

Register Today for the special Betty Brown Workshop May 17-19!

WATERWAY

ART ASSOCIATION
THE ART ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHWEST
BRUNSWICK COUNTY



www.waterwayart.org

MAY 2014

Why Paint Plein Air?

According to [The History of the Plein Air Movement](#) appearing in *American Artist Magazine*, plein air painting began in Rome in the 17th century. It was a way for artists to reconnect with nature. The term is a French phrase meaning “in the open air” or simply “outdoors”.

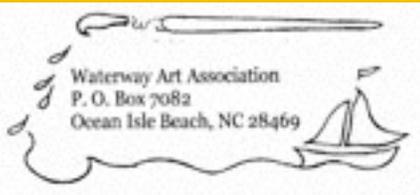
In the 18th century the Barbizon School consisting of French artists was created. Their focus on extracting emotional significance from light and tone in the landscape became the foundation of the impressionist movement.

By the early 20th century, this style of painting had made its way to America where American artists saw light as the defining factor in the landscape and extolled its virtues as a divine creative instrument. Soon, all areas of the country known for remarkable light became destinations for proponents of plein air painting.



William Schneider summed up the answer to the question: *why paint plein air?* perfectly in this blog post for the **Oil Painters of America**:

There's only one really good reason to work from life – it will make us much better artists. Over time, we representational artists become skilled at rendering what we see. The problem is that even high-quality digital photos lie to us. Think of the four elements of a realistic painting: shapes (drawing or proportion), values, color temperature relationships, and edges. Three of the four are always wrong in a photo... and sometimes it's all four.



The Waterway Art Association (WAA), established in 1991, has a membership consisting of artists residing in southern Brunswick County and northeastern Horry County. Our mission is to “encourage artistic awareness and growth both on an individual as well as community level.” We are dedicated to accomplishing this goal through exhibits, shows, lectures, painting demonstrations, art instruction, classes, professional workshops, paint-in and outdoor sketching sessions, and trips to museums. All skill levels are welcome as our membership includes beginners to professional artists. We are located in BRSI Building, 3620 Express Dr., Shallotte, NC.

Schneider continues:

The two or three darkest values turn into black and the lightest values become white (photographers call it “blowing out” the lights). The color temperature relationships are limited by the dyes used to make the prints or the phosphors in our computer screens. Also, the camera sees edges as equally sharp (not at all like the human eye which focuses on a sharp area in the center of our visual field surrounded by fuzzy shapes on the periphery).

Even the shapes may not be accurate. If you photograph a person six feet away, you will probably get an image of a normal-size face but legs and feet that appear tiny. In other words, the foreshortening distorts the proportions. So, if we work exclusively from photos, we become extremely proficient at painting subjects that don’t look real. We don’t even notice the errors.

When I critique portfolios at various art events I often see paintings where the shadows are black, the lights are white, all the edges are hard, and the light and the darks are the same temperature. I ask the artist, “you work mostly from photos, don’t you?” I often get the astonished reply, “how did you know?”

The pros work primarily from life: For one, it’s much easier to develop good edge control. Also, our sensitivity to nuance of color and temperature improves exponentially. We just can’t see those nuances in photos... I know; I’ve tried! Working from life, we learn to see the elusive, sparkling color in half tones. Our shadows start to have a sense of light and air in them instead of being dense, opaque blobs.

So, if you’ve decided to go the extra mile, how do you break free of the photo? The still life is easy. Just set it up and start painting. Likewise, there’s little excuse for trying to paint a landscape from a photo. If you’re nervous about going out alone, find a painting buddy or group. There are Plein Air groups in most areas now. OPA sponsors

paint outs all over the country. Seek, and ye shall find.

Location, Location, Location

There is another reason for enjoying Plein Air painting. What better way to slow down, relax, and truly observe where we are? If you can master the logistics of painting in the outdoors, the prize at the end of the effort may not necessarily be the work of art itself, but the enjoyment of the process of observing and responding to our beautiful world.

You don’t need the perfect location. Unlike real estate, any location may do. From there you open your mind to finding the one beautiful moment that becomes the focus of your art.

Plein Air Realities – Wind and the Tides, Bugs, Sun, Pesky Observers



There’s a price to pay for this enjoyment. As you attempt outdoor painting, you’ll find ways of dealing with the uncomfortable realities of life. You need to be observant of your surroundings for safety reasons; you don’t want to isolate yourself in a place where you have no recourse should problems arise. This is another good reason for taking a companion along when you paint.

And don’t forget selecting a place with restrooms nearby!

MarkYour Calendar!

In April and May, Marie Kasper is organizing Plein Air outings at some of her favorite places. She sells many of the paintings she does there at Sunset River Marketplace.

Put May 6 and 23 on your calendar if you want to try this in the company of other artists.

Dori Roberts was painting at one of Marie's favorite places in Cherry Grove Beach when she became so engrossed with her painting she ended up stranded by the incoming tide. She had to drag her equipment under the pier to scramble to safety. These things happen!

You want to be as comfortable as possible when painting. An umbrella and/or large hat can help keep the sun off you and your painting. Fancy ones sell for \$40 online; Walmart sells not-so-fancy for \$5. Being eaten by bugs distracts from your concentration. Pack a small spray bottle of repellent. When it's windy, you'll want a windbreaker and lots of heavy duty clips to anchor your work.



Your painting setup

You can paint outdoors in almost any media. **Watercolor** can be a challenge, especially if you like to paint on a flat surface. One very professional watercolorist whose specialty of painting architecture was known to construct a folding table/paper surface/paint holder which kept all his necessities at his fingertips. To use this setup, you also have to be ready to select a sitting-down viewpoint.

A standing easel is much easier. It can work for watercolorists if you're willing to work with saturated paint and accept drips.

For **oil and acrylic** painters, things get easier. To start out you may want to limit your supplies; keep it simple. With only three colors plus white you can mix the colors you see. Throw in your medium of choice, and a container of water or brush cleaner. Use a disposable styrofoam plate

for your palette (bringing along a plastic bag to hold your trash). Add a palette knife and a very few brushes, a stick of charcoal or a pencil for sketching, some paper towels and a prepared painting surface and you're good to go.

Oil painters have their ways of carrying wet paintings. Acrylic painters know their painting is done when the paint on their palette dries.

Calabash Plein Aire Event Jewelry By Wendy – Beach House Fine Arts Gallery

is organizing a Plein Aire Wet Paint Outing in Calabasah on June 7 (rain date June 14). Similar to the Southport Paint-Out, you register for the Calabash event and in return you receive advertisement, a lunch and a sales venue for your work. Pre-painted materials are not allowed and a maximum size of 9" x 12" is enforced. A nice note is that students ages 10-18 may participate with no registration fee

required. So start scoping out your favorite views of Calabash and join in the fun in June. Information and a registration form are available on their website, www.JewelryByWendy.com. They even include a checklist of recommended items to bring on your adventure.

Other Resources

Plein Air Painters of the Southeast (PAP-SE), are an organization of professional plein air painters bound by a common passion to promote the traditional methods of painting en plein air. They work out of Charleston, SC. Their website is www.pap-se.com.

Outdoor Painter, The Home of Plein Air Magazine, has a website at www.outdoorpainter.com.

North Carolina Plein Aire Painters at www.NCPAP.org.

The Southport Paint-Out

On April 11 and 12, Southport held its second Plein Air Paint-Out. Thirty-five artists participated, including WAA members, Rozanne Anderson, Elaine Bigelow, and Sharon Bowling. The weather was perfect. No one complained about the wind, because it kept the bugs away. The event



was well organized and well promoted. The fee was \$20 and included lunch and a reception.



There were a lot of visitors in Southport, and many were interested in seeing what we were doing. On Saturday at 2:00 p.m. we took our paintings to the grounds at the Visitors Center/ Maritime Museum, where easels had been arranged in a large circle. Our paintings were photographed for the visitor center web site, and then we chose an easel on which

to display our work. There was a large attendance to view our work and sales were good. Rozanne and Sharon each sold four paintings.

Southport will sponsor another paint-out in September.

Ed note: Thanks to Sharon Bowling who so kindly wrote and photographed the Southport Paint Out activities shown throughout this article.

Have you cleared your calendar for WAA's upcoming art show?

This year's judge is [Betty Brown](#) - a painter of people and places, attracted by subject matter that invites exploitation of color, shape and texture.

WAA is sponsoring a 3-day workshop with Betty. You won't want to miss this!

When: Sat. 5/17-Mon. 5/19

Where: Old Sunnyside School, Shallotte

Cost: \$175/members; \$200 non-members

Medium and supplies - your own choice

Register by calling Kathy Durstewitz 910.287.3881



Waterway Art Association



*23rd Annual
Art Exhibit and Sale*

May 13 – 18, 2014

Brunswick Community College
South Brunswick Islands Center
Rt. 17, Carolina Shores, NC

For show details go to www.waterwayart.org

REGISTER TODAY!

President's Message



This month we vote on the proposed roster of new officers for Waterway Art Association. They are: Jeanette Billie, president; Dawn Stonehouse, vice president; Barb Clark, secretary; Jo Anne Smith, treasurer.

I've enjoyed being the president for the past two years. I didn't know half of what I needed to know when I started out. It was a learn-on-the-job event. Much of my time and effort has been devoted to securing locations for our paint-ins. With the unfortunate closing of the Calabash Firehouse, and delays (still in effect) in the opening of the Brunswick Senior Resources Center, we were in a bad spot.

While we expressed interest in rejoining the Calabash Firehouse in their new facility, we were not included in their programming and the resulting facility did not meet our needs. The room is carpeted and there is no storage like we enjoyed at the previous facility. The Firehouse was kind to allow us to meet there for so many years, but in the end we were not part of their mission.

I owe thanks to both Silver Coast Winery and the Town of Shallotte for offering us venues at reasonable rates. They made the continuation of WAA possible. We continue to enjoy the use of the Shallotte Schoolhouse for our smaller workshops.

It's yet to be seen how meeting at BSRI will work for us. They have been more than generous in letting us use their facility. They've battled many obstacles as they work toward completing their building, but haven't given up and have offered hospitality to us despite their own challenges. I look forward to continuing to meet here and to finding common purpose with their mission.

It's tempting to let the green-eyed monster take over when we see the facilities that allow other groups to be secure – Franklin Square Gallery for the Associated Artists of Southport, and the Oak Island Recreation Center for the Oak Island Art Guild. Now a new arts center is in the planning stages in Leland.

Many will envy our facility here at BSRI soon – with room to spread out, excellent natural light, an elevator to take us and our equipment upstairs, and convenient, spacious storage. But the most important amenity will be a cooperative and mutually supportive relationship with BSRI. Once their programs begin, I see an opportunity to make life for seniors in Brunswick County more rewarding through joint programs with our membership and theirs. What a way to fulfill our Mission Statement – to encourage artistic awareness and enjoyment of fine arts and to encourage growth both on an individual and community level.

We all know art makes our lives more fulfilling – now let's spread the word.

To a new year!

Mary K.
Mary K Donahoe
WAA President 2013-14

2013-14 WAA Officers:

President:	Mary K. Donahoe
Vice President:	Dawn Stonehouse
Secretary:	Barb Clark
Treasurer:	Joanne Smith



Calendar of Events

Be sure to visit our website at <http://www.waterwayart.org> for more details about events listed below as well as additional events you may be interested in.

Date	Event	Location
<i>If you want to add an event to next month's calendar, please email to: waanewsletter@waterwayart.org</i>		
May		
5/7	WAA Paint-In	9AM-12PM BRSI, Shallotte
5/13-18	WAA 23rd Annual Art Exhibit	11AM-5PM;Sun.4PM Brunswick Community College
5/14	WAA Paint-In (Model) WAA Board Meeting	9AM-12PM 12:30PM BRSI, Shallotte
5/15	Artists' Reception&Awards	6-8PM Brunswick Community College
5/17-19	▲ Betty Brown workshop (multi-media) \$175/members \$200/non-members	9AM-4PM Old Sunnyside School, Shallotte
5/21	WAA Paint-In WAA Business Meeting Election of 2014-15 WAA Officers	9AM-12PM 12:30PM BRSI, Shallotte
5/28	WAA Paint-in with Guest artist, Terry Sellers Harrison FREE	9AM-12PM BRSI, Shallotte
June		
6/4	WAA Paint-In	9AM-12PM BRSI, Shallotte
6/11	WAA Paint-In	9AM-12PM BRSI, Shallotte
6/18	WAA Paint-In	9AM-12PM BRSI, Shallotte
6/25	WAA Paint-In	9AM-12PM BRSI, Shallotte

To register for ▲ workshops: Call Kathy Durstewitz 910-287-3881

MAY Artist of the Month -

Congratulations, Marie Kasper, Artist of the Month!



Each month, WAA features an artist in one of our local communities who clearly demonstrates his or her passion for art. Learn more about Marie's journey with the paintbrush.

When and why did you start painting? What medium did

you start with? Is that still your medium of choice? Thank you for this opportunity, I appreciate

the thought. I started painting when I was around 13 years old and if I remember correctly, the medium was color - it was a painting of birds which I gave to my



grandmother (refrigerator art). I still love watercolor but I also love oils, acrylics, pen & ink, pencil, pastel - all the mediums are fun!!

How would you describe your style of painting? Do your paintings reflect a particular theme, technique or concept? Since I paint a lot of local scenes I would say my style is realistic. I also love painting & drawing people - each person so unique and beautiful, same goes for local landscapes. Last year I did set up dates for plein aire and now that the weather has improved, I'll set another schedule - those who came really enjoyed the time spent with other art members. You don't have to be great or good to paint, you just need the will to do it - getting started is probably the hardest part of painting!



Are there any artists, past or present, whom you particularly admire, and if so, why? There are so many artists that influence our work. My all time favorites are John Singer Sargent & Klimt.

What tip would you give a beginner? Don't be afraid of making mistakes - that never goes away. That first stroke on the paper is going to be the hardest. And then you always have the PPP 's (practice, practice, practice).

At what point did you consider yourself an artist rather than someone who paints? What do you think is the difference? My aunt also painted & her philosophy was "if you can get money for your art, you are then a painter" - sounds good to me.

Do you have a personal philosophy about your art? Sometimes It's just fun to be an artist but other times I have to ask myself what am I doing this for. But if I stay away from painting, there's really

something missing in my life and I have to return to it. Artists I feel see the world in a more colorful way than most folks do - it's never just black & white. Every day has scenes & people, animals, insects waiting to be painted.



Do you have a painting schedule you like to accommodate, or is it more of a "hit or miss"

opportunity? I paint frequently - but when I do commissioned work I tend to want to get the job done.



What kind of brushes/tools/ brand of paints do you rely on most? For over 50 years of painting I have it all. Right now I'm using GOLDEN ACRYLICS. I would stay away from paints that are cheap because that's what you get is cheap, so quality helps for everyone either starting out or all time painter.

Do you show and/or sell your paintings? If so, where? I'm currently selling at the Sunset Marketplace Gallery in Calabash

If you sell, do you remember the first painting you ever sold? I think I might have sold something while in art school.

As you started to paint, do you remember what your biggest challenge was? Do you have any challenges today? Biggest challenge is just getting that first mark on the paper!

If someone is interested in purchasing one of your paintings, how can they reach you? I can be reached at 910-579-8076



Anything else you would like to add? Thank you again for this opportunity!! And Happy Painting!! We all need more art in this world - thanks again! Interested in seeing more of Marie's work? Check out her [Facebook page](#).

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - Great News for Plein Air artists!

Marie is inviting you to join her for the following plein air painting excursions. You may contact her at mariekasper@hotmail.com if you need further information.

WHEN: Tues., April 29
TIME: 9:00AM
WHERE: Twin Lakes Restaurant parking lot, Sunset Beach

WHEN: Tues., May 6
TIME: 9:00AM
WHERE: Calabash Village

WHEN: Thurs., May 23
TIME: 9:00AM
WHERE: Cherry Grove boat ramp in North Myrtle Beach



Artist joke - How many times have you felt that way - staring at your empty canvas?!

Thanks to Sue Lehner for sharing!

REGISTER NOW for Betty Brown workshop 5/17-19 and plan to attend 5/28 Paint In with Guest Artist Terry Harrison



May 28: Oil and Watercolor Workshop with Terry Harrison

In the Spring 2007 issue of AMERICAN ARTIST WATERCOLOR magazine, then editor-in-chief, M. Stephen Doherty, said of Terry

Harrison's work: (She) is one of the most successful portraitists in the country." IN 2012, Terry was selected as the official artist for the Azalea Festival. And on May 28 Terry Harrison will be the guest artist at our weekly paint-in!

Through the support of the NC Arts Council, WAA is happy to offer a FREE paint-in class to its members and the public Wednesday, May 28 at BSRI, 3620 Express Dr., Shallotte. Terry will cover the fundamentals of drawing and painting with oils and watercolors starting from the beginning and reviewing basic drawing, color, composition. and the "form principle". This information will lay the foundation for the class. A sound understanding of these principles will ensure a more successful painting. Each participant will work at their own level and pace. Participants may work from life or photography.

Some examples of the material covered:

- Getting an accurate drawing from life and photography;
- "Detail", where and how to use it;
- Where and how to use greyed and intense color;
- Where to use soft edges; and,
- Understanding values keys.

Suggested materials list:

All-purpose drawing paper, pencils: (2 H, 2 B, 6 B), a kneaded eraser, and Wax free graphite paper.

Oils: You will need a table top or floor standing easel. A stretched canvas, palette, brushes, container for odorless thinner, Liquin (optional) and paper towels.

Watercolors: Arches 140 lb. cold pressed watercolor paper. a prepared board for stretches, staple gun. palette, water container, brushes, paper towels.

May 17-19 Register today for Betty Brown multi-media workshop

This 3-day workshop is about ideas and the techniques to use to express them. Figure and face will be our focus. We will work toward making a painting without the traditional rules and judgments and the need for acceptance. As Skip Lawrence says, "Painting should be less

about show and tell and more about questions and answers. Ideas, experimentation, exploration, and willingness to fail will produce exciting and rewarding results." The workshop will feature talks with information and demonstrations by the instructor. Emphasis will be on "letting go and having fun!"



To learn more about Betty, visit www.bettybrownartist.com

Supply List

This will be a water media workshop. You can choose watercolor, gouache, or acrylic, etc. Include the supplies that you normally use, water container, paper towels, etc. Bring photos or items that you are emotionally attached to. We will use to paint from or use as inspiration for our paintings. I suggest 140 lb. hot press paper for watercolorist. If you are bringing acrylics, 140 lb. hot press or 300 lb. hot press paper. Also, bring any multi-media supplies such as graphite, charcoal, and something to use as scrapers (such as old credit cards); if you have watercolor or water-soluble crayons, please bring them. I use Caran D'Ache.

Location: Old Sunnyside School, 209 Village Rd., Shallotte

Cost: \$175 members \$200 non-members

Registration required: Contact Kathy Durstewitz, 910.287.3881

Artist's Corner

Welcome!

Here is where you can share exciting news about a recent sale or display/ trade and/or sell things you don't need for things you want/ share useful technical tips with others, and, post anything that relates to your day-to-day planning, painting, marketing, preparing, shopping or expressing your art.

SMILE! - Sharon Bowling submitted this photo of the "head in the hole" board that she designed and painted for the Museum of Coastal Carolina. It was a project that she and her husband, Ed, did as volunteers for the museum. Nice work!



Around Town

Rivertown Music & Craft Beer Fest Saturday, May 3, 2014

11AM - 6 PM

Registration is now open.

ART ALERT: [Register Online Here!](#)

Sunset River Marketplace 3-Day Watercolor Workshop

Instructor Freeman Beard

Friday, May 2 - Sunday, May 4, 2014

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Tuition \$300

[WAA 23rd Art Exhibit & Sale](#), May 13-18,
Brunswick Community College, S
Brunswick Islands Center

From Ruth Cox: A friend of mine is looking for an art teacher for children of kindergarten age and up. It could be a class or one-on-one. Let me know if you're interested, or if you know someone who might be interested. Thanks so much! Visit My Website <http://www.muralistic.com>
Facebook Page <http://profile.to/ruthcox>.

Visit the Brushwork Society "Collection" in Southport through June 15



The Brushwork Society Local Artists: (L to R)
Linda Pasulka, Roger Tatum, Jan Beland, Nancy Hester, JoAnn Staat,
Joyce Grazeff, Sue Ernest, Richard Staat, Phyllis Ryley, Susan Manney

a fine art gallery
Presents The Brushwork Society
"Collection"
April 25 - June 15

Opening reception
April 25 6 - 8 PM
4961 Long Beach Rd. SE
Southport, NC 28461
910-617-2808

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