



# APRIL NEWSLETTER



April, 2024  
Editor: Karen Zelenkov  
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**NEXT MEETING—TUESDAY, APRIL 23 at 6:00 PM**

**GUEST ARTIST: GERI GROENERT**

**CYPRESS VILLAGE, EGRET ROOM**

## **Let's Play Outside the Box**

Don't miss Geri Groenert's demonstration at the April 23 Meeting, featuring Stonehenge Aqua black paper ([www.legionpaper.com](http://www.legionpaper.com)) and Fine Tec pearlescent paints. Black paper is an exciting new world. Instead of building shadows, one builds light, one transforms negative space into positive space.



Geri Groenert is JWS Artist of the Year 2022 and Co-VP Programs & Workshops. Geri has had an interest in art from an early age. However it was not until she took an art class taught by a JWS member that her fascination with watercolors began.

Born in Abergavenny, a small village in southeastern Wales UK, Geri was raised in a USAF family and married a Naval pilot. Moving frequently she's lived throughout Europe, North Africa, the Caribbean, and the US. She's called St. Augustine home for the past 16 years. She raised two identical twin sons and is a master gardener. Her great uncle is a Welsh Watercolorist William Seale. Circa 1930 - 1960.

**April is also when membership votes on next year's board. We are still in need of volunteers for secretary and recruiting positions (see last page).**

**Come early at 5:30 to socialize with fellow artists.** Refreshments will be served. If you are a member, bring a guest and receive a free raffle ticket.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hello Fellow Artists!

I have been teaching several beginning watercolorists and have noticed some common pratfalls for those just starting out. These are the big three:

1. Using cheap paper and paints. I know it's tempting for beginners to cut corners or maybe just not realize that these two things could mean the difference between success and failure. Good paper can take a lot of abuse and if you need to lift or erase, a cheap paper just won't be able to hold up. Try to buy the best you can-everyone has a favorite paper but Fabriano (my fav), Arches, or Saunders are all good. The weight is not as important but it should be at least 140 lb. I will use 140 for a quarter sheet painting and 300 for a half or full sheet.

And stay away from student grade paints (Cotman's). They just will not perform as well and you will not be happy with the outcome.

2. Using too small a brush for the job at hand. Use the largest brush you can for the majority of the painting, especially in the early stages. You can't do a nice wash with a small brush. Save the small brushes for any detail work at the end.

3. Doing a wimpy watercolor. Pay attention to your darks and lights. If your painting is too much in the same value, nothing stands out. Remember- light against dark, or dark against light. Don't be afraid to make the darks dark- it will make all those lights you remembered to save stand out and sparkle.

Happy painting!

LuAnn

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Meeting Apr 23, 2024 –Geri Groenert (AOTY 2022) -Demo & Election of Board
- Meeting May 28, 2024 –Social Gathering & Installation of 2024-25 Board
- Non-Juried Members' Summer Show -Reddi-Arts—Jul 1-29, Reception Jul 7.
- Summer One-Day Workshop—details coming soon
- Meeting Sep 24, 2024—details coming soon
- Meeting Oct 22, 2023—Robin Lee Makowski demo
- Fall Two-Day Workshop—Oct 23-24—Robin Lee Makowski
- Fall Juried Show—Christ Church Episcopal Oct 18—Dec 2
- Fall Show Reception—Oct 26
- Meeting Nov 26, 2024

*For details on these and other events, please visit the website for Programs, Exhibitions, and Workshops. Please mark your calendar with details when available.*

**MEMBERS' SUMMER NON-JURIED SHOW  
JULY 1-29, 2024  
REDDI ARTS**

JWS will once again have a Members' Summer Show, hosted by Reddi Arts, 1731 Main St, Jacksonville. This will be in July and will hang from Monday, July 1 to Monday, July 29. There will be a reception on Sunday, July 7 (time to be announced).

This is a non-juried show—it is an opportunity to show and sell your artworks. We will relax our framing standards as we have done in the past for Member's non-juried show and allow framing of any material. The work should be done in watercolor, of course and if framed behind "glass", it must be plexiglass. Please have a wire hanger attached for ease in hanging, not fixed metal hangers. Paintings should be no larger than 28" in either direction.

There will be a **30% commission charged by Reddi Arts for paintings that sell, so price accordingly**. More information will be provided regarding take-in and times, etc in the weeks to come.

**Important Note:** We will be charging a \$15.00 entry fee **per person**. This is a change from our past non-juried shows and is in line with typical show fees. This is a per person fee and not per painting so you may enter two paintings and still only pay a one time fee for this show. If you have any questions you can contact [baraholt@comcast.net](mailto:baraholt@comcast.net), however more information will be available in the coming weeks.

**MARCH 26 MEETING—TED HEAD**

Thank you to Ted Head for his informative demonstration on the March 26 meeting at Cypress Village. He generously shared many insights and tips about watercolor portraits. His demo was a preview of the April 5 one-day workshop painting in a monotone neutral tint to emphasize how important values are capture a portrait. Ted has won many awards with his "portraits from the heart," especially those of his beloved grandchildren. Again there was a large crowd enjoying the demo. And thanks to Cypress Village for hosting our monthly meetings and providing delicious refreshments.



Ted's one-day workshop was also very successful with happy students learning how to paint portraits.

## RENEW MEMBERSHIP AND PAY DUES FOR 2024

Please use the PayPal option on the JWS Website, or mail your check to Rebecca Mentz, 4655 Apache Avenue Jacksonville, FL 32210 following directions at [www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org/membership](http://www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org/membership)

**Only members who have paid dues for 2024 will receive email communications and the newsletters from JWS.**

If you are not receiving the newsletter and think you should be, please contact Rebecca at [rebecca.mentz@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.mentz@gmail.com). **Reminder:** News about JWS is always available on our social media and website, [www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org](http://www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org)

## MEDIA LIBRARY—DVD SALE MAY

REMINDER: Please return any JWS DVDs at the next meeting or contact Mary Walker to let her know if you have any DVDs to return. Due to lack of participation in our media library, the Board decide to sell the remaining DVDs and close the JWS media library. Last year, all JWS books were sold at the May 2023 meeting. Prices and lists will be available before the May meeting.

**All DVDs will be available for sale at the May 28 meeting.**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE BOARD

We have made several appeals for volunteers to help with open board positions and just to help in general, perhaps to assist and backup a current board member. Many of us have been on the board for years and would like to see new board members join us. Meetings are by zoom on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 10am to noon and are recorded. Both secretary and recruiter positions can be done from home. Also the newsletter editor and website apprentice can be done from home. Please talk with LuAnn if you might be interested and can spare a few hours each month.

## MEMBER NEWS

Please check out our Facebook and Instagram accounts to stay up to date with the latest and greatest in the artworld. And make sure you let Carol Doyle know if there is something that you want to share.

**Carol Doyle is our Social Media Editor at [doylecr@icloud.com](mailto:doylecr@icloud.com)**

Please contact Carol with any personal news or recognitions to share in a more timely way than the once per month newsletter. Carol also posts key events such as shows, workshops, and meetings and other information that may be of interest to our members. Follow us on

