



Wisconsin Watercolor Society

# paintbox news

February 2017

## President's Message

Welcome to spring and all the new season has to offer. OK, so I jumped the gun a bit on spring. You have probably noticed that this newsletter is coming out a bit sooner this new year than the usual early to middle March delivery time. Our newsletter editor, Kappy Schwab, has much to do the start of this new year and saw fit to get an early start on Wisconsin Watercolor Society news and events that lay ahead.

Our next WWS exhibition will be held at the Cedarburg Art Museum from March 22 – June 4. Our Exhibition Chairperson, Chris Sommerfelt, already has the prospectus in the hand of our membership. The museum, as you may remember, is a combination of Romanesque, Queen Anne, and Classical architecture. You can read more about the interesting history of the mansion by going to [www.cedarburgartmuseum.org/our-story](http://www.cedarburgartmuseum.org/our-story).

Our annual meeting will be held this year on Saturday, April 8th at the **Cedarburg Cultural Center**. This venue gives us a bit more room and will allow us to use our overhead mirror so the audience can more easily view our presenter's demonstration. Our meeting and election of officer's is at noon, followed by a watercolor demonstration by Joye Moon.. This promises to be a very good program so arrive early. The business meeting and election of officers is at noon with Joy's demonstration starting at 1:00 PM with plenty of convenient parking at the Cultural Center. Mark your calendars now.

I hope all of you will get a chance to see three very good watercolor exhibitions. In 2016, RAM's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts turned 75 and Wustum's longest running exhibition, Watercolor Wisconsin, turned 50. Watercolor Wisconsin was inaugurated in 1966 in response to a long-term and dedicated interest in this form of painting and has been presented every year since.

In honor of this milestone, RAM is honoring Watercolor Wisconsin - and Wustum's commitment to supporting the medium and regional artists - with an exhibition of works purchased from the shows that became part of RAM's permanent collection.

One of Wustum Museum's most popular shows, Watercolor Wisconsin is a statewide competition organized by the museum annually since 1966. The exhibition takes a contemporary approach, while it emphasizes the possibilities inherent in painting on paper in a wide range of sizes and formats.

The Transparent Watercolor Society of America 41st annual exhibition will again be held at the Kenosha Public Museum from May 2 – August 2. This is always a knockout exhibition of artist's watercolor expertise from across the country. An exhibition not to be missed.

Watch for our plein-air painting schedule to be posted on our website this spring.

Steve Horvath

## WWS Spring Exhibit

Our spring exhibition will be held at the Cedarburg Art Museum from March 22 – June 4. This is a lovely old home and our art will be displayed in individual rooms of this home. The show will have a theme called "Awakenings." It is a fairly open-ended theme to be interpreted as you choose. Members should have received their prospectus by this time for this show. An entry/hold harmless form must be postmarked by Tuesday, February 28, 2017 and mailed to Chris Sommerfelt. The reception will be Saturday, March 25 from 4 – 6pm. The public is invited to attend.

At our last Board Meeting an artist was juried and that artist's work will be on view in our Spring Exhibition to be voted on by the members. Be sure to place your vote when visiting the show.

## WWS Exhibits

Fall of 2017 will be our 65th Anniversary Show which will be held at the Plymouth Arts Center in Plymouth, WI October 13 – December 1, 2017. The Opening Reception is Friday, October 13, 4:30 – 7:00pm. There will be a gallery talk 4:30-5:00pm. More information will follow in the WWS Fall newsletter.

## Annual Dinner

Our Annual Dinner took place last fall in October at Carini's la Conca D'Oro. We had a nice turnout and we all enjoyed the wonderful menu there which included the excellent pizzas from Carini's wood burning oven. Details on the 2017 Annual Dinner will appear in the Fall newsletter. This will be a special dinner as it will be our 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner celebration.



Dining at Carini's

## WWS Website

Have you looked at our web site recently? Do you need to update your profile? If you've recently developed your own web site add the link. New images of your recent work will add a fresh look. Contact Steve with any changes, [horvath@execpc.com](mailto:horvath@execpc.com).

## Annual Member Meeting and Watercolor Demonstration

April 8<sup>th</sup> is our Annual Member Meeting which begins with a Board Meeting and Election of Officers. This year we also have some positions open for Chairpersons. We will be calling on all of you history buffs. Barbara Rambadt has spent a great deal of time this last year putting the history of our organization in good order. She has compiled a wonderful book with all the details. Now we are looking for someone to carry on and continue her work. Another position that will be open is Membership. This entails contact from artists who are interested in our organization who will send visuals of their work to be reviewed. The Chairperson will also keep our directory updated.

We are pleased to have two of our members offer to help chair the Exhibitions position. Joye Moon and Judy Radtke will be sharing the Chairperson Exhibition position with Chris Sommerfelt. This is a big help as there are many details involved in this important position.

Following our elections we will have an outstanding artist demonstration at 1 to 3pm given by Joye Moon a WWS member and nationally recognized artist. Joye has earned her signature membership into



Joye Moon

the National Watercolor Society as well as the Rhode Island, Western Colorado, Wisconsin and the Mississippi Watercolor Societies. A life long artist, Joye maintains her studio in Wisconsin and has taught over 200 watercolor workshops throughout the United States as well as conducting 27 international tours.

Joye's book, "Exploring Textures in Watercolor" was published by North Light Books in 2009 and has been a best seller around the world. Her work has been featured in "Splash 8" by North Light Books and "How did you paint that? 100 Ways to Paint Flowers and Gardens," by International Artist. She has also been published in many articles in art magazines such as American Artist, Watercolor and the Artist Magazine. Don't miss this opportunity to gain valuable painting expertise at this meeting.

The location for our meeting in April will be at the **Cedarburg Cultural Center, Cedarburg, WI.**



## Artist Profile

### Quick Sketch – Karen Finerty

By Steve Horvath



Karen working in her studio

**Elm Grove, Wisconsin, December 30, 2016** – A hobby becomes a full time endeavor. Karen and I got together at her home studio to interview for this article. A light filled sun room in a quiet corner of her and husband John's condo in Elm Grove. (Photo above)

Originally from Menomonee, Michigan where she grew up through high school, Karen migrated to Milwaukee to study business at Carroll College (University). Not finding that as fulfilling as she had hoped she found her way to the Pabst Brewery research laboratory. At that time Pabst researched their beer by-products to find ways to cure things from redwood tree decease to finding a possible cure for cancer.

When we're young we are searching for just the right thing to be our life's work and Karen was no exception to more than once change directions in threading her way down the path of discovery. She decided to change her career direction to radio copywriting writing radio commercials for WMIL Radio.

Karen met her future husband John at WMIL while writing commercials for him on his music program. His music gig was part of an internship undergrad degree, on his way to becoming a law student at Marquette University.

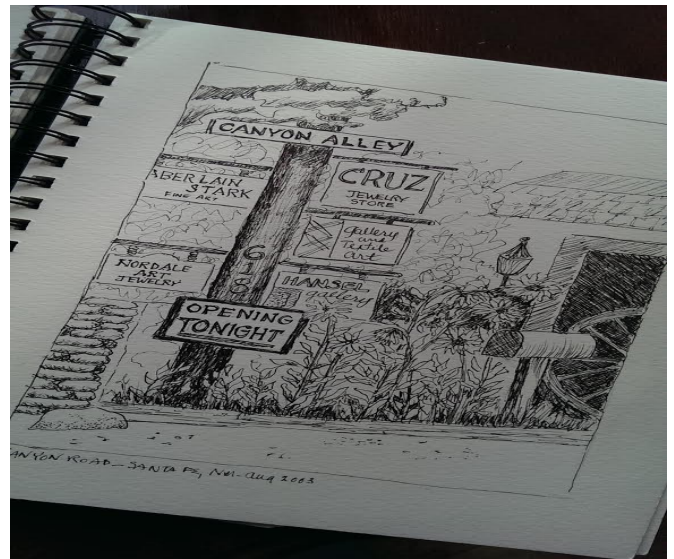
It was about this time that Karen, having an interest in art, started to take art classes at MATC in the evening and classes at the Art Museum while writing commercials for John to read on the radio. Karen and John married in 1964 and the next year began raising their family of four children.

She had an interest in oil painting and began taking lessons with Ingrid Parker for several years to learn the basics of working in oil. This experience led her to acrylics as she was interested in exploring different mediums.

Karen started taking watercolor classes in Cedarburg with Jean Crain. She found these lessons, as she did all of her art making experiences, beneficial in improving her ability in making art. She says that "A watercolor is exciting to see develop the way a picture takes form", and this is why she started to focus on watercolor, for the past 25 years, as her medium of choice. Karen starts many of her paintings from a photo she has taken and from sketches she has made on some of her trips to get the idea started but then the image begins to take its own course and she follows that path rather than relying on the photo image alone. She does all of her work on a very heavy 300# cold press paper along with an array of mostly round brushes along with Daniel Smith and Winsor & Newton pigments.

Karen takes the classes that run along with the TWSA (Transparent Watercolor Society Association) exhibition that shows in the spring at the Kenosha Public Museum. She also takes other classes around the state.

Karen likes to travel and went on a painting trip organized by WWS member Joye Moon. They spent 11 days in the Tuscany region of Italy. Karen had an opportunity to produce a lot of sketches and making color notes with her small portable watercolor paint palette.



A page in Karen's sketch book

Karen stays busy in the community as well. She ran the Elm Grove Women's Club Spring Art Show for 7 years and as some of you may be aware she put in a great deal of effort, along with our WWS Vice President, Bill Davis, in putting together our 60th Anniversary Celebration Dinner at the Wisconsin Club in 2012. (Note: Our 65th anniversary dinner is coming up in the fall of this year. Look for details in future communications from your WWS Board.) If you would like to see more of Karen's work just visit our Wisconsin Watercolor Society web site at [www.wisconsinwatercolorsociety.com](http://www.wisconsinwatercolorsociety.com).



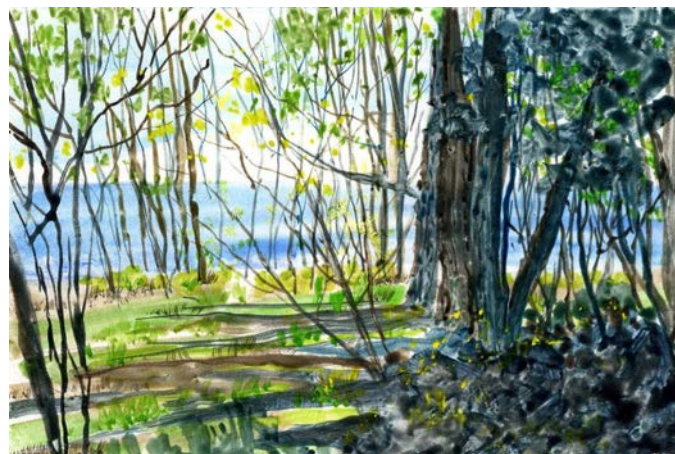


Karen Finerty, "Yellow Roses in Waterford"



Karen Finerty, "Berries in Crystal"

## Member News



Steve Horvath, "Light and Shade"

*Watercolor Wisconsin 2016* marks the exhibit's 50<sup>th</sup> year. The show continues to attract a wide range of artists from around the state and is currently on view at RAM's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts in Racine. This year's show features several of our WWS members - **Jean Crane, Joyce Eesley, Lisa Englander, Connie Glowacki, Harold Hansen, Steve Horvath, Julia F. McMurray, Lynne Railsback, Barbara Sorenson Rambatt, Diane Shabino, Chris Sommerfelt and Alice Struck.** Steve Horvath's watercolor monoprint "Light and Shade" was chosen from 272 pieces and earned him the juror's First Award in the exhibition. In addition, Horvath's watercolor earned one of RAM's three Memorial Purchase Awards, the Ruthann Pettibone Award. Chris Sommerfelt's watercolor, "Morning Abstracted" was one of the recipients of a Merchandise Award.

**Dan Simoneau's** painting "The Barn Door" has been accepted into the 150<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition of the American Watercolor Society. As a result, Dan is now a signature member. Congratulations Dan! The Kenosha Public Museum will be exhibiting a solo exhibition of Dan Simoneau's male figurative paintings in the Touhey (East) Gallery from June 10 through August 20, 2017. On view will be 25 – 30 of Dan's acrylic and watercolor paintings.

## Facebook

Have you seen our Group page on Facebook? Go to [www.facebook.com/groups/WisconsinWatercolorSociety](http://www.facebook.com/groups/WisconsinWatercolorSociety) Once there, please join. A group page on Facebook differs from an organization page in this way. All member's posts will show up in the main timeline in a group. In this way you can post about exhibits you are in, classes you are teaching. You can post a tip, tell about a great new art supply you have found. Show us your latest painting.

## Shows to Enjoy

### Wisconsin Artists Biennial 2016

Museum of Wisconsin Art

Through March 27, 2017

West Bend, WI

### The Flowers are Burning

Drury Gallery of the Portage Center for the Arts

Incandescent Watercolors

February 13 – March 11, 2017

Helen Klebesadel and Mary Kay Neumann offer an exhibition of watercolor paintings that considers the search for beauty and strength that sustains us in the face of the adversity of climate change. The flowers are metaphors of power found in unexpected and overlooked places. Mary Kay and Helen exhibit both individual and collaboratively created artworks in which the energy of flowers burning with beauty and power is illuminated.

301 E. Cook St., Portage, WI

### WRAP Madison

Wisconsin Regional Art Program –

Madison Exhibition

March 26 – April 8, 2017

Pyle Center, 702 Langdon St., Madison, WI

### Watercolor Wisconsin

Now in its 50<sup>th</sup> year, Watercolor Wisconsin continues to attract a wide range of artists from around the state. The accepted media is aqueous media such as acrylic and watercolor. On view through April 22, 2017.

Wustum Museum of Fine Art,

2519 Northwestern Avenue, Racine, WI

RAM, 441 Main St., Racine, WI

## Workshops/Traveling Artists

**WWS member, Barbara Mathews will be teaching a 3 day pouring workshop at the Venice Art Center, Venice, FL**

March 27 – 29.

Contact Art Center for more information.

info@veniceartcenter.com, 941-485-7136

**WWS member, Joye Moon will be teaching the following workshops:**

January 28 and 29, 2017

La Moyne Art Center, Tallahassee, FL

February 2 and 3, 2017

The Villages, FL, contact Bbaug97@aol.com

February 26 and 27, 2017

Quail Creek, Green Valley, AZ

February 7 and 8, 2017

Sun City Grand, AZ

Contact: sharoncarpenter01@gmail.com

## Exhibit Opportunities

### Midsummer Festival of the Arts

#### Call for Artists

Festival - July 15 and 16, 2017

Deadline for application - March 31, 2017

John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI

## Schedule of Activities

### 2017

#### January

No scheduled activities  
Annual dues

#### February

##### Board Meeting

Saturday February 4

1:00 – 3:00pm

Steve Horvath's house

##### Spring newsletter

#### March

##### WWS Spring Exhibit

Cedarburg Art Museum

March 15 – May 21

#### April

##### Annual Member Meeting

Saturday, April 8

Board Meeting &

Election of Officers

12:00 – 1:00pm

##### Demonstration

##### Joye Moon

1 – 3:00pm

##### Cedarburg Cultural Center

Cedarburg, WI

#### May

##### Board Meeting

#### June, July August

##### Happy Painting

See Plein Air Schedule

#### September

##### Board Meeting

1:00 – 3:00pm

##### Fall newsletter

#### October

##### 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

##### Exhibit Celebration

October 13 – November 21

Plymouth Arts Center

##### Annual Member Dinner

Carini's La Conca D'Oro

Oakland Ave, Milwaukee

#### November, December

No scheduled events

## I NEED YOUR NEWS!

Let me know what is happening in your area-exhibitions, workshops, painting trips, current museum exhibitions, awards. I would love to hear from you! Would you be interested in writing an Artist Profile for the newsletter? Send articles about members, photographs/digitals of artwork.

August 6, 2017 deadline for September 2017 newsletter

Please send information by email:  
kappyschwab@gmail.com

By regular mail:

**Kappy Schwab/WWS Newsletter**  
**917 W. Shaker Circle**  
**Mequon, WI 53092**

Please, no-handwritten or phone-in submissions.  
Submissions may be excluded due to space restrictions.

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