



Hot Press News

MARCH 2016

P.O. Box 984

REHOBOTH BEACH, DE 19971

www.delawarewatercolorsociety.org

Second Tuesday

We had a good group of paintings for our February open critique. They were diverse, ranging from bold abstracts to subtle landscapes. It was interesting to see what other members were working on.



From left to right: Marjorie Wuestner, Charlotte Hughes, Lynn Flynn, Walter Yanko, and Joe Kosiarski review paintings during the open critique

The interactive session gave everyone an opportunity to think about and look for balance, continuity, color harmony, and technique in their own work.

We all learned something from the positive feedback. Thanks to everyone who participated. Thanks also to the hospitality team for their lovely Valentine's décor and munchies. We

especially enjoyed Joan Fabbri's beautiful and delicious heart cookies.



Ruth Ann Kaufman's colorful abstract.

March 8 - Design in Composition... The Foundation of Painting

Artist Member Isabel Pizzolato will show us how to develop interesting compositions using our knowledge of the elements and principles of design.

This presentation will give you the chance to set-up creative still life compositions and to learn how to use the best parts of photographic references to create exciting compositions.

Please feel free to bring a sketch pad and graphite or colored pencils or markers for light, mid-tone, and dark values.

April 12 – Gallery Talk

Are you ready for gallery representation? Even if you are not, Carol Boyd-Heron of Peninsula Gallery in Lewes, will explain what you need to do to catch the eye of a gallery owner. Learn how to prepare and submit your work; what galleries look for; how commissions work and more.

May 10 – On the Road Painting

Member Chrys Dudbridge will talk about her adventures on the road in her RV, with her watercolors, and laptop.

Dudbridge, the former Director of the Lewes Library, set off on her new wheels last fall.

Anyone who has wanted to chuck it all, hit the road and paint, will find her journey informative and entertaining.

SECOND TUESDAYS

10 a.m. - Noon

March 8 - *Creating Successful Compositions*
Isabel Pizzolato

April 12 - *Gallery Talk*
Carol Boyd-Heron, Peninsula Gallery

May 10 - *On the Road Painting*
DWS Member Chrys Dudbridge

The Glade Clubhouse
16 Glade Farm Drive
Rehoboth Beach, DE

On the Business Side

Outreach Director Pat Hoey has jumped into her new role with gusto already establishing a DWS program with the Southern Coastal Library in Bethany Beach. The new program is similar to the one we have had with the Lewes Library for the past three years.

In each library presentation, DWS offers a two-hour painting session to introduce watercolor to those who have never tried the medium. We do this with the hope that we will be developing new future watercolor artists.

Don Blow, Exhibitions Director, has been investigating new exhibition opportunities in our immediate area and beyond. He has been looking at galleries as well as less conventional sites such as *The Painted Stave*, a new brewery that has space for art exhibitions.

If you have any contacts or suggestions for future events, exhibitions, activities, please email them to delawarewatercolorssociety@gmail.com.

Member News

Welcome new member Wanda Kelly from Philadelphia, PA.

March Birthdays

Anna Bellenger
Elizabeth Collard
Joan Fabbri
Anne Hanna
Marjorie Hegner
Patti Morse
Nancy Orme Mysak
Jean Owen



Tip of the Month

What makes a strong composition?

As visual artists we want our paintings to be pleasing to the eye, but to the untrained eye, strong composition can be intangible. If a painting is done well, you may not think about composition because you know the work is simply appealing to look at. When the composition is poor, however, you just know something is off, awkward.

Here are some important things to consider in painting a strong composition.



Focal

Point—

Place it at an intersection from the Rule of Thirds and make sure other elements draw the eye there.

Value—Vary your values.

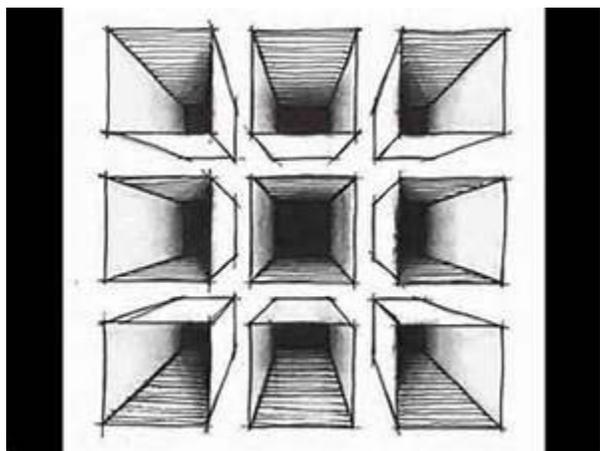
To begin,

think simply two-thirds dark, one-third light, and a small area or object for mid-tone.

Number of Elements—Try to have an odd number of elements. Vary their size and spacing. Elements should be apart or overlapping.

Relationships/Unity—Think about the relationships and size of the elements and how they are placed in the painting.

Perspective—Take into account both the linear and atmospheric perspectives. These will help with balance and depth of the composition.



Dominant Color—Either warm or cool colors dominate, not both.

Variety—Don't get stuck in a rut and use the same composition all the time, no matter how successful it is. Vary where you put the horizon line, where you put the focal point, swap between portrait (vertical) and landscape (horizontal) shaped canvases.



Reminder - Signature Jury

Artist membership and its accompanying Signature status is a prized achievement that is earned only when an individual can produce a body of work that clearly demonstrates a high level of consistency in originality, creativity, applied theoretical knowledge, compositional skills, and technical competency in using transparent watercolor.

If you think you are ready to be an Artist Member, the next deadline for applications is April 2, 2016 for jurying on April 16. For more information and to apply, go to delawarewatercolorsociety.org and look for the link on the lower left side of the homepage. The link will take you to the *Signature Level* page that explains what you need to do. The application link is at the bottom of the page.

Birthday Card Project

We'd love to have more original watercolor birthday cards for our ongoing project. It's amazing how well these cards are received and appreciated, often generating thank you notes in return. Imagine how grateful the member recipients will be to see your original artwork.

Take the time to share your art through a birthday greeting. We have many new members who would also like to hear from you. It is a very simple way to extend our welcoming spirit. As always, it will be appreciated.

You can pick up blank watercolor cards at any Second Tuesday meeting. Thanks for your help.

Please submit any news item(s) to Editor at delawarewatercolorsociety@gmail.com the first of the month preceding the next issue. Please include all information pertaining to your submission: who, what, why, when, how and any contact numbers. Please provide jpeg images with titles.