# Spokane Watercolor Society

www.spokanewatercolorsociety.com

## *Brushstroke*

January 2014

**Officers:**

**Elaine Syth, President**
**Linda Smith, Co-Vice President**
**Sherry Thies, Co-Vice President**
**Gail Johannes, Secretary**
**Bonnie Whinnen, Treasurer**
**Jeanne Wallace, Newsletter**

**Important Dates:**

**Feb. 12 In-House Critique. See Note 1, pg. 2, following Artist Update..**
**Mar. 12 New Member Voting & Charlie Hinton Grant Gallery) on gallery owner perspective.**
**Apr. 9 TBD**
**May 14 Photographing our own work—Ray Aguirre. This was originally listed in Dec. Newsletter for April. See Note 6, pg. 2, following Artist Update.**
**June 11 TBD**
**July 9 Paint-out—location TBD**
**Aug. No meeting!**

## President's Message:

As much as I love the holidays, it's also always nice when they are over. It seems so much gets set aside in all the holiday rush, at least in my life. Now I am back to my regular daily "grind" but that includes taking time for art, time that I didn't much have in November and December.

Many of you are aware that I joined Spokane Sketchers – a local Meet-Up group – last June. Being a part of it has had a tremendous impact on my art. I joined for many reasons-to network with and learn from more local artists, to get over my phobia of drawing/ painting with others around, to get out and visit more of our area and/or simply to be more creative. I have benefited from all of those and more. Drawing has become an almost daily activity for me, whether I spend 10 minutes at it drawing something mundane in my home, use photos or go out and draw on site. I can see a sketch in almost anything. When I cannot fit it in, I miss it! My drawing has improved immensely in the past 8 months, which can only serve to improve my art in general. I hope you are all making sure art fits into your life.

I'm sorry so many of you missed our January meeting! Mary Jo's Zentangle work-along demo was wonderful and I, for one, had great fun learning from her and trying my hand at it!

Be sure to bring one painting to be critiqued-or something you need help on-to our February meeting. Also, March is the meeting when we vote on new members; if you know anyone who is interested in joining and has not yet visited, the last chance for this membership period is the February meeting. March is a closed meeting because of the voting. And please check out the calendar for upcoming programs at our meetings.

Whatever your artistic passion, I encourage each of you to make sure you spend more time at it!

"***Manito Conservatory***"

**Elaine Syth, SWS President 2013-2014**

# SWS Meeting 8 January 2014

Elaine called the meeting to order with 12 members present. The treasurer reported a balance of $[illegible], not including $50 to Mary Jo for tonight's presentation or the $30 in expenses to Bobbie.

Cheer/Sympathy: Sue Rohrback lost her brother-in-law --- Linda Smith fell and broke her elbow.

Peggy Conrad has offered to send out cards to members for birthdays, etc. IF we supply her with cards (10-15/year usually) AND notify her when the cards are needed. If you want to participate, be sure to let her know dates (birth year not required!)

Announcements: Shirley Bird said Tom Lynch will be here for 3 days in March ($375) – he does furnish palette, paint, and paper (SAS will accept payments). Lian Zhen will be here this fall (9-12 Oct-probably $325). He will juror the show and do a demo for us at the 8 Oct meeting. If you are interested in his 2016 trip to China, go to his website for info.

Shirley Bird has a friend who rescues donkeys. The Lavender Dreams Farm & Donkey Rescue will be having a juried art show fund-raiser at Aunties Bookstore (August ?). To enter: $20/2 paintings, $15/one painting: any media –"anything goes." All paintings/ proceeds go to the Rescue. SAS will give a 20% off coupon to all who enter a painting, even if you don't get into the show. Shirley Erlandsen will bring the prospectus next meeting.

Shirley Bird said that SAS will be open at 9:30.

The photographer is all set to help us with our techniques for the May meeting.

The Board presented some suggestions for us to try at our meetings: have a social ½ hour and goodies from 6-6:30, then have the meeting and program. It should help us get out a bit earlier. Also, they want us to consider having all meetings "open" for guests (except the one for voting). Dian Zahner made the motion for us to consider having all meetings open to the general public except the voting meeting. Bobbie seconded. There were no nays.

Old Business: Gay Witherspoon has next year's juried show set up for both levels at Interplayers. A reception will be held on both 1st Friday (3 Oct) and a week later on Sunday. The goal this year is to have ***everyone*** submit a good entry image. The committee is also considering having no distance limitations for entries. Gail Johannes will help with advertising. Gay asks that everyone sub-mit addresses for potential participants. Susan suggested that we send letters/prospectus to the heads of all local art departments. Shirley Bird mentioned trying to get Tom Lynch as juror for our 2015 show. If anyone has preferences/suggestions for juror/ workshop artists, please get them to Gay. We need to get them 2 years in advance at least. Possibilities: Carol Buchanan, Karlyn Holman.

There was no New Business, so there was a drawing for a door prize—CD sampling of artist's demos. Elaine won. She then shared all the Christmas cards she received from the card exchange on wetcanvas.com.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12pm so we could learn some Zentangle techniques from Mary Jo.

There was no New Business, so there was a drawing for a door prize—CD sampling of artist's demos. Elaine won. She then shared all the Christmas cards she received from the card exchange on wetcanvas.com.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm so we could learn some Zentangle techniques from Mary Jo.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Conkright for Gail Johannes

## SWS ARTIST UPDATE

## As of January 1st 2014

**Jack Rogers:** Jack is teaching a drawing class at SAS beginning Friday, 1/17 for 4 weeks. Cost $45. Contact Mary Jo at SAS. For details. Jack also has many of his paintings with lots of snow, skiers, mountains and cars in snow at Avenue West Gallery for February. A reception will be Feb. 7 from 5-8:30 at 707 W. Main, Crescent Court, 2nd Level.

**Chris Twardowski:** Chris will be showing at the Idaho Watercolor Rotunda Show at the Idaho State Capitol Rotunda, 4th floor, Boise ID from 2/24 to 3/8.

**Dian Zahner:** Dian invites you to Avenue West's Annual Valentine Chocolate and Wine (cider and coffee too) on Feb. 14th from 6-9. "We welcome all to call and reserve your spot @509-838-4999."

NOTES:

1. Remember to bring one painting (whether in process or finished) for the 2 on 2 face-to-face critique.
2. Meeting starts at 6 pm with goodies before actual meeting at 6:30. There will be a 5-10 minute break at end of meeting and before evening's program. This early start will result in getting us on the road sooner.
3. "CHEER AND SYMPATHY" - A sign-up list for Birthdays will be available at the meeting. Also, please bring anywhere from 2-5 cards to the meeting to replenish Peggy Conrad's supply.
4. REMINDER: As March is the meeting when we vote on new members, if you know anyone who is interested in joining and has not yet visited, this is the last chance before we vote at the March meeting. Remember too that you have to get the required paintings from whoever you are sponsoring at that meeting.
5. If anyone has suggestions of artists they would like to see come to jury and/or to do a workshop, suggestions should be sent to Gay Witherspoon.
6. Quote from Linda Smith, "Ray has a great sense of humor and is able to explain things well. He is retired from teaching from my school, has taught at the community college level, and has run Libby Photography up until his retirement last year.
7. The DEADLINE for submissions for the February Newsletter is March 3rd. This info would include Artist Updates, Classes, etc. Thanks, Jeanne

***Peace to All, Enjoy Life and Keep Painting!***

MEMBER PROFILE: H. CRAIG WHITCOMB

Craig Whitcomb is a member of Northwest Watercolor Society, Spokane Watercolor Society, Palouse Watercolor Socius, Snake River Showcase and Bridging the Arts. Graduate of WSU and University of Idaho, has been painting for over 50 years and works in watercolor, acrylic, pastels and graphite. Subject matter ranges from portraits, through English thatched cottages, Native American Indian regalia, Japanese Shinto Temples to wildlife reflecting his catholic interests and extensive travel experiences in some 40 countries and work experiences and Southeast Asia including work for the Chinese and Japanese governments. His paintings reflect many influences from oriental to contemporary realism. He has exhibited with the Oldfield Western and Wildlife Show, Carnegie Center, Walla Walla, Gritman Hospital, Jacklin Center, Post Falls, Chase Gallery, Museum of Arts and Cultures, Spokane, Lewis Clark State College Art and History Gallery, International Miniature Show, Florida, and in Virginia, Texas, Nebraska as well as England and Japan.

He was born in Walla Walla, WA., and reared in the Lewiston Clarkston Valley by pioneering families on both sides. He graduated from Lewiston High School in 1957 and Washington State University in 1961. Subsequent degrees followed from LCSC and the University of Idaho.

After college, Craig served in the USAF for twenty years, living and working in a variety of US locations, as well as overseas in England, Korea, Japan and Vietnam. While at the Pentagon, he met his wife Stephanie, of Aruba Dutch West Indies.

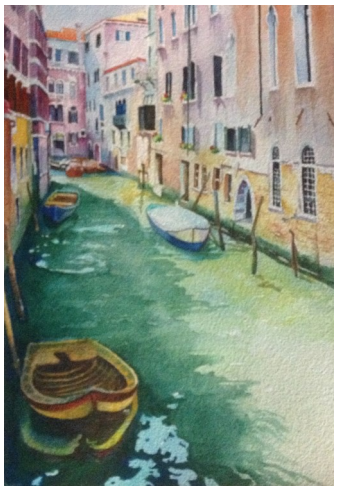
He taught in Local schools after retirement from the military. At Walla Walla Community College he taught art, philosophy, English, history and other disciplines. He also taught in the College of Education at the University of Idaho, in Shanghai, China for the Chinese government and in Japan under the sponsorship of the College of Education at Washington State University. He was twice selected for the National Endowment for the Humanities grants for high school and college teachers in Chinese Studies, has received several Idaho Humanities Council grants, and has been awarded the Grace Nixon Foundation Grant (UI) for English studies. He has two grown children and three grandchildren all of whom live in Spokane, Washington.

Below are four of Craig's paintings.

"Light and Dark"

*"Fall Dogwood"*

*"Garden Rose"*



"Venice Canal"