

January 2021



From the President



When the lockdown began back in march 2020, I was just beginning to get into the whole marketing of my artwork online. But, like everyone else, I found myself holding my breath waiting and watching as the events transpired.

For me, the pandemic really didn't make any major changes in how I worked. I had already moved my studio into my home from my store by the summer of 2019. Back in Oct. 2018, Hurricane Michael damaged everything we owned and our entire surrounding communities. We were so overwhelmed by all the damage it created, from our home to all our businesses that it took a long time to get things repaired. It was only this past February that the roof on my store was repaired and our home repaired just this past summer. Now we can focus on the last Hurricane Michael repairs to my store!

By April, I decided to change my focus and work on projects for my home. One project was using a jig saw cutting out designs for my front porch. I really had fun and it was my first time doing this. Then, I reupholstered our sectional couch on our enclosed back porch. I've never done that either and desire not to do that again! Though, I am really pleased with it. There is also a long list of smaller projects but like all projects, they always take more time to do. By the time October rolled around, I realized I needed to get back to work on my artwork and website.

In the meantime, I continued to enter art exhibitions which many of them became online exhibitions. This did help me stay somewhat focused on my artwork. I even completed a portrait commission just prior to Christmas! We spent the holidays at home, not traveling to visit our grandkids, which was the downside of it. But we'd rather have many more holidays in the future.

Before the holidays were over, I had this crazy notion that I would have more time in the new year. Well, it's here and the schedule is already crazy. It's exhibition season and I already feel behind! Fortunately, I managed to submit for SW's exhibition. The deadline is just around the corner on the 22nd of January.

Just a remind, this year's exhibition is at the Gadsden Art Center and Museum, in Quincy, Fl. We plan to be optimistic that all our paintings will be handing out together! We look forward to seeing your wonderful work soon!

Happy New Year!

Michele Kimbrough



The Challenge to be Creative

Good-bye 2020. Hello 2021. It was hard to reach peak creativity last year with all the chaos that surrounded us, so I am glad to “put that to bed.” There are lifestyle adjustments to be made. January brings the promise of moving forward.

January marks the time of year for artists to apply to various exhibitions. January 22, 2021, is the application deadline for it this year’s 44th Southern Watercolor Society Annual Juried Exhibition. That date is fast approaching. Are you ready for it?

The prospectus can be found on the SW website, www.southernwatercolorssociety.org. It is also on the Juried Art Services website, www.juriedartservices.com. It is important to read the prospectus as it states the rules to be followed in order to apply to the exhibition. Each year the SW Board of Directors reviews the prospectus and makes needed changes. This year please pay special attention to the monetary awards to be given. There is an addition and increases in some so that for the first time monetary plus merchandise awards will total over \$10,000!!!

The application is found on the Juried Art Services website. Log into or create an account. Then upload your digital images to your portfolio. At this point, check your account to make sure your address, email and phone number is updated and correct. (We need correct information to send you the award, if you win one.) Now you are ready to fill out the application, pay the application fee and/or membership fee. Then click on the submit button.

Sometimes problems occur. If you forget your password, Mary Strobe at JAS can help. Contact her at mary.strobe@jurying.net. If your computer won’t let you submit the application, check it for any item you missed filling it in. If your computer still won’t cooperate, shut it down and reboot it. If you have questions in size, read the prospectus. If you still need help, contact me, Linda Pelc, at linzp60@hotmail.com I will try my best to answer your questions.

I encourage you to apply to the 44th Southern Watercolor Society Annual Juried Exhibition. I wish the best of luck for each one of you.

Linda Pelc



FIND INSPIRATION

Like many artists during the Covid Pandemic, I found that my art helped me to maintain some positivity about the situation. The isolation felt by many can be depressing, but I was able to do several things that kept me afloat.

I had been thinking about doing a demo video for some time, but never quite got around to it. In February 2020, just before the first lockdown, I got my granddaughter and her boyfriend to record a video. Turns out, he is a professional. Shortly afterwards, Florida Watercolor Society sent out a request for demo videos since they were going to an online show and convention. I sent mine in and the ball got rolling.

A number of artists along with myself were featured during the convention. In the end, it turned out to be a wonderful and safe way to participate and watch demos and interact with other artists during the virus outbreak! Luckily, the timing was perfect.

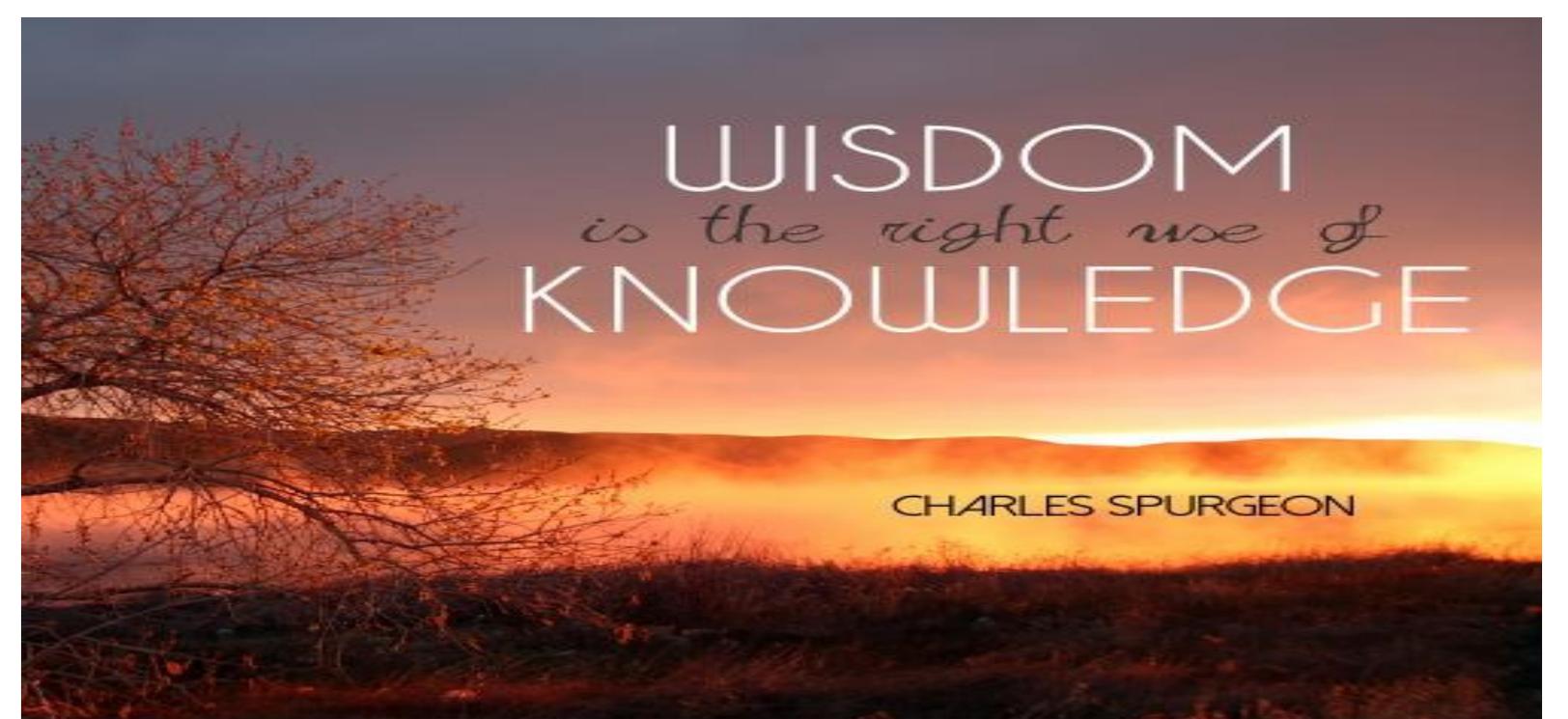
Don Taylor

In this most unusual year, I found inspiration in two of my beginning watercolor students, Christy, and Judy. Former teachers, I feel I have learned more from them, than they have from me. The way they apply themselves to the learning process, never completely satisfied with the end work, but figuring out how to make it better, where they took a wrong turn, and then holding onto what they learned for the next lesson has taught me how not only to be a better painter, but a better teacher.

Coco Dauer

To say the least, 2020 will be a year that we look back on and either grieve for what we lost or rejoice in what we found. I have been blessed as a teacher also. I had never done a video before when the FWS asked if I'd be interested. After a fairly long and painful attempt at futility, I discovered a fairly easy free app for my iPhone that works well. It's called "Pause Cam". There are some extra bells and whistles that you can purchase, but the bare bones was good enough. I found an elbow iPhone holder on Amazon, (of course) and between that and the lights directly over my kitchen counter, I was in business. Figuring out how to turn off my land-line house phone was more challenging and keeping the cat from walking across my painting in progress. Makes the videos more entertaining, to say the least. I currently send out links to about 170 artists who can follow along with me after they receive a copy of the pattern prior and then written instructions after, if they're lucky. Some health issues with my partner put a damper on our holidays, but we feel blessed that "he's home" and working his way to recovery. It may not be the BEST year I've ever had, but I managed to win a "Best in Show" at a local show, a "Purchase Award" at the FWS, an acceptance into the Southern Watercolor Show, and an invitation to display and sell my work at a local gallery.

Diane G. Simon



WISDOM
is the right use of
KNOWLEDGE

CHARLES SPURGEON

During the past year, our nation has experienced distancing—both politically and socially. I heard a superb story on a radio station that I have to share with you.

It has to do with a fine Japanese art form known as Kintsugi.

Kintsugi is the Japanese art of putting broken pottery pieces back together with gold—built on the idea that in embracing flaws and imperfections, you can create an even stronger, more beautiful piece of art. They referred to it that it is better to Mend what is broken rather than just trying to Fix what is broken.

Kintsugi's exact origins are unknown, but some historians date it as far back as the late 15th century. As the story goes, a Japanese shogun sent a one-of-a-kind chawan or tea bowl—back to China for repairs. The bowl returned in one piece, but was awkwardly stuck together with unseemly metal staples.

Local craftsmen—aware of the shogun's displeasure and eager to please—improvised a more appealing repair. Kintsugi was born. The mended cracks become part of its unique history and enhance its beauty. Each broken piece was revered and put back together with lacquer and gold. Rather than hiding our imperfections, it encourages us to accept our “flaws” and even to call attention to them. Kintsugi is the practice of coaxing beauty out of unexpected places, from a broken vase and teacup to upended plans and unexpected setbacks.

If you Google the Kintsugi, you can see images of some of this beautifully repaired pottery.

dgsimon

When locked down in most areas, using your camera skills have become challenging to say the least. If you really just want some inspirational photo references and have NO PLANS to use the art in an exhibit, here are some websites that allow you to use their photos—free of charge.

As an instructor, I take full advantage of these for my students. It's always a great lesson in trying to improve the image through my watercolors, choice of colors, and values from the photographs. Some are even better done in sepia, India ink, or shades of gray!!

Enjoy!!

<https://unsplash.com>

<https://pixabay.com>

<https://stocksnap.io>

<https://freestocks.org>

<https://picjumbo.com>

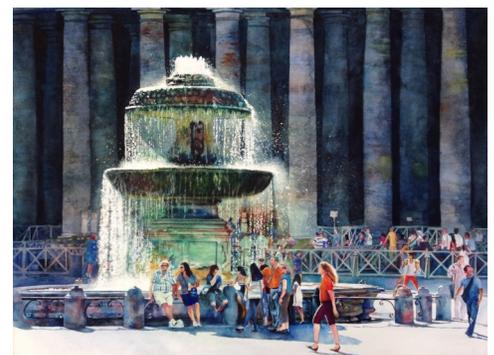


Workshop



David R. Smith—Juror for the 44th Annual Exhibition

Workshop Demonstrator—Artist Extraordinaire



Sign up TODAY for his workshop—Online at www.southernwatercolorssociety.org

44th Annual Southern Watercolor Society Show

Exhibition Dates: April 23—June 19, 2021

Gadsden Arts Center & Museum

13 N. Madison St. Quincy, FL 32351

Applications available online at:

www.southernwatercolorociety.org

2021

Retain this top section for your personal records.

Southern
Watercolor
Society

Dues shall be paid annually on or before January 1 of each year and become delinquent as of March 1 of each year. Nonpayment of dues within the calendar years terminates the membership and Active or Artists Signature status. To reinstate Active or Artists Signature membership, a member must fulfill membership requirements again, or a member may be reinstated by payment of the current year dues and any of the three past years dues that are unpaid.

DATE	CHECK NO.	AMOUNT
------	-----------	--------

Please keep us updated with your most current email address.

Send membership info to:

SW Membership
Coco Dauer
122 Grandview Dr.
Lawrenceburg TN 38464

To pay with PayPal, go to www.southernwatercolorociety.org

Southern Watercolor Society 2021 MEMBERSHIP-\$30

Date _____ Renewal New Update Information

Name: Mr./Ms. _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (one) _____

Email: _____

My Web Site: _____

My check #

I've paid through PayPal.

The SW Newsletter will be sent to you by EMAIL.

DO NOT include my name and address on lists to our award donors or suppliers.

I volunteer to: _____

MEMBER STATES

Alabama
Arkansas
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maryland
Mississippi
Missouri
North Carolina
Oklahoma
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia
West Virginia

Send to: Coco Dauer - 122 Grandview Dr. - Lawrenceburg TN 38464 - Email: dauer2626@gmail.com