



# JANUARY NEWSLETTER



January, 2025  
Editor: Karen Zelenkov  
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Website: [www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org](http://www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org)

**NEXT MEETING—TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025**

**GUEST ARTIST: NANCY MELIA BANKS—”PAINTING BEACH SCENES”**

**CYPRESS VILLAGE EGRET ROOM 6 TO 8 PM**



Nancy Banks will demonstrate how to render clarity and feeling in the water, sky and beach at our January meeting. Nancy’s award winning watercolor paintings have been accepted in numerous juried shows including Tallahassee, Panama City, and Jacksonville Watercolor Societies. Her paintings have hung at many prestigious locations including the Cummer Museum of Art, the Jacksonville Art Museum, and the rotunda of the Florida State Capital building. Nancy is a member of the JWS and FWS and an honoree of the [JWS Artist of the Year Award in 2015](#).

Before retiring from Florida State College Jacksonville, Nancy taught watercolor painting classes and other subjects. Her work can be seen at Coastal Artist at Archway Framing and Gallery, Atlantic Beach, FL .

To learn more about Nancy and her work, see her website [nancymeliabanks.com](http://nancymeliabanks.com) and <https://americanwatercolor.net/artist-spotlight-nancy-banks/>

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, locations and upcoming schedule, [click here](#).



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Happy New Year!

The holidays are now behind us and we have a new year to consider our goals and wishes for 2025. I bet for a lot of us in JWS that include doing more painting!

I find it is sometimes easier NOT to paint than it is TO paint. Life and all that comes along with it gets in the way and sometimes our time dedicated to painting seems to shrink. I don't know about you, but I feel like if I have a length of time where I did not paint very much I have a hard time getting back into it. I'm having that challenge right now. I'm hoping to get back in the swing of things asap. If you have any hints to getting motivated that you use- please let me know!

I've mentioned before that JWS is here to serve our members. We obviously all love watercolor painting, all have favorite artists, and favorite methods. Please never hesitate to let me or any Board member know what you think would make JWS a better organization. Maybe it's a technique you would like to see demonstrated or an artist you would like to see us try to have a workshop with. We would love to hear new ideas.

See you at the next meeting!

LuAnn Dunkinson  
President

**RENEW MEMBERSHIP AND PAY \$35 ANNUAL DUES FOR 2025—**

**Reminder: Early Spring Show Deadline is Jan. 24, 2025 to be eligible to enter.**

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 2025 will receive email communications and the newsletters from JWS after the January 2025 deadline. If you are not receiving the newsletter, please contact Rebecca at [rebecca.mentz@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.mentz@gmail.com). News about JWS is always available on our social media and website, [www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org](http://www.jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org).

(Remember that when members bring a guest who is not a member—they will receive one free raffle ticket per guest for a chance to win the raffle prize.)

## MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN POSTER

Thank you so much for all of the wonderful submissions to our very first poster contest to encourage new people to join JWS. We received 15 submissions and through a round of anonymous voting from the JWS Board, two paintings were selected to represent JWS in our efforts to spread the word about our Society!

Congratulations to Heather Hill for her "Pallet Paint" painting and to Lois Newman for her "In my Corner" painting! We are very excited to have the posters printed and displayed in various locations such as libraries, art stores or other locations that will give the public more information about JWS. We will also be printing postcards and pamphlets! Feel free to reach out to Heather Hill if you have any suggestions for locations to place our posters/postcards!



Thanks to the following members who also submitted paintings — Nancy Banks, Cathy Salzer, Richard Godke, Cindy Cyr, Jeannie Gabrynowicz, Joyce Snell, Luann Dunkinson, Emily Long, Lisa Cederberg

## UPCOMING EVENTS

January 28, 2025 Meeting— Nancy Banks Demo

January 24-30, 2025 Spring Show—online entries

February 5-6, 2025—Spring Two-Day Workshop—Mary O. Smith

February 7– March 1, 2025, Spring Show—St Augustine Art Association

February 7, 2025—Spring Show awards and reception—7 pm

February 25 Meeting—Chris Flagg

March 25, 2025 Meeting—TBD

April 22, 2025 Meeting—Pablo Rivera—AOTY 2023

May 27, 2025 Meeting— Social gathering & Installation of Board



## 2025 SPRING TWO-DAY WORKSHOP

### Plein Air Watercolor Techniques 2 day Workshop with Mary O. Smith



**February 5th and 6th (Wed/Thurs)**  
**9:30am to 4:00pm**  
*1 hr lunch break (Bring your own lunch)*

**Jacksonville Gem and Mineral Society**  
**3733 Crown Point Rd, Jacksonville**

**Sign up! Limited seats!**  
**\$250 members \$285 non-members**  
[jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org/workshops](http://jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.org/workshops)



**Learn how to take your watercolors outdoors. Mary O. will share with you the techniques she uses to stay loose and expressive while keeping to a plan.**

**Day 1:** I start with a simple demo on deciding what to paint on location, my plan (combination of value, placement and design) is how I start every painting. You can use my photo reference or bring your own. It is not a drawing class but we will be talking about perspective and helpful tips. Half sheet of good watercolor paper will be the goal each day. Individual help along the way.

**Day 2:** Very similar to Day 1 but a little more difficulty and practicing mingling the colors on the paper. Understanding distance in my painting style. Don't panic, we can trace drawing on paper. I paint with an easel up-right. I usually like to do a positive discussion on each student's painting. It helps everyone.



**Mary O. Smith Bio** *Born and raised in Louisiana. She studied in fine arts and design at Louisiana State University. After graduating, she worked as an interior designer for an architectural firm in Valdosta, Georgia and used her drawings skills for their architectural and interior renderings as well. Her interest and love for watercolor developed and she was intrigued with the loose and fluid qualities of the medium and incorporated these qualities in her own loose and expressive style. Her studio is in Steinatchee, Florida. Her work has been represented in galleries in the Southeast. She is a member of Plein Air Painters of the Southeast, Signature member of the Southern Watercolor Society, Georgia Watercolor Society and the Tallahassee Watercolor Society and a board member of Pines and Palms out of Thomasville, Ga.*

**2025 SPRING JURIED SHOW—ONLINE ENTRY JAN 24, 2025**

The Spring Juried Show will be on exhibit from February 7 through March 1, 2025 at St. Augustine Art Association (StAAA), South Gallery, 22 Marine St., St Augustine, 32084. Open Tues-Sun 12 to 4 pm.

JWS Awards will be announced at a reception/awards ceremony during the First Friday Art Walk on February 7th at 7 pm. For more information about the First Friday Art Walk, parking, free shuttle, see Art Galleries of St Augustine (AGoSA) brochure.

Note: StAAA charges a commission for artwork sold through StAAA - 30% for StAAA members and 50% for non-members. StAAA membership is \$60 annually. Price your artwork accordingly. There is a size limitation for this show - no longer than 28" on the longest side of the frame and no less than 12" on the shortest side.

**Online entries will be accepted from January 24, 2025 through midnight January 30, 2025.** Please see online entry instructions. If you would like help with entering online, please contact Barbara Holt at 904-874-4916.

Use of remote drop-off locations is encouraged due to the limited time frame and parking for take-in. Please call contact at remote drop-off locations to make arrangements for time and location before dropping off.

--Barbara Holt - (Westminster Woods at Julington Creek)(Jan 29 Wed 10-12 only but call first)

--Barbara Holt - Jax Beaches area—904-874-4916

--Dee Roberts - Orange Park area—904-654-5982

--Geri Groenert - Saint Augustine area-904-940-7621

Delivery/Take-in of framed & matted paintings- Tuesday, Feb 4, 11 am to 1 pm at St Augustine Art Association.

Jurying and judging by Mary O. Smith on Feb 4 immediately after take-in/delivery closes at 1 pm.

Take-down/pick-up at St Augustine Art Association on Sunday, March 2 from 12 pm to 2 pm. Please make arrangements to pick up your paintings during **this time**.

**REMINDER: Dues must be paid by Friday, January 24 in order to be eligible to enter the show.** Go to website for more information about entering online, show standards, and requirements for this show. [Jacksonvillewatercolorsociety/Exhibitions](http://Jacksonvillewatercolorsociety.com/Exhibitions)

## MEMBER NEWS

Jacksonville Public Library is pleased to provide space for exhibits that support its mission *to enrich lives, build community, and foster success by bringing people, information, and ideas together*. Exhibit spaces at the Main Library include the Gallery on the first floor as well as spaces in the second and third-floor atriums. LuAnn Dunkinson's two month exhibit will be from Dec 6 to Feb 7 on the second floor.

Congratulations, Becky! JWS member, Becky Mentz, received a surprise early Christmas present when she opened an email that her painting "Room With A View had been juried into the 158th 2025 [American Watercolor Society Exhibition](#). In NYC April 7-25. Check out the recorded videos from other annual exhibitions' demonstrations for some inspiration.



"Learn to Love Watercolor" You may be thinking about taking a class to learn watercolor painting techniques in the New Year. You can learn from one of the best! LuAnn Dunkinson, president of the Jacksonville Watercolor Society, will be instructing a beginners class at the St. Augustine Art Association on February 15. Click on this link for details! <https://www.staaa.org/learn-to-love-watercolor/>

Links to JWS members' websites are on the [Membership List \(section 2\) of our website](#). Many members offer watercolor instruction. If you would like your classes or website linked, please contact [Karen Zelenkov and Richard Godke](#). JWS members are also active in the art community and are members of other art organizations. If you would like to have 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 and Richard Godke.

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](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

