum of Art during the 2016 Festival of Trees? The Associates of the Orlando Museum of Art are participating in the **Festival of Trees** this year. They have a tree, and a space next to it for a live painter! They are looking for 9 artists to participate. To participate, you must be a member of the museum, and a member of the Associates. You can download the Associates membership form this url: https://gallery.mailchimp.com/3091f86dcea7bf6c199a12ee0/files/Associates_Application.2015.new_brand.pdf

If interested, please email your associates form to Chall@omart.org. We will verify your museum membership, and arrange a time to paint. LIMITED AVAILABILITY - JOIN NOW!

Not only does **Beth Pullin** do watercolor but she is also a Confectionery Artist. Here is the gingerbread house that she is donating to the Orlando Museum of Art in support of their fundraiser the **Festival of Trees**.

She recruited her son and husband to help this year. The display is 2' x 2' x 12" h. The house will be on display at OMA from November 12th through November 20th.



...Farewell

Our sweet friend and former greeter, **Jean Stirling**, passed away October 24th from ALS, at age 86. Jean was born in Toledo, Ohio, and met her husband, Al, at Western Michigan University. She was a gifted artist, talented pianist and golfer. She volunteered teaching adult literacy, was a Girl Scout leader, played keyboard for hospital patients and was a longtime member of our Central Florida Watercolor Society. She is survived by her sister Nancy, children; Bill, Nancy, and Jack, 5 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She leaves a legacy of art and elegance.



CENTRAL FLORIDA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

11TH ANNUAL JURIED MEMBER SHOW 2017

SOBO Art Gallery

Winter Garden Florida

The deadline for submission is December 4th, 2016. Paintings must be in Watercolor. Our juror will be Jaimie Cordero. The show will hang at SoBo Art Gallery until April 1st. All accepted art must be framed with Plexiglas and ready to hang with a wire. Each artist may submit one or two jpegs. No jpegs will be accepted after December 12th! You must be a member in good standing to enter!!!

Jpegs are to be sent online to Jane Brinckerhoff, mzzjane@cfl.rr.com. We will accept good, sharp jpegs in any size. They must be cropped to show the artwork only. When sending the e-mail entry to Jane be sure to include your name, e-mail address, phone number, title, price and framed size. Prices should reflect the fact that the gallery will charge a 30% commission on sales of paintings. The digital files must be named as follows: last name in CAPS + first name in lower case, #1, or #2, and the title of the painting. The file format must be jpg. Also indicate "2017 Annual Member Show" in the subject line.

The entry fee is \$25.00 for one painting, \$30.00 for two, which includes a \$5.00 each fee to the gallery. You can pay by mail, on the website (centralfloridawatercolor.org) with Paypal, or bring a check to the Treasurer at the December 4th Christmas meeting.

Make checks payable to Central Florida Watercolor Society (CFWS). If registration Form and fee is mailed to the Treasurer, Jerry Snyder, at 225 Royal Liverpool Ln, Orlando 32828, it must be **POSTMARKED** by December 4th.

Please put the following information on the back of your painting:

Artist Name_____

Artist phone #_____

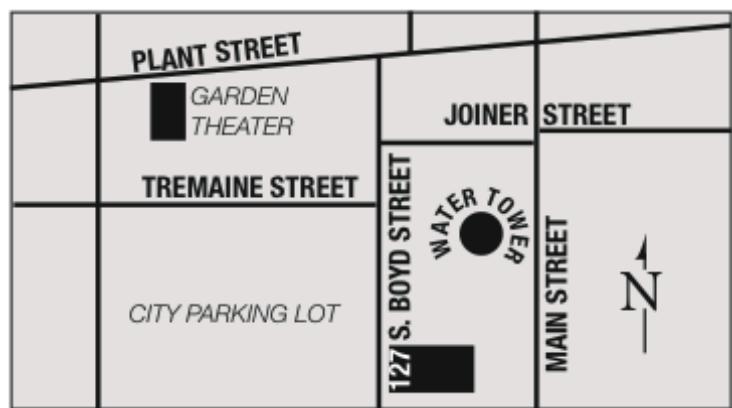
Title: _____

Price: _____

We will get the images to Jaimie Cordero around December 15th or (via a CD) and she will return the list of paintings that have been juried into the CFWS SoBo Gallery Show by the end of December. Each artist may submit up to 2 paintings and may have 0, 1 or 2 paintings selected for the show (depending on the size of the paintings submitted and space in the front room of the SoBo Gallery. This area can hold 30 to 50 paintings, dependent on framed size. Jane will send notifications to artists by January 10, 2017.

Accepted work must be dropped off at SoBo Art Gallery in Winter Garden on January 28th by 11:00 am. SoBo Art Center is located at 127 South Boyd Street in Winter Garden. Phone: 321.794.8157. Jane Brinckerhoff, Nancy Larkin and Mary Dall. will be doing a convenience drop-off of paintings at the Art & History Center-Maitland between 8:30 and 9:30 on January 28th. Paintings will be retrieved from the gallery on April 15th and brought back to A&H.

The opening reception will be Thursday, February 2nd, 2017 from 5:30 to 8:00pm. Light refreshments will be served. Participants are asked to bring a beverage. Prizes will be awarded then.



Bring to December meeting or Mail this bottom portion to
CFWS Member Show, 225 Royal Liverpool Ln, Orlando 32828

CFWS 2016 Annual Member Show Registration/Entry Form

Name_____ Phone number_____

Email address_____

Title #1_____ Framed size_____ price_____

Title #2_____ Framed size_____ price_____

Each submitted entry is \$25.00, two for \$30. Make check payable to CFWS. Be sure to send this form with check POSTMARKED by December 4th to: CFWS Member Show, 225 Royal Liverpool Ln, Orlando 32828

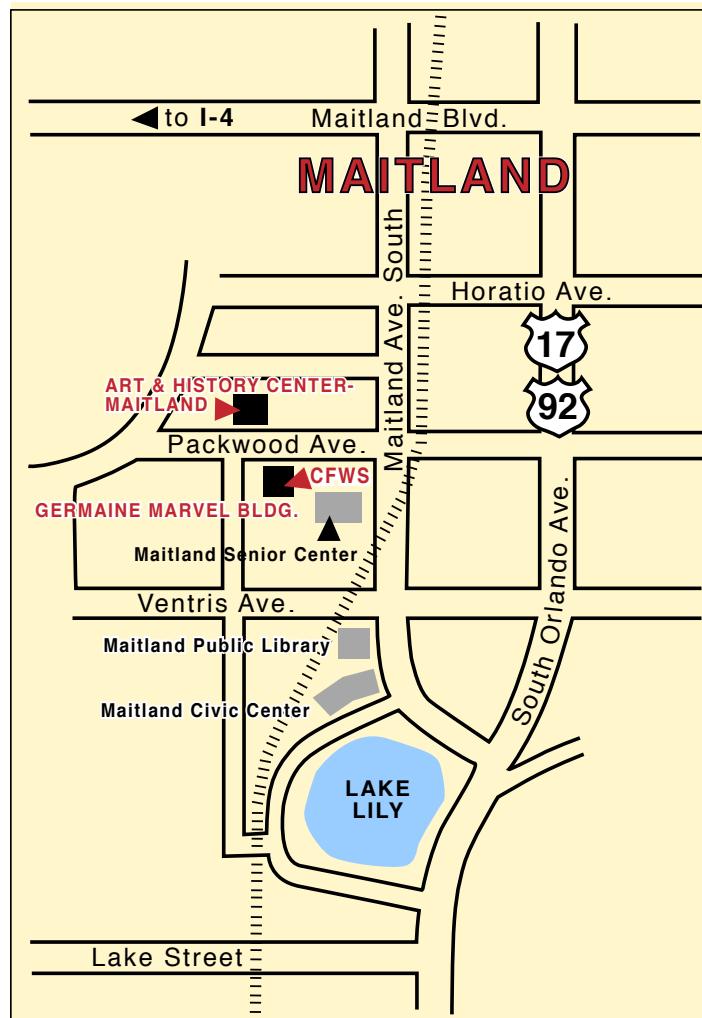
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES 2016-2017

WELCOME

President	Mary Dall marydall@bellsouth.net	407.359.7752
Vice President	Terri Chin tschin@mindspring.com	407.677.6289
Secretary	Ann Hague amhague01@earthlink.net	407-538-4449
Treasurer	Jerry Snyder jsnyder2048@gmail.com	407.381.1376
Hospitality	Marge Reed reedmapa@cfl.rr.com	716.912.0603
Greeters	Suzie Greenlee-Mamon sgreenlee@cfl.rr.com	407.339.8426
Membership	Rita Watts wattsrh@earthlink.net	910.445.1400
Publications	Janet Asbury aquanews@earthlink.net	407.739.7975
Web Coordinator	Mike Malloy mjmalloy@mmalloy.net	407.455.3307
Publicity	Judy Kaye jkworldtraverler@aol.com	407.491.7479
Workshops	Rich Lewis rdl5151@hotmail.com	407.359.2897
Workshop Registrar	Faye Tambrino ftambrino@icloud.com	407.830.7182
Shows/Galleries/ Member Show		
	Jackii Molsick jmolsick@gmail.com	352.459.3585
	Sandi Hanlon-Breuer bluewater50@juno.com	352.742.7798
Librarian	Karen Bowden bowdenartist@yahoo.com	407.443.3440
En Plein-Air	TBA	
A&H Liaison	Roberta Lerman robynoriginals@embarqmail.com	407.644.3542
Advisor	Ken Austin kenaustinnws@cfl.rr.com	407.423.5741
Audio	David Williams dewhome@embarqmail.com	407.629.4058

All of these people could use some help!

The monthly meeting for **December** will be held on Sunday, **December 4th** in the Germaine Marvel Building, 341 Packwood Avenue, Maitland across from the Art & History Center - Maitland. We meet at 1:30 pm.



**Come be on the board.
It's a great way
to get to know everyone!**

The position of Plein-Air Coordinator is open for the 2016-17 Season. Curious? Contact Mary Dall at: 407.359.7752 or marydall@bellsouth.net

Newsletter Articles and Member News

Please send your news, articles, photos and announcements to aquanews@earthlink.net. Submit artwork as a jpeg. Deadline is the 10th of each month. We look forward to hearing from you and about you!!

A lot of what I discuss in these articles is what and why we paint. But an important factor in any creative endeavor is the environment for creating. Not that one's surroundings are the exclusive reason for doing quality work, but the place we paint in can sure contribute to or take a toll on our desire and interest in our work.

Many of us work in watercolor because we love it, and we aspire to greater things with it. But working is very difficult if we're not able to fully focus on what we do. Thus, we not only need a space to work in, we need a space that works for us. Some criteria include a space that:

- Is your space only
- Is used only for you to paint in
- Is a pleasant place to paint in and,
- Can provide the technical needs for creating your art.

Now, I'm sure I'll hear a great sigh from all who read this and don't have a studio, or one they like (let alone love), but let's take a look at the above criteria one by one.

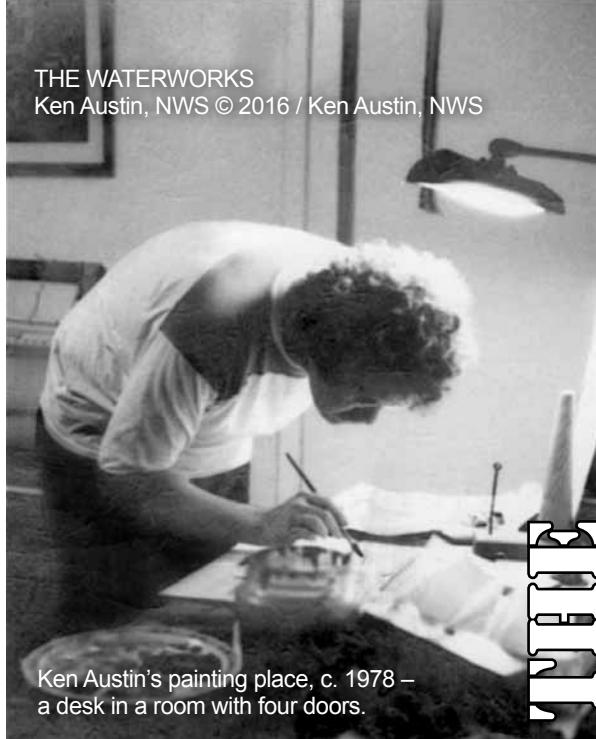
Having a space for you alone, means you'll need to let others in your life know that it's YOUR space and stick with it! That means no fishing gear, old toys, and other stuff that nobody knows what to do with taking up all your painting space, not a place for them to have a private conversation, etc. So others who support you painting will have to learn that this is not a space for them, but for YOU. The sole purpose of this space is your painting and your art associated activities.

The space should only be used by one person (unless you're blessed with a space big enough for others to paint with you) and that person is YOU. That way you aren't distracted, and can focus fully on making art.

The painting space should be a pleasant one so you'll want to be there at every opportunity or at scheduled times to paint. Since "pleasant" is personally interpreted, the degree of creature comfort and eye appeal is up to you. But functionality is also a major requirement of a painting space, and when it clashes with visual appeal or other personal dictates, function becomes a major concern.

The technical needs of watercolor painting seem minimal compared to other forms of art-making. Pottery, metal sculpture, print

THE WATERWORKS
Ken Austin, NWS © 2016 / Ken Austin, NWS



Ken Austin's painting place, c. 1978 –
a desk in a room with four doors.

STUDIO

By Ken Austin

making all seem to take a lot more room than watercolor. Not that watercolor can't take up a lot of room too, but generally, working even on larger works won't require more than that needed by the artist to sit/stand while painting, a place for the paper being painted on, a place to view the work while in progress, and room for storage of your supplies, works in progress and finished pieces.

Technical needs are often difficult to accommodate in a limited space. Along with electric lighting, paper, paint, and water, we might need a computer, a paper cutter, north daylight or daylight lamps, both document and work files, as well as phones, visitor space, air conditioning and even a space for soaking and/or drying paintings, etc. These requirements are thought to be basic to the medium, but many of us can get by with minimal space; a desk (see illustration), a card table, a small space in a kitchen where you can work - after all, the real work is very basic. We mix the paint with water, and brush it onto paper.

So are there other opportunities? Yes. If you can, joining with others to buy, rent or renovate an already available space can be a great way for several artists to find the space, atmosphere, and facilities adaptable to painting. Another way is to find a facility that already rents space to individual artists (these are often sponsored by arts organizations). This way you can have your own place that meets all the above requirements, but still allows access to other artists. It isn't cheap, however.

Since you're creative, you might well put together a league, society or co-op that can sponsor such facilities. Or re-do any extra space you have to make it your painting place. I always tell my students, "You need to have a place where you paint. If it's not a room, it can be a table, a desk or a nook in your family room. Just find a spot that's your own, and use it for your art, and ONLY your art – and keep moving forward!"

Meanwhile,
keep your brush wet!

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