

Congratulations to Geri Groenert Artist of the Year - 2022

Geri is being honored for her many roles in JWS since 2013 and awards won since 2015.

Although Geri has no formal art education, she's had an interest in art from an early age. However, it wasn't until 2012 when she took a neighborhood class taught by JWS member Babs Lutton, that her fascination with watercolors began. Babs encouraged her to join the Jacksonville Watercolor Society and through it's workshops and programs, Geri was exposed to the fabulous world of watercolor. She will tell you that she is a "home grown product" of this amazing non-profit organization.

Geri immediately became a part of JWS signing up to be on the phone committee, and attending meetings early to help with set up. She volunteered as a door greeter and raffle person at the monthly meetings. Geri, as Treasurer, for 4 years, attended every show take-in, (pre PayPal), kept the JWS books balanced and was an active member of the Board. She also served on the AOTY committee for 2 yrs as the Board representative. In 2022, Geri stepped in to become VP of Programs and additionally added Co-VP of workshops to her list of volunteer positions for JWS in 2023.

Geri's first show award came in 2015, and 4 more have been added to her accomplishments. The inspiration for her paintings comes from nature, flowers, birds and dogs. All things she loves.

Geri was born in Abergavenny, a small village in southeastern Wales UK. She was raised in a USAF family and married a Naval pilot. She moved frequently and has lived throughout Europe, North Africa, the Caribbean and the United States. Geri's home has been in St Augustine for the past 16 years. Other life accomplishments include raising identical twin sons and being a 5 yr master gardener with St Johns county. Her great uncle is Welsh Watercolorist William Seale circa 1930 -1960.

Congratulations to Geri on her accomplishments, and earning the honor of being the Artist of the Year for 2022.

