



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



Website: www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org

September, 2025
Editor: Karen Zelenkov
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NEXT MEETING—TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2025
GUEST ARTIST—DEBBY BIRD
"PORTRAITS IN WATERCOLOR"
CYPRESS VILLAGE EGRET ROOM 6 TO 8 PM



Debby Bird will be doing a demonstration of her watercolor portrait techniques. After being intimidated by watercolor portraits for years, Debby started working with watercolor portraits two years ago when she painted a portrait of each of the children in her daughter's home-school co-op. She was surprised to find that her Atelier Studies and years of oil painting experience translated to painting in watercolors far more than she had ever thought possible. She has not had a lesson in watercolor since middle school but finds the medium a delightful addition to her portrait commission options.

Debby's paintings focus on capturing the extraordinary moments of ordinary life. Debby has won awards in National Competitions through the Portrait Society of America's Members Only Competition and Gamblin's Torrit Grey Competition. Her paintings are held in private and public collections across the country.



Debby currently lives in Palm Coast, Florida where she balances being an architect, a professional portrait painter and a mother of three. She is also pursuing a Master of Sacred Arts from Pontifex University. More details about Debby and her artwork can be seen on her [website](http://www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org). Debby has graciously donated an 8" x 8" portrait commission for the raffle at this meeting. The winner will provide Debby with a photograph of the subject they want Debby to paint after the meeting.

Reminder: Bring a friend to the meeting and get a free raffle ticket.

Come early at 5:30 to socialize with fellow artists. Refreshments will be served. Our general monthly meetings are at Cypress Village, 4600 Middleton Park Cir E, Jacksonville, FL 32224 in the Egret Room. To see more about monthly meetings, location and upcoming schedule, [click here](http://www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back!

I hope everyone had a good summer and everyone got a bit of painting in. It's a good part of the year to stay in the A/C and do just that.

Personally, I tried to mix vacations with painting this summer. I was lucky to take a 3 day workshop in San Diego with Joseph Zbukvic, also known as Master Z. It was beyond inspiring. I was a bit nervous just taking the workshop, but my fears were unfounded; he was quite charming. Those of you familiar with his work know how amazing it is, and those who are not familiar, I encourage you to look him up. I learned too much to share right now, but I know Chris Flagg will use many of Master Z's techniques in his October workshop. Better register for that now- it's filling up fast!

In July, I had a 5 day Advanced Plein Aire workshop in Rockport, Maine with Carol Douglas. What a great way to beat the Jacksonville heat and eat lobster at the same time! Carol is not a watercolorist, and all mediums were welcome. I was not familiar with Carol, but decided on a whim to try it out. She was a really wonderful instructor and basically just let us paint while she visited our easels with very good observations. She challenged me to complete a painting with only 25 brush strokes. That proved extremely difficult for me, in watercolor, but I got her point...paint the big shapes in plein aire! It's hard to train a former draftsman like me to not notice details!

My point here is that I took two workshops from two totally different artists and took away knowledge from both. This is my way of encouraging you to be open to different techniques and try new ways. And, of course, to remind you we have some wonderful workshops coming up!

Keep the brushes wet!

LuAnn

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 23, 2025 General Meeting— Debby Bird

Oct 18-24, 2025 Fall Show—Online Entry

Oct 28, 2025-Dec 1, 2025—Fall Juried Show

Oct 28, 2025 General Meeting—Chris Flagg

Oct 29-30, 2025 Two-Day Workshop—Chris Flagg "Art of Observation"

Nov 25, 2025 General Meeting -Linda Chipperfield

FALL WORKSHOP

**“Art of Observation” -
Fall 2 Day Workshop
Members’ \$250**

**Christopher (Chris) D. Flagg, FASLA
October 29 -30, 2025
Non-members’ \$285
9:30 am to 4 pm**

<https://jacksonvillewatercolorssociety.org/workshops>

Register for Chris’ workshop and experience his ability to teach, to create art, to inspire, to mentor, and to advocate for the values of creative thinking, which continually defines his everyday approach to his professional, personal and artistic pursuits.

He has taught quick sketching, color techniques, and a variety of watercolor and pen and ink sketching to numerous architectural, landscape architectural, and interior design students at multiple universities. He currently hosts a weekly “Haskell Sketchers” event for all professionals interested in either honing their individual skills for sketching or just observing the techniques the art of the quick sketch. His ability as an artist has made him a popular juror for multiple Art Awards exhibitions, professional and student architectural and landscape architectural design awards.

Chris’ love for watercolor, especially as a plein air artist, enables a sense of spontaneity to flourish in his work, and his command of those skills adds a greater sense of realism and depth. His subjects range from urban landscapes to nautical themes, each demonstrating his keen sense of observation. His works have been highly praised and recognized within the realm of watercolor artistry. He is a member of the First Coast Plein Air Painters, Co-founder of Jacksonville Urban Sketchers, and currently exhibits his work as a member of Southlight Gallery. His variety of work, including quick sketches, portraits, caricatures and finished watercolors, can be viewed on his Instagram account: @FLAGGgallery.

Chris is drawn to subjects that present challenging details, but he addresses them in ways that create the illusion of detail through the use of expressive, quick strokes, contrast, and a focused composition. Interest is peaked by light and shadow, value, and the simplified abstraction of details.

This workshop will explore methods to simplify complex scenes through the value of pre-painting sketches, handling “entourage” (people, cars, street “noise”, etc.) simplified perspective, focal points and edges.

Planned exercises:

- Observation through quick value studies
- The value of a sketchbook
- 3-value pre-watercolor exercises
- One-color watercolor exercises

Demos and paint-alongs not limited to:

- The “urban landscape”
- Nautical subjects
- Rural scenes
- Historic Structures



2025 FALL JURIED SHOW

The 2025 JWS Fall Juried Show will be exhibited from October 28 to December 1 at Christ Episcopal Church in both Westbury Parish Hall and Formation & Arts buildings located at 400 San Juan Drive in Ponte Vedra Beach during their normal operating hours. Make sure to see the special exhibit by Barbara Holt, Artist of the Year for 2024 in Westbury Parish Hall, running concurrent with the Fall Show. Also the award winners of the 2025 Student Show will be on exhibit.

Key dates to remember:**Oct 18 - 24 Online Entry****Oct 27 - Take in/Delivery & Hanging****Oct 28 - Judging****Nov 01- Awards Reception****Dec 01 - Take down/Pick up**

Opening reception and awards will be on Saturday, November 1, 2025 at Christ Episcopal Church, Westbury Parish Hall from 12 pm to 1:30 pm. Light refreshments will be served. Artist of the Year for 2025 will also be announced during the reception.

Entries: Online entries will be accepted from October 18 through midnight October 24, 2025. Please see online entry instructions in [Exhibitions/Section 2 on the website](#).. All entries must comply with show standards and guidelines. Full entry requirements are in the [Show Standards and Guidelines](#). Each entrant must certify that they have read and complied with the show standards and guidelines.

Membership dues for 2025 must have been paid and recorded on the JWS membership roster before entering the show with online take-in. Eligible members may enter up to 2 paintings at \$15 each. When pricing your artwork, all sales for this show will be handled directly by the artist, so there is no commission to consider.

Delivery/Take-in of framed and matted paintings will be on Monday, October 27, 2025 from 10 am to 12 pm at Christ Episcopal Church. Show will be hung in the afternoon.

Jurying and judging by Chris Flagg will be completed on October 28. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Holt at 904-874-4916.

Take-down/pick-up at Christ Episcopal Church on Monday, December 1 from 10 am

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to Tuni Weiss for having her wonderful painting, "Into the Mist," accepted into the *6th Annual Women In Watercolor International Juried Competition*. It is one of 276 entries accepted out of 1,730 from 56 countries. womeninwatercolor.com/2025-award-winners



Congratulations to Don Farrell for having three paintings accepted into the three separate nationally recognized watercolor juried shows! Don's painting "Marley" has been accepted into the National Watercolor Society's International Juried Show which will be on display during the months of October-November in San Pedro, CA. His painting "Turned On" was selected into the American Watercolor Society's Associate Members Juried Show which was online from June 30 - August 30. Don's painting "Ice Queen" was selected into the South Carolina Water Media National Juried Show which will be exhibited in Anderson, SC from September 15 - October 30, 2025.



We are proud to announce that three JWS members were accepted into the Florida Watercolor Society's 54th Annual Exhibition! Ted Head for "The Splinter", Patricia Dougherty for "Jacksonville Flea Market" and Rebecca Mentz for "Diverse Roots"

Congratulations to Ted Head, for earning Signature membership into the National Watercolor Society! "Cast Away" has been accepted into the 105th International Open Exhibition of the National Watercolor Society! This same painting won 1st Place in last year's Jacksonville Watercolor Society show, and an award at the Florida Watercolor Society show

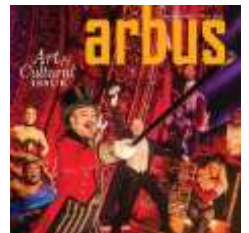


MEMBER NEWS



The Jacksonville Watercolor Society's trifold display and gift basket were at the Florida Watercolor Convention in Orlando. The Florida Watercolor Society's 2025 Annual Convention was held from September 11-13, 2025. You can visit the Florida Watercolor Society website <https://floridawatercolorsociety.org/event-6137864>

Pick up a copy of the latest Arbus Magazine to read about the exciting Fall Show and Workshop featuring Chris Flagg as juror and instructor! Or go to <https://arbus.com/>



Chris Flagg was honored to win First Place at the “Vestiges of Historic Mandarin, en Plein Air” juried art exhibition held at the Mandarin Museum and Historical Society with his submittal, “Shades of Brown, The Brown House”

Congratulations, LuAnn! Best of Show in the Jacksonville Artists Guild's On Parade Show for her painting "Tres Mujeres". The show is hanging at the Jacksonville Main Library until Sept 12.



SCAM ALERT: Members' emails are protected by blind copy distributions, and never given out on membership rosters. However, Board members' email contact information previously on the website has been used in several scam attempts. Contact information via phone is still available and some emails for Board members are available at the end of this newsletter.

In general, please be cautious when reading any emails that ask you to do something out of the ordinary, and never send money or payments to an unauthorized source. Payments through our website are protected by PayPal.com for membership, shows, and workshops payments and by secure technology through our website host and domain. JWS or Board members will never ask you for payments outside of the authorized links on our website.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Members' names are listed on the website and new members for 2025 are indicated with an "N". Many members offer instruction and support for new watercolorists. Ruth Senftleber and Heather Hill are our Membership Co-VPs and may be able to help you to get in contact with another member, for instruction, guidance, carpooling, etc.

Links to JWS members' websites are on the Membership List (section 2) of our website. If you would like your classes or website linked, please contact Rick Godke. JWS members are also active in the art community and are members of other art organizations. If you would like to add a link to other art organizations that may be of interest to JWS members in our Communications -Links to Other Websites (section 3), contact Karen Zelenkov.

To be eligible to enter the Fall Juried Show,

Please check out our Facebook and Instagram accounts to stay up to date with the latest and greatest in the artworld.

Carol Doyle is our Social Media Editor at 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.

To follow us, click on the Facebook and Instagram icons.



\$35 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

2025 dues must be paid by Oct 15, 2025 to avoid delays.

Please use the PayPal option on the JWS Website, or mail your check to Ruth Senftleber, 1416 Soaring Flight Way, Jacksonville, FL 32225 following directions at www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org/membership

Only members who have paid dues for 2025 will receive email communications and the newsletters from JWS after the March 2025 cutoff. If you are not receiving the newsletter, please contact Ruth at jws.membership@gmail.com. News about JWS is always available on our social media and website (see links on page 1),

Reminder—when members bring a guest who is not a member to a general meeting—they will receive one free raffle ticket per guest for a chance to win the raffle.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR BOARD

Please contact one of the board members if you have a question or suggestion or would like to volunteer and get more involved in one of our many activities. Click on the email address to send an email or call the phone number listed. Additional information is available on the JWS website [“About Us”](#) (section 1).

LuAnn Dunkinson President 904-572-2828 luanndunkinson@hotmail.com	Barbara Holt Co-VP Shows 904-874-4916 barbaraholt@comcast.net	Cathy Salzer Co-VP Shows 904-994-5256 csalzer52@gmail.com
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