



March 2023

## Upcoming Dates

- **March 6**  
*Favorites*, at Laura's Library strike at 9 am
- **March 11**  
*Neurographic Art Therapy* with Janet Fulk.
- **Through March 13th**  
Submissions are open for our *45th Annual Spring Member Exhibition*
- **Through Mar 23**  
Georgetown Library show: *Living in Bloom*
- **April 8** *Let's Get Negative* (and create depth) with Sue Kemp
- **April 17–19**  
Soon Warren Workshop
- **May 13** Portraits with Cheryle Chapline
- **September 10–13**  
Randy Hale Workshop



## Waterloo Message— The art of the critique

One of the ways we learn is by having others observe our paintings and give us some feedback. For the most part, our fellow artists are kind: you did this well and you could use a little change in that area. To be clear, the word critique does not mean to criticize, even though the two words sound close. A critique has four parts: describe, analyze, interpret, and evaluate.

In my Tuesday painting group at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, most of us (about a dozen artists) walk around the room and see what others are painting. No one provides comments unless asked by the artist. In the Monday 620 group, they have a critique session at noon while they eat brought lunches, and anyone who wants comments or help with their paintings can put their art against the wall.

Critiques such as these are immensely helpful. Other artists can often see what needs to be done to a painting. Sometimes just a little change will make the center of interest pop or

fix a troubled area. Most workshops include a critique session in which the instructor provides helpful comments to students in the class about their work.

Janet Fulk came up with a "game" in which art can be critiqued by fellow artists. Every artist who participates puts a painting backwards against the wall. She puts a number on the painting. Then members of the group pick a number and pick up the painting that corresponds. The member can comment on the painting and then let others in the group provide comments. The key word in these exercises is to be kind.

As artists, we often know when we have a good painting or one that just doesn't work. Sometimes comments by other artists can allow you to turn a mediocre painting into a good one. By painting with others, joining an art group, or going to a workshop, you too become a critique of art—your own and others—and you learn the value of those critiques.

Leslie Kjellstrand

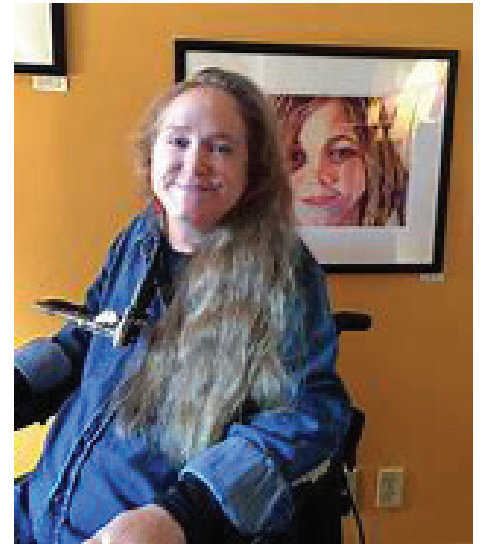
Banner art courtesy of  
**Ed Sutherland**  
*Spring Oak Leaves*

## Welcome Honorary Member—Sara Jane Parsons

We welcome Sara Jane Parsons as a honorary member of Waterloo Watercolor Group. Sara Jane is a resident of Austin and a long-time member of our group. She has won prizes in our juried shows. More than that, she is a wonderful artist and accomplishes her beautiful artwork by painting with a brush in her mouth. She is a member of the international Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists.

Despite her challenges, Sarah Jane is an accomplished artist and we celebrate the talent she has brought to the art community over many years. By selecting Sara Jane for honorary membership we recognize her contributions to WWG and to the art community of Central Texas and beyond.

Leslie Kjellstrand



### The Importance of Painting by Sara Jane Parsons



My life stretched before me like a long, dark tunnel after becoming quadriplegic in a car accident. I had no idea where I was going or what I was doing. Then I discovered I could draw and paint, and a whole new brighter, lighter world opened up for me. Drawing and painting gave me new life.

Prior to becoming quadriplegic, I was a very physically active person. I swam competitively starting at age 5. When my family moved to Minnesota I took to downhill and cross-country skiing in the winters, and canoeing and windsurfing in the summers. I

would run and ride my bike all year round. I exercised daily with the idea that if I did sit-ups and push-ups everyday, I should be able to do them for the rest of my life. Becoming paralyzed from the shoulders down made me frustrated, angry, and depressed. My junior high art teacher took me to a one-day watercolor class, and while the class was somewhat disappointing to us both, I was hooked.

Painting became my new sport. Suddenly, I had purpose and direction. Here was something I had never really done before becoming disabled, and I just wanted to get "good at it." If I wasn't drawing or painting, I was dreaming about it. An attendant with a degree in fine arts encouraged me to take a figure drawing class, and I fell in love. I was attending 2 to 3 figure drawing sessions a week. And

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By the courtesy of the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists Worldwide



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when I wasn't at a session, I was painting at home using seashells for models.

Initially, I chose to use watercolor as my primary medium because it is so readily available and I love it. It doesn't matter if my paint dries up, as I can easily bring it back to life. The simplicity of it is so attractive, especially in contrast to my daily life, which can be so logistical and complicated. I am set and ready to go with just water, pigment, and paper.

Now, however, I am swimming in completely uncharted waters, and learning to paint with oils. I've been working with artist/mentor, Frank Eber. Painting with oils is so completely different from painting with watercolor, it is helpful to have his enthusiasm and guidance as I navigate this new process, which is proving to



By the courtesy of the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists Worldwide

be both challenging and exciting. I feel I am just scratching the surface of what I will be able to do with this medium.

Becoming a part of the The Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists as a mouth painter changed my life again. Not only is it an honor and incredible opportunity to be a part of an international association of artists, but I have the support needed to pursue my love of making art.

Painting is something I never knew I could do prior to becoming disabled. It challenges me. It fills me with ambition and purpose. It leads to new friends and connections. It constantly opens me up to new worlds and new experiences, and above all, brings me joy. I will forever be working on getting good at it.



By the courtesy of the Association of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists Worldwide

## Happy Spring WWG members!

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Board members have been busy working, especially on remodeling the website. We also held a Board retreat to discuss the vision for WWG: called it our “long-range” planning. We have some terrific ideas that include quarterly gatherings to socialize face-to-face. We all agree that personal connection is important for our group and needs to be revived. Along with that, we would like to organize art-related trips, seek out new venues for shows, and create a marketing and recruitment committee to promote WWG. These are some of our goals, but of primary importance, our revamped website. Stay tuned!

WWG is still in need of additional willing members (or retired husbands, handy sons etc.) to assist occasionally with audio-visual set up for our three-day

workshops and Saturday mini-workshops (if instructor requests).

We are offering free attendance at the Saturday mini workshops if you handle set up. Also, there will be a 50% discount on the fee for the volunteer who handles the audio set up for the three-day workshops at Riverbend. We need a few interested people. Janet Fulk has graciously provided this service and is willing to train any volunteers. It would take about 1–1 1/2 hours of your time to learn, at a mutually agreeable time.

With several volunteers, the job of set up could be shared so that one person would not carry full responsibility. Please contact me at [Presidentwaterloowg@gmail.com](mailto:Presidentwaterloowg@gmail.com) or Janet at [janetmfulk@gmail.com](mailto:janetmfulk@gmail.com).

Thank you all,

Colette Sirhal



## Are you familiar with Instagram?

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Waterloo Watercolor Group would like to have an Instagram presence and is looking for a volunteer to lead us!

Please contact our president, Colette Sirhal.

[Presidentwaterloowg@gmail.com](mailto:Presidentwaterloowg@gmail.com)

## The Electronic Age has Arrived

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After years of straddling credit cards versus checks, we have discovered that our organization, really, really needs to move to just credit card payments.

The underlying problem is that we are not able to successfully integrate purchases made with checks between workshops, memberships, newsletters, etc. With a smaller organization, we used to manage by just telling

somebody we wanted to be in a workshop or sending in a check for membership without updating our contact information. Sadly, despite a ridiculous number of emails between different chairs of the organization, we keep losing people.

So the bottom line is that we will no longer accept checks for payment. You can use our website to sign up for all sorts of activities

and pay with a credit card. If you don't want to be a PayPal member, you can just sign in as a guest and use your regular credit card. If you bog down or have any questions, please contact me at [treasurerwaterloo@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerwaterloo@gmail.com). I'm sorry this day has arrived, but it really has.

Thanks,  
Beth Fox (your wild eyed treasurer)



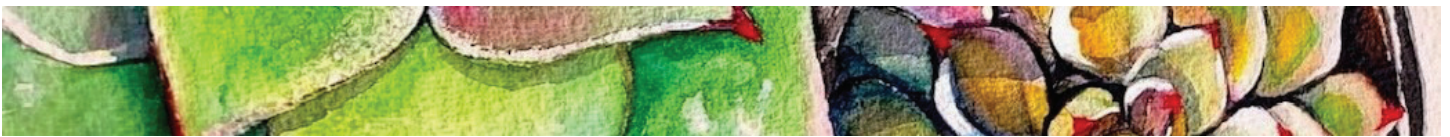
## 2023 Workshop News

Please mark your calendar for our September workshop that will be taught by Randy Hale (<https://www.halegallery.com/works>) with a demo on September 10th and a 3 day workshop from the 11th to the 13th. We will begin sign up for that workshop the end of February.



Fivizzano Market by Randy Hale

## One-Day Workshops Spring 2023



Here's our line-up for our upcoming 2nd Saturday classes at St. Matthews Episcopal Church on Mesa Drive. Registration and details are available on our website! <https://waterloowatercolor.org/list-of-one-day-workshops/>

Only \$60 for members, payable online by credit card or Paypal. Also pay your dues here if you haven't already done so. <https://waterloowatercolor.org/membership-registration-2/>

**March 11, 10AM/4PM** Janet Fulk will teach Meditative Art - Using your art for mindful meditation leading to abstraction. A great escape, using your own creativity. Give it a try!

**April 8, 10AM/4PM** Sue Kemp will demonstrate how to think and paint both Positive and Negative shapes in watercolor. 5 spots left

**May 13, 10AM/4PM** Cheryle Chapline is planning to paint a child's portrait. Her registration will open soon. She's a Waco artist.

## Show News

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Submissions are open for our **45th Annual Spring Member Exhibition** through March 13th via [onlinejuriedshows.com](http://onlinejuriedshows.com). Everyone who enters is guaranteed a spot so don't hesitate.

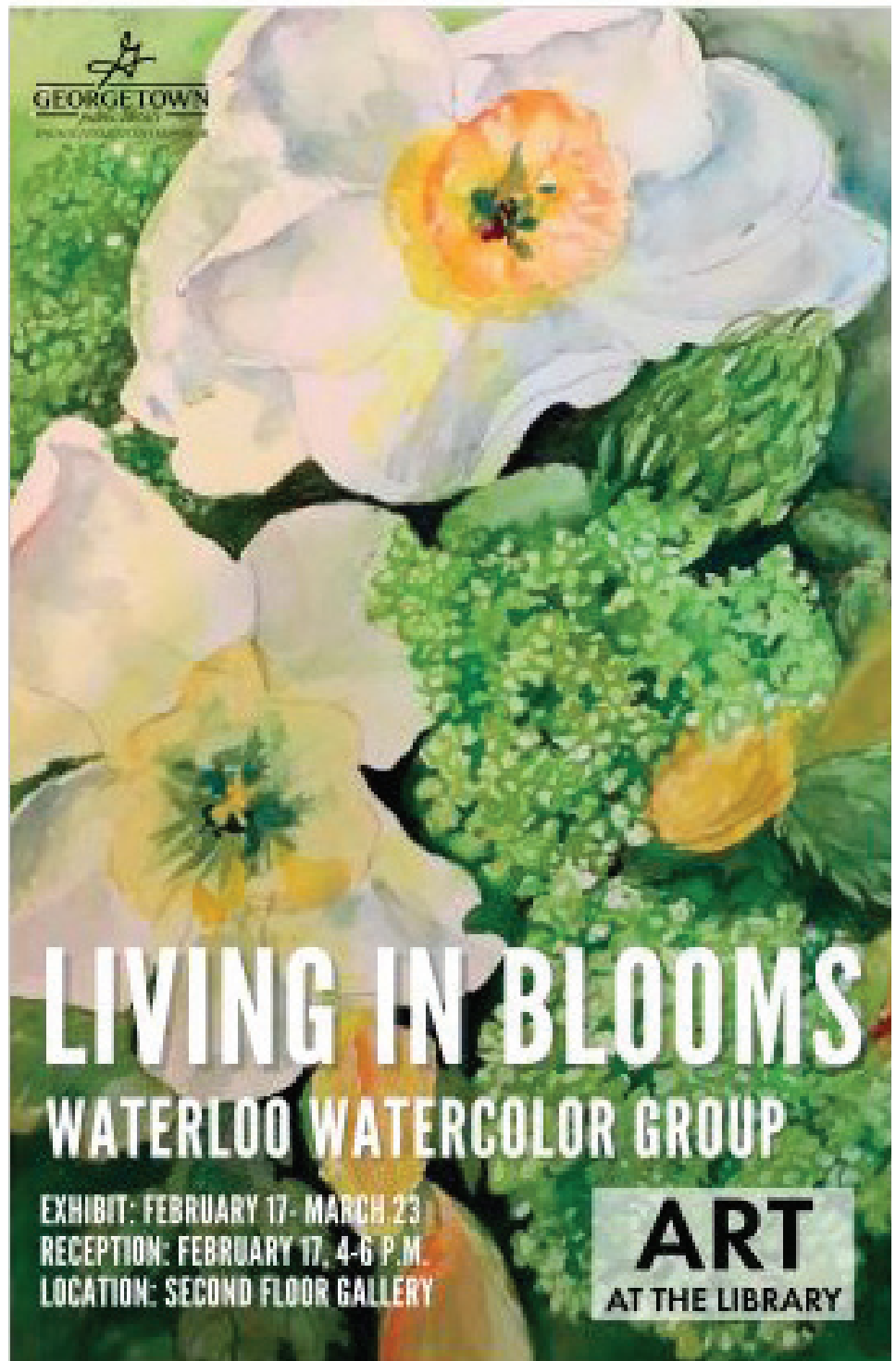
Our show chairs are more than happy to help if needed. Contact Helen Green [helengreen@earthlink.net](mailto:helengreen@earthlink.net), Lynn Zwern [lynnzp1@gmail.com](mailto:lynnzp1@gmail.com), and Jennifer Polnaszek [jenniferpolnaszek@yahoo.com](mailto:jenniferpolnaszek@yahoo.com).

Soon Warren is our juror and our awards reception and awards presentation is scheduled for April 23rd at 12:15. North Hills gallery, 7050 Village Center Dr. Austin.

Waterloo's exhibit, "Favorites", at Laura's Library is up until we strike at 9 am March 6. Laura Bush Community Library, 9411 Bee Cave Rd, Austin.

The Georgetown Library is featuring WWG's "Living in Bloom" exhibit in their upstairs gallery space. Drop by to see this beautiful collection of watercolors before we strike on March 24th at 1:00pm. Georgetown Public Library 402 W 8th Street, Georgetown, TX 78626

Don't stop painting! We have two more scheduled shows for 2023 in the Fall.

A vibrant watercolor painting of various flowers, including a large white flower with a yellow center, a yellow flower, and a green hydrangea-like flower. The background is a mix of green and blue washes.

**GEORGETOWN**  
Public Library  
FRIENDS OF GEORGETOWN LIBRARY

# LIVING IN BLOOMS

## WATERLOO WATERCOLOR GROUP

EXHIBIT: FEBRUARY 17- MARCH 23  
RECEPTION: FEBRUARY 17, 4-6 P.M.  
LOCATION: SECOND FLOOR GALLERY

**ART**  
AT THE LIBRARY



## News from Waterloo Members

Right: **Judy Copland's** *Field of Bluebonnets* is a 11x14 watercolor. It will be shown at Jester Annex in March, in Round Rock with Center Art Club. The display case will be filled with smaller works.



Above: **Lisa Hoekstra's** painting, *Frida loves flowers*, sold at the bloom exhibit at the Georgetown library.



*Scabiosa* by Michele Missner

*Betwixt and Between* exhibit of **Michele Missner's** paintings and Lesley Bradstreet's photography continues through March 31 at North Hills Gallery. The gallery is open from 9–4, Monday through Friday and Sunday am.



More News from Waterloo Members

Claudia Savio is in this show. Anyone interested is welcome to be in the show or come on April 22 . It will be at Lamar Senior Activity Center. Please see flyer for details. If anyone is interested, information is available at the Center. It is a 50+ event put on by

the Center’s advisory board. It also allows for groups to have a booth with members from the group. It would be a good way to advertise. The booth cost is nominal. Claudia would love to see people coming to the event. There is no charge.



The 4th Annual  
29th Street Art & Skilled Crafts  
Market

**ART**  
ON & OFF THE WALL

Saturday  
April 22, 2023  
9:00 am - 4:30 pm



Lamar Senior Activity Center  
2874 Shoal Crest Avenue  
Austin, TX 78705  
512-978-2480



[austintexas.gov/varsitygeneration](http://austintexas.gov/varsitygeneration)

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. For assistance please contact (512) 974-3914 or Relay Texas 7-1-1.



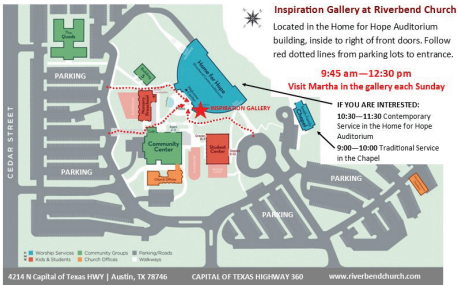
More News from Waterloo Members

Martha Paisley Ruth has been invited to extend her one-woman show in Riverbend Church Inspiration Gallery for an extra month through Easter Sunday! Over 200 framed and unframed original paintings and prints for sale.

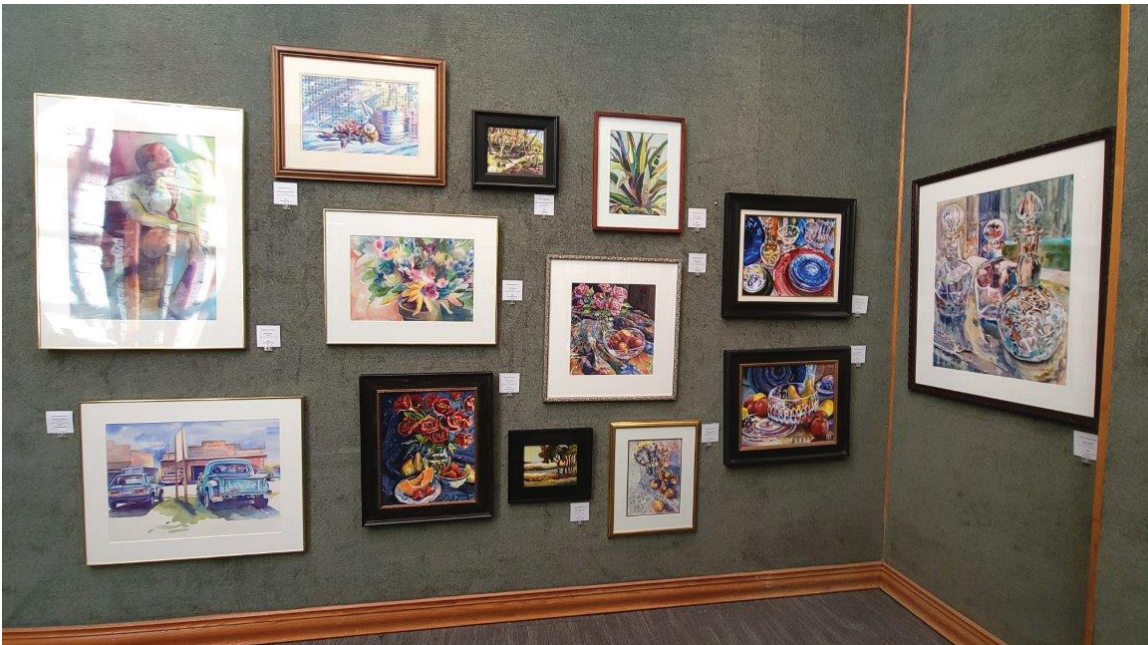
Visit Martha in the gallery each Sunday from 9:45 am–12:30 pm as she works on a painting, and also on Good Friday evening from 7:00 to 9:30pm. You may visit the gallery without attending a service.

Gallery & parking lot are less congested during the 10:30–11:30 service.

Feb 10–April 9, 2023  
Every Sunday: 9:45 am–12:30pm



After hanging



During the first Sunday opening



## Book Worms—Eileen Pestorius

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Bookworms for Spring will meet Saturday, May 2, at 9:30 at the home of Eileen Pestorius. We'll discuss topical modern artists Kehinde Wiley and Amy Sherald, famous for their Obama portraits, but also many others. Suggestions? Read *The Obama Portraits* by Taina Caragol, Dorothy Moss, and Richard Powell. Another book is *Kehinde Wiley: A New Republic*. These books are available at reasonable prices, particularly on Kindle, or try the public library; other information is online. Our Austin Blanton owns one large colorful Wiley. Visitations to the Washington DC Portrait Gallery doubled after the Obama paintings were shown but every president is on display in the refurbished Patent Office, from Gilbert Stuart's George Washington on. For best results, run off to Washington before the discussion! As ever, all are welcome; we meet quarterly for delightful and informative discussions, but first we chat with friends and nibble, then delve into the books.

**September:** This fall we will focus on a pair of related books which might spice up your summer reading. One is Hugh Eakin's *Picasso's War: How Modern Art Came to America*, which discusses how the controversial leader of the Paris avant-garde broke through to the heart of American culture; the book includes the first and second world wars and many other painters we know. (Eileen loved this book and even wrote an Amazon review!) The other book is Jack Flam's *Picasso and Matisse*, which explores detail about the rivalry, respect, and grudging friendship of the two elder titans of 20th century art.

**Eileen Pestorius** will teach 4 Friday classes in March; classes are limited to 8. Eileen is a signature member of Texas Watercolor Society. Contact her for more info.

[eileenthepainter@aol.com](mailto:eileenthepainter@aol.com)

## News from Around Town

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**Lilly Ramphal Naley MD** is excited to share the news about her art show .

Coming up on March 2 through April 6

Truewood Gallery  
4907 Williams Drive  
Georgetown , TX





## Membership

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Thank you to those who have renewed your membership. For those who haven't gotten around to it yet, there's no time like the present! Hop over to our website, click the tab that says "**Membership Registration**," fill out the membership form and submit your payment. \*Paypal

payment is strongly preferred. You do not have to have a paypal account to pay by card.

Here's the link:

<https://waterloowatercolor.org/membership-registration-2/>

Let's keep painting together!

Amanda Green, Membership

## Free WWG Membership?

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Yes, if you successfully add 2 new members to our rolls within a 12 month period, we will offer you one year free membership. Austin is growing by leaps and bounds and we are trying to reach those who would benefit themselves and us with participation in all of our watercolor activities. Look for new weekend workshop enticements for those who can't make our weekday offerings.

## Do you know someone who would be interested?

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We welcome new members to Waterloo Watercolor Group. We are a non-profit group interested in the advancement of watercolor and other water-based media as an art form. Whether you are a beginning painter or a seasoned one, we invite you to join our group.

Among the benefits of membership, you can participate in workshops, juried shows or classes

given by members. You'll hear about other art shows in the area and even be able to save money on some supplies. We also have a library of art books and DVDs available to members.

Look for us on the web, [waterloowatercolor.org](http://waterloowatercolor.org). If you are interested in joining, you can find an application on our website and pay the \$40 dues through PayPal. For more information, contact Amanda Green.

## 2022 WWG Board of Directors

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<b>President</b>	Colette Sirhal
<b>Vice President</b>	Dan Spanton
<b>Secretary</b>	Susan Dunning
<b>Treasurer</b>	Beth Fox
<b>Directors, shows</b>	Helen Green, Jen Polnaszek
<b>Directors, long workshops</b>	Kathleen Stafford, Lonnie Swanson
<b>Directors, 1-day workshops</b>	Sue Kemp, Carol McCollum
<b>Director, Activities</b>	Janet Fulk
<b>Membership</b>	Amanda Green
<b>Newsletter</b>	Priscilla Wicker
<b>Website</b>	Sandra Carlton
<b>North Hills Gallery</b>	Betty Jameson
<b>Past President</b>	Leslie Kjellstrand

# Wet Paint

is a monthly publication of Waterloo Watercolor Group in Austin, Texas. To submit news to the newsletter, email [npwicker@gmail.com](mailto:npwicker@gmail.com)

Also, visit our Facebook page. Open to all.