



Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

WASH Newsletter

September/October 2021

WASH Website:

<https://www.sacramentowatercolor.org>

Sacramento Arts Center Website:

<https://www.sacfinearts.org/>

WASH Board Members

Elected Positions:

President Ralph F. Wilson

Secretary Diane Pargament

Treasurer Edward Bostley

Program Chair Tana Smith

Show Coordinator Alyslynn Lemke

Membership Chair Sally Bostley

Liaison with SacArts Nancy Wedick

Newsletter Editor Sandie Mele

Workshop Chair Cindy Farmer

Appointed Positions:

Scholarship Kaye Lochridge

Scholarship Jan Curry

Webmaster Gary Mele

Hospitality Barbara Little

Hospitality Cyndy Spita

Social Media Helen Plenert

Video Library Charlotte Richmond

Coordinator of Volunteers: Wyleta McDanniel

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

“What I Learned by Painting Like a Maniac”

By Ralph F. Wilson, WASH President

For the month of July again this year I challenged myself to paint 31 paintings in 31 days. Here are some things I learned from that exercise.

1. **Working small is fun.** My most common size was 7” x 10” (which fits nicely in a common 11” x 14” frame). Working smaller is faster, but this size is large enough to be a painting I can frame and hang if it turns out okay. I also did some with a square format of 8” x 8” – and a few larger paintings.
2. **Planning ahead helps.** When July began, I had a folder of two or three dozen of jpegs that had some potential. Finding something to paint consumes a lot of emotional energy and time. This helped.
3. **Crop for drama.** Many of my “okay” photos were much improved by cropping closer to what really interested me about that photo. I’ve tended to include the whole scene – but often that’s plain dull. I’m sure that’s why I hadn’t painted some of these photos sooner.
4. **Experimenting is okay.** I decided to learn to paint figures like Charles Reid. I began by watching the video carefully – twice. And, guess what? I failed miserably! But I did learn something about using Cerulean Blue as a skin color, and I can see that working in some instances – with a lot more practice. I felt free to try new things because my goal was to turn out a painting a day, not a masterpiece a day.
5. **Painting faster makes me looser.** I found that instead of refining portraits so much, I was more willing to get the eyes, nose, and mouth right, and let the rest not be so tight. I didn’t have time to niggle it to death, so I didn’t. And I liked the effect.



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6. **Working on several paintings at a time** was my strategy to keep up with the painting-a-day project. I got several small drawing boards ready (corrugated plastic sheet from Home Depot cut to size), with watercolor paper taped on and the shapes loosely put in. I found that kept me from getting bored. (I'm sure you've had a painting that you just wish would go away!) And, while I was waiting for paint to dry, I'd pick up another painting and move it along a step or two further. One of my mistakes has been *not* waiting for paint to dry and getting unwanted intrusions of color from one area to another.
7. **This energized me.** Prior to this, I hadn't painted much for several weeks. But instead of feeling burned out, I'm already working on my next project, a dramatic half-sheet approach to a rose window in Lincoln Cathedral.

Looking back on July, I had great fun. I got in a groove and am still in it. May it long continue!

Note from the Editor:

Ralph's "Nieuwe Kerk Steeple, Delft, Netherlands" 7" x 10" watercolor won second place in our August Painting of the Month.



NEW MEMBERS

WASH would like to welcome six new members to our club. They are:

- Alyssa Gorman, Rancho Cordova (our scholarship winner)
- Pamela Herlihy, Sacramento
- Judith Morgan, Carmichael
- Cordula Sogge, Orangevale
- Anette Rink, Reno, NV
- Laraine Silberstein, Sacramento

We hope to see them on Zoom and are looking forward to welcoming them in person when we can start meeting at SFAC again. We'll look for their paintings in the WASH Open Show coming up in September. Welcome to WASH! Those who have web sites are listed on the WASH web page at <https://www.sacramentowatercolor.org/member-web-sites/> It's a good way to get to know them a little before we have meetings again in person.

JOIN US!

Whether you want to explore painting with watercolors or have used the media for many years, we have workshops, demonstrations and watercolor shows for you! WASH meets on the second Monday of the month except July, August and December. Meetings will be held online via Zoom until further notice. Watch for an email with the Zoom link.

Did you know you can renew membership online now? You can renew your membership online with a credit card or Pay Pal:

<https://www.sacfinearts.org/membership193bc6ca#join>



Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

WASH Newsletter

September/October 2021

JULY DEMONSTRATION

WASH painters got some valuable feedback about our paintings from an expert, Sonya Hamilton.

Sonya is an SWA member, an instructor, and a show judge. This was a Zoom presentation and members had their paintings ready for a critique. Her suggestions are invaluable.

She says of her work, "Although I draw and paint in many mediums, I find watercolor exciting, spontaneous, and challenging. When I paint, my cares leave and I become totally immersed in what I'm doing. Watercolor is a joy - exhilarating, yet most relaxing for me. It is who I am."

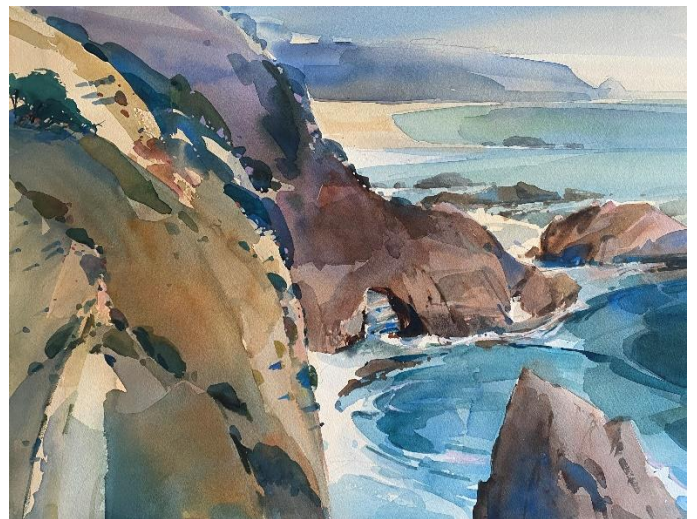


Watercolor by Sonya Hamilton

AUGUST MEETING AND DEMONSTRATION

WASH Zoomers were in for a real treat at our August meeting with a full watercolor painting demonstration by Dale Laitinen. Dale is one of the most talented and respected landscape painters in California and the United States and agreed to be with us for a Zoom demonstration. Dale demonstrated a strategy that will bring a poetic and inventive flavor to our works by searching out the underlying abstraction in nature. His demonstration began with a slide show of his beautiful, very colorful paintings of California landscapes. Dale lives in California and says most of his paintings are California landscapes. Dale's demonstration of the painting below can be seen on our new YouTube channel:

[WASH \(Watercolor Artists of Sacramento YouTube Channel\).](#)



Watercolor by Dale Laitinen



Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

WASH Newsletter

September/October 2021

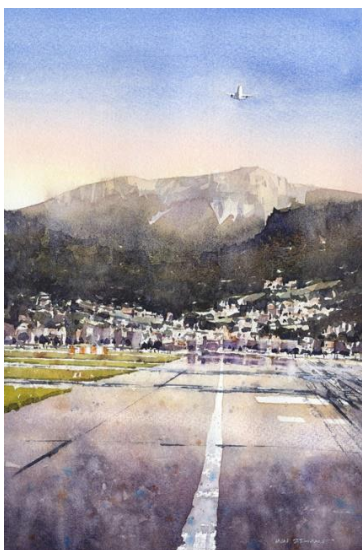
SEPTEMBER ZOOM MEETING AND DEMONSTRATION

September 13, 1:30 PM

Iain Stewart is an award-winning watercolor artist and signature member of the American Watercolor Society and the National Watercolor Society, a member of the Whiskey Painters of America, and a highly-sought instructor and juror. Iain maintains a studio in Opelika, Alabama, and is an adjunct Professor at the Auburn University School of Architecture. Iain has just published his first book, *En Plein Air—Light and Color* now available through Walter Foster Publisher. Iain loves to teach workshops and provides each student with multiple opportunities to expand their skill and experience greater success in their watercolor painting.

Iain Stewart's in-person workshop is postponed to 2022.

<http://www.stewartwatercolors.com/>



NCE-JFK by Iain Stewart

OCTOBER MEETING AND DEMONSTRATION

October 11, 7:00 PM

Karen Kramer will be our in-person October demonstrator. Karen studied art at the University of California, Berkeley, and Laney and Merritt Colleges in Oakland, California. She became a public interest lawyer but returned primarily to painting and drawing in 2010.

In her web site Karen says that "in the natural world I see endless contradictions within the same landscape: light/ dark; arid/wet; living/dying. I am compelled to examine this harmonious paradox in my work. I am transfixed by the complex tapestry of nature and its constant flux." This quote certainly describes the beautiful image we have reproduced below. Join us in October to watch Karen make her magic with watercolor and subjects from the natural world.

<https://karenkramerart.com/lyrical-botanicals/>



Leaves of the World2 by Karen Kramer



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September/October 2021

Go With the Flow

43rd Annual WASH Open Exhibition August 31 – September 25

Reception will be held on Saturday, September 11
5:30-8:30 PM



Best in Show 2020
Flying Squirrel 2 by Steve Walters



1st Award of Excellence
Squeeze the Day by Susie Soulies

WASH SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE ARTS 2021

Watercolor Artists of Sacramento Horizons is excited to announce that Alyssa Gorman is the winner of the 2021 WASH Scholarship. Alyssa was selected for her digital art portfolio, academic success and recent awards in art. Alyssa attended Pleasant Grove High School graduating with honors. She then majored in Studio Arts at Cosumnes River College for two years ending with a 3.92 grade point average. This year she was awarded the Kingsley Art Club Award as the most promising art student at Cosumnes in the 2020-2021 school year. She currently has her art on display at Crocker Art Museum. Alyssa has been accepted at CSU Long Beach and plans to attend there in the Fall. Alyssa's goal is to become a college professor teaching in the art department with an emphasis in watercolor.

Alyssa was introduced to the WASH membership during the June Zoom meeting. As a winner of the scholarship, Alyssa received \$1000, and a year's membership in WASH. Alyssa's art was on display in the foyer of Sacramento Fine Arts Center in August.



Alyssa Gordon is on the right and on the left is Kaye Lochridge, from our Scholarship Committee.



Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

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PAINTING OF THE MONTH

The Painting of the Month Contest is free to all members and one painting may be entered per month. Non-members are allowed a one-time entry and encouraged to join. We would like all the contestants to come to the general Zoom meeting and say a few words about their painting after the demo. All PoM entries will automatically be entered in the Painting of the Year Contest. Send painting image to alyslynn@att.net with the name of the piece by the Friday before the general meeting.

WASH July 2021 Painting of the Month



1st Place
Ms. Galen Hazelhofer
"Audry with Flowers"



2nd Place
Maria Porter
"Blossoms"



3rd Place
Ronnie Rector
"Hitting the High Notes"

WASH August 2021 Painting of the Month



1st Place
Ronnie Rector
"Amsterdam Adventures"



2nd Place
Ralph Wilson
"Nieuwe Kerk Steeple"



3rd Place
Jan Atwood-Ramey
"The Tinsmith"