

WATERCOLOR & GRAPHIC ARTS SOCIETY OF MOBILE

<http://wgasmobile.org>

LATE AUGUST 2011 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

"Some of the strongest work in 'Shared Expressions' comes from the Watercolor & Graphic Arts Society whose body of work reveals a shared intellectual curiosity and an astonishing passion for detail." Thomas Harrison, Mobile Press-Register. What a wonderful testament to the skills and craftsmanship of our member artists! I also heard several patrons of the Eastern Shore Art Center state that the WGAS juried exhibition was their favorite show and presented the best work they have seen at the ESAC. And our artwork at ESAC was gloriously featured in this past Sunday's Press-Register. I am so proud of all of our exhibiting artists at both of these exhibitions. I hope you will all be able to view the beautiful work in both of these shows. The ESAC will hang through August 27th and the Shared Expressions at Mobile Museum of Art will hang through September 25th. I'd like to especially thank those who assisted in putting these exhibits together: Karen McGahagin, Kathy Friedline, Denise Inge, Lynda Touart, Marie Nickerson, and Jo Patton. We couldn't have done it without you! And the summer is not over yet – we still have the August 20th Art Expo and Shared Expressions Hands-on Demonstration of Watercolor Techniques at the Mobile Museum of Art. A special thanks to Ernie Kirkland for agreeing to help us with the demo. It is looking to be a good year for WGAS – three of our long-term artists (Lee Hoffman, Jack Sanders, and Frances Mutchnick) are featured in the Shared Expressions exhibit, and we are featured in exhibitions on both sides of the bay this summer. Stay tuned for news on other upcoming exhibition venues for 2012. And I hope to see you all at the membership meeting this fall.

Deanne Brandt



JUROR'S COMMENTS FROM THE SHARED EXPRESSIONS EXHIBITION

- **Allan Butt**, "Colored Glass", Watercolor on Paper, ("Bright colors, nice composition and good reflections; comes together to create a very good piece.")

- **Lynda Smith Touart**, "Shore Thing", Color Pencil on BFK, ("A complicated painting which was executed with precision; Use of color for separation was perfect for this painting.")
- **Peggy Lawrence**, "Believe", Acrylic on Paper, ("Color was used for the viewer's eye to travel directly to the subject.")
- **Satomi Kamei**, "At the Pub", Watercolor on Paper, ("Light directs the eye to the subject in this painting. Well executed.")
- **General Comments:** "This show has many different styles and techniques. The use of color and light are well used to create these paintings. The many subjects selected by the artists exhibit varied interests. A good show with many talented artists."

Carol Creel, Juror



AWARDS IN THE MEMBERS' JURIED EXHIBITION AT ESAC (JUDGE'S COMMENTS IN ITALICS)

- Members' Choice: **Jo Patton**, "Wet Feet II", Watercolor on Paper
- Honorable Mention I: **Frances Neumann**, "Read To Me", Watercolor on Paper (*Love the composition. Shows an ability to organize subjects into a really interesting composition. Makes me smile and it is beautifully done.*)
- Honorable Mention II: **Derald Eastman**, "Sailors Beware", Acrylic on Paper (*There is so much emotion in this painting. The Impressionist style lends itself to make the viewer feel the impact of the subject matter. Good job.*)
- Alabama Art Supply Award: **Joyce Shields**, "Together II", Watercolor on Paper (*I loved this painting. It is creative and outside the box. Delightful and fun.*)
- Lyons Share Custom Frames & Gallery Award: **William C. Morris**, "Backside of a Rough Ride", Transparent Watercolor on Paper (*Beautiful job. The strength is in the draftsmanship and color. Technically superior.*)

- Jean Zaremba Memorial Award: **Susie Wallace**, "Croton", Colored Pencil on Paper (*Just Beautiful! Cannot help but admire the detail. Great job on composition and execution.*)
- Southern Art and Framing Award: **Peggy Lawrence**, "Arbori Vitae", Watercolor & Acrylic on Paper (*This painting immediately attracts attention. The use of the yellows/oranges brings excellent contrast and makes the painting very interesting and appealing.*)
- WGAS Best Graphic Arts Award: **Kate Seawell**, "Ink Dream", Block Ink/India Ink/Mixed Media on Paper (*Non-representational is often the hardest. Nice Job of both composition and color. Shows a real creative approach to the piece.*)
- Ruth S. Bruckmann Memorial Award for Best Aqua Media: **Allan Butt**, "The Green Roof", Watercolor on Paper (*The strength of this painting is in color selection. Interesting composition due to the twist of perspective. Very nice!*)
- WGAS Best of Show Award: **Lynda Smith Touart**, "Creping Up", Color Pencil on Paper (*Beautiful composition and handling of medium. A real winner.*)

General comments:

"Jurying this show was not easy. I am so impressed with the variety of work as well as with the quality of so many pieces.

I hope my next comment is taken as constructive criticism - but in art competition light color mats are so much better and often required. Darker mats too often distract from the artwork."

Paula Payne, Judge/Juror

Newly elected members are:

1. Ted Burn
2. Conroy Hudlow
3. Clare King
4. Martha (Marcy) Matherne
5. Charmaine Neylon
6. Kathie Stabler
7. Patti Vickery

Congratulations and welcome!

Also recognized during the opening reception at ESAC were the **20-Year** pin recipients for this year:

1. **Janie Brown**
2. **Madeline Busby Gall**
3. **Sharon Lyn Jones**
4. **Lynda Smith Touart**

An Email from Thomas Harrison re: the ESAC exhibition:

"I spent about two hours wandering the galleries, and the WGAS artwork was the most impressive. Excellent job."

Note: Take down of the ESAC Juried Exhibit will be **Tuesday, August 30**. Artwork may be picked up from the ESAC during normal business hours.



VARIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

• **NEXT GENERAL MEETING!**

Morris Galleries

1011 Hillcrest Road

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH, 3P.M. (BOARD MEETING @ 2:30)

• **DON'T FORGET OUR WEB SITE!**

The domain is: <http://wgasmobile.org>.

The member sign-in is "society48".

Everyone who has their own website should send their URL to **Lynda** to be linked to the WGAS webpage.

We will try to keep up the calendar so that you can refer to it for dates and times of events. And if you have pictures you'd like posted, send them along and we'll try to make it so.

In addition to our "official" website, we also have a Facebook page; anyone who is on Facebook is encouraged to "like" it and post news and photos!

• **FROM THE SECRETARY:**

If you attended the ESAC opening reception, you may have seen our WGAS Scrapbook – still (always!) under construction. We could really use articles and photos that might be lying around in your boxes and files. It's not necessary to give up your originals for the cause; they can be scanned or copied. Please note, however, that we will need good quality for this. [To copy a newspaper article without seeing the back side bleed through, put a black piece of paper behind it.] If you would like me to do this for you, just let me know.



FROM THE TREASURER

Dues (\$20) for the ensuing year were owed on June 1st. You **must** be current to enter any exhibitions or to vote on proposals. You may pay at the meeting or at the exhibition take-ins -OR -

Send your checks **to the Treasurer:**

Denise Inge, Treasurer
Watercolor & Graphic Arts Society
P. O. Box 81701
Mobile, AL 36689



MEMBER NEWS

- EMAIL CHANGES:
Ann Calagaz: calagazart@bellsouth.net
Sharon Lyn Jones: sharonsales@comcast.net
Suzanne Wright: sswright31@att.net
- **NEW ADDRESS:**
Courtney Hays
100 St. Joseph St. FL4
Mobile AL 36602-3615
- **Correction:** **Lynn Weeks** *also* got a Merit Award in the Colors of the Coast show!
- **THE ART OF READING SHOW:** *Joanne Brandt and Kathy Friedline are working with the Mobile Public Library to present the second bi-annual Art of Reading Show. Artwork purchased from this show will add to the library's permanent collection of artwork to be displayed at library branches throughout the library system. Information regarding entries and submittal of artwork for the show can be obtained at any library branch or several galleries and art supply outlets around Mobile and Baldwin Counties. Artwork will be accepted on Saturday, October 1st, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon at the West Regional Branch Library, 5555 Grelot Road in the City of Mobile. The show will hang October 3 – December 2, 2011. A public reception will be held Thurs, October 6th, 6:00 – 7:30 PM. The Friends of the Library will provide up to \$800 in purchase awards for the show.*
- **Lynda Smith Touart** will be the featured artist at Edward Jones Financial for the months of September and October. Reception(s) will be held during LoDa Art Walk. Come by!
- **Mary Rodning** announces the completion of the summer program in Asian Art for Semmes students. Children artists learned sumi-e (ink brush painting), gyotaku (fish printing), origami (paper folding), and suminagashi (in floating on water, the first paper marbling done in the world). The students' work from the summer art classes has been matted and shrink-wrapped by Southern Art and Framing and will hang there through August.
- **Monique McFarland** won an award for best of show watercolor at the Bay Rivers Art Guild spring show.
- **Lydia Host** is teaching a painting (acrylic/oil) workshop focusing on reflections of metal and glass, and fabric, at the Eastern Shore Art Center – Friday, September 30 and Saturday, October 1, 9 am-3pm.
- **Mary Elizabeth Kimbrough** is teaching two classes in the use of Acrylic mediums and presenting a series of three lectures at Space 301 this summer. The last lecture is on Wednesday, August 17, 6-7 pm – "The Influence of Southern Culture on Contemporary Art".
- **Fred Marchman** will be featured in retrospective show of his art at Coleman Galleries on De la Mar Avenue in Fairhope on November 4th during the First Friday Art Walk.
- **Derald Eastman** will be showing his paintings in the Blue Room at the Mobile Arts Council in October. Derald also reports he has a new website & blog, which are located at: <http://www.deraldeastman.com>.
- **Carolyn Greene** announces that the VSA Art Partners on the Bay event will be October 20th at the Eastern Shore Art Center. This is a wonderful evening with the paintings auctioned to provide art opportunities for people with all sorts of disabilities in Mobile and Baldwin Counties.
- **The Artist's Place at The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer** is looking for artists to show for next year. Contact Rob Bearden to schedule a month to show your work: robearden@bellsouth.net or 251-767-8362.

Please send all your news to Ltouart@touart.com so that it can be included in the next newsletter!
DON'T BE SHY!
And don't forget to send new email and snail mail addresses, and phone numbers to Denise as well:
dinge51@hotmail.com