



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

<http://www.sswatercolor.org>

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 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,

Thank you for last month's flexibility as we changed venues for our February Members' Meeting. We will be back at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church for the March 12th meeting when we welcome our visiting guest artist, Soon Y. Warren.

I encourage you to invite your friends, family and acquaintances to SWS monthly meetings. We need to continue to get the word out that one needn't be a professional or experienced artist to join SWS! We are a very welcoming and encouraging group of water media enthusiasts!

Looking ahead, SWS membership will vote on the 2024-2025 SWS Board Officers at the April meeting. Tom Francesconi will be the guest artist for the evening's demo.

Last weekend I traveled to Jefferson, Texas to sketch and paint with a wonderful group of DFW and East Texas artists. I'm always energized and inspired by these art outings. I am especially looking forward to the SWS Granbury Paint-out April 26-28. I hope to see you there!

Wishing you a wonderful spring full of joy!

Dalynn Montgomery
President, Southwestern Watercolor Society



ARTIST'S SPOTLIGHT

Jeff Jensen, SWS

Jeff Jensen became president of the Southwestern Watercolor Society in 2020 during the pandemic and had to preside over meetings that were virtual rather than face-to-face. As a watercolor painter, Jeff agreed to be president in order to get to better know other watercolorists and support the society. It was not what he had expected. Despite all the challenges, SWS didn't lose the support that many groups did during those trying times and Jeff looks forward to doing more painting and volunteering again when he has the time.



As a painter, Jeff is known for his landscapes and cityscapes. Despite the demands of his distinguished career as a partner at international architecture firm HKS, Jeff has always maintained his personal art practice and watercolors have been an important part of that. There have been times when he has been too busy with work to do much painting, but even then he continued to look at paintings and read art books. When he was able to paint more, he was able to pick it back up. That's what he hopes will happen when he has more time in retirement.

One of Jeff's teachers in high school recognized that he had talent and recommended that he go to art school. His father advised against it because being an artist wouldn't offer a predictable income. With no idea about what he would study, and because he was also a competitive swimmer, he enrolled at the University of Kansas where he had been offered a swimming scholarship. Needing to

attend practices when housing was closed during his first Christmas break, he roomed with two other swimmers who were majoring in architecture. Knowing his interest in art, they shared what they were studying and he soon decided to enroll in the school for architecture. He saw it as a way to have a career in the arts but he also studied painting while he was in college.



After graduation, Jeff joined the international architectural firm HKS in Dallas where he has been for forty-two years. Over that time he has become a partner in the firm and has been an integral part of some of their most significant projects. Right now, he is contributing to the



design of a towering casino complex in the United Arab Emirates and that is keeping him very busy. This may be his last undertaking at HKS as he looks forward to retirement in the next year or two. He really enjoys the creative challenges of his job, but it has made it difficult for him to find the time to paint for long stretches of the last forty years.

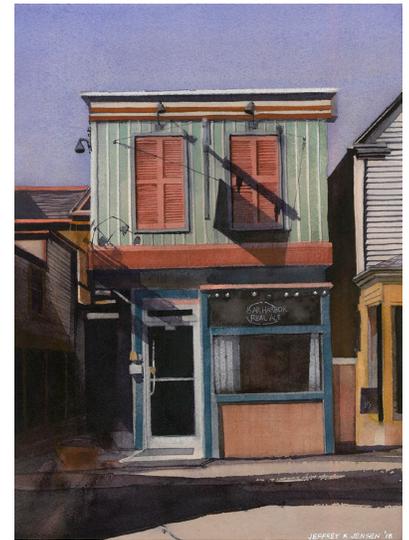




After one of those stretches, Jeff began to paint again almost by accident when his company brought in a full-time illustrator named Michael Lundgren. Clients had been complaining that computer generated architectural renderings seemed lifeless and Jeff was fascinated watching the illustrator do his paintings. With his rekindled interest in watercolor he began buying books and trying to emulate the painting approaches of the masters. Traveling internationally as part of his job, he realized that the only free time he had to paint was while he was on planes or in hotel rooms. He put together a little painting kit and a small watercolor block and using reference photos he had taken during his trips, he began doing small studies. The flight crews were fascinated watching while the other passengers slept. His goal was to capture the essence of the subject and refine his style.

Jeff says he regrets that he never took a workshop until 2012 when he studied with Joseph Zbukvic. He credits that experience with “putting him on the road.” Books can provide a lot of insight but being in the workshop helped him learn how to let watercolor do what it wants to do and stop being so controlling. He finally learned to better manage wet and dry paint. Before that, he did watercolors that were based on meticulous drawing and then using the paint to fill in between the lines. What he learned in the workshop encouraged him to work from loose sketches and paint more rapidly.

He says that one of the reasons he likes to paint en plein air so much is that it forces you to paint fast which results in more dynamic paintings. It’s so easy to get bogged down by detail when you are in the studio and you don’t have time to with the changing light and weather challenges on location.



A signature member of SWS and the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies, Jeff hopes to paint and compete more after he retires. Not surprisingly, as an architect, his passion is for depicting the built environment including structures and closeups of them. He is fascinated by scenes like the New York retail store fronts with all their colors, reflections, and depth. From his travels he has a mass of accumulated photos from all over the world to use. He also likes to collect old things and may have some still lifes in his future. He jokes that the only thing he may not be tempted to paint would be flowers.

Jeff’s goal after retirement is to get more involved again with SWS and paint as much as he can. He’d also like to do more teaching. He has a spacious studio in the house he designed with his wife Victoria and built in the historic area of McKinney and says he could host several students there in a class. His painting called

“McKinney Morning” (shown right) was accepted by NWS for their virtual exhibition called 50 Past and 50 Present which paired works by contemporary watercolorists with some of the luminaries of the past. He hopes someday to be seeing more of his paintings with those of other notables.



UPCOMING EVENTS

One-Day Class with Bill Dale *Fast and Loose Portraits*

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2024

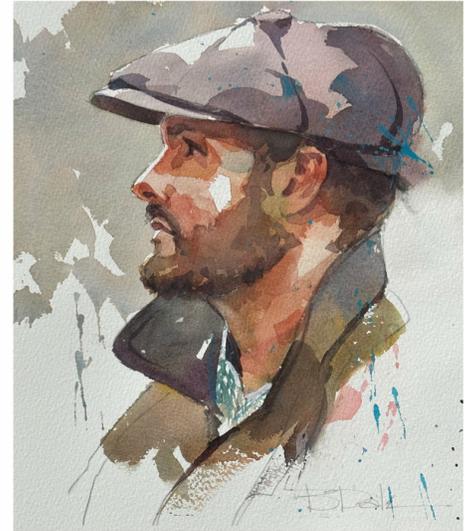
Time: 9:00 am-4:00pm

Cost: \$100 for members/\$115 for non-members

Venue: Marsh Lane Baptist Church, 10716 Marsh Lane,
Dallas, TX 75229



Bill Dale has been involved in the art world since he was a kid. His mother was a fashion illustrator and after receiving a BFA degree from The University of Kansas he pursued a long career as an industrial designer. As a designer he became fairly proficient in drawing, rendering, and illustration which has benefited him in his current painting endeavors. His artwork includes oils, watercolors, pastels, digital and charcoal drawings. He is a signature member of number of watercolor groups and has received awards in many exhibitions.



A message from Bill about the workshop-

This workshop will be my approach to painting portraits with watercolor. We will be painting from a reference photo supplied by me or you can use your own. I will do step by step instruction and provide much individual attention. In addition to watercolor technique, I will be teaching the basic proportions of the head and the planes of the face (although you will trace your portrait). I will also teach the many watercolor tips and tricks that I have picked up over the years.

[Click here to be added to the waitlist.](#)

Spring Workshops Continue...



Fort Worth Photorealist Painter Soon Y. Warren comes next door to Dallas this Month!

The March SWS 3-day workshop promises to be full of sparkle when photorealist painter **Soon Y. Warren** comes to teach a course on painting crystal and obtaining the deep darks that make her paintings shine in such glorious ways. The workshop is held March 12-14 and has drawn interest from folks in several states, as Soon Y. is known internationally and has appeared on Watercolor Live. If you are at all interested in florals, hyperrealism or glazing techniques, this is the workshop for you! We have only a few spots left so please register now on our website!

There are currently still a few opening for this informative workshop. Go to the [SWS Workshops page](#) to register.

April Brings Us the Talent of Tom Francesconi

The Spring season will wrap up with the fresh and lively techniques of artist **Tom Francesconi**. This workshop will expose the students to Tom's approach to creating interpretive watercolors that are fresh and dynamic.

Emphasis will be on creating better paintings through an understanding of the importance of well-considered value relationships, meaningful color decisions and brushwork that delights and entertains the eye. Throughout this process, Tom will share his thoughts and approach to breaking free from the tyranny of the reference photo, encouraging a more creative and satisfying painting experience.



Students will gain a better understanding of the power of simplicity through a preliminary process of letting go. Daily demonstrations will allow the students to see how Tom approaches a painting from start to finish. Exercises aimed at helping students better understand certain concepts will also be employed. Throughout, Tom strives to create an atmosphere that is educational, inspirational and joyful.

Please register at [SWS Workshops page](#).

SPRING PAINT-OUT: Granbury Texas, April 26, 27 & 28

Dan Killebrew and Ray Mosier, SWS Paint-Out Chairs, invite all members of SWS and their families to participate in Southwest Watercolor Society's Spring Paint-Out 2024. It will be on the last weekend of April (Apr. 26-27-28). After many suggestions and considerations, we have chosen to head down to Granbury, TX. to Paint the Town, literally!



We are showing a couple of maps and providing some historically significant information that may appeal to you as a painting location. Historic Downtown Granbury offers some great sights and people places and is very friendly toward artists.



The historic square and courthouse, which is on the national historic register and proceeding up and down Pearl Street or Travis or Houston Streets are great places to consider for your set up. Since we have parts of 3 days for our plein aire adventure it would be easy to try all of them.

We will have more information published as it becomes available such as where we'll meet up for Dinner on Saturday night, and where we might gather to kick things off, so look for the upcoming newsletter and check the SWS website for updated information.



In the meantime, you can [register by clicking here](#).

Registration is free, and cancellations will be accepted. The sooner you sign up the sooner we can begin to get our numbers of participants to make proper arrangements for our sharing and mealtimes.



Looking forward to seeing everyone!



RECENT EVENTS

Ken Call Conducts Workshop and Demonstrates in February

Acclaimed watercolor painter Ken Call was SWS's featured artist in February. Known for painting portraits in watercolor, Call demonstrated examples of his unique handling of paints in both the workshop and the membership meeting. Using reference photos that have been the sources for some of his most well-known award-winning paintings, he left no doubt about his mastery of the paints.



Although he often paints with Winsor Newton and other transparent paints on 300# cold press paper, he also discussed his use of PrimaTek paints by Daniel Smith. He first began using them when he received a selection of them as an award in a competition. PrimaTek paints readily granulate because they are made from minerals, and he enjoys that look in some of his paintings. He also likes the way he can easily lift back those paints to recapture lights.



At the meeting, Ken said that he begins his paintings with a general "road map" of his plan for the painting and then he starts with light big washes. He paints both the subject and the background shadow concurrently to unify the painting as he goes. He then separates forms as needed. The reference photo showed an African American man from Cuba and he said he typically uses violet in the highlights of African American skin. Many of the shapes that were indicated in the photo were not defined in his painting, just suggested, so the eye can move freely across the surface.

At the workshop, Ken demonstrated each day by painting from a reference photo every morning and then the students began to do their own paintings. Before the group left every afternoon, he would do a short critique of all the paintings. While the students were painting, Ken circulated to offer suggestions to each of the participants. At the end, students agreed the workshop was worthwhile.



February Painting-of-the-Month

There are two categories in the monthly Painting of the Month competition, one for signature members and professional artists, and one for non-signature members. Submissions must be original works in watermedia on paper by members.

The winners of the SWS Painting of the Month in the Non-Signature Category are selected by a vote of members present at the meeting. The winners for February (shown below) were:

- First Place, **Ginny Hoppe**, “Still Standing” (on the right)
- Second Place, **Tina Mewhinney**, “Stripes and Roses” (in the center)
- Third Place, **Reid McNabb**, “Colorado Stream” (on the left)



The winner in the Signature Category in February was **Walt Davis** for “Dust Storm” (shown right). Guest artist **Ken Call** made the selection and described what he liked about the painting.



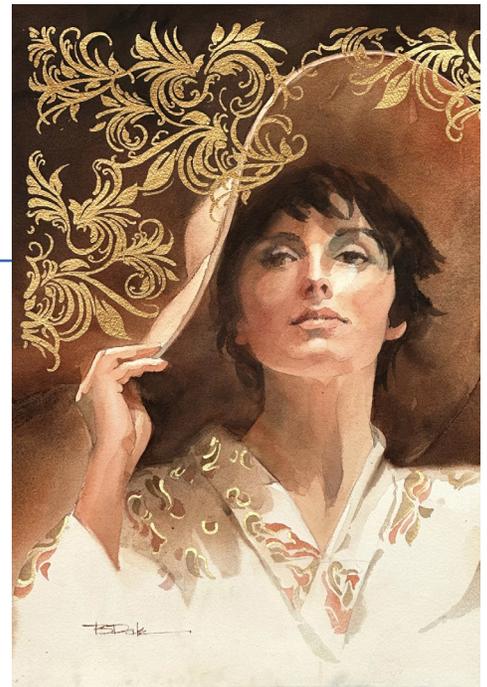
HAPPENINGS

Trish Poupard's painting, "California Cactus" (shown right) was juried into the 47th International Watermedia Exhibition at WAS-H in Houston by juror Vladislav Yeliseyev and will be on display from 3/03- 3/31.



Krystyna Dale's painting, "Dancer" (shown left) has been invited to the Fabriano Aquarello 2024. This year the event is from 23rd-29th April in Fabriano and Bologna, Italy. The exhibition extends until June, and in October the whole exhibition will move to Fort Worth, Texas.

Bill Dale's painting, "Summer Hat" (shown right) has also been invited to the Fabriano Aquarello 2024. This year the event is from 23rd-29th April in Fabriano and Bologna, Italy. The exhibition extends until June, and in October the whole exhibition will move to Fort Worth, Texas.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Vote Date Set for SWS 2024-2025 Board Members

SWS will conduct a member vote on April 9th, during the April meeting, to approve the 2024-2025 board.

BOARD NEWS

SWS Signature Artists Invited For Love Field Mini-Exhibition



Dallas Love Field

The Southwestern Watercolor Society has been invited to exhibit watercolors in the main concourse at Love Field in July. Because only two display cases are available, and the show will represent the best of SWS, a selection committee of long-time leaders created a list of SWS award winners to invite to participate. The committee, Pam Wilson, Robyn Jorde, and Kay Byfield, were charged with choosing artists who consistently win awards and whose works are distinctively varied.

The members of the selection committee created independent lists of artist nominations and then shared them with one another. They were all surprised to see that there was a high degree of accord between their lists. They were easily able to refine the final list of artists to participate in the show. Each artist will select a representative painting of their own. The paintings must be less than 24" in either dimension because there is only room to display ten works of that size in the mini-exhibition. As a consolation to the artists with equally fine work who were not selected for the mini-exhibition, a much larger competitive SWS signature member exhibition at Love Field will be held in 2025.

The artists who have agreed to participate in the 2024 SWS Signature Artist Mini-Exhibition at Love Field include Cecy Turner, Mollie Jones, Jane Jones, Michael Holter, Gisa Elwazir, Gail Delger, Bill Dale, Radha Chatterjee, Nel Dorn Byrd, and Bev Boren. Some of these artists will need to create new works to conform with the size and presentation limitations, but the works will not need to be submitted until late June. The exhibition will be in the main concourse outside of Security at Love Field from July 1 to July 31, 2024.

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Total Members in February

419

*Welcome to Our
Newest Members!*

James Aubele
Joyce Boyce
Shara Burns
David Farrell
Nicola Holman
Rebecca McCollum
Mary Anne McKenzie
Sandra Porter
Marcus Young
Miles Zitmore



ADVERTISEMENTS

SWS SCENE NEWSLETTER AD RATES

\$25 for ads 3" or less in either dimension
\$50 for ads 5" or less in either dimension
\$75 for ads 7" or less in either dimension
(7" is the absolute size limit for an ad)

Submit proofed copy on website at
https://swwatercolor.org/Submit_Ad
by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

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MEMBER TEACHER LISTINGS

*Teacher listings are available to members
for a small annual fee of \$25.
For more information, contact
Communications@SWSWatercolor.org*

LISTINGS ARE FROM JUNE - MAY
FOR THE
2023-2024 MEMBER YEAR

Trish Poupard, WW, SWS, TWS, SWA, SCWS, PWSA
All Levels Welcome, Watercolor Techniques Class
Wed's 10am-1pm Touchmark at Emerald Lake, McKinney
Contact Trish to Register for WC Classes
Text: (626) 862-9869; Email: trish@trishpoupard.com

Al Kline, SWS
Email: alklineart@gmail.com
Drawing & Urban sketching courses, watercolor, all levels
Website: albertkline.com

Paula White, Artist & Instructor, 50 years of experience
817-527-6736; paulaswhitehssa@gmail.com
Private & Group workshops, classes
Watercolor on Yupo

Michael Borne, SWS
(512) 318-1279, Email: mborne@att.net
Transparent Watercolor and Sketching Lessons
Beginners Welcome! Private Lessons available
Website: www.michaelborne.com

Kay Byfield, MFA, SWS; 214-532-5559
ArtSpeaksKayByfield@gmail.com
Traditional Watercolor, all levels
www.CreativeArtsCenter.org

Laura Lee Drumwright, SWS; 615.424.2934
LauraLeeGallery@gmail.com
Beginner-Intermediate
Private & Group Workshops/Classes
www.LauraLeeGallery.com

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

A watercolor portrait of Kay Byfield, an older woman with short, curly white hair, smiling and resting her chin on her hand. She is wearing a blue top. The background is a soft, painterly wash of colors with some floral motifs. The artist's signature 'Kay Byfield' is visible in the bottom right corner of the portrait.

Improve Your Painting with Kay Byfield

Creative Arts Center of Dallas

Basic Watercolors (Inexperienced)
Thurs. 6:30 - 9:30 pm, March 28 - May 15

Intermediate/Advanced Watercolor
Wed. 10:00 - 1:00 pm, March 27 - May 15
Wed. 6:30 - 9:30 pm, March 27 - May 15

Sign up starting March 5

www.ArtSpeaksStudio.com

Danube

WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

River Cruise

with Al Kline

An aerial photograph of a white boat with a blue stripe, moving down a river and leaving a white wake. The water is a deep teal color.

Join us August 19th-26th, 2024 where we
paint Vienna, Budapest and other cities
along the Danube in watercolor.

Go to paintbydestination.com for more
information