

President's Letter

Dear Members,

It is with great honor and excitement that I write to you as the newly elected president of the American Watercolor Society.



I've spent my entire career working in watercolor, as a student, illustrator, instructor and fine artist and although I've worked in other media, watercolor has always been my passion. As a lifelong watercolorist and longtime member of the American Watercolor Society, I have seen how watercolor inspires, challenges, and connects artists across the country (and the world). That's why this opportunity is so deeply meaningful to me.

First, I'd like to express my gratitude to our outgoing president, Antonio Masi and the Board of Directors that served with him the past eight years. Antonio's hard work and guidance has set a high standard, and I am grateful for his contributions, which will continue to shape AWS for many years to come. I look forward to building upon his legacy while working with Executive Director, Charity Henderson Vince, a new board and an incredible community of artists to help further advance the appreciation of watercolor as an art form.

As you know, the American Watercolor Society has a rich and storied history that spans over 150 years. We've been a leader among art organizations, a showcase for emerging artists, a society for working professionals, and now a platform for watercolor on the international stage. Let's preserve these traditions while creating even more opportunities for innovation, inclusion, and growth within AWS.

Of course, none of this can happen without you. Whether you're submitting to our annual exhibitions, volunteering your time, providing financial support, or simply participating in our events, your involvement is what makes AWS great.

If you'd like to get more involved, there's plenty of opportunities for that. Consider chairing or serving on one of our committees. Presently, we need members, signature or associate, to chair the awards, fund raising, guest speaker, newsletter, public relations and travel show committees. You can lead one of these committees no matter where you live. Most importantly, I encourage you to stay engaged and always feel free share your thoughts with us on how we can improve.

Thank you for your continued support of the American Watercolor Society. I'm excited to see how much we can achieve going forward!

Warmest regards,

President, American Watercolor Society

American Watercolor Society 158th Annual International Exhibition Plans Are Set

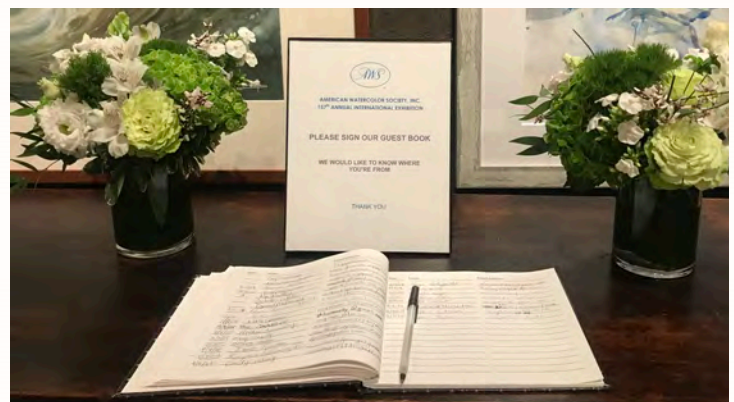
The 158th Annual International Exhibition of the organization will be held April 7 - 25, 2025.

Once again it will take place at the historic Salmagundi Club on Fifth Avenue at 12th Street.

Entries for the competition ended on November 13, 2024 and the Jury of Selection finalized scores on December 7th, 2024.

Selection jurors for the 158th were Joel Popadics, AWS, Iain Stewart, AWS, Michael Holter, AWS, Thomas W Schaller, AWS, and Dot Ganek, AWS. As in past years the jurors had a huge task, with nearly 1,000 entries submitted.

Awards jurying will take place February 23, 2025, with jurors Irena Roman, AWS, D. F. , Lana Privitera, AWS, and Stephen Quiller, AWS, D.F. Selections for the Traveling Exhibition will also be made at this time.



2025 Watercolor Evening Demo with Thomas Wells Schaller



Winter Belvedere-NYC, 22" x 30"

Thomas Wells Schaller is a multi-award-winning artist, architect, and author based in New York City. He will be the featured artist for the 2025 Watercolor Evening demonstration, which will take place on **April 24th, 2025**. The demo will be held in person at the Salmagundi Club and streamed on Zoom. Keep an eye on your email for the sign-up links.

Thomas is a winner of the 2024 Arthur Ross Award by the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art, the 2024 Raphael Award, the Alpha Rho Chi Medal at OSU, a Graham Foundation Grant, and he is a two-time winner of the prestigious Hugh Ferriss Memorial Prize.

He is the author of three books, *The Art of Architectural Drawing*, and *Architecture in Watercolor* - winner of an AIA Award of Merit. His new book, *Thomas W Schaller: Architecture of Light* is published by Penguin Random House. His best-selling DVD, *Watercolor: The Power of Design* is published by Streamline Media. His online courses, *Fine Art Mentorship* and *the Power & Poetry of Drawing* are hosted by Terracotta LLC.

He is a Signature Member of many arts organizations including the AWS, NWS, TWSA, SDWS, NWW, CWA, and elected member of The International Masters of Watercolor Alliance, The California Art Club, the Salmagundi Club, and the American Institute of Architects. He is President Emeritus of the American Society of Architectural Illustration and a Brand Ambassador for Daniel Smith, Escoda Brushes, Neef Brushes, Baohong Paper, Stillman & Birn, House of Hoffman, and Blacking Pencils. Tom is represented by Gallery 71 in New York City.

Thomas says of his work, "Elements of dreams, memory, and pure invention are just as critical to my work as are any components of observed reality. They are simply another way to "see". My aim is to express the difference between merely "looking" at the worlds we see around us as well as within. And by so doing, I hope to help define "seeing" as a way to establish one's own unique creative voice.

Painting is a visual diary of one's own very personal experiences of the world - written in the non-verbal language of art. No two voices can ever be alike. With this framework in mind - for my demonstration - I will complete an urban cityscape which draws more upon fictional elements - dreams, memories, and invention - rather than upon actual real-world observation. I will walk the group through the inception of an idea, the development of that idea in sketch form, and the completion of a finished watercolor work."



Kyoto Nocturne, 28" x 20"

Welcoming the 2025 AWS Awards Dinner Speaker Eric Rhoads



Eric Rhoads stands as a transformative force in the art world, having dedicated his career to democratizing art education and fostering vibrant creative communities worldwide. As founder and chairman of Streamline Publishing, Inc., he has fundamentally reshaped how artists learn, connect, and thrive. His media empire includes the flagship publications PleinAir Magazine and Fine Art Connoisseur, alongside American Watercolor, Plein Air Today, Realism Today, Fine Art Today, Inside Art, and Pastel Today — reaching hundreds of thousands of artists weekly.

When the global pandemic threatened to isolate artists, Rhoads' entrepreneurial spirit sparked the creation of Watercolor Live, the world's first virtual watercolor conference. This success led to the launch of Realism Live, PleinAir Live, Pastel Live, and Acrylic Live, collectively connecting over 60,000 artists across 59 countries. His

daily YouTube show, launched during Covid, has garnered over 16 million views worldwide, becoming a vital lifeline for the art community.

Rhoads' commitment to artistic excellence is further exemplified through PaintTube.tv, a comprehensive platform featuring masterclasses from over 700 world-renowned artists. His flagship event, the Plein Air Convention & Expo (PACE), has grown into the world's largest gathering of outdoor painters, and his Figurative Art Convention & Expo (FACE) has brought hundreds of realist painters together.

A passionate plein air painter himself, Rhoads leads three annual 100-plus-person retreats: Winter Art Escape, the Publisher's Invitational Adirondacks, and Fall Color Week. His vision has taken artists to paint in Cuba, Africa, New Zealand, and Japan, while also guiding collector groups through exclusive behind-the-scenes museum tours across Europe for over a decade.

Recognizing that artistic talent alone doesn't guarantee success, Rhoads pioneered Art Business Mastery, a comprehensive program helping artists build sustainable careers. His contributions to art education have earned recognition from prestigious institutions including the Art Renewal Center, the Florence Academy, Laguna Plein Air Painters, the California Art Club, and the American Society of Marine Artists.

From his home in Austin, Texas, where he lives with his wife and college-age triplet children, Rhoads continues to innovate and inspire. His legacy extends beyond his publishing empire and events to the millions of artists whose lives he's transformed through his unwavering commitment to making art education accessible to all.

158th Annual Exhibition Dates to Remember

| Date | Event |
|--------------------|--|
| September 3, 2024 | Entries for the 2025 Annual Exhibition Open. |
| November 13, 2024 | Entries for the 2025 Annual Exhibition Close. |
| December 2-7, 2024 | The jury of selection deliberates the artwork for the 2025 Annual Exhibition. |
| December 18, 2024 | Artists begin getting notified of acceptances and denials through email and the list of accepted exhibitors will be posted on the AWS website. |
| February 15, 2025 | Shipped work is due at DAD Trucking. |
| February 22, 2025 | Hand-delivered work is due at the Salmagundi Club between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. |
| February 23, 2025 | The jury of awards and the travel show selection occur. |
| March 14, 2025 | Notice of awards begin. |
| April 7, 2025 | The 2025 Annual Exhibition opens at 1:00 PM. |
| April 8, 2025 | Opening Reception at the Salmagundi Club from 6:00 through 8:00 PM |
| April 24, 2025 | Watercolor Evening with Thomas Wells Schaller at the Salmagundi Club from 6:00 through 8:00 PM. |
| April 25, 2025 | The annual meeting will be held at 4:00 PM, followed by cocktails and awards dinner until the close of the exhibition that night. |
| April 26, 2025 | Walk-in pick up of artwork. |

ArtSpeak

by Robert Fionda

“Don’t Cockle”

British watercolorist, David Curtis, author of *Light and Atmosphere in Watercolor*, used the word "cockle" in regards to watercolor paper that is wavy or slightly bent even when framed. As a traditionalist, I shudder at the thought of working on cockled paper or exhibiting in such a fashion.

When novices complain about “Why is my paper bending or curling?” they need to understand the basic physics and make appropriate choices prior to painting. Working on a cockled piece of watercolor paper is truly a frustrating challenge when trying to get pigments to run and sit where needed over a wavy surface.

Both 90 lb. and 140 lb. paper will curl when flooded with washes. Tension is created on the top surface of the paper especially if the backside of the paper is left dry. Plus, improper mounting or cheap mask-like tape allows seepage under the edge of the tape. Then the paper surface breaks free to pull and twist. Welcome to the world of hills and valleys.

But there are choices if you want smooth, flat paintings when finished.

Solution A. Buy a commercial Watercolor Block of stretched, heavy weight paper (140 or 300 lbs.). However, as you use up the sheets on the block, the black, rubber edging starts to give way towards the end and you get loose sheets of paper. I have never had the experience of using a whole ten sheet block that did not break down by the sixth or seventh sheet. Not a well-designed value for your dollars. Plus, repeated heavy washes cause the top paper to slightly roll...remember it is a pad of paper and it still absorbs moisture.

Solution B. Obviously, use a 300 lb. paper which will sustain flooding and punishment in an unmounted state. But the cost per sheet can be very expensive. And the nature of the paper demands knowledgeable applications of pigment because the color is absorbed by the thirsty, heavier paper. There is a learning curve with various weights of paper.

Solution C. Do it yourself. Mounting watercolor paper takes time, the proper use of supplies and a concentrated routine. However, think of the process as a ritual. Like setting the table with fine china and utensils for a special dinner. Wood is a traditional stretching surface but this method is not to be considered an absolute. Case in point, Gatorboard is very popular because it is waterproof and lightweight as a support but inexpensive.



When choosing wood, the support board is usually a piece of $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{3}{8}$ plywood, four inches larger than the paper size planned, with two coats of shellac; front and back. If stretching large paper @30x40 + use $\frac{1}{2}$ plywood. The tension created from drying paper can and will bend or bow a wood board! The board can be used again and again.

Properly soaked 140 lb. paper is carefully laid down and gently wiped with a natural sponge and then 4" Gummed Tape (in earlier days, it was called

Brown Packing Tape or Postal Tape) is dipped and booked like wallpaper and applied at least one inch in from the edge of the watercolor paper. Gummed tape is still available through art supply houses. Dip and wipe excess water and press down. Too much water on the gummed tape will weaken the bond. Be judicious.

Tape completely around then use $\frac{1}{4}$ chisel staples every four inches. The staples need to pierce the tape and paper together. The chisel style allows for the staple depth to properly set in the wood. Thumb tacks are an alternative. Lay the mounted board flat. When the paper is dry, place white artist tape ($\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ inch) around the inside of the gummed tape for a moisture barrier that (once pulled off) serves as a professional white border later in framing.

Gummed tape is NOT archival, so leave a space for cutting away from the gummed tape to prevent mold. Another reason for the artist tape as a removable barrier. See the photo. You now have a non-cockling paper ready for painting.

Various methods on paper stretching exist, be inquisitive. ArtSpeak recommends further research on YouTube. "How to Stretch Watercolor Paper Perfectly!" (Watercolorish) offers a succinct explanation and demonstration of traditional paper mounting similar to what was just mentioned. Minus the use of staples. Keep painting and don't cockle.

ArtSpeak welcomes comments and ideas for future articles from membership. Please write Robtart@juno.com with the subject line: ArtSpeak.

AWS Member News!

Alexis Lavine, AWS is pleased to share that her painting, which was included in the 2024 AWS International Exhibition was also selected for the cover art of the November issue of *Carolina Arts*, a monthly publication covering the visual arts in both Carolinas.



Judi Betts, AWS was 2024's recipient of the prestigious Michael Crespo Fellowship Award. Created by Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge and funded by Cary Saurage to commemorate the life, work and dedication of the late internationally recognized painter and LSU professor, Judi was presented the award at the Arts Council's annual meeting in recognition of her remarkable 60-year career.

Reflecting on the award, Judi shared, "I'm so honored. I laughed ... I cried a little." Her journey has been adorned with over 100 awards and a significant retrospective exhibit at the Manship Theatre, Jones Walker Gallery, and LSU Museum of Art. She is a signature member of both American and National Watercolor Societies and holds memberships in the elite National and Salmagundi Art Clubs in New York City.

Jennifer Sowers received a second place award in the Landscape division of the Artist's Magazines "40th Annual Art Competition" with acrylic on canvas piece entitled: "Brecksville Ridge".

Sandra Pearce's watercolor "Snow Creek" was voted by readers to be published in the Dec - Feb 2024 edition of the international magazine The Art of Watercolour.



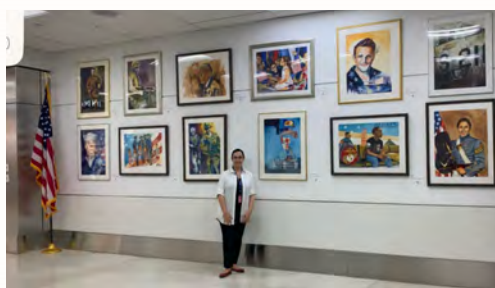
Gina T. Judy had thirteen watermedia, printmaking, and pastel-works in a Two-Woman Invitational Exhibition at the New Philadelphia, OH Tuscarawas County Center for the Arts Members Gallery, through December 13. The whole show consisted of 22 works and sales-items.



Fehim Krijestorac had a solo exhibition in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, from August 26 to August 30, 2024. The exhibition took place at the Hanikah Gallery.

Patricia Le Helmick's Retrospective "Roads Traveled" is currently presented at Western Nebraska Community College, Scottsbluff, Nebraska beginning March 20, 2024 and running through May 15, 2025.

J. M. Littleton won the Excellence Award at the International Watercolor Masters Exhibition in Shropshire, England in May 2024. J. M. is pictured with AWS Signature Member, Carrie Waller, at the IWM in the UK. In November, J. M. won the Baltimore Watercolor Society Founders Award for Louisa Steuart for *See Me In The Light of the Sun*, in the 2024 Mid-Atlantic Exhibition.



Marilyn Johansen had a series of paintings titled "Soldier Stories" featured at the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport. Twelve of these paintings were included and are depictions of military history told through the lives of our military men and women.

Jeanette Fournier is the recipient of an Award of Merit at the Copley Society of Art in Boston, MA for her painting of a wood duck titled, "Harmony", which is part of the Small Works Exhibit "Reflections".

One of **Ken Graning's** recent landscape paintings was juried into and chosen as one of the top 10 winners of the "Artists over Sixty" art competition featured in the May-June edition of the Artist magazine. The title of this painting is "Shiawassee River" which is a river that is located in the lower peninsula of Michigan. The media is gouache and it is painted on Arches cold press watercolor paper.



In Memoriam

*We are saddened by the loss of these Signature Members
whose great talents added to the long history of the American Watercolor Society.*

Hannie Rieuwerts, AWS

Lucille Schur, AWS

Izzie Barth, AWS

“Izzie” (Dolores I.) Barth, a resident of Pine Run Community, died December 16, 2022. She was the wife of “Fritz” (Frederic C.) Barth. She grew up in Berks County and met her husband when he was a student at Albright College.

Izzie was the daughter of John W. and Catherine McLean of Berks County and a graduate of Reading High School, class of 1949. She was the mother of four sons: Stephen A., Philip K. (wife, Debbi), Frederic C., III (deceased) and Roderick J.(deceased), 3 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

The Barths moved to Bucks County in 1958 and resided in the Chalfont area for fifty plus years. She was a member of the cast of Kouncil Kapers and Fractured Frolics for eighteen years. She participated in dances and skits and designed many costumes and patterns.

Interest in art was always her passion. She had no formal art education. She took watercolor classes with Kass Morin Freeman and Marcia Weikart. In Ms. Freeman's class she developed a “spatter” style, which resulted in a form of pointillism. Using this style, she began winning prizes for her work. She was a member of many art organizations and was especially proud of gaining Signatures Status in the American Watercolor Society.

In the years 1975 and 1976, the family had their first exchange student, Hans, a boy from Sweden. In '78 & '79, they hosted their first 'daughter', Ellen, from Norway. They had more than 20 students that stayed with them for short periods of time, for various reasons. Hans, and Ellen, became real members of the Barth family. Their children grew up feeling they had another set of grandparents. Ellen passed away when she was 40 and her children kept in contact with the Barths.

The Barths travelled to Europe and Scandinavia, visited the Greek Isles and had many vacations in the Caribbean. She continued painting the rest of her life. She will be sorely missed.

Jan Gary, AWS, H.M. (Janice E. Gorman)

February 13, 1925 — February 7, 2023

Mrs. Janice E. Gorman, 97 years of age, departed this world February 7, 2023, at the home of her cousin, BJ and Joan Belk in Byram where she resided for the past 6 years.

Janice was born February 13, 1925, in Ft. Worth, Texas. She was the only child of Edgar “Doc” Echols and Lillian Sorrels, a Mississippi native. She studied at San Antonio Art Institute and The Art Center School in Los Angeles, California. And last, but not least, The School of Visual Arts New York in Binghamton, New York, which was an art student’s dream. Her art career as a department store artist started at Cox’s in Ft. Worth, Eastern Columbia in Los Angeles, and Emporium in Jackson, Mississippi.

At one time she was married to Albert Gary of Terry. She used “Jan Gary” as a signature for her paintings. Her painting using tension and acrylic, which is a medium used by artists, began to cause her to have allergic reactions to the turpentine, so she had to stop using those mediums. At this point, in 1950, she chose to relocate to the New York and New Jersey area. She became a member of several art societies and won many awards and one highly sought after, gold medal for her work called “Woman of Achievement”.

She is preceded in death by her parents, and her beloved husband, William Gorman of New Jersey.

David William Coolidge, AWS

David William Coolidge, a renowned watercolor artist, passed away peacefully on August 22, 2024. David was a loving husband, father, brother, uncle, grandparent, friend, and a resident of Naples for more than 35 years. David was born in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1942 and was the middle child of John and Betty Ann (Palmer) Coolidge. David was raised in Fort Dodge, Iowa and subsequently graduated from Bettendorf High School in 1960. David attended Principia College in Elsah, Illinois before transferring to Drake University in Des Moines where he earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. David’s interest in illustration and watercolor painting drew him to the Greater Philadelphia area where he apprenticed under John Falter, a well-known illustrator.

In 1965, David met his future wife, Meredith (Merry) McBride, and they married the following year. David and Merry spent a year in Italy where David attended the Tyler School of Art in Rome while continuing to refine his skills as a watercolor artist. Upon returning to the United States in 1968, David and Merry settled along Philadelphia’s Main Line where they raised their two sons. David established his art studio at their home and began exhibiting his work in galleries throughout the Delaware Valley and in his native Iowa. David became well-known for his realistic depictions of landscapes, historic buildings, battlefields, golf courses, and maritime scenes.

He was commissioned by the J.M. Smucker Company in 1972 to design their annual Christmas plate in a collector’s series that ran for 50 years. In 1981, the Merion Golf Club commissioned David to produce paintings of the US Open Golf Championship held that summer. In 1985, David and Merry moved to Naples where David continued to paint and exhibit in local galleries. For close to 20 years, David’s art studio was located on Third Street South in Naples and his paintings were frequently shown at the Harmon Meek gallery. David’s works over the years reflected many of the locations he traveled to including Philadelphia, South Florida, Venice, Bermuda, Colonial Williamsburg, New England, and several National Parks. David’s art legacy will continue to be maintained online at www.davidcoolidge.com.

David loved spending time with his wife, Merry, of 57 years and enjoyed centering his vacation time around family gatherings. David was an active member of the Christian Science church in Naples and served in a variety of roles including teaching in the Sunday School. David enjoyed being a “Grampa” and loved visiting with his grandchildren and seeing them flourish. David is survived by his two sons, Scott and his wife Shelley; Terry and his wife Karen, five grandchildren, his sister Jane Kelly, and several nephews, nieces, and cousins. His beloved wife, Merry, passed away earlier this year.

Charlotte Huntley, AWS

Charlotte Irwin Huntley passed away of natural causes on January 20, 2024. She was 88 years old. Charlotte was born in Pasadena, California as the second of two children of Laura and Emmett Irwin. Unlike her father and brother Bill, who were more technically inclined, Charlotte expressed her love of life through art. Charlotte was an avid California artist since she scribbled on the walls and painted murals for her grade school auditorium. She learned to control these urges with a formal education at Scripps College, Chouinard School of Art, and the Los Angeles County Art Institute, only to have them reemerge to the benefit of community theaters in the San Francisco Bay Area and Chicago.

Charlotte was an imaginative, award-winning, enthusiastic watercolor artist with approximately 400 paintings accepted in national juried art exhibitions in forty-three states and was a signature member of dozens of art societies. Charlotte was a popular watercolor demonstrator, knowledgeable art juror, creative and inspiring workshop instructor, and an award-winning author. Together with Judi Betts she wrote the exciting, multi-award winning book: 'Painting... a QUEST toward Xtraord!nary'.

In 1955, Charlotte married the love of her life, Neal Huntley. Charlotte and Neal were inseparable until Neal's death in 2022. They shared all aspects of their life together and their love and affection were there for all to see. Charlotte was blessed with three sons, four grandsons, two great grandsons, their spouses, and partners. On a personal level, Charlotte was known for her plentiful smiles, her big hugs, liberal kisses, her loving and generous nature, and her fondness for bright colors. At church she could be spotted by her flashy red hats.

Charlotte is survived by her three sons, Chris, Rob, and Otter (Richard); grandsons Mac, Quinton, Killian, and Cooper; great-grandsons Walter and Byron; sisters-in-law Linda Robinson and Jana Huntley; daughter-in-law Tracey, granddaughters-in-law Roz and Sabrina, and scores of nieces, nephews, and cousins, by birth or affection.

Henry Barker Bell, AWS

Henry Barker Bell, 81, of Noblesville, passed away on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at his home. He was born on September 30, 1942 to Robert Barker and Mary Jane (Krebs) Bell in Lansdale, Pennsylvania.

Henry attended Purdue University and Ball State University where he received his master's degree in education. He was an elementary teacher in Swayzee, Indiana, at Fall Creek Elementary for Hamilton Southeastern Schools, and College Wood, Orchard Park, and Woodbrook Elementary for Carmel Clay Schools. For many years, he was a boy scout leader in Fishers, Indiana, and achieved the Woodsman Badge. Henry continued his passion, through the years, as a watercolor painter and was a very talented artist. Henry was a member of the American Watercolor Society, Watercolor Society of Indiana, Indiana Artist Club, a lifetime member of the Hamilton County Art Association, and member of the Hoosier Salon. He is represented in many corporate, public, and private collections. Henry also enjoyed fishing and traveling with his wife, Alice, on many adventures together to Pennsylvania, Sedona, AZ, and various other fishing trips.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Alice Bell; siblings, Eva Bell-Miller, Robert David (Rebecca) Bell, Ralph Laird Bell, and Margret Edith (Don) Bell-Johnston; and sister-in-law, Lonna Alcock.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Wallace Richard Bell; and brother-in-law, William Alcock.

Joan Rothel, AWS

Elizabeth (Joan) Rothel, loving wife of James (Jim) Rothel passed away on December 14, 2024, at Christ Hospital surrounded by family members. Joan was born in Belleville, Ontario, Canada, on June 1, 1945, to Bert and Eileen Stiver (both deceased).

Joan and Jim had two children: John W. (Jack) Rothel (wife, Marsha) and Jennifer L. Rothel Sloan (husband, Doug); 8 grandchildren: Lauren (Brendan), Patrick (Duke), Brandon (Mallory), Nicholas, Rachel (Alex), Hannah, Mia, and Adam; and 7 great-grandchildren (with the 8th due in April, 2025). Joan had two sisters, Elaine Kudela (deceased), and Carol Stiver residing in NH, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Joan's family was sponsored to immigrate to Ohio when Joan was 5 years old, and she became a naturalized US citizen in 1958. Eventually, her family moved to Norwalk, Ohio. She attended Norwalk High School, where she met Jim. They became high school sweethearts and were married in 1964. During their married life they lived in Cleveland, OH, Lafayette, IN, Glen Ellyn, IL, and Cincinnati, OH.

Joan was an accomplished watercolor artist, and she was well-known in the tristate area. Her preferred medium was watercolor done in a realistic style portraying landscapes, florals, still lifes, and seascapes. For many years, she displayed her artwork at several local art shows including the Montgomery Kiwanis Art Show, Wyoming Art Show, Summerfair, and Hyde Park Art Show. She won many awards at these shows. Joan's family cherishes numerous art pieces she has created, and many also rest on the walls of homes across the country.

Her collection of antique dolls and toys gave her great pleasure, and many items were the subject matter for an extensive series of still life paintings. Many paintings won prizes in local and national shows and won her signature membership in the American Watercolor Society (NYC) (the "World Series" of watercolor painting). She was a signature member of the National Watercolor Society (CA), Ohio Watercolor Society, Kentucky Watercolor Society, Cincinnati Art Club, and a member of the Women's Art Club. Her paintings included collections at companies such as Dinsmore & Shohl, Cincinnati Bell, Northern Kentucky University, and US Shoe.

For more than 25 years, she and five artist friends spent two weeks each summer on different coastal locations in Maine painting landscapes and seascapes. She and Jim enjoyed vacationing in Winter Harbor, ME, painting, fishing and visiting with friends. Eating lobsters while on vacation in Maine was always a highlight of her trips.

Joan loved to "make things". She built and furnished a detailed three-story dollhouse with electric lights, handmade furniture, and even miniature copies of some of her paintings.

She took a class on basket making, and after making several full-size baskets, she adapted the skills she had learned to make many exquisite miniature baskets. Joan enjoyed sewing and knitting, making many baby blankets, afghan blankets, sweaters, and hats as gifts to family and friends. She was always an avid reader and liked doing jigsaw puzzles. Joan enjoyed exploring local antique stores, second hand stores, and sometimes a casino in Las Vegas or around Cincinnati.

Joan was a loving wife, sister, mother and grandmother. She had many close friends through art, book clubs, neighborhoods, and other hobbies. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Carol Hubbard, AWS

Carol enjoyed a beautiful life. An artist to her core, sharing her craft brought her immense joy and purpose. Spending each day in creative pursuit kept her out of trouble. Born and raised in Fairfield, CT, she graduated from Roger Ludlowe High School in Fairfield where she stood out in sports and as the lead majorette. Earning a BFA from Syracuse University in Design, she became a self-taught watercolorist. Never a dull moment, she built her world around her vision. Boating dates with Arthur “Bud” Hubbard were varied as in 4AM sittings in a duck-blind on Long Island Sound which ended up with a taxidermized duck or dinner. Her day job was drafting helicopter engines for the engineers at Sikorsky Aircraft where Bud also worked.

When parenting gave her freedom to pursue self-employment, she quickly rose to competition artist and sought-after teacher juggling five classes of four students each week. Many a summer day she would take her children on a photo hunt for “reference” to paint. Into the woods, at the beach or old barns which she would joke was a sure way to know that it would soon collapse or burn down. Trips to galleries around New England to deliver her work exposed her kids to what it meant to be driven by your passion. Daughter Laura remembers being bribed with dimes to sit for portrait practice when Carol dabbled in various art mediums. In the house the smell of linseed oil and turpentine from oil painting gave way to perfecting her technique in watercolor with the addition of an art studio designed with just the right lighting from the north. Though the once quiet dirt road and active railroad has evolved to a busy thoroughfare and popular rail trail, she loved her Monroe community, becoming a regular at local breakfast eateries and her favorite hardware store.

Carol hit the big time in 1981 winning the Traveling Show Award in the American Watercolor Society. She quickly added to her success membership at the American Artists’ Professional League of New York City, the Northshore Art Association of Gloucester, MA, the CT Watercolor Society and the Kent Art Association. Carol’s paintings have been bought for corporate collections, the Danbury Mint, Heublein and more.

A generation of students stayed for decades, some going on in the profession but always leaving as friends. Carol was known for her descriptive language...some stand-out area of a painting was a referred to as the “lady in the red dress.” There were “happy accidents” and the “bee’s knees.” Highly anticipated year-end class parties welcomed all together where their work would be displayed instead of hers in the home where she lived and worked for 65 years. When asked what kept her aging gracefully, she would claim it was the Swedish roots, mixing life up with square dancing, racquetball and tennis, painting excursions to Monhegan Island, Maine and

Italy, good conversation about cultures, love of family, friends and always having a cat or two. She juggled it all and had a marvelous time. Success followed her right up to a “Best in Show” win as recent as 2023. Challenges later in life were met with the adage “this too shall pass” ... you just need to paint in your head to find contentment. She left much beauty behind on this earthly palette after slowing down these last few years but always putting just one more brush stroke to paper or giving one more instruction by email to her dedicated students.

Predeceased by her husband 25 years ago and her parents, Edgar Ferdinand Webster and Agda Antoinette (Jensen) she is now reunited in Heaven also with her brother, Parker Everett who was 16 years her senior. She leaves her son, John Parker Hubbard, daughter Laura Sinclair (Mark), grandchildren Phillip Hubbard, Allison Johnson (Thomas), Benjamin Sinclair (Julia), great grandchildren, Wesley Thomas and Miles Parker...some artists in their own right but all who gave her such joy. Her warm smile and generous ways will be greatly missed.

AWS Governance

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Chair, Instructor Scholarships

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Executive Director

Emily Keleher
Office Assistant

AWS Makes Daily News!

Be sure to check the AWS social media pages and our website for updates between our newsletters. Visit our website at americanwatercolorsociety.org or our YouTube channel, Instagram, Facebook, or LinkedIn by typing in American Watercolor Society on any of these platforms.

Be Part of the Next AWS Newsletter

We always look forward to hearing updates from our talented AWS members. If you would like your exciting news and accomplishments to be featured in the next AWS newsletter, please submit this material to the email address newsletter@americanwatercolorsociety.org. Items received before June 1st of each year will be included in the Summer Newsletter. Items received before December 1st will be included in the Winter Newsletter. You may also send your material through the mail to the AWS office at 47 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003.

When submitting news items, all events must be dated by month and year. Submissions may include, but are not limited to, awards, publications, solo or small group shows, invitationals, serving on juries, additions to permanent collections, works in print, and unusual art adventures. Please do not include workshops, admission of entries to juried exhibitions, or inclusions in art biographical publications.

We have a talented group of Signature and Associate Members and we are proud of all of you. Election to membership in other art groups is not published in our Newsletter, but may be put on file in the AWS office. Congratulations to all our artists and to all who have received special recognition!



Finally, a massive thank you to each and every one of our members! AWS is built on the back of our talented and devoted artists and we look forward to featuring and celebrating you and all in our newsletters.

We will see you at our 158th Annual Exhibition.