

# Watermark

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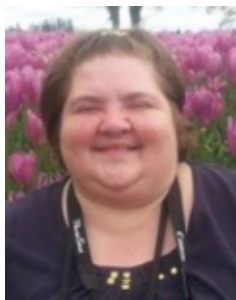
Watercolor Society of Oregon

Vol XXXVIII, No. 2

May 2016



## FOLLOW THE COLOR TRAIL to the 2016 Fall Convention!



*By Tara Choate*

The 2016 Fall Convention, October 7-9, 2016, in historic Oregon City will be the *End* of the Oregon Trail for Watercolor Society of Oregon artists. In addition to attending the exciting events we have planned for the convention,

members and their guests will also be able to tour Oregon City. Oregon City is renowned for its local history, and natural wonders, including Willamette Falls and other scenic vistas.

On Friday morning, artists will be able to take a walking tour of local historic homes. Then in a special Friday afternoon Breakout Session, WSO artist Jenny Armitage will guide participants in a painting of one of these beautiful homes. Also in the works for Friday is a bike tour of local wineries, hosted by the Bike Concierge. Willamette Jet

*See Oregon City - page 21*

## FRANCESCO FONTANA, JUROR AND WORKSHOP INSTRUCTOR

*By Tara Choate*

Hold onto your paintbrushes! Francesco Fontana is bringing his international palette to Oregon City. *"Places and people offer me new scenarios and feelings to pour onto my paintings. Europe, USA, Asia, all cultures suggest diversity of which I want to be the eyewitness. On the other hand, art is the lens that translates the outside world for me to understand it and connect to humanity."*



*Francesco Fontana*

Francesco Fontana is an international artist with many years of experience in oil, watercolor,

*See Juror - page 21*

# Watermark

Watermark is the newsletter of the Watercolor Society of Oregon and is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November.

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Send articles and images that are of general interest to the WSO membership to the editor via email and file attachments. The due date for the August issue of Watermark is July 15, 2016.

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## Enclosed with this issue:

1. 2016 Spring Exhibition Catalog
2. Roster additions and changes
3. Prospectus for Fall Show

Please contact Mila Raphael for any missing items. 503-915-2560



Visit the WSO web site...

[www.WatercolorSocietyofOregon.com](http://www.WatercolorSocietyofOregon.com)

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Rob Robinson  
President

While celebrating WSO's 50th birthday, we reflected on how far the Society has come over the years. There has been tremendous growth to reach approximately 900 members. Conventions have been held in numerous locations around the state, providing wonderful opportunities for learning and camaraderie. Our conventions and workshops have featured some of the best professional jurors and workshop instructors.

Submissions for our exhibitions have gone from presenting actual paintings to mailing slides and now to digital online entries. The WSO 100 Club was formed to fund the award program for exhibition prizes and an education fund was later added. The Traveling Show was begun to share the exhibition paintings with a much broader audience around the state. Specifics of the Traveling Show have varied over the years before reaching the current 20 paintings for the Spring and Fall Traveling Shows. WSO is a work in progress as it should be to serve its members' needs and aspirations. There are growing pains at times, but the impetus has remained focused on making the Watercolor Society of Oregon an even greater organization.

Now it is time to look forward to the next 50 years. With such a creative group of people, we can surely do great things. That creativity can be used in so many ways: discovering new opportunities and ways to accomplish them, finding the means to fund the things we do while keeping costs manageable, promoting art while enriching our communities, and having fun while doing these things!

I'm excited to see what our future holds and what we can make of it!

Rob Robinson, *President*  
*Watercolor Society of Oregon*

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Photo Credits: Donna Jarvis, Paul Bourgault, Lynda Hoffman-Snodgrass, Kathie McEvers, Susi Carroll, Winnie Givot, Linda Rothchild Ollis, Charlie Anderson, Linda Nye, Mary Kitzerow, Janice Payne Holmes, Kevin Holmes, Kara Pilcher, Sue Anne Seckora, Jennifer Starr, Jayne Ferlitsch



## IN MEMORIAM



**Fran Ross**

**Fran Ross** passed away at her home on February 18, 2016. Fran was born in 1950 in Brockport, New York. In 1954 Fran moved with her family to the Portland area. She excelled at theater from an early age and had many roles while attending Beaverton High School. In 1967, she starred as Lili in the musical *Carnival*. Later she attended school in England for a year when her father worked at Oxford University. Fran graduated from UCLA and for nearly 20 years worked as a medical technologist.

However, music and art remained central throughout her life. Fran was a member of the Eugene Concert Choir for close to 30 years. She was also a member of the Eugene Vocal Arts, the Eugene Symphony Chorus, and an enthusiastic participant of Sacred Harp Shape Note singing. She performed, along with her husband John and the Eugene Concert Choir, at Carnegie Hall in New York City and Australia's Sydney Opera House, as well as many venues in Europe.

Born with a natural curiosity and a keen eye, Fran found that art, in its many forms, provided her with an emotional outlet for the wonderful images she saw. She found growth and a quiet camaraderie with her many instructors and fellow artists at Lane Community College and Maude Kerns Art Center.

Her favorite mediums were oils, acrylics, and chalk, though she was masterful, too, with watercolor. In the

last few years, she also found joy in learning to sculpt. Most recently, she created a figure study called, *Diana, the Huntress*, which will be her first work cast in bronze.

A celebration of Fran's life was held on March 12, 2016 at The Wildish Theater in Springfield. She was interred at the Eugene Masonic Cemetery. Our deepest sympathies go out to Fran's husband John and their family.

Donations in memory of Fran Ross may be made to either of these two organizations:

Eugene Masonic Cemetery  
PO Box 5934  
Eugene, OR 97405

or

Eugene Concert Choir  
1590 Willamette St. #400  
Eugene, OR 97401

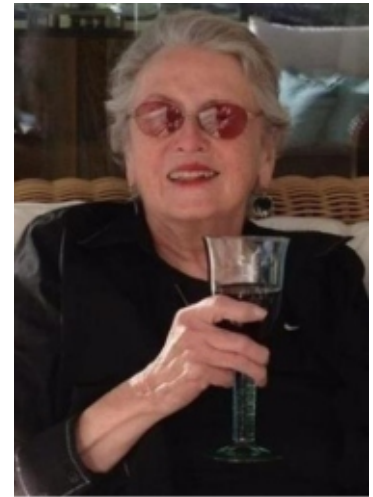
Taken from The Register-Guard 03-06-2016



**Dorothy Helen (Borton) Frank**, age 84, passed away January 26, 2016 with her children close. While there was no cause of death officially listed, those that knew Dee agreed that she was simply worn out from a life exceptionally well-lived.

Dee was born July 5, 1931 to Carol and Frank Borton in Greeley Colorado. She graduated from Pocatello High School in Idaho in 1949 and soon after, with suitcase in hand, boarded a bus to New York City. This was the beginning of a lifelong love of travel. Dee visited Puerto Rico, Haiti, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic.

Returning to Pocatello, she graduated from Idaho State University with a degree in art history. Soon she moved to La Rochelle, France, where she lived for two years. While in France, she worked as a civilian for the U.S. Army. It was there that she met her husband, Les Frank, a U.S. soldier. They married and moved to the Portland area in 1959, settling in Gladstone with their three children, Edward, David, and Barbara.



**Dorothy Helen  
(Borton) Frank**

During her 48 years in Gladstone, Dee had three distinct careers. She began as a medical illustrator and worked for numerous ophthalmologists before moving on to a career as a graphic paste up artist in the advertising and publishing industry. She was also a brilliant artist, a watercolorist for the majority of her life and was a member and one-time president of the Watercolor Society of Oregon.

Dee had many close friends through WSO. She spent the second Tuesday of every month with these friends at their Critique Group. She greatly enjoyed teaching watercolor classes and workshops. But her two favorite art students were her grandsons.

Her time at Giesey rekindled her travel bug. She was able to combine her two passions (travel and art) by leading small tour groups to Europe twice a year for the better part of 30 years. As she did throughout her life, Dee made lifelong friends of most everyone she met on these trips.

In addition to her work, Dee was simply a phenomenal woman.

A celebration of her life will be held Saturday, June 11, in Portland.

Details from the Oregonian





## LYNN POWERS *A Retrospective*

*By Rob Robinson*

In memory of Lynn Powers, former member and dear friend of WSO, there will be concurrent retrospective shows of Lynn's artwork during the month of June. The shows will be held at Albany City Hall (333 Broadalbin St.) and Gallery Calapooia (222 1st Ave. W, Albany). There will be receptions at both locations on Saturday June 18th, one at Albany City Hall from 5 - 7 pm and one at Gallery Calapooia from 6 - 8 pm. A free trolley will run between the two venues. Prints of Lynn's artwork will be available for purchase with proceeds going to WSO.

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## BOARD ACTION



*By Jayne Ferlitsch,  
Secretary*

**President Rob Robinson** called the board meeting to order on April 8, 2016 at 4:53 pm.

Eleven board members and 15 committee members were present.

**Secretary's Report:** Anji Grainger made a motion to accept the past minutes as presented. Ruth Armitage seconded. Motion passed.

**Anji Grainger: Convention Consultant's Report:** The prospectus will be updated to clarify that no additions or deletions can be made to a painting once it's submitted. Paintings have to be framed so the shown image is within ½ inch of the submitted image. Floating paintings must show the deckled edge on the submitted image. There is a need to clarify to whom one writes the check for the handling fee. Currently, the handbook policies state "WSO." The prospectus and handbook policies will be updated with the following: **Policy X. Exhibition Policies C. Procedures 3.c. \$10 Handling fee (make check out to WSO 100 Club, Inc.)**

Anji moved to allow water-based monotype as an accepted

art form in the Spring Experimental Exhibition. Ruth seconded. Discussion: this is different from monoprint, which can have several pulls from a plate. Monotype is one pull only. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Peg would like to start training a replacement.

**Past-President's Report:** Linda Nye reported the following changes in WSO committee positions: New Members will be encouraged by Sarah Bouwsma until Liz Walker takes over the New Member Chair position in September.

**Awards Council Report:** Ruth Armitage proposed an exciting fundraising opportunity. The NWS' Traveling Show will be in Grants Pass this August. Ruth proposed hiring a bus to Grants Pass. Members would pay for the bus ride, see the exhibit, have lunch, and return in the afternoon. This would be a one-day event August 3 or 4. Linda Nye seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.





## EDUCATION COUNCIL

By Margaret Godfrey

In January 2016 the Metro Area Westside Artists received a grant from the WSO Critique Group



Workshop Grant that helped to lower the cost of the two-day workshop for the participants. WSO will also help fund a workshop in late April at the Brownsville Art Center in Brownsville, OR. This is such a great way to bring new ideas and inspiration into a critique group at a cost that is less than the large weeklong workshops WSO presents. WSO is proud to be a supportive educational organization.

You will also find additional opportunities to expand your art life at the Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in the Columbia Gorge. This facility provides housing and meals; so the only thing you have to focus on is your art and the incredible natural environment. May 15-18, Linda Rothchild Ollis, "Best in Show" award winner for the 2016 Spring Exhibition, will be teaching *Stronger Design Before and After*. Linda is an expert in both design and symbolism. October 30-November 3 Rene Eisenbart and Chris Stubbs will team up to teach *Dynamic Portrait with the Duo*. This is an opportunity to grow and expand in your approach to painting a human face. Both Rene and Chris are also award winning artists.

### Workshop Report from the Westside Artists Critique Group

By Linda Nye

On February 12-13 the Westside Artists Critique Group enjoyed the pleasure of Margaret



Godfrey's jam-packed, fun-filled collage workshop. Margaret



Linda Nye

demonstrated ways to incorporate collage into our usual style of painting. She challenged us to try new ways of expressing ourselves and to consider ways to add more symbolism into our paintings. Something new to our group was creating collage materials by stamping on black gesso painted newspaper. This collage material added more drama to our paintings with interesting blacks. In addition many of us used our personal stamps directly on our paintings.

During the two-day workshop Margaret encouraged us to make our paintings more personal. Everyone in the group tried new and exciting ways to enhance their artwork. We feel very fortunate to have had this experience with Margaret because she made us think about different ways to finish a painting. A painting Rene Eisenbart later created using some of the techniques taught in the workshop was accepted into the International Society of Experimental Artists' 25th Annual Experimental Art Exhibit.





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## APRIL 2016 REPORT



*By Mickey Beutick-Warren*

My heartfelt congratulations to all the winners of the recent Spring Show in Silverton.

What an abundance of WSO talent on display! We were happy to have been able to yet again contribute a considerable portion of the show's prize money: an impressive \$2,874 of the \$4,550 awarded! Our ultimate goal, however, is to be able to supply ALL prize money for the WSO Spring and Fall Shows.

All donations to WSO100Club have been invested in an Endowment Fund, and only the generated income, so none of the principal, is used to fund show awards. Not only do we help fund awards, we also provide educational funds for qualifying workshops.

Interested in becoming part of this great WSO tradition? For a donation of only \$100 you can become a WSO100Club Patron for life! You will be recognized at all of our shows, and your name will be listed in our Awards catalogues as well. If you are already are a WSO100Club member, you can consider donating again, maybe this time in the name of a grandchild, parent, or an art teacher. And remember: ALL donations are fully tax-deductible.

To simplify the donation process, we hope to be able to accept your donations through PayPal in the near future. For the time being, however, we still welcome your donations per check. Do you want to stay in the loop? Please visit, and like (!) us on Facebook at WSO100Club. We

hope to receive 250 "Likes" by the end of this month! May we count on you?

Warmly,

Mickey Beutick-Warren  
WSO100Club Inc., President



## WESTERN FEDERATION OF WATERCOLOR SOCIETIES

*By Margaret Godfrey*

I am happy to announce that WSO has two members who will be receiving awards at the WFWS 41st Annual Exhibit at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities in Colorado. That is an amazing feat, since we had only three entries accepted. Nancy Cheeseman, Linda Shelton, and Sandra Wood are the talented artists whose paintings were accepted. In June, Sandra and Linda will be traveling to Colorado to receive their awards.

Ruth Armitage has been hard at work putting together the booklet detailing the necessary information for the upcoming April 2017 WFWS affair. This 50-page booklet includes the prospectus, which is quite different from previous WFWS shows. The Jordan Schnitzer Museum is donating the framing for the show, saving WSO thousands of dollars and many man-hours. However, the frames will be limited to only 6 frame sizes. This is a heads up to all our talented members who hope to have an accepted painting into next year's WFWS Exhibition: **read the prospectus carefully!**

Something else to be aware of: because WSO will be exhibiting the 2017 Spring

Experimental Exhibition in conjunction with the WFWS Exhibition at the JSMA, **a specific black metal frame will be required for the WSO paintings.** The rest of the matting and framing for the WSO show will be the same as usual. But, again, read and re-read the prospectus of any show you are entering.

The details are coming together as we get closer to the upcoming April 2017 WFWS/WSO Convention in Eugene. On April 6, 2017 the JSMA Patrons Circle and WFWS delegates and guests will attend the Delegates Dinner at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art after previewing both WFWS and WSO Exhibitions. Our Juror, Jeannie McGuire, will give a talk at this event. We are excited to have such a spectacular beginning to the weekend of our own WSO 2017 Spring Exhibition and Convention.



*The 2017 WSO Spring Show and the 2017 WFWS Exhibition will held at The Jordan Schnitzer Museum on the U of O campus.*





## OREGON GARDEN REVISITED

### *The First Event on Friday was the Artists' Studio and Art Tour In Silverton*

By Janice Payne Holmes

On Friday afternoon my husband, Kevin, and I started the WSO weekend by going on a self-guided Artists' Studio and Art Tour in and around Silverton. We met friendly, welcoming artists in their homes, studios, and other venues. And we saw a variety of artwork: paintings, wooden sculptures, jewelry, mixed media work, and even whimsical dollhouse miniatures.

Kevin and I particularly enjoyed visiting Zebra Print (Printing and Graphics). Owner Victoria Sage gave us a tour of the early 1900 letterpress-printing studio. We also toured the County Historical Society as well as the Silver Falls Library where we found a show of artwork hosted by *Lake Oswego Reads*. It included a number of pieces created by WSO artists. I was especially fascinated by Mary Burgess' water-soluble graphite, "Both Sides Now," which changes to a different image when viewed from left or right.



We ended our tour with a visit to the lovely home of art collectors Jossi and Kate Davidson. Jossi graciously gave Kevin and me a tour of their home, pointing out tile work done by his artist wife, Kate.



A whimsical piece in the art collection of Jossi and Kate Davidson



WSO attendees at Zebra Print Letterpress  
LtoR: Kathryn Damon Dawson, Sharla Sevy, Janice Payne Holmes, and Elvina May



Alex Chaney, jewelry artist, in her studio with Janice Payne Holmes



Sue Anne and Michael Seckora with Larry Kassell's "Monet Lisa"



Janice Payne Holmes with Larry Kassell's humorous painting of George Washington. The yellow note in the painting says "Gone for more paint, Gilbert"



## New Members of 2015 Were Welcomed to WSO



By Sarah Bouwsma

As the incoming New Member Chair, I am very pleased to welcome 34 New Members in the Class of 2015! Two

of them were even juried into the Spring Exhibition, Robin Becic and Jean Kyle. Congratulations to them and to the whole group.

The New Member Orientation was well attended. Outgoing New Member Chair Diane Pinney introduced the New Members who attended, identified by the gold ribbons on their badges. We enjoyed viewing slides of their work and were very impressed with the quality of their paintings. The images are posted on the WSO website, titled *New Member Show 2015*.

The Board Members who were present gave them a warm welcome and presented informative talks about the wonderful benefits of belonging to WSO. Finding or forming local critique groups and taking workshops offered through WSO were discussed. We heard about the many benefits of attending conventions, how to make the most of the WSO website, and the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies. We also talked about the rewards of volunteering such as making friends, artistic networking, and learning new skills.

We all appreciated Margaret Godfrey's comments about how to develop a thick skin when not accepted into shows or when having your work critiqued. These are skills we all need to learn. Which brings me back to the goals of our group: to develop camaraderie and improve our painting skills! I was very happy for the New Members who attended the convention in Silverton. It was an amazing introduction to WSO. See you in October in Oregon City.



Lynda Hoffman-Snodgrass

Great job Kathy! Have another glass of Champagne!



Paul Bourgault

WSO members line up for Birthday cake.



Lynda Hoffman-Snodgrass

Convention Chair Kara Pilcher shares a toast at the Birthday Party.

## Happy 50th Birthday WSO!



Lynda Hoffman-Snodgrass

Rob and Kathy light the candles while the local fire department stands by.



Lynda Hoffman-Snodgrass

Donna and Tom Allen at the Friday WSO 50th



Jayne Ferlich

Jayne playing Happy Birthday on the bagpipes.





This photo was directed and taken by Cody Conner, Director of Marketing for Oregon Gardens. Bubble wand blowers provided by Linda Burgel.

## AFTER THE 50<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY PARTY

By Kathy Tiger, WSO Historian

I want to thank everyone who came and participated in the 50<sup>th</sup> "birthday party." I especially want to thank those who went the extra mile and made it possible for some of the older members to be there or who took the time to give a salute of respect to those who have put in time and energy over the years.

I got many remarks from attendees who appreciated the complimentary champagne as the "special touch" to the celebration. And our tribute to Tom Allen on Friday and Saturday turned out to be just the right combination of fun and sincere appreciation.

Over the next quarter, I will be mentoring someone new to take over the WSO Historian position. I will also be changing the job description and activities of the Historian to reflect the storage of our archives at Oregon State University Library's Special Collections and Archives depart-

ment. And it also seems to be a good idea to begin including in each *Watermark* how to access information from our history; so we will start doing that, too.

I want to thank Chris Keylock Williams for faithfully writing anecdotal articles about our history for the *Watermark* these past couple of years. I also want to thank the WSO Board who supported the making of the video and who made the funds available for all the extra expenses that this special weekend incurred.

I stated in my remarks during the convention that good people with good intentions started WSO. They loved art and art making and had the vision or just generosity of spirit to be inclusive rather than exclusive. But more than that, they were willing to WORK to make it happen because they thought it was important. And so it is!

Our history, our foundation, is one we should all be very proud of.



## Guided Oregon Garden Tour



By Jeanne McTavish

Saturday afternoon Susan Glasser from Lebanon gave an abbreviated guided tour of the Oregon Garden to several WSO Members. Susan writes the scripts for most of the tours given at the Garden. However, the Garden is 80 acres and her tours are usually two hours long; so her one hour tour for WSO was severely condensed. She focused on two important

( continued on next page )



plants, the olive tree and vanilla orchid.

Susan told us about the antimicrobial, antibacterial properties of olive leaves and the process of pressing olive oil. Did you know that extra virgin olive oil is the very first light pressure pressing and virgin olive oil is the next pressing? After those pressings, heat and petroleum based chemicals are used in the next processing for regular olive oil. Then we walked to the greenhouses where Susan told us about the cancer fighting properties of the vanilla bean from the vanilla orchid.

At the Visitors Center we boarded the tram for a tour that covered more of the Garden's acres, and the driver gave us additional information. All in all a day filled with eye candy galore.

## Video of WSO's 50 Years

By Kathie McEvers

During a breakout session on Saturday Kathy Tiger, WSO Historian, showcased the video presentation of the history of WSO's 50 years. It was also featured at the 50 Years Birthday Party celebration on Friday evening. The video paid tribute to Tom Allen who is one of the founding members of WSO. The video, along with photographs, exhibit catalogs, meeting minutes, and membership lists are now available at the OSU Special Collections and Archives. The video will also be available on the WSO website.



Tom Allen thanks Kathy for a job well done.



Kathy presents Tom with a photo booklet of historical events over the past 50 years.

## Line, Texture & Design with Fluid Acrylics with Dyanne Locati

By Donna Jarvis

There is no doubt about Dyanne's enthusiasm for her art and for teaching it; in fact, it is contagious. Moreover, she cautioned us to "love every minute of what you do...if you don't, it will show!"

We were dazzled by Dyanne's finished pieces and her underpainting examples that made us anxious to begin our own paintings. However, being the teacher that she is, Dyanne talked about composition and about the properties of *Yupo* and a paper called *Fluid 100*, which stays flat but is still absorbent. She also mentioned the ease of using Styrofoam plates from Costco for palettes, which she provided.

Dyanne began her demonstration on *Yupo* with a broad flat brush dipped in a different color on each edge. With sweeping strokes she filled the entire sheet, then switched to stamping.



Dyanne shows an example of her underpainting technique.

Surprisingly, she used a rectangle cut from a trash bag, coated it with diluted white gesso, and pressed it onto the painted *Yupo*. It made a misty webbed texture. It could be done with paint as well, which we were eager to try.

After we returned to our tables and began our own underpaintings, Dyanne came around and gave us cautions and tips to help us improve our efforts. We all agreed that two hours was not long enough to explore this new technique.



## Oregon Garden Paint Out with Leslie Cheney-Parr

By Kathie McEvers

Leslie Cheney-Parr demonstrated her methods of sketching and painting in outdoor locations during the Paint Out at the Oregon Garden. When she started her work, she did a sketch of the overall scene. Then she made three separate sketches, one each of the background, middle ground, and foreground. She also decided the colors she wanted for each sketch. Leslie then wet the entire paper for the first stage of the painting. She worked in the sky first and also painted in the focal point, the middle ground, and a lead-in area in the lower left. She left this to dry in mid values. In the second stage of painting Leslie used darker values and added in more details. At this point Leslie shared a favorite trick with us; to create distant treetops, Leslie used an arched cutout stencil with a very wet, squeezed



(continued on next page)





Leslie Cheney-Parr demonstrates her methods of sketching

out sponge and dipped a corner of it into the paint she chose for her treetops. Then she gently dabbed on the paint and soon it resembled far-away treetops. Also during the morning while Leslie painted the garden Vernon Groff was busy painting a wonderful painting of Leslie.



Vernon Groff's Sketch of Leslie

## Chris Keylock Williams Resurrection 2016

By Kathie McEvers

Chris gave a slide presentation of some of her 1740 paintings! She showed us how she catalogs all of her paintings. She records each painting in a journal with many details. She includes the date the painting was started, its title and a

description, if it was sold or donated or gifted, along with the size and price. She also showed us the before and after images of paintings, which she had stored for many years and then had resurrected them into new paintings. She also demonstrated to the group how she transforms an older painting into a new painting.



Chris lays out a full sheet of watercolor paper on the floor and goes to work.

## "Oh Boy, Another Rejection!" with Ruth Armitage

By Winnie Givot and Suzy Carroll

Ruth Armitage gave a delightful, informative, and organized presentation in her breakout session "Oh Boy, Another Rejection!" She talked about going through the grief process of getting a painting rejected as well as the value of failure, the advantages of entering shows, and the ways to earn success.

And then we got to be jurors. She showed slides of 20 paintings and asked us to choose our five favorites based on design, subject matter, emotional content, and



Ruth Armitage



Margaret Godfrey, John Bradley, Linda Rothchild-Ollis, Sandy Manning and Kathy Haney enjoying Ruth's presentation.

mystery, while being as objective as possible. We did not agree on the best paintings. Then she asked us to give our reasons why we did or didn't choose a painting. It was interesting to hear why some people chose a painting and why

others did not. It became clear that judging is far from objective. And we also learned that it pays off to be persistent in both painting and in entering shows.

Thank you, Ruth.