



Wisconsin Watercolor Society  
**paintbox  
news**

September 2017

## Presidents Message

Greetings to all of you in this 65th year of the Wisconsin Watercolor Society! It certainly makes me both honored and humble to be the president of a group with such an outstanding, long lasting history! I remember 'way back in the days before I was a member, thinking what a thrill it would be to belong to this group. Now here I am, following sixty five years of dedicated watercolor artists and leaders who have brought us to where we stand today.

We will be celebrating in style, thanks to the efforts of Karen Finerty, who arranged our **65th Anniversary Dinner at the Wisconsin Club on October 21, 2017**. Catherine Hoke, Executive Director of the Peninsula School of Art in Door County, will be presenting a commemorative speech. Watch for your invitations to this event and mark the date on your calendars!

Our 65th Anniversary Exhibit is scheduled for October 13th through November 24th, 2017 at the Plymouth Art Center, Gallery 110. Prospectuses were sent earlier, and you may have already sent your entry form to Judith Radtke by the time you read this. The **Opening Reception will be held Friday, October 13th** from 4:30 to 7pm. Be sure to invite your families and friends.

I would like to recognize all of the board members and WWS members who volunteered their time to smooth the way. **Steve Horvath**, as past president, has been the mainstay and an eloquent voice for watercolor artists and for the Society, working to connect and continue the work of its founders for 30 or more years. As I said at the Annual Meeting, we don't realize what a priceless asset this is to a group that casts its net over the entire State!

Our outgoing Membership Chair, **Karen Finerty**, has efficiently and effectively received and presented new candidates for membership to the board and also arranged the fantastic Anniversary Dinner we are looking forward to. Our continuing officers, Secretary **Carolyn Simpson** and Treasurer **Joyce Eesley** keep our records and finances in order. Newsletter Editor **Kappy Schwab** produces this beautiful and informative newsletter in fall and spring, including both email and online versions. **Chris Sommerfelt** is the originator and manager of our Facebook page, without which we would be invisible to a majority of the population today. Chris also deserves credit for many years of negotiating with galleries and exhibit venues, printing and mailing our Fall and Spring Exhibit prospectuses. Although Chris is stepping down from her position as Exhibit Chair, she will continue to be a "worker bee" on the committee, producing those clear, concise and accurate show prospectuses. The work of the Exhibit Committee is shared by **Joye Moon** and **Judith Radtke**, with Chris' assistance on the prospectus mailing. Welcome aboard, Judith and Joye! Historian **Barb Sorenson-Rambadt** has collected the documents, records and information of the Society, working to keep this history cohesive for members, patrons and visitors to our exhibits. **William Davis**, our outgoing Vice President, has continued to provide program help. I greatly appreciate his help, even after his formal "term in office" is over. And finally, we welcome a brand new board member, **Brian Hartmann**. I personally hope all of our board members find their work rewarding and satisfying as we go forward.

Happy painting, everyone!

Alice

## 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. A theme titled “Diverse Directions” was selected for the exhibition. Our membership is quite diverse and I’m sure you will see a variety of work in many styles. The Opening Reception is Friday, October 13, 4:30 – 7:00pm. There will be a gallery talk at 4:30-5:00pm. Be sure to vote on the two artists who have applied for membership.



Spring Show at the Cedarburg Art Museum, March 22 – June 4, 2017 Sonya Lyster-Baime, Karen Finerty, Barbara Becker, Jean Tobin and Kappy Schwab

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

Our Anniversary Dinner will be held at the Wisconsin Club on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. Cocktails will be served at 5:00pm, dinner at 6:00pm and there will be a program at 7:00pm. We are fortunate to have Catherine Hoke, Executive Director of the Peninsula School of Arts in Door County present a commemorative speech for our program at 7:00pm.



Joyce Eesley demo at the Cedarburg Art Museum

## Member News

**Joyce Eesley** and **Judy Gahn Murphy** will be participating in the Alverno College 2<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Director’s Invitational WOW! Women of Wisconsin event August 23 through September 23, 2017. Joyce will be on the panel discussion and Judy is doing an art demo presentation. Joyce also teaches workshops and classes at UW-Waukesha.

**Lynn Railsback** had a painting, “Trumpet Honeysuckle” in the 56<sup>th</sup> exhibition of the *Watercolor USA 2017* exhibit, a national, annual juried exhibition recognizing aqueous media painting. The event in Woodside, CA was open to artists from all 50 states and US territories. Lynn also has two watercolors at the Woodson Art Museum, Wausau, WI a small botanical exhibition that focuses on native ginseng. *Ginseng: The Treasured Root* is an exhibition in conjunction with the Wisconsin Ginseng Festival, September 9 through November 26, 2017. The exhibition is one of multiple events being held in Central Wisconsin to honor the international importance of ginseng production in our area. Lynn teaches botanical watercolors at the Lake Geneva Art Foundation in downtown Lake Geneva on Friday mornings.



Bill Doyle, “Summertime”

Two of our members were juried into the 55<sup>th</sup> Hardy Gallery Annual Exhibit this summer in Ephraim, WI. **Bill Doyle** exhibited a painting titled, “Summertime” and **Rita Crooks** exhibited “Checkmate”.

The Kenosha News/Lake Geneva Region’s article “If you want art, you make it” features WWS artist **Nancy Newcomb**. Newcomb has lived in the Lake Geneva area for 27 years and has been very involved in the art scene there. She is very much at home in her Trees Studio or gardening, creating the very exterior environment that she brings to life in watercolor, oil and acrylics. Newcomb also conducts classes around the country and teaches Elderhostels all around the U.S. “One of the greatest joys of my creative powers which

have been buried for one reason or another for so many years". In August, she will travel to Port Townsend, WA on a repeat invitation to teach a watercolor workshop. "I think the happiest thing about painting is that it helps you see. We think we see and we don't see". "What I want to do is really grow and that means you don't stay in the same pattern".

**Dan Simoneau's** male figurative paintings were featured in a solo exhibition titled, *Bell 'Uomo* at the Kenosha Public Museum, Kenosha, WI June 10 through August 20, 2017. During the exhibition, Dan also conducted a workshop at the museum and painted on-site. In addition, this year Dan's painting, "The Barn Door" was accepted into the 150<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibit of the American Watercolor Society giving him signature membership in this organization. Previously he has received National Watercolor Society Letters, a Signature Master membership in the International Society of Acrylic Painters and signature membership in the National Oil and Acrylic Painters' Society. Congratulations Dan!



Dan Simoneau, Kenosha Public Museum

## New Member Jurying

At our February 2017 Board Meeting two applicants were chosen for membership and displayed their paintings in the Spring show for members to vote on at the Cedarburg Art Museum. Both artists were selected for membership. Welcome to WWS Brian McCormick from Madison and Brian B. Hartmann from Beloit.

Karen Finerty presented applications from four artists wishing to become members of WWS. Two were chosen and will show their paintings at the Fall show in Plymouth to be voted on by members present at the show.

## Artist Profile

Quick Sketch – Karen Lenhart

By Steve Horvath



Karen in her studio

**Watersmeet, Michigan, May 26, 2017** – The directions to Karen's home/studio were pretty easy after all, I have my trusty phone navigation. Her address is on Cisco Lake Road, not spelled 'Sysco' as I plugged into my navigation device. (Note: If you are not an angler, Cisco is a species of fish). So I had to get directions the old fashioned but proven way by calling and writing them down. As you get close to her address look for the row of mailboxes on the right then go past the pole barn then turn left and pull into the second driveway on the right. Perfect.

Karen and her husband, Phil worked and lived in Wisconsin most of their adult lives and have had this lakeside home for many years, becoming their permanent and only home when they both retired.

Karen is from Clintonville, WI originally and spent a few years out of high school "looking for direction" she says. She lived with her aunt and uncle in Madison for a couple of years then found her way to Milwaukee with a girl friend at the time, to work for AC Spark Plug in their Traffic Department for about 3 years. She met Phil when she was in Madison for a time and kept up their communication. Phil got a job in Delavan, WI teaching and that is when they decided to tie the knot. Karen got a job with Sta-Rite Pumps in the Accounting Department.

Phil's career took them back to Madison where Phil accepted a teaching position at Sennett Middle School. Karen and Phil started their family about this time having their first daughter in 1971 and their second

daughter in 1972. When their daughters were in the 4th and 5th grade Karen enrolled in a college program culminating in a B.S. degree in Art Education in December of 1985.

Karen began a job at a company known at that time as National Guardian Life Insurance Co. She only intended to stay until she could find a full-time teaching position to put her degree in Art Education into practice. She started out as a Service Clerk and after a short period of time was promoted to Payroll then to Marketing doing advertising and promotion then to HR Director then to VP of Operations. All of this over a period of 16 years, retiring in 2001.

During this time she was making art and taking classes at the Clearing in Door County. She also worked with Morton Solberg and Mike Casper who Karen says both had a strong influence on her work. She also worked with Joe Fettingis, Karlyn Holman and numerous teachers at the Clearing. Karen says she likes to use more heavily pigmented watercolors using permanent white gouache to mix with her transparent watercolors and mixing different mediums such as Ink Tense blocks and pencils by Derwent to influence her work.

She seems to like the idea of not knowing exactly what will happen “staying with the pigment rather than with their elements.



A case in point is the image of the bird (above) clinging to the tree trunk.

She started with a watercolor base then added the paper from a paper wasps nest. This was followed by a heavy bodied painting gel medium applied with a palette knife showing more texture. She then added more paint on top of the textured gel to get the eventual coloration she had envisioned for the image.

I was first attracted to Karen’s work by the images of wildlife she has on her web site – her landscapes are equally engaging - they are so skillfully and sensitively done. When I arrived at her studio she had

a couple of pieces of work in progress that were very abstract in nature. She pushes and pulls color over the canvas looking for something to happen that will influence the emotion of the more recognizable imagery that will most likely appear on top of the abstraction. You can get a stronger idea of how she works by going to her web site at <http://www.karenlenhart.com> to see her unique and accomplished approach to painting.

As she says on her web site “I’m eager to see where my artistic journey takes me, as I explore untried techniques, different mediums and new subjects”.



***Live the full life of the mind,  
exhilarated by new ideas,  
intoxicated by the romance of the unusual.***

**-Ernest Hemingway**

## In Memoriam

Bill Doyle, 1938 - 2017

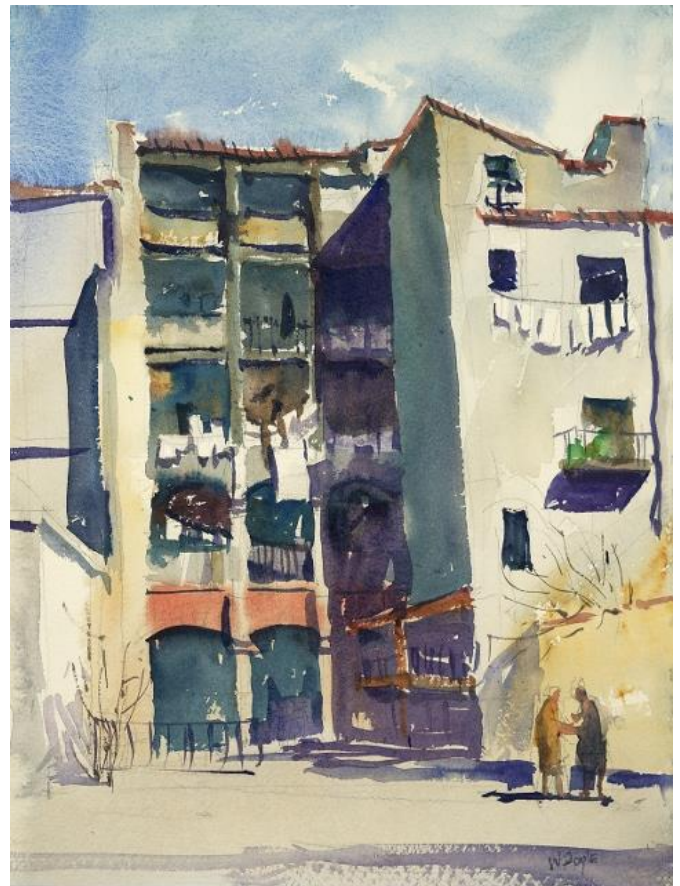


Retirement brought opportunity to focus on many lifetime interests, including golf, fly fishing with friends and travel. Bill found beauty and splendor in the world. His love of drawing and nature began as a young child. Art Professor, Louise Woodruff, encouraged Bill to continue with transparent watercolor. The art medium became a love affair and he never stopped painting or developing his skills as a dedicated student of art. Bills paintings have been represented in galleries in Montana and Wisconsin. He entered many juried competitions, including becoming a Signatory Member of the National Watercolor Society and the Wisconsin Watercolor Society. The last few years he spent many enjoyable hours painting with other plein air painters in Door Co.

Bill is survived and will be dearly missed by his wife of 57 years, Patricia; daughter, Dawn Doyle (partner Geralyn A. Claytor ), Merritt Island, FL; daughter, Christine, Green Bay and son, Bryan (wife, Rebecca and grandson Sean), Chicago, IL. As a husband, father and friend Bill always extended humor, wisdom and kindness. His gentle, loving nature is his greatest gift of all. He will be deeply missed.

**Bill Doyle** passed away on June 21, 2017 with family at his side. He was born in Chicago, IL. As a youth, Bill spent his summers as a golf caddie at a local country club. After graduating from Lane Tech High School in Chicago he received a Chick Evans Golf Scholarship. It was a gift which enabled him to attend college.

In 1961, he graduated with a degree of Bachelor of Architecture with Honors from the University of Illinois. He went on to receive the degree of Master of Architecture from the University of California, Berkley in 1962. He taught at the University of Illinois and received the Plym Foundation Traveling Fellowship. The purpose of the Fellowship was to promote excellence through 6 months of travel and study in Europe. Coming home he spent a year teaching at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. He then chose to practice architecture. In 1974, Bill joined the Green Bay architectural firm of Berners-Schober Associates. As an architect for over 31 years he was involved in the design of hospitals, schools, university buildings and many more community projects. For 14 years he served as president of BSA, retiring in 2005.



Bill Doyle

# Wisconsin Watercolor Society

## Schedule of Activities 2017–2018

### 2017

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| September | Fall Newsletter   |
| October   | <b>Saturday, October 21</b><br><b>65th Anniversary Dinner &amp; Program</b><br><b>The Wisconsin Club</b><br><br><b>5:00 cocktails</b><br><b>6:00 dinner</b><br><b>7:00 program –</b><br>Catherine Hoke, Executive<br>Director of the Peninsula School<br>of Art |
| November  | <b>Board Meeting</b><br><b>November 11</b><br><b>1:00 – 3:00pm</b><br>Alice Struck's house  |
| December  | No scheduled activities   |

### 2018

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| January  | No scheduled activity<br><br>Dues payable by January 31   |
| February | <b>Board Meeting</b><br><b>Saturday, February 10</b><br><b>1:00 – 3:00pm</b><br>Alice Struck's house<br><br>Spring Newsletter   |
| March    | Board Meeting if necessary  |
| April    | <b>Annual Membership Meeting</b><br><b>Saturday, April 14</b><br><b>Board Meeting/Election of Officers, 12:00 – 1:00pm</b><br><br><b>Demonstration TBA</b><br><b>1:00 – 3:00pm</b><br><b>Members &amp; Guests</b><br><b>Cedarburg Cultural Center</b><br><b>Cedarburg</b> |

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| May    | <b>Board Meeting</b><br>Alice Struck's house   |
| June   | No scheduled activities<br><br>Plein Air Painting<br>2018 summer schedule<br>See Spring newsletter for<br>painting locations |
| July   | No scheduled activities  |
| August | No scheduled activities  |

**We are looking for a member who would be interested in writing a profile of an interesting artist they know. Share this information with our membership in our *Artist Profile, A Quick Sketch* section (see Steve Horvath's Quick Sketch article in this issue). Contact Kappy Schwab, [kappyschwab@gmail.com](mailto:kappyschwab@gmail.com)**

**NEWisconsin Watercolor Society**  
**SPLASH Exhibit**  
October 3 – October 27, 2017  
Reception Friday, October 6, 5:00 – 8:00pm  
1409 Main Street & Cedar Street,  
Green Bay, WI

*Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall.*

**-F. Scott Fitzgerald**

## Exhibit Opportunities

### **Watercolor Wisconsin 2017 - Call for Artists**

December 10, 2017 - April 21, 2018

Aqueous media such as acrylic and watercolor—artists are free to create both two dimensional and three dimensional works on paper.

Opening Reception and Awards Ceremony at RAM's Wustum Museum,

Sunday, December 10 2:00 – 4:00

For prospectus: <http://www.ramart.org>

Contact Liz Siercks, RAM Curatorial Assistant via email [lsiercks@ramart.org](mailto:lsiercks@ramart.org) or call 262.619.3541

RAM's Wustum Museum,  
2519 Northwestern Avenue,  
Racine, WI

### **2018 Wisconsin Artists Biennial**

February 3 - April 8, 2018

Wisconsin Visual Artists (WVA) organizes the 2018 Wisconsin Artists Biennial in partnership with MOWA in 2018. WVA is a not-for-profit juried membership-based organization of visual artists working in all media and styles and those who support Wisconsin Art.

Entry Deadline Saturday, September 30, 2017

[www.wisconsinvisualartists.com](http://www.wisconsinvisualartists.com),

MOWA—Museum of Wisconsin Art

205 Veterans Ave.

West Bend, WI

## Exhibits

### **Joseph Friebert:**

#### **Through the Years, 1945-2000**

Through November 5, 2017

More than five decades of artwork of Milwaukee artist Joseph Friebert (1908-2002) are represented in this succinct exhibition. Nine paintings and two lithographs embody various stages in the prominent American artist's career. From a representational landscape and depiction of refugees in flight in the 1940s through abstractions in the 1950s to lyrical landscapes and figurative works of the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, this American artist showed diversity of subject amidst a limited palette of rich, earthy tones. All works were gifts to the Cedarburg Art Museum from the Joseph and Betsy Ritz Friebert Family Partnership and Kohler Foundation, Inc.

Cedarburg Art Museum

W63 N675 Washington Avenue

Cedarburg, WI

## Workshops

### **"Watercolor on Panel: A Whole New Way of Thinking"**

October 19 - 21, 2017

Mat Barber Kennedy

By replacing the traditional paper surface with a treated panel, you will find great freedom as you re-examine the typically unforgiving medium of watercolor. Through this process you will gain a deeper commitment to looking and planning, techniques for accurate spontaneity, direct painting without line work and exploring the abstract. You will have time to practice techniques and produce a finished painting of your own composition. This workshop is designed for students with a solid foundation in watercolor. Peninsula School of Art, Fish Creek, WI (920) 868-3455

### **Karlyn Holman**

#### **Tuscan, Arizona**

November 27 - December 1, 2017

Join Karlyn Holman at the Tanque Verde Ranch in the beautiful Rincon Mountains of southern Arizona sponsored by Madeline Island School of the Arts. The breathtaking views of the Arizona desert landscape, fabulous sunsets and warm climate provide ideal opportunities for photography and plein air painting. Spacious studios offer sweeping desert and mountain views to inspire quilters and writers. To enroll contact MISA @ (715) 747-2054 email: [misa@cheqnet.net](mailto:misa@cheqnet.net) or visit <https://secure.madelineartschool.com>

## Traveling Artists

### **Andrew Wyeth**

#### **Maine Watercolors**

**1938 - 2008**

Through December 31, 2017

This exhibit features many of the painter's most important watercolors of Maine spanning his entire career, including a study for his final work *Goodbye my Love*. The exhibition is curated by Farnsworth Chief Curator Michael K. Komanecky and renowned American art scholar Henry Adams. The exhibit is part of the Farnsworth Art Museum's *Andrew Wyeth at 100*, a series of exhibitions marking the centennial of Andrew Wyeth's birth. The five shows include over 100 of the artist's works and will be on display in the museum's Wyeth Center as well as its Hadlock and Wyeth Study Center Galleries. Farnsworth Art Museum, 16 Museum St., Rockland, Maine

## 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.

January 15, 2018 deadline for February, 2018 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.

## OFFICEERS

### President

ALICE STRUCK  
aastruck@att.net

### Secretary

CAROLYN SIMPSON  
tsimpson2@wi.rr.com

### Treasurer

JOYCE EESLEY  
joyce\_eesley@msn.com

### Members

KAREN FINERTY  
jkfin@att.net

### Past President/Advisor

STEVE HORVATH  
horvath@execpc.com

## DIRECTORS

### Exhibits

JOYE MOON  
joyemoon@northnet.net  
JUDITH RADTKE  
jtomter@yahoo.com  
CHRIS SOMMERFELT  
csommerfelt@wi.rr.com

### Newsletter

KAPPY SCHWAB  
kappyschwab@gmail.com

### Historian

BARBARA SORENSON  
RAMBADT  
bsrambadt@me.com

### Social Media Coordinator

CHRIS SOMMERFELT  
csommerfelt@wi.rr.com