



Spring 2004

---

Published by Potomac Valley Watercolorists, promoting the art and excellence of watercolor painting

---

## Reflections

by Rachel Collins  
PVW President

The first day of summer is still a few weeks off, and we already have had a bumper crop of watercolor exhibits in the area. The small but mighty Strathmore Invitational Gallery show mounted by PVW definitely held its own with the very strong Baltimore Watercolor Society exhibit in the main Strathmore Gallery. The PVW Green Spring Show will be up through the end of June. Virginia members of PVW who are also showing in the Virginia Watercolor Society show invite everyone, especially residents of Maryland and DC, to see that exhibit in the Ellipse Gallery in Arlington, which also hangs until the end of June. Quiet Waters goes up in Annapolis on the second full day of summer, and then Café Monet finishes off the season with a show starting in late August. Congratulations to all participants for both the breadth and depth of watercolor shown, and kudos especially to the award winners. It is wonderful to note that among the award winners are several of our newest members.

*See President's Message, p. 4*

## Upcoming Events

Exhibit at Quiet Waters

Hanging: Tuesday, June 22

Reception: Sunday, June 27

Take down and pick up: Monday, August 2

Exhibit at Cafe Monet

Hanging: Sunday, August 22 after 5 pm

Take down and pick up: Sunday, October 17  
no reception

Ann Pember Workshop, October 18-22

Exhibit at St. Andrew's, November 6-7

## Read This Notice: PVW Newsletter Goes Electronic

Printing and mailing the newsletter each quarter is a significant drain on PVW's financial resources – money that could be better spent on shows and workshops. As a result, the board voted at its May meeting to conduct a trial year of distributing the newsletter electronically. We'll be sending it as a pdf (portable document format) file, which you'll be able to view on your computer or print out. This means that everyone with access to email (and that's most of us) will get a copy of the newsletter emailed to them. You'll need Adobe Reader software to open the file, and we'll include a link whereby you can easily download a free copy of the software. It's not difficult – really – and we'll also include phone numbers of PVW "tech support" people you can call for help.

*see Electronic, p. 5*

# What's New with PVW Members

**Connie Boland** had paintings juried in to the March member show at Strathmore Hall, and was accepted by both the PVW and BWS Mid-Atlantic shows held there in May. She won the Dick Blick award at the BWS show for her painting "Summer Cottage."

**Chica Brunsvold** had paintings accepted into the following shows: Associated Artists of Southport, NC; Art Forms "Too Funny for Words," Manayunk, PA; Peninsula Art League, Gig Harbor, WA (where she won an award); Watercolor Society of Alabama (another award); Red River Watercolor Society, Fargo, ND; Virginia Watercolor Society, Arlington; Strathmore Hall Artists, Bethesda; Northwest Watercolor Society Signature Members show, Kirkland, WA; Images 2004, Penn State University; and the Art League in Alexandria, December, January and March.

**Rachel Collins** will show paintings in an exhibit, "Intimate Nature," at the Orchard Gallery in Bethesda June 2-30. The gallery is located 7917 Norfolk Ave. in the Woodmont Triangle area. The reception is Friday, June 11, 6-9 pm, which is Art Walk night in Bethesda, when all the galleries are open. She also has paintings currently showing in the Missouri Watercolor Society's national exhibit and the "Side by Side" Exhibit in California of the National Watercolor Society and the Philadelphia Watercolor Society together. This summer she will have two paintings in Watercolor USA.

**Jean Barnes Downs** was invited to show her monotypes at the

Allegany Arts Council's Saville Gallery in Cumberland, MD, April 22-May 29. The 28 monotypes are a continuation of her "Earth Rhythms Series" begun over two years ago. Jean was featured along with local potter Trish Limbaugh.

**Lieta Gerson** exhibited her paintings at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Silver Spring in February.



**Jean K. Gill, NWS**, attended the annual awards dinner of the American Watercolor Society in New York City, where she received the Mario Cooper and Dale Meyers Medal for her painting "Palm Sun Day." The piece was also selected for inclusion in the 2004 AWS Annual Traveling Exhibit.

**Linda Griffin** won a "Best in Show" award at the Shad Festival in Greenville, NC. She is teaching classes on a regular basis locally as well as traveling to teach workshops. Her website is [www.lindagriffin.com](http://www.lindagriffin.com).

**Chris Heyse** had a painting accepted in the current BWS Mid-Atlantic Exhibition and another in the PVW Members' show, both at Strathmore Hall. She will be part of a group show at the Ratner Museum in Sept. and she continues as curator for the one-month rotating art exhibits at the Left Bank Bakery

Cafe near Tenley Circle in DC. All PVW members are welcome! Please call Chris at 301-680-9320 if interested.

**Catherine Hillis** was among those asked to create artwork on a panda statue by the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities as part of its "PandaMania" city art project. She was also accepted by the BWS Mid-Atlantic and PVW shows at Strathmore Hall, and the Virginia Watercolor Show in Arlington. Her paintings of "Scenes Around Fairfax County" are hanging at Cox Communications through July 14.

**LeAnn Kalita** recently completed her month-long solo show—and the initial solo show—of the newly opened gallery in the Clarendon area of Arlington, The Framing Guild. The show featured LeAnn's large floral and still life watercolors.

**Kay Kandra**, of Annapolis MD, will be teaching a watercolor workshop August 22-28 in Southwest Harbor, Maine. The cost for the workshop is \$1085.00 for a full week of instruction plus lodging and three meals per day, double occupancy. For more information, or to see paintings and photos from last year's workshop, contact Kay by phone at 410-849-3852, email at [kaykandra@verizon.net](mailto:kaykandra@verizon.net), or visit the workshop website at [www.acadiaworkshopcenter.com](http://www.acadiaworkshopcenter.com).

**Anne Noble Kehr** won first place in watercolor at the Rockville Art League May show.

**Margaret Kranking** was the juror of selection and awards at the Strathmore Hall annual juried

*See Member News, p. 3*

*Member News, from p. 2*

exhibition in March. As an official United States Coast Guard artist, she was commissioned to paint the military funeral of Lt. Jack Rittichier. The painting will be hung in the Hall of Heroes at the Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC. Margaret was also accepted by the Kentucky Watercolor Society Exhibition 2003-04, where her painting was selected for the traveling show and won an award. She served as juror of selections and awards for the Gaithersburg Fine Arts Assn. for its April-May show.

**Linda Maldonado** had an abstract mixed-media work, "And My Soul Shall Be Healed," accepted into the "Visions VIII" international juried show in Covington, KY, April 16-May 15, sponsored by the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption.

Honorary member **Carlton Plummer, AWS**, who has led watercolor workshops for PVW, recently released a new book, *Create Dramatic Coastal Scenes in Watercolor*. Published by International Artists magazine, the book is an autobiographical blend of art, philosophy, and demonstrations. For a personalized, autographed copy (\$25 plus \$3 postage), contact Carlton at (207) 633-5212.

**Terri Rea** was awarded Best in Show at the Falls Church, VA, Art Show in May; **Deborah Conn** and **Liz Roberts** took top honors in watercolor.

**Coy Roy**, Lake Monticello, had a joint art show in May with the late Al Rossi at Caffè Bocce in Scottsville, VA. Al, represented by his wife, Martha, was a well-known

*See Member News, p. 4*

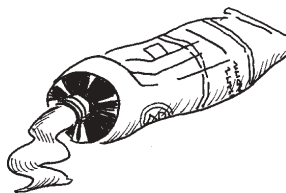
## Opportunities

**Rockville Arts Place 2005 Call for Entries:** Rockville Arts Place is accepting exhibition proposals for its 2005 schedule. Thematic and media-based exhibitions will cover all media. Group and individual entries accepted. Work must have been completed in the last three years. Entry fee: \$25. Visit <http://www.rockvilleartsplace.org> to download a 2005 Call for Entries or contact Shelly Brunner at [galler@rockvilleartsplace.org](mailto:galler@rockvilleartsplace.org) / (301) 309-6900. **Deadline: July 15, 2004.**

**Quiet Waters Arts Festival:** The Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks invites artists to participate in the 14<sup>th</sup> Quiet Waters Arts Festival, Nov. 13-14. To enter the juried exhibition and sale, submit a completed application and slides of your work. For an application or more information, call the park at 410-222-1777.

**Arts & Crafts Swap Meet:** Saturday, June 12, 2004, 10 am - 4 pm, Packard Center Parking Lot (inside if raining), Annandale Community Park, 4022 Hummer Rd., Annandale, VA 22003. An opportunity to sell, trade and buy supplies, tools, unfinished artwork, etc. to other creative souls! Bring a blanket, table, etc. or plan to set up your wares out of your car/trunk. No charge to participate or attend. For more information and/or reserve your space by June 5, contact Carol Lavrich at 301-299-8740, [LAVRICH@juno.com](mailto:LAVRICH@juno.com)

**Exhibition Space:** The Vienna Art Center, which opened in March 2004, is available for rental for group or solo shows by members or nonmembers. Rental fees vary by the amount of gallery wall space needed. For more information, call 703-319-3971.



### Slide Tip

Rachel Collins offers a suggestion "born of unfortunate experience": don't use the Wess slide mounts sold by Light Impressions and others when you are submitting slides for exhibits. These slides may be sturdy, hinged, easy to use and re-use, but they DO NOT fit into 140-slide carousels. They fit fine into 80-slide carousels (the standard) but you can't be sure that the larger-capacity carousel won't be used by a juror. You don't want your slides returned to you never viewed!

*Member News, from p.3*

professional artist, formally of New York, where he painted covers for Saturday Evening Post, Colliers and Liberty Magazine.

**Mary Lou Shields** sold two watercolors from her Gaithersburg Bohrer Park Show and two from the Annapolis State House Show. She is having a show at the Glenview Mansion, Rockville Civic Center, 603 Edmonston Dr., June 6-30, with a reception on Sunday, June 6, from 1-4 p.m. and a concert by the U. S. Navy Commander's Jazz Band. Her new website is [www.maryloushields.com](http://www.maryloushields.com).

**Amy Thompson** was awarded Best in Show at the League of Reston Artists 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Small Works Exhibit in February.

**Rosa Vera** was accepted by the Southern Watercolor Society Annual Show.

**Judy Wengrovitz** was accepted into the Virginia Society State show, the Mid-Atlantic exhibit, and the Southern Watercolor Society Exhibit, and received an award of excellence at the Biennial Exhibit of the National League of American Pen Women.

**Marjean Willett's** paintings appeared in a show called "Four Artists, Four Viewpoints" at the Howard Pyle Studio in Wilmington, DE, in March and April.

**Joan Wolbier** spent November 5-8, 2003, at Virginia Western Community College in Roanoke as their visiting artist. She gave a lecture on the history of artists' books and taught workshops for the beginning and advanced design

## In Memory

We are sad to report that PVW member **Valerie Gulick** passed away on May 19. We will miss her art, her fighting spirit and her willing service. Donations in her memory may be made to St. George's Episcopal Church, 915 N. Oakland St., Arlington, VA 22203.

**Ann Eldredge Hall, 86**, a founding member of PVW, died March 16. Ann was also a member of the Washington Watercolor Association. She lived in Bethesda and Chevy Chase for many years and, since 1991, at the Fairfax assisted living center in Fort Belvoir.

classes. During the month of November, her artist's books and paintings were exhibited in the college gallery. This summer, June 12-August 29, 2004, she has been invited to participate in an exhibition of American Artists' Books at the Kunst Centret Silkeborg Bad in Denmark.

**Carol S. Zilliacus** has been invited to participate in the June 12-13

outdoor show at the Lincoln Center For the Performing Arts in Manhattan. She also has a show at the Glenview Mansion, Rockville Civic Center, in August. Carol had surgery in February to correct her spinal stenosis, and she can now walk with a straight back!



### *President's Message, from p. 1*

You may remember that a couple of newsletters ago, this column addressed the question of PVW's financial situation. At our last meeting, the board decided to try something new with the newsletter, details of which are outlined on page 1. Everyone who has e-mail will find that this month they will receive the newsletter in two formats: one electronic via e-mail, and the other as a regular newsletter in the mail. Next newsletter, we will be converting to electronic format to the greatest extent possible. In this way we will be able to save a considerable sum in postage and photocopying. We believe that, once the adjustment is made, we will actually prefer the electronic format, as it will allow more flexibility in content. Those without access to e-mail need not feel that they are left out - they will continue to receive the newsletter as usual, and we will make sure that everyone receives the material at about the same time. We know this is especially important when there are forms to fill out and return for workshops, shows, trips and the like. We're hopeful that the savings from this new approach will allow us to trim back some of the fees that have had to be raised this year to keep the organization on a sound financial basis.

So my very best wishes to everyone for a wonderful summer, and may you paint some amazing paintings!

## Arne Westerman Workshop

*Chris Heyse reports:*

PVW members who attended the 5-day workshop with Arne Westerman were regaled not only with a master painter's watercolor skills, but also by the artist's keen wit and relaxed attitude about creating a painting.

Arne's "no-fault" plan for painting, which calls for preliminary value and color studies, stresses good design as the foundation for almost guaranteeing a good painting from the beginning. The primary focus was on figure painting, and artists spent an entire day drawing and painting two live models, beginning with 30-second poses and graduating to 20-minute poses for full-color, large-scale paintings. We were encouraged to try Fabriano or other hot-pressed papers that maintain brushstrokes, thereby adding to texture, and which can be more forgiving for making changes. Arne urged us to break free from traditional, local color choices and to use bright, vibrant colors—even green—for skin tones. This, of course, led to some hilarity, but also to some genuinely exciting artwork. Arne emphasized that it's more important to make paintings with emotion, even if they are technically less than perfect, than to produce perfect, but lifeless work.

Arne was extremely generous with his time and truly helpful with our individual challenges...and presented each participant with an "Artistic License" at a ceremonious graduation on the final day. This participant rates the workshop a "10"!

## REMINDER TO ALL PVW EXHIBITORS

Please refer to the Exhibit Guidelines published in the PVW Directory as you prepare your paintings to show in PVW shows. The Exhibits Committee works hard to mount professional-looking exhibits, and indeed the quality of the work shown is second to none in the area. Nevertheless, each of us has a responsibility to make this job possible by adhering to the matting and framing guidelines given. In particular we must take some care to make sure the work we bring in is clean and neat.

Before you head out the door with your painting, please look at the matting and framing closely under a good light. In particular, if the mat has dark smudgy fingerprints on it, noticeable hairs, squashed insects, black specks, or bits of other detritus stuck between the glass and the mat, PLEASE do something about it before bringing the painting to the exhibit venue. We're not talking about the stray bit of dust so hard to keep off paintings framed with Plexiglas, but very obvious problems we've seen when hanging recent PVW shows.

The Exhibits Committee does not want to have to refuse to hang paintings with mat or frame problems, as other watercolor organizations are doing. But showing paintings where the presentation is an embarrassment to the artist and the organization is not a pleasant option either. Let us all do what we can to ensure that our shows are the best in every way!

*Electronic, from p. 1*

We'll be using Yahoo Groups to distribute the newsletter, so if you have opted out of the Group mailing list, please consider subscribing again. It's working smoothly now (no messages mistakenly sent to everyone), so the only mail you'll get from the group is mail you want to read. To resubscribe, contact Deborah Conn at [debconn@cox.net](mailto:debconn@cox.net)

Obviously, some people still do not have access to email, and we will continue mailing the newsletter to them. But if you're thinking about taking the leap into the 21<sup>st</sup> century (or even the 20<sup>th</sup>!), now would be a great time.

## **Café Monet** **Prospectus to be** **Distributed On Line**

Watch your emailboxes for the Café Monet prospectus, which will be sent out the second week of June via the Yahoo Groups PVW email. If you don't have or use email, look for the prospectus in your regular mailbox. And if you don't receive it in either location, please call Mary Andrews at 703-719-0596. The submission deadline is July 5.

## **Congratulations!**

To award winners of the PVW Green Spring Gardens Park show:

First: "Raspberry Sorbet," by **Betty Ganley**

Second: "Erygium," by **Rachel Collins**

Third: "Day Lilies," by **Linda Pittman**

Honorable Mention:

"Green Leaves," by **Margaret Brown**

"Summer" by **Gwen Bragg**

"Suddenly It's Spring," by **Muriel Ebitz**

"No R-Egrets," by **Traci Oberle**

"Nine Pears," by **Loy McGaughy**

To award winners of the PVV Strathmore Hall show:

First: "Happy Time," by **Liang Wei**

Second: "Rockport Light," by **Colleen Sabo**

Honorable Mention:

"Work in Progress," by **Concetta Scott**

"Spring at Last," by **Peter Ulrich**

"Kids," by **Kim Stenberg**



Deborah Conn, editor  
7300 Timber Lane  
Falls Church, VA 22046