



Hot Press News

MAY 2015

P.O. BOX 984

REHOBOTH BEACH, DE 19971

www.delawarewatercolorsociety.org

Second Tuesday

In our April Second Tuesday meeting, Jan Henning walked us through things to remember when framing and hanging a show. We learned what eye-level meant in terms of placement of artwork and to consider inner and outer direction of the art.



Jan Henning shows proper matting and framing.

Of course, other usual elements include size, direction, color, and framing of each piece and how they relate to the presentation of the collective works of art. She reiterated how colored mats trap paintings and dark frames detract.

An enjoyable group discussion with a Q&A followed the presentation and participants enjoyed munching on the lovely array of snacks provided by members.

At the next Second Tuesday meeting on May 12, we will have an opportunity to learn ways to paint in a more impressionistic manner rather than capturing every detail we see. We'll watch Jean Haines' *Painting with Freedom, Expression, and Style* DVD presentation.

You will have time to practice, so bring your paints and quarter sheets of paper. Learn how to make your watercolors flow and merge creating suggestion rather than detail.

For more information, please contact Donna Sheppard at (302) 569-7008, or email to ggshep16@gmail.com.

UPCOMING SECOND TUESDAYS

10 A.M. - NOON

16 GLADE FARM DRIVE

May 12 – Jean Haines. *Painting with Freedom, Expression, and Style* DVD

June 9 - *Waves and Beyond* – Lesley McCaskill

July 14 – *Painting a Group Abstract*

Member News

Welcome new member Susan Gray, Lewes.

Juror and awards judge Sandra Schaffer, WHS, TWSA, selected **Nancy Brown's** painting, *Adirondack Light*, into The Illinois Watercolor Society's 31st National Exhibition 2015. The exhibition will be at The Next Picture Show Gallery in Dixon, IL, May 1-31.



Adirondack Light by Nancy Brown.

Sandee Duncan and **Marty McLaren** won first and second place in Del Tech's *Encore Senior Statewide Art Show*, 21179 College Drive Georgetown, Delaware 19947. The show runs through June 4th.

Barbara Stitcher's painting, *Woods #2*, received an honorable mention at the Ocean City Art League's Juried Corporate Partner Show.



Sky-Blue Pink by Sandee Duncan, Best in Show and First Place.

Hospitality Team

Our hospitality team plays an important role in all of our events, including Second Tuesday, opening receptions, and member meetings. Surely, you've noticed the lovely centerpieces, wonderful snacks, and beverages at our events. They're all thanks to these special volunteers who are some of the first faces to new members and the public.

Members of this team plan and manage food services, restock supplies, set up, remove and clean up at DWS events including, but not limited to show receptions, special events, 2nd Tuesday meetings and workshops. This team is under the direction of Sandee Duncan. Anyone can join this team. If you are interested, contact Sandee at (302) 945-0707.

Team members include: Dorothy Braun, Lynn Brittingham, Betty De Boer, Elizabeth Forsythe, Christy McEvelly, Marty McLaren, Eileen Nixon, Jean Owen, Ellen Rosenthal, Molly Rudgers, and Bernice Weinacht.

Upcoming Events

Nassau Valley Vineyards Open Show – July 1-31, 2015

Are you ready? Another show is on the horizon. If you didn't have an opportunity to enter our juried show at the Rehoboth Art League, here's your chance to display your art.

This open member show means that DWS Associate Artists, not Signature members, can submit up to two original works that have been created within the past three years. One or both of your works may be selected depending on the space available.

This is a judged show and paintings will be accepted as long as they meet the requirements stated in the prospectus. The works may be in any water-based media, except for water-based oils, including acrylic and multimedia as long as a



Hospitality team members (left to right) Melissa McLean, Molly Rudgers, Marty McLaren, and Sandee Duncan at April Second Tuesday.

majority of the work is of a transparent nature. Works may be executed on paper, Yupo, canvas, Aquabond or other similar material, so lots of choices. No excuses!

As always, digital art, digitally enhanced art, or works developed during workshops will not be accepted. All works must be for sale and not previously exhibited in DWS juried shows. No giclées or prints are permitted. Also please make sure you follow all matting and framing, and size requirements.

What are you waiting for? Whether you are a beginning artist, or have been in three or fewer juried exhibitions, now is the time to display your work in the lovely winery at Nassau, 32165 Winery Way, Nassau Commons, Lewes, DE 19958.

See the prospectus at www.delawarewatercolorsociety.org for complete details.

DATES TO REMEMBER

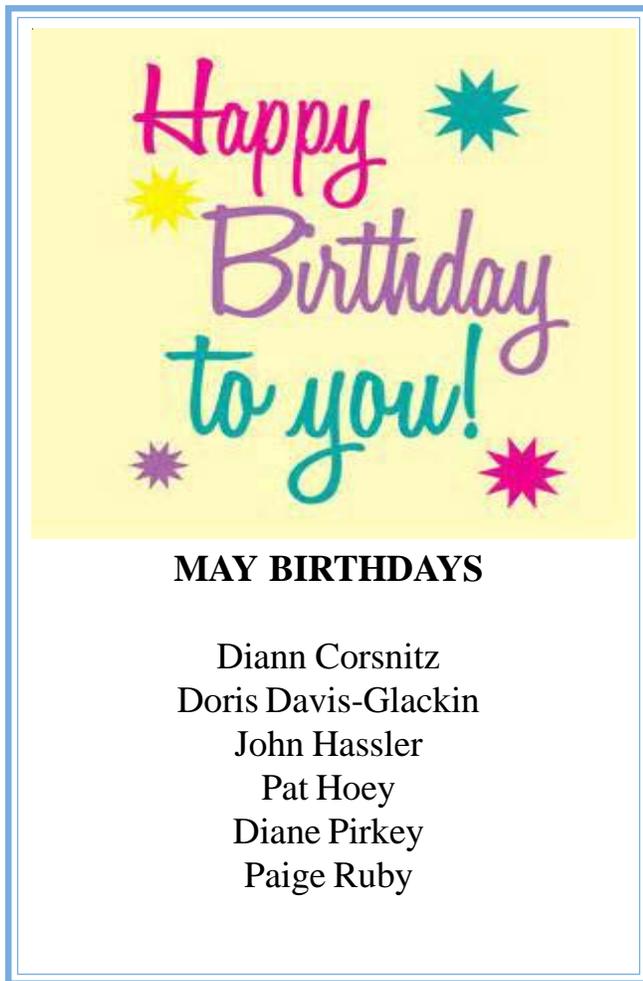
Drop Off - July 1, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Opening Reception - July 9, 5-7 p.m.

Removal of Artwork – July 30, 10 a.m.-noon



How'd they do that? 2013 Nassau opening reception.



Purpose of a Mat

We know that a mat is a colored or textured paperboard cut to the size of the picture frame. It is placed inside of the frame between the glazing (glass/plexiglass) and the artwork with a center cut-out to show the artwork.

A mat is made of a hard core that is covered on each side by colored or textured paper. A mat (1) separates the artwork from the glass, allowing airflow within the picture frame and thereby eliminating the risk of the artwork sticking to the glass over time. (2) Matting complements and sets off the artwork by gently pulling the viewer's eye into the artwork. Matting should never be the focus of the art or trap the art so the viewer cannot visually move throughout the piece.

Quality and Preservation Grades

There are three quality categories based on how much acidity exists in the mat board fibers: untreated core, treated core, and cotton. Acidity, as measured by pH value, occurs naturally in wood pulp from which matting is made. Acidity over time, 'leaks' onto the artwork, turning it yellow and brittle. You always want to use acid-free mat board.

Birthday Card Project

If you haven't painted a birthday card yet, think of how grateful the member recipients will be to see your original artwork.

You can pick up the blank watercolor cards at any Second Tuesday meeting.

Tip of the Month — Know Your Matting

With so many color and texture choices today, choosing the right matting can be challenging. Let's start with some basics.



Grade 1: Untreated Acid Core

This is the most basic type of matting. The surface of the mat board is chemically treated to reduce acidity, but the core remains untreated. This interior core is

exposed when the mat is cut, and the acid leaks from the interior, onto the artwork, causing it to yellow. This is the most basic type of matting and is only good for temporary framing (1 year).

Grade 2: Treated Wood Pulp Interior

This type is made from chemically treated wood pulp fiber to significantly reduce the acids that can degrade the matboard and artwork over time. These matboards offer a medium level protection and are the best in terms of protection for the amount they cost. This type of matting is suitable for items that are valuable but not irreplaceable, such as fine art prints, limited editions, valuable documents and non-digital photography.

Grade 3: Cotton, or Rag, Based

This mat is made from cotton, which is naturally almost entirely acid free. However, depending on the crop and growing climate and species, cotton has a pH value that ranges from 6.2 to 6.7 and is



therefore slightly acidic. (7.00 would be purely acid free). It is the only matboard guaranteed to be safe next to any artwork, and comes with a lifetime warranty. The downside to cotton or rag matboard is

that can cost twice as much as wood-pulp based mats, but is best for your fine artwork.

What is a Ply?

Matboard used to be made of a top, two core layers, and a backing; or four parts, or 4 plies. Today, most matboard is made with just three layers: notably a top, a single core and backing. However, the word 4 plies has not gone away.

For practical purposes, a ply is simply a measure of thickness commonly used in the picture framing industry: 1 ply is 0.012 inches, or just a little under 1/64". Most mats come in 4 plies, or 1/16" inches and are suitable for most picture frame projects. About 30 percent of mats are offered in thicker 6 plies (3/32" inch) and even few are available in 8 plies. Thicker plies can be used when rigidity is desired or to create more depth around the artwork.

Colors, Textures and Specialty Mats

Today matting is available in every major shade of the color wheel as well as special textures. Brands like Bainbridge and Crescent offer hundreds of each. You have to remember, though, that art competitions may mandate that white or light matting be used to allow for equal evaluation and presentation of all artwork. *That's why it's important to read and follow the prospectus of each Call for Entries.*

[Source: www.pictureframeguys.com]

What Are Your Expectations?

The Board of Directors would like to know what we should be doing or offering to improve our organization. We are open to all suggestions.

Please email us and tell us your expectations of the society. What are the kinds of programs and events you think will keep us moving forward and growing? Send your "Expectations" to delawarewatercolorsociety@gmail.com.

Thanks for your help.



Please submit any news item(s) you have to Editor at delawarewatercolorsociety@gmail.com three weeks in advance of the next month's newsletter. Please include all information pertaining to your submission: who, what, why, when, how and any contact numbers. If you have questions or need assistance regarding DWS issues or events, please contact one of our Executive Board members:

Elizabeth Collard, President (302) 645-4821
Donna Sheppard, Vice President (302) 569-7008
Carol Yost, Treasurer (302) 945-9631
Kaz Huston, Secretary (302) 945-1218
Rita Poore, Outreach Director (703) 217-2905