



**Brushstrokes**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Apr. 2 Submission deadline for publicity consideration, **Signature Show**
- Apr. 3— **SWS National Watercolor Show**, The MAC, Helen S Alexander Gallery  
2316 W. 1st Ave., Spokane, Tuesday—Sunday 10-5, Closed Monday
- Apr. 7 **SWS Board Meeting IN PERSON**, Monday, 1:00 p.m.—watch for email
- Apr. 10-12 **Michael Holter Workshop, Landscape in Watercolor**  
Spokane Art Supply, 1303 N. Monroe, Spokane, 9:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
- Apr. 13 **Awards Reception, SWS National Show, with Michael Holter**  
SUNDAY, 1:00-3:00 p.m., The MAC, Helen South Alexander Gallery, Spokane (This event will serve as our monthly SWS General Meeting)
- Apr. 17 **MEN'S Breakfast Club**, 9:00 am, Molly's Café, 224 S. Lincoln St., Spokane
- Apr. 20 **HAPPY EASTER!**
- Apr. 30 **SUBMISSION DEADLINE for Signature Show**
- May 5 Retrieve paintings from The MAC, 10:00—11:30 a.m.
- May ? **SWS Board Meeting via Zoom, TO BE DETERMINED**
- May 17 **SWS General Meeting**, via Zoom (and Zoom link at Spokane Art Supply)  
DETAILS WILL BE FORTHCOMING

Don't miss the SWS National Show  
**Awards Reception**

**SUNDAY**  
**April 13, 2025**  
**1:00-3:00 p.m.**  
Helen South  
Alexander Gallery  
**The Northwest  
Museum of Arts &  
Culture (The MAC)**  
2316 W. 1st Ave.  
Spokane, WA

Over \$2,000 in cash  
& merchandise will be  
awarded, with thanks to our  
generous sponsors!

This event will start  
**PROMPTLY at 1:00 p.m.** as  
Michael Holter has to catch an  
afternoon flight.



**Congratulations**  
for acceptance into the National Show

Nina Marie Altman	Ron Kasprisin
Ladd Bjorneby	Lisa Kirschman
Oral Carper	Kelly Knouff-Burk
Erin Cassetto	William Kroger
Diane Conkright	Mel Lacki
Dan Eacret	Rebecca Latham
Terese Fandel	William Okazaki
Gloria Fox	Patti Pierce
Bill Fulton	Dorrie Rifkin
Kim Gardell	Sue Rohrback
Joy Gruenewald	Cheryl Sachse
Gail Johannes	Margo Sety
	Dena Shepherd
	Trish Taylor
	Valerie Woelk

## Time to Sign Up

There are still times to fill for Docent  
volunteering at The MAC during our  
National Show. Look for your email for  
a direct link, log in to the SWS website,  
or contact bari directly to sign up.



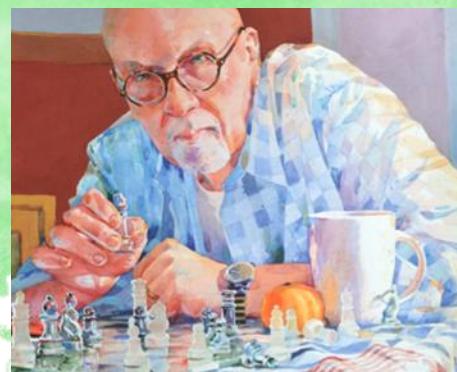
**Challenge PAINTING**  
**APRIL**  
**VARIEGATED WASHES**

(or what's on your easel)  
SUBJECT OF YOUR CHOICE



**SEE PAGE 2 for TIPS on  
painting Variegated Washes!**

**CHALLENGE PAINTINGS  
FOR APRIL & MAY WILL BE  
SHOWN AT MAY'S MEETING!**



**There are still a few spots left for  
the Michael Holter Workshop!**

**HURRY & REGISTER!**

# THANK YOU! SWS SPONSORS!

Spokane Watercolor Society is grateful to all our sponsors, who have donated a lot of wonderful gift certificates and product awards for our National Show (and Members Show). They include ART SALVAGE, BLICK ART MATERIALS, DANIEL SMITH, Dr. Ph. MARTIN'S, GOLDEN ARTIST COLORS/QoR, HOLBEIN, and M. GRAHAM & COMPANY.

Our members, Joy Gruenewald & Bill Okazaki, worked very hard to procure these amazing awards and build goodwill with our sponsors. THANK YOU!

We also want to give a big thank you to the NORTHWEST MUSEUM of ARTS & CULTURE, who provides their fabulous and prominent venue for our National Show. We appreciate your ongoing support!

You can help thank our sponsors by patronizing their business whenever possible, and telling your friends/family to do the same. We will be highlighting our sponsors in future issues of *Brushstrokes*. See page 5 to learn more about one of our new sponsors—Dr. Ph. Martin's!

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

### The Board needs you!

A **SHOW CHAIR** is needed for this year's **Juried Members Show** (taking place in September 2025). Training and mentoring will be provided. Please consider volunteering to help! If interested, please contact Kim at [swspresident1@gmail.com](mailto:swspresident1@gmail.com).

**THE NEW SWS MEMBER ROSTER IS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE SWS WEBSITE. LOG INTO YOUR SWS ACCOUNT TO ACCESS IT.**

## April Challenge Tips

By Diana Postlewait

### VARIEGATED WASHES

(Think rainbow or multicolor. Three colors work best.)

We are only working with the variegated wash in this challenge.

#### TYPES OF WASH TECHNIQUES

**FLAT WASH:** A uniform layer of color, providing a consistent, even tone.

Made by [NikArtGift](http://NikArtGift)



**GRADED (GRADIENT) WASH:** Starts with a saturated color and gradually transitions to a lighter tone.

**VARIEGATED WASH:** Combines multiple colors, blending them to create a dynamic effect.

#### MORE INFO:

Wash Technique: Explained & Definition at [www.studysmarter.co.uk > painting-techniques](http://www.studysmarter.co.uk/painting-techniques)



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

John Zillich, Clarkston, WA  
Pat McAfee, Spokane, WA



### YOUR PRIVACY IS IMPORTANT to Spokane Watercolor Society!

Your contact information is included in our roster, so that members can contact each other. This is only accessible by logging on to [www.spokanewatercolor.org](http://www.spokanewatercolor.org) with your user name and password, under the heading "MY SWS". If you DO NOT want your contact information on this roster, please contact: [swspresident1@gmail.com](mailto:swspresident1@gmail.com).

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Dan Eacret, Vice President, led the meeting and gave the announcements and updates including the Men's Breakfast Club, The National Show, Michael Holter Workshop, and the SWS Roster. Bari invited members to sign up for unfilled docent shifts, and Trish gave a summary of the upcoming Signature Members' Show. Diana led the Challenge discussion and passed around information on April and May's challenges. May's Challenge is Negative Painting fyi. Sue did a great job organizing the snacks, which were enjoyed by all.

(Meeting attendance was low, most likely due to the snowy weather, but enthusiasm was high!)



A big **THANK YOU** to our National Chairs who are doing a wonderful job! We appreciate all of your efforts!

**TERESE FANDEL**

Show Chair

**VALERIE WOELK**  
Workshop Chair

# March Meeting Highlights

## March Challenge

We had a lot of fabulous paintings for our March Challenge—**HARD & SOFT EDGES!** Beautiful work everyone!



Congratulations Deborah L.  
who won the \$15 Gift  
Certificate to Spokane Art Supply!





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## March Demo Notes

### Andy Sewell

of Viola, ID presented  
**Digital Composition**—  
manipulating your  
composition with photos  
on the computer before  
you start to paint.



Andy is an award-winning artist, receiving commissions from across the country, was a graphic designer from 1989-2003, and teaches many classes and workshops. He was also able to make \$11,000 at a Ketchum, ID art show (wow!).

As a graphic designer, Andy used software for manipulating photos, well before the age of AI. Programs he used were **Adobe Photoshop** (which was available to own but has now switched to subscription); he now most often uses a program called **Affinity Photo** which has all the tools you need, and is ownable for a one-time low price tag between \$69-\$169.

In order to use the computer as a tool to put your photos together for composition, you NEED TO LEARN THE SOFTWARE, and that can be a lot of fun.

Helpful ways in which you can use the computer for photo manipulation include:

Enhancing details in bad photographs

Combining several photographs on the screen

Matching the composition to the shape of your paper

Changing colors of objects

Making areas lighter or darker, with more color or less

Organizing your photos into subjects

These techniques are especially helpful for doing commissions, as people often give you bad photos, or no photos at all. So,

you can easily show the customer the composition you came up with, before starting your project.



## Brushstrokers

### Out & About & UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

#### EMERGE BLOCK PARTY, Coeur d' Alene, ID

The gallery's biggest artist showcase July 10-11, 2025  
Apply at [www.emergecd.com](http://www.emergecd.com) **Deadline: June 2, 2025**

#### ART ON THE GREEN, NIC Campus, Coeur d' Alene, ID

The 57th Annual Art on the Green takes place Aug. 1-3, 2025. There are many opportunities for artists:

**Juried Art Show**—an art drop-off at The MAC is available For prospectus and application, apply at [www.artonthegreencda.com](http://www.artonthegreencda.com) **Deadline: May 31, 2025**

**Plein Air Coeur d' Alene**—Details are not yet available, but you can sign up for news and info at [www.jessicabryant.com](http://www.jessicabryant.com)

**Clothesline Booth**—artists can sell their original artwork, matted or unframed from \$10-\$95, & may submit up to 50 small pieces—consult information sheet for full details

**Registration: August 1, 9-11 a.m.** [www.artonthegreencda.com](http://www.artonthegreencda.com)

**The Lilac Festival Juried Art Show**—postponed until Fall



The functions or tools that he uses the most are:

Layers (each photo has its own layer)

Masking (allows you to use any part of a picture)

Cloning (allows you to duplicate a piece of the photo and place it elsewhere)

Adjustments (exposure, contrast)

Levels (intensity)

HSL (Hue/Saturation/Lightness)

Curves (exposure/light/dark)

It really is a must that you learn the software in order to take full advantage of these tools.

Andy gave a great hands-on demonstration, with examples of his finished paintings from the digital compositions that he created. He also brought a sampling of his many prints available for sale. If you would like to visit Andy's website to check out his work, or sign up for one of his classes or workshops, log on to [www.andysewellart.com](http://www.andysewellart.com). **THANK YOU ANDY!!**



**NOTE:** It was questioned whether this photo manipulation (even if all of your own photos) would be acceptable for entering shows, while it is a WONDERFULLY HELPFUL tool for doing commission work.



**SPOKANE**  
Watercolor  
SOCIETY



**SWS MEMBER NEWSLETTER**

PO Box 10298, Spokane, WA 99209  
[www.spokanewatercolor.org](http://www.spokanewatercolor.org)

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## MEMBERS' "goings on"

### Paint Your Pet THE FEARLESS WAY

with Elise Beattie

April 25, 2025

at Spokane Art Supply, 1303 N. Monroe, Spokane  
Meet & Greet 9:30 a.m.—one day workshop

Have fun while painting a beautiful watercolor of your pet, the **FEARLESS** way.

Elise will teach you all about how to effectively understand and use traditional and contemporary watercolor techniques to create a painting that you will love to take home and hang on your wall. Improve your skills and take your painting to a new level of success, inspired by your love of animals!

**\$65 + \$5.85 tax = \$70.85**

For more information and registration, visit  
<https://www.beattieartworks.com/spokane-art-supply-workshops.html>

Pre-registration by April 10 is preferred.  
Questions? [artist@beattieartworks.com](mailto:artist@beattieartworks.com)



## bari federspiel

is having a showing of her work

### Indaba Coffee Roasters

2020 N. Monroe, Spokane, WA

(PURCHASE INFO ON PAINTING TAGS)

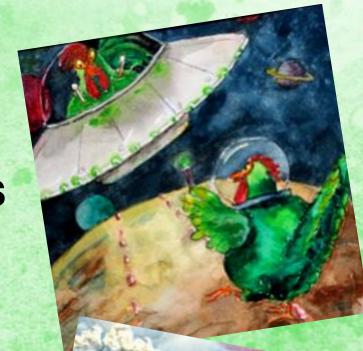
**May 1-31, 2025**

Sponsored by River Ridge Assoc. of Fine Arts

[www.rrafaofspokane.com](http://www.rrafaofspokane.com)



Congratulations Gina Judy for acceptance into the NWWS Waterworks Exhibition.



## Mark your Calendars!

The SWS Signature Members Show is coming!

WHERE

Liberty Gallery, Spokane

WHEN

May 25 thru June 28, 2025

FIRST FRIDAY RECEPTION

Friday, June 6, 5-8:30 p.m.

SWS Member Donna Stallings will be performing her violin for us during First Friday  
Don't miss it!

**SWS**

## SPONSOR Feature

**Dr. Ph. Martin's**

Since 1934, Dr. Ph. Martin's has specialized in putting the **tools** in the

hands of artists that allow them to create their life's best work.

For over 80 years, chemists at Dr. Ph. Martin's have worked tirelessly on **creating the best liquid watercolors**, inks, and other color products. Dr. Ph. Martin's products are **world renowned** for their **vivid colors, special properties, and ability to work across mediums**.

The iconic round and square glass bottles come in sets of twelve or fourteen, giving artists an **unparalleled dynamic range of brilliant colors to work with**. Dr. Ph. Martin's dye and pigment based products let you experience a range of color, otherwise unattainable, through its products—**Radiant Concentrated, Spectralite Liquid Acrylics, Hydrus Fine Art Watercolors, Iridescent Calligraphy Colors, and Bombay India Inks**.

**Dr. Ph. Martin's products are manufactured in the United States** by Salis International Inc. in Oceanside, California.

Because of their **very generous donation of products** to us, we are able to use a portion to have a **Dr. Ph. MARTIN'S PLAY DAY** at our June meeting (details forthcoming), so that our members can experience the brilliance and radiance for themselves.

