SPOKANE Watercolor SOCIETY

Brushstrokes

SWS MEMBER NEWSLETTER
PO Box 10298, Spokane, WA 99209
www.spokanewatercolor.org

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 31—June 26 **ARTISTIC FRESH AIR Leadership Exhibit at Liberty Gallery** Sunday-Thursday 9-7, Friday-Saturday 9-9

June 5 **Artistic Fesh Air First Friday Reception** at **Liberty Gallery**, 203 N. Washington, Spokane, **5:00-7:00 p.m.** ***SEE BELOW***

June 6 **Plein Air Event at Saltese Flats Wetlands, 9:30-2:00**, Greenacres, WA, ***SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 2***

June 15 **PAINTING RETRIEVAL** at **The MAC,** Helen South Alexander Gallery, *2316 W. 1st Ave., Spokane*, ***Monday 10:00 am-12:00 pm***

June 20 **SWS General Meeting, Saturday 10:00-12:00,** Spokane Art Supply, 1303 N. Monroe, Spokane, **REPRISE of David R. Smith Workshop—***PAINT ALONG!* ***SEE DETAILS on page 2***

Summer **There will be several PLEIN AIR EVENTS during the summer...look for details in the next Brushstrokes and watch your emails!**

Sept. 19 **SWS General Meeting, Saturday 10:00-12:00,** Spokane Art Supply, 1303 N. Monroe, Spokane, **PET PORTRAITS with KAY SEALE**

Challenge PAINTING

JUNE
Color Choices

(or what's on your easel)

JUNE CHALLENGE TIPS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE under "My Account/Meetings and Programs/Monthly Challenge Archives"

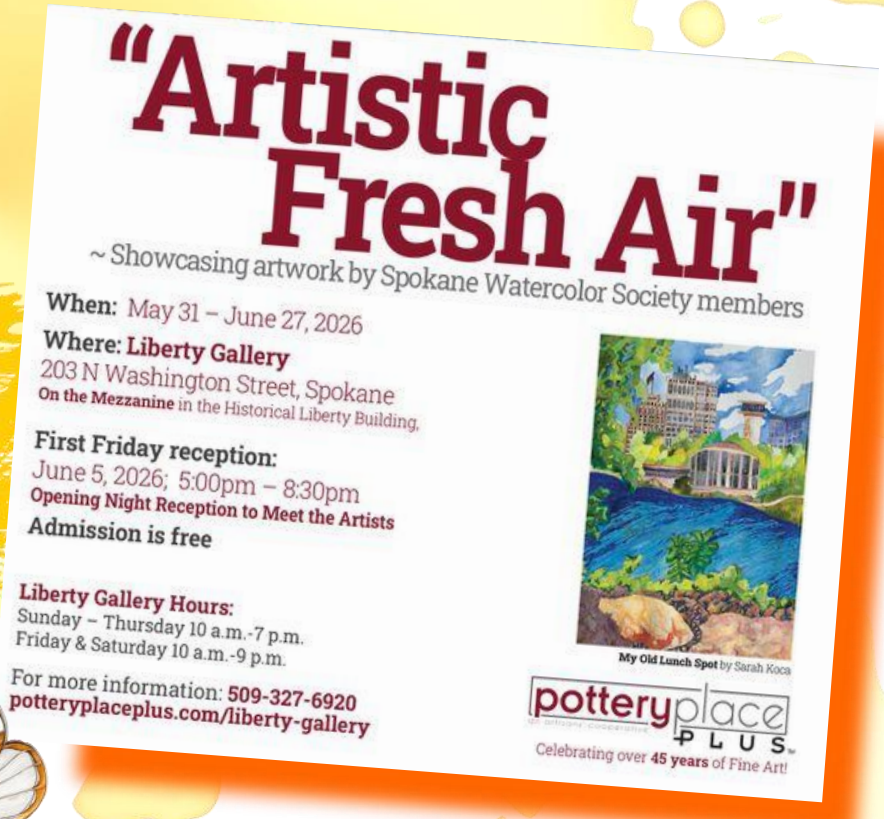
Due to low participation and summer vacations, there will be no MEN'S BREAKFAST meetings until further notice.

The 2026 SWS Juried MEMBERS SHOW

will be **coming in September** (details will be available at a later date).

Keep painting this summer out-doors, indoors, with a friend, group or by yourself, and don't forget to take your painting supplies on all your summer holidays!





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Plein Air Event

Saltese Flats Wetlands

Indoor/Outdoor venue

Saturday, June 6, 2026

9:30 am to 2:00 pm

Saltese Flats Wetlands
Doris Morrison Learning Center
1330 S Henry Road,
Greenacres, WA 99016

View the lake, surrounding hills and fields, and bring your field glasses and camera to catch the diverse wildlife habitat. Venue offers indoor restrooms, tables, utility sinks, and broad-sweeping views out the large windows. Outdoors offers an elevated patio, +3mi of trails, waterfront outdoor port-a-let.

COME AND PAINT WITH US!

For more information, visit
https://www.spokanecounty.gov/1469/Saltese-Flats-Wetland-Restoration

or contact (509) 863-5230

David R. Smith Reprise

at the **SWS General Meeting**
Saturday, June 20,
10 am to 12pm
at Spokane Art Supply

Members who attended **David's Fresh and Exciting Watercolors** workshop in April will demo and share some of his tips and techniques for using the fluidity of watercolors to make your paintings sing.

This is a **PAINT ALONG demo, so bring your painting supplies** and be prepared to use a lot of water...hair dryers may also be advantageous.

Don't miss it! It is our last meeting before the summer hiatus!



PLEASE NOTE:
We will review April (VALUE) and June (COLOR CHOICES) challenge paintings at our June 20 meeting. Please upload them on the website by Thursday June 18 and/or bring them to the meeting.

This will ensure that clean images of your work will be presented on the website, and newsletter.

Please see pg. 3 for uploading instructions.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

SWS NEW WEBSITE

Thanks to the tireless efforts of the AD-HOC Committee, they found an individual to renovate and streamline our website to make it more functional in a user-friendly format. Please see page 3 for procedures to help us learn and navigate through the new format.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Elena Von Derau, Deer Park, 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 with your user name and password,** under the heading **"MY Account".** If you DO NOT want your contact information on this roster, please contact: **vpres@spokanewatercolor.org.**

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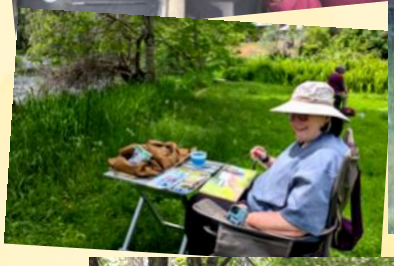
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Carrie's Plein Air Event

By Carrie Dugovic

SWS members joined together on a gorgeous sunny day at Carrie Dugovic's home on the Little Spokane River for a day of plein air painting, meeting our newest members, catching up with one another and sharing their works of art. With a river, orchard, barn, trees, lilacs and daisies, there were plenty of scenes for the artists to paint or just to sit outside with one another and play with paper, water, a brush and pigment.

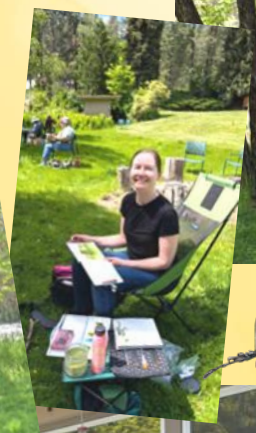






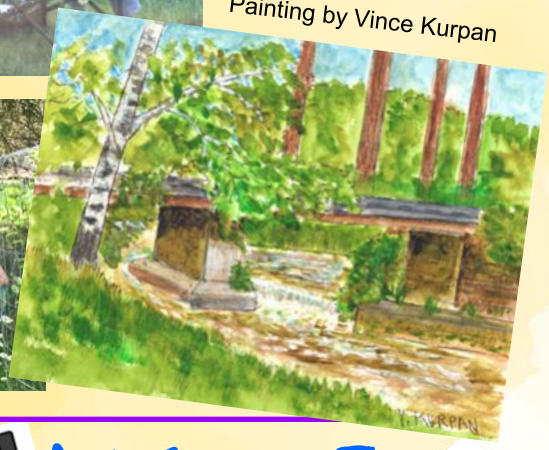






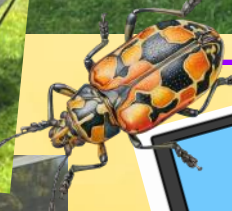


Painting by Vince Kurpan













Website Tips with Carrie

www.spokanewatercolor.org

HOW TO UPLOAD CHALLENGES

Please bring your Challenge Paintings to in-person meetings, **but also we request you upload them** so that we have clean images to use on the website and newsletter. **Please upload by the Thursday before the general meeting.**

- Log in to your account at **www.spokanewatercolor.org**
- Hit the **My Account Button** on the right of Menu
- Scroll down to the **"Meetings and Programs"** section
- Click on **"View and Submit Current Challenge"** (images should be clean and cropped to show the painting only), FORMAT should be in **JPEG or PNG, maximum size of 4 mb**
- Type in the requested information with the uploaded photos and click **"Submit"**

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SWS National Show Winners



1ST PLACE
"Eyass in the Eyrie"
by Elena Von Derau
$600 & **M. Graham Watercolor Set**
($140 value)



HON. MENTION 1
"The Apple of My Eye"
by Susan Burke
$100 & **Holbein Watercolor Set**
($90 value)

2ND PLACE
"Timeless Refuge"
by Rebecca Latham
$400 & **Ampersand Digital G.C.**
($100 value)



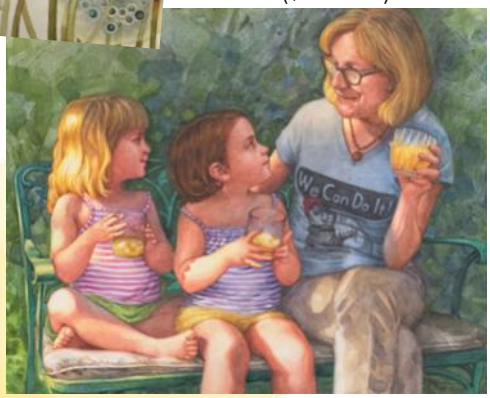




3RD PLACE
"Tao Te Frog"
by Katie Frey
$300 & **Blick Art Materials G.C.**
($100 value)



JUROR'S CHOICE
"Social Hour with Mimi"
by Beth Trott
$100 & **QoR Watercolor Set**
($90 value)



HON. MENTION 2
"Dappled"
by Betsy Ward
$100 & **Daniel Smith Watercolor Set**
($70 value)



AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2
"China Town, S.F."
by Gloria Fox
$50 Art Salvage G.C. &
Dr. Ph. Martin's Hydrus Watercolors
($100 value)





Thank you to all of our valued sponsors for providing such amazing and generous art gifts! We appreciate you. Clickable links to all of our sponsors can be found on our website so please check them out!

THANK YOU
to our esteemed
JUROR
David R. Smith

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 1
"Just for Fun"
by Kelly Knouff-Burk
$50 Art Salvage G.C. &
Dr. Ph. Martin's Hydrus Watercolor
($100 value)

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The Awards Reception took place on **Saturday afternoon, May 16.** It was very well attended, and awards were presented by **Kim G. and Tom B.** in the Auditorium at the Helen South Alexander Gallery. We watched a pre-recorded video of David R. Smith's comments on the winning entries. **Congratulations to all the winners and all those that were accepted into the show!**

All of the paintings can also be viewed on our website, thanks to the amazing and beautiful job that **Carrie D.** has been doing as web manager, keeping us all up to date and informed. **Thank you Carrie!**

SWS National Show Awards Reception



THANK YOU to:

- **The MAC and Tammy Gabbert** for providing such a lovely venue for our show and for all the expertise from their helpful staff.
- **Tom Bauer, Show Chair,** for all his hard work organizing and overseeing the details of the show.
- **All the SWS volunteers** who provided the sumptuous **snack tables**, signed up as **docents, procured sponsors** and art gifts, provided advertising **support**, and **everyone who helped make this show the success** that it was.

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Lori P., Sherri T. and Linda S. currently have their work on display at **Centerplace, now Thru July 13th! Check it out!**

CENTERPLACE EVENT CENTER

2426 N. Discovery Place, Spokane Valley, WA

For more information and to claim your space, please contact:
Sue Rohrback, Exhibit Coordinator
(509) 990-8441; suerohrback@hotmail.com

2026 UPCOMING SHOW DATES

July 13 (Monday setup 1-3)—**September 21** (Monday takedown 1-3)

EXCLUSIVE SPOKANE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY SHOW
Sept. 21 (Monday setup 1-3)—**Nov. 9** (Monday takedown 10-12)

Palouse Plein Air 2026

runs September 4-14. **Must register by September 3.** There are usually fun gift box perks that come in the mail for early bird registrations. The plein air competition also features a vast region within which you may paint. Here is the website: www.ci.moscow.id.us/216/Palouse-Plein-Air

Artists of
River Ridge Association of Fine Arts
At the 33 Artists Market
ART FESTIVAL
Saturday, June 13, 10 am to 6 pm
Manito Park (east of Duncan Gardens)
Showing in Booth #70-71








FEATURED ARTISTS
Don & Rena Bailey,
Becky Dudenhofer, bari,
Nancy Huck, Susan Jutila-Walde,
Chris Knowlden, Alicia Lauth,
Diane Lindblade, Joni Michels,
Nikki Moore, Chris Pegg,
Deb Rawley Faith Robinson,
and Mary Thomas,

THE CHASE GALLERY

EXHIBIT YOUR ART IN THE CHASE GALLERY!
APPLY FOR THE 2027 SEASON.
SPOKANEARTS.ORG/applytochase

SPKN ARTS

CALL FOR ORIGINAL, UNFRAMED TWO-DIMENSIONAL ARTWORKS (INCLUDING PHOTOGRAPHS, DRAWINGS, PAINTINGS, PRINTS, MIXED MEDIA, ETC.)

The call is open to artists from the Inland Northwest region.

The City of Liberty Lake | SPKN ARTS

www.spokanearts.org

Chewelah Plein Air 2026
Just Plein Fun!

The paintings from **Just Plein Fun are up through June 27 at Trails End Gallery and The Yale Press.** Come to Chewelah, WA and see this fresh, beautiful art!

CALL FOR ENTRIES

NWWS 86th Annual International Open Exhibition

Entry Deadline July 8

Juror: Dongfeng Li

Open to members and non-members
Online Exhibition

For prospectus and more information, log on to nwws.org

Plein Air Coeur d'Alene

PLEIN AIR Coeur d'Alene

EXHIBITION DATES
July 31—Aug. 2, 2026
www.pleinaircda.com
Registration is open, now until July 30. Early Bird Registration ends June 5. Visit their website for more info.

Art on the Green

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
July 31 thru Aug. 2, 2026
www.artonthegreencda.com