

February 2017

The Purpose of the Art Guild

- to encourage and promote the visual arts within Whatcom County
- to welcome and encourage all artists - beginning to professional
- to provide an environment in which artists can meet and exchange ideas and information
- to organize exhibits in which members may display and sell artworks
- to establish ties within the county and promote the visual arts
- to support lifelong art education
- to promote member artists and the Whatcom Art Guild

Dear WAG members,

Have you ever thought about learning to sketch your world? Learning to draw and sketch is something that I am passionate about. I believe that learning to draw "what you see", and not what you "think you see" is vitally important for an artist, and those who do not learn to draw will have a disadvantage. The time and effort that I have spent learning to draw has been the most beneficial of my artistic endeavors. Anyone can learn to draw if they really want to.



I sketched the commercial fishing boats and fishermen at Squalicum Harbor as they were preparing to head out to sea.

For me, trying to draw every day, like many of the professionals suggested, seemed daunting! It took a lot of work, and in the beginning, it was difficult and it took way too much time! Nevertheless, I continued to pursue learning, practicing as often as possible, and now, I cannot leave the house without my sketchbook and a pen because I enjoy it so much.

During the past three years, I have been involved in **urban sketching**, "showing the world one drawing at a time". By that I mean, I draw on location, outside or indoors,

from my car, train or ferry and capture what I see from direct observation. I try to tell a story of my surroundings, the places I hang out or travel to. I sketch with a pen rather than a pencil so that I'm not tempted to waste time erasing or trying to make the drawing perfect. I constantly push myself to move faster, to capture as much as possible in a world that is constantly on the move.

I challenge all of you to think about learning to sketch your world, one drawing at a time.



I sketched the Alaska Ferry Terminal from my car, trying to capture the hustle and bustle of activity as the ferry was loading.

Karen Ver Burg
Newsletter Editor

Membership

We extend a warm welcome to our new members!

*Rachel Potter
Manije Troutman
Susan Averre
Terrie May
Michelle Carlson*

Whatcom Art Guild GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE

February 7

March 14

April 11

May 9

June 13

July 11

August 8

General Meetings are held on the **2nd Tuesday** of every month at 7:00 pm at the *Bellingham Public Library, downtown branch.*

Next Board Meeting

Tuesday,
February 27, 2017
at 7 pm at the
Whatcom Art Market
in Fairhaven.

February's Program for the WAG General Meeting will be a "MEET and GREET" scheduled on February 7 at 7:00 pm at the Bellingham Public Library

Refreshments will be served while members have an opportunity to meet new members and get to know one another, learn about various committees, and ask questions for a better understanding about how WAG can benefit your creative interests.

We hope to see you there!

Dear Members,

The proposed change to the WAG by-laws presented by Pam Pontious at the November 2016 meeting was approved by the General Membership at the January 2017 meeting. The change will drop the requirement that the WAG Board approve all new membership applications. By-laws will be updated on the website to reflect the change.

The current 2017 WAG membership directory will be published mid-February. Copies will be emailed to all active members that have email addresses. Printed copies will be snail mailed to those few members who do not have access to email.

A gentle reminder to those who have not yet renewed your membership for 2017: If you enjoy participating in WAG venues, Artist of the Month, challenges, etc. please send your \$35 annual membership dues along with a filled out membership form to me to be **received** no later than February 14, 2017. All non-renewed memberships will be

inactivated on that date. Mailing address: WAG Membership, PO Box 3007, Bellingham WA 98227. Membership renewals received after February 14 will be reinstated to an active status.

Pam Pontious
Membership Chair



Oil painting by Caroline Schauer
(see page 5)



Keith Johnson was the winner of the
Dakota Arts \$10 Gift Certificate at our
January General Meeting.
Congratulations Keith!

January Artist's of the Month

2017 WAG Board

President

Michael White

VP of Programs

Karen Tobiasen

VP of Marketing

Secretary

Treasurer

James Weaver

Membership Chair

Pam Pontius

WAM Chair

Peggy Alexander

Venue Chair

Lorraine Day

Trustees

Karen Angell

Pat Fisher

Elvy Schmoker

Artist of the Month

Judy Bishop

Programs Chair

Janice Hartwell

Librarian

Beth Roberson

Special Events

Kath Piros

Kathy Wood

Historian

Jennifer Korn-Leach

St. Joe's

Genora Powell

Scholarships

Kathy Wood

Newsletter

Karen Ver Burg

Web Design

Michael White

1st Place



Maureen Burr



2nd Place



Haley Didier



3rd Place



Beverly Davis

4th Place



Elvy Schmoker



Each month Guild members have a chance to enter their artwork in a mini competition at the General Meeting. Members vote for the top four pieces. Winners are designated Artists of the Month and their artwork is featured here and on the WAG website

www.whatcomartguild.org/artistsOfTheMonth.html, and are exhibited at participating venues in the community.

Guild members may enter one piece. If it is a painting, it must be framed in a professional manner and ready to hang with a wire hanger (no sawtooth hangers). Photos will be taken at the meeting for the website and newsletter or you may provide your own digital image.

Whatcom Art Market News

www.whatcomartmarket.org • facebook.com/WhatcomArtMarket • 1103 - 11th Street - Fairhaven • 360-738-8564

Whatcom Art Market - February 2016

This is the month of Valentines and first signs of Spring (think daffodils in the Skagit fields). At the Art Market, we are back to regular hours, open every week, Wednesday through Sunday. 10am to 6pm .

Our Whatcom Art Market artists have an outstanding collection of unique, fine handcrafted pieces for a gift for that special person, or to help bring on Spring.

We have an exciting program of weekly featured artists for the month, with a focus on fabulous jewelry, followed by two weeks of inspiring wall art.



Peggy Alexander

Peggy Alexander, creator of elegant unique jewelry pieces, is artist of the week Wednesday February 8 to Sunday February 12. She will be at the Art Market, demonstrating the use of PMC clay (moldable clay made from precious metals) in the making of her jewelry. Her focus will be on bronze and copper clays. Come see her on Sunday February 12th.



Art Market Hours
Wednesday - Sunday,
10 am - 6 pm

Kath Piros, of Kate Studio, is artist of the week Wednesday February 1 to Sunday February 5. Meet the artist and see her latest glass and ceramic work, including new Valentine's themed art. On Saturday, February 4th, 1-4:00 pm, she will be demonstrating how to make unique fused glass hearts. Beverages & snacks provided.



Kath Piros



Diane Stiles



Karin Silvernale

Karin Silvernale, inspired acrylic and multi-media collage artist, is artist of the week Wednesday February 15 to Sunday February 19. Karin will be introducing her new line of Nature monoprints this week. Saturday 18th she will demonstrate monoprints using plants and leaves, 11am-2pm. Sunday 19th she will demonstrate her sculptured paper process, 11am-2pm.

Diane Stiles, acrylic collage artist, is artist of the week Wednesday February 22 to Sunday February 26. In addition, all our 45 artists at the Art Market will have a wonderful selection of beautiful pieces to help you find unique local gifts for the upcoming Valentine celebration!

What Our Members are Doing



Oil painting by Caroline Schauer

Caroline Schauer is inspired to paint the people of Malawi and their way of life in one of the poorest nations in the world. The people of Malawi are dear to her heart and this shows in her paintings. Caroline and her husband have visited Malawi many times and have started an organization called "Living Water Malawi". They have helped to build an orphanage, start a child sponsorship program, and provide for their many needs. Her paintings are for sale at the Art Market. For more information about this organization, check the website: <http://www.livingwatermalawi.com>



Oil painting by Caroline Schauer

The Paintings of

James R. Williamson

Maritime Landscape Wildlife

December 8, 2016 - February 24, 2017

JANSEN Art Center

321 Front Street, Lynden, Washington 98264

360 354-3600

jansenartcenter.org

Limited Editions and Art Cards available at JANSEN

Make a 'Day of it'

Avenue Bread and Village Books

Located near the JANSEN Art Center



Fairhave Schooner ZODIAC
Watercolor by James R. Williamson



HMS ENDEAVOUR
Oil On Canvas



Eagle's Shore
Watercolor by James R. Williamson

What Our Members are Doing



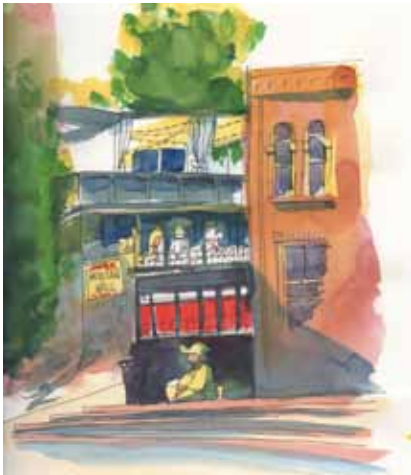
Phyllis' artwork at Village Books

Phyllis Howard is showing her work at **Village Books** during the month of January. Phyllis has sold three pieces from this venue so far. Congratulations Phyllis!



Phyllis' work is on the wall downstairs in the lecture area. Be sure to stop by to see it..

Next WAG General Meeting
will be held on **February 7**
7:00 pm at the
Bellingham Public Library



Watercolor Sketch at the Fairhaven Village Green by Karen Ver Burg



Karen Ver Burg, attended a lecture at Daniel Smith introducing the instructors of the Seattle 10x10 sponsored by Urban Sketchers (Usk). Ten workshops will be taught this year celebrating the 10th anniversary of Usk. Seattle is one of 30 cities around the world holding these workshops this year. Karen will be attending three of these workshops, "Good Bones", "Confident Contours, and "Group Reportage".

For more information about Urban Sketchers, visit their website at: www.urbansketchers.org

Pam Pontious will be vending at MythicWorlds (steampunk, faerie, fantasy) at the SeaTac Doubletree in Seattle - March 17 – 19, 2017



Karen's Sketch of Rustic Coffee in Fairhaven.



Bellingham Plein Air Artists

PLEIN AIR SCHEDULE – 2017

Fridays 11:00am – 2:00pm

February

- 3 Goat Mountain Pizza
- 10 Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
- 17 La Connor, MoNA for exhibit and Calico Cupboard for lunch
- 24 WWU - Art Gallery exhibit

March

- 3 Colophon Cafe
- 10 Bellis Fair Mall Food Court
- 17 Chuckanut Brewery (Green Beer?)
- 24 Haggens Barkley
- 31 Self Portrait Day, Celia's house

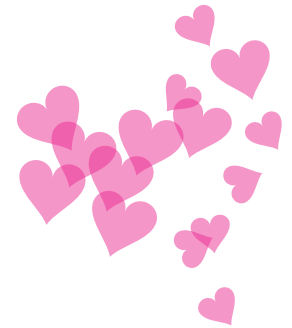
April

- 7 Woods Coffee, Boulevard Park
- 14 Bellewood Acres
- 21 Whole Foods
- 28 Church/Cemetery, TBA

May

- 5 Ferry Terminal
- 12 Fairhaven Park
- 19 Chuckanut Gallery
- 26 Blue Mountain Grill - Highway 9*

For more information or to add your name to the email list - contact Celia Clarke at celiannaclarke@outlook.com



Our group sketching at the Daisy Café in downtown Bellingham.

Venue Schedule

Questions? Contact Lorraine Day, Venue Committee Chair

Venue Name	Open / Curated / Juried	Schedule	Next submittal deadline	Next Hanging	Lead	Contact info
Artist of the Month <i>Colophon Café</i> <i>Banner Bank – Bellingham</i> <i>Banner Bank – Fairhaven</i> <i>Whatcom Art Market</i>	Open	Ongoing; Monthly turnover	Each monthly WAG meeting	First of the month following the WAG meeting	Christine Flacco	360.752.0685 flaccoce@comcast.net
BelleWood Acres	Open	Yearly for 4 months	Oct 2017	First of Nov. – end of Feb.	Christine Flacco Joyce Norfolk	360.752.0685 flaccoce@comcast.net 360.389.7964 studiogals@aol.com
Hair Art Studio	Open	Irregular; Monthly turnover	January 2017	Feb-Mar 2017	Lorraine Day	206 499 4617 mesmerie1@gmail.com
Affinity at Bellingham	Open	Quarterly for one day	January 2017	February 2017	Jeanette Dushkin	907.223.5374 thetravelincrafter@gmail.com
Village Books	Open	Ongoing; monthly turnover	Ongoing	January 2017	John Young Lorraine Day	360-933-4773 johnyoung40@gmail.com 206 499 4617 mesmerie1@gmail.com
Colophon Café	Curated	Irregular; Monthly turnover		Dec 2016	Linda Calkins	360-303-2366 calkinshome@msn.com
The Leopold	Curated	Monthly turnover	N15	January 2017	Lorraine Day	206 499 4617 mesmerie1@gmail.com
Jansen Art Center	Juried	Yearly; one two-month exhibit	June 2017	July-Aug2017	Lorraine Day	206 499 4617 mesmerie1@gmail.com

All venues are open to all members.

Open = no selection process

Curated = Venue lead will request .jpgs of work to be submitted, and will select pieces that will 'show' together well for each hanging.

Juried = Venue lead will request .jpgs of work to be submitted, and a team of jurors will review and select the pieces to be exhibited.

MENTORS NEEDED FOR NEW MEMBERS

Seeking 2 -3 seasoned members who would be willing to be a WAG mentor to a new member. The job is easy. You would be added to a list of 9 other mentors. Individual mentors are assigned 3 or 4 new members per year, fewer assignments/requests if I have a list of 12 mentors. You will receive an email request from me with the new member's information. You respond YES to me, then contact the new member to introduce yourself. Your responsibility is to help the new member become acquainted with WAG.

Please email Pam Pontious at pamdabears@yahoo.com if you are interested in helping new members.

**Submission Deadline
for next newsletter
is Tuesday, February 28.
Send info and images to
karen.verburg@gmail.com**

HOW TO SUBMIT TO WAG VENUES and New WAG Venue Submission Policies

WAG has focused on increasing the number of venues (exhibits held in organizations other than our own WAG-sponsored shows) that we work with to show our members' work, and we have been very successful. This year we have offered nine venues to our members, and literally have our work out in the world every month of the year.

WAG runs three different types of venues, which are open to all members: open, curated, and juried shows.

- ▶ An **open** show is one where no selection process is involved (other than any 'whittling down' due to space limitations), and no images are needed for the submittal process. (Village Books and BelleWood Acres are good examples of this type of venue.)
- ▶ Images are needed for a **curated** show; the venue lead will choose among the submitted images to select images that will "show" best together. Every effort is made to include all images submitted, space and time permitting. These are often ongoing shows that last several months, usually with a monthly turnover. (The Colophon Café is an example of this type of venue.)
- ▶ Lastly, a **juried** show is one where images are submitted for a formal review by a team of jurors (either internal or external), who then select a limited number of images to show from the total number of images submitted. These shows are usually one-time events. (The Jansen Art Center's summer WAG exhibit is an example of a juried process.)

We are thrilled with our increasing number of venues and the opportunities for exposure that this gives our members! However, organizing/running these many venues can be challenging. The submittal/selection process has become more complex. In addition, WAG now shows in more venues than we have Venue Leads, so that our Leads have to take on multiple venues and more work. Adding to an already busy workload, our Venue Leads often have to struggle with incomplete submittals and even "no-shows." All of this has led to longer hours on the phone and behind the computer, and last-minute scrambles to fill empty spots on the walls that we committed to fill.

To help the exhibition process run more smoothly, the Board has voted to implement the following changes in the procedure for submitting to our venues:

- ▶ **Effective immediately, there will be a \$10 fee per venue**, assessed to members submitting to display their work. (This entry fee will be donated to WAG's Scholarship Fund.) This fee is good for 12 months. For example, if you plan on showing in Village Books, you will pay \$10 to WAG with your first application; that entry fee will qualify you to submit work for Village Books, a monthly venue, for all of 2017.

Applications and prospectus information for a venue will be provided when the "call to artists" is made. Each Venue Lead will decide how best to implement this process for his/her own venue.

Note: the Artist of the Month competition *will not* be effected by this new policy. It will remain free and open to members who bring their work to the monthly General Meeting, as always.

Also note: As with *all* juried or curated shows, the entry fee is required to enter, but does not guarantee acceptance. Jurors or curators may not select your piece. At open shows there may be space limitations that prevent the exhibition of all pieces submitted, or the venue run may end before all pieces can be shown. However, the entry fee will qualify you for resubmittals for that venue as many times during the year as you care to participate, and every effort will be made to give first priority to any members who were not able to exhibit in prior shows.

- ▶ To encourage volunteers to serve as a Venue Lead, **all Venue Leads will be exempt from the \$10 venue fee for all venues** for as long as they serve as a Venue Lead.
- ▶ **Venue leads will begin sending out a formal "Call for Artists" for each venue**, and will have an application form prepared for each venue that will provide the venue's schedule, hanging instructions, commission information, wall tag requirements, and a checkbox for whether or not an entry fee is included. It will also list the information needed by the Venue Lead to administer the show – usually, contact name and info, WAG ID number, the title of the work, finished size (including frame if any), medium, and price.

Please see the chart of venues which follows. This chart will be updated monthly and will help you plan ahead for those shows you might want to start working towards, and will tell you who to contact for more information.

Again, we are very happy about the increasing number of venues we are able to offer our members. The opportunities are out there; we seem to be limited only by the number of members willing to help coordinate the exhibits. Please consider volunteering; there is a lot of support, materials, and guidance to make the onboard process painless, and some really fun people to work with. And besides, you will get to save that \$10/venue entry fee!

Contact Lorraine, 206 499 4617, if you'd like more information. See you at the shows!