

St. Joe Valley Watercolor Society Newsletter

September 2024

A Letter from the President

Dear Members of our society,

I am delivering to you a most gracious welcome back from our summer break! Acorns are falling, leaves will soon leave their branches and we get to clean it all up! The seasonal change to cold up north spur desires to enjoy bounty from our gardens, store summer clothing and pull out cozy sweaters, with thoughts of thanksgiving ahead. All may not be well with everyone, but my hearts desire is for you to know I (we) care.

I am delighted to announce that we have a new member, Diane Beecher DDS. We welcome you with open arms!

We also have a new slate of officers who are diligently planning our activities for the year ahead. They are an awesome group! All positions have been filled save one. President! Nominations for the office of President will be received at our meeting on Sunday, September 22. We will vote and fill that vacancy with joyful voices!

Recently I reached out to Tri Kappa Sorority in South Bend for a grant to financially support our society, to defray costs and allow us to further promote art and education in our community. Tri Kappa generously awarded \$500 to the St. Joe Valley Watercolor Society! I thank Dee Thorton and Catherine McCormick for making me aware of this opportunity!

We are preparing to create a new member directory! If you have a new cell, home phone, email address, home address please contact me or Dee Thorton with that information.

With gratefulness and love I leave the office of President. The members of this watercolor society are not only talented artists, each is generous with kindness, diligent with attendance, unselfish with support, and uniquely made and appreciated. Thank you for being you!

Best wishes today and always,

Diane reader Dorn
President
469-964-3676

St. Joe Valley Watercolor Society Board Members

President

Diane reader Dorn

Vice President

Anne Marie Peck

Treasurer

Nancy Turner

Secretary

Judy Rossow

Exhibits

Marta Francis

Hospitality

Beverly Watkins

Historian

Renee Keller

At Large

Gina Mitchell

SBMA Liaison

Dee Thorton

Leeper Park Art Fair

Hedy DeNolf

Publications

Shannon Garrastegui

Past President

Dan Slattery

Artist News

Upcoming 2024 Meeting Dates

General Meeting

September 22, 2024 – 1-3pm at South Bend Museum of Art,
120 Doctor M.L.K. Jr. Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601

November 24, 2024 – 1-3pm location TBA

Board Meeting

October 30, 2024 – 6:30pm at Heritage Square Martin's

September's Guest Presenter Artist: Abby Bill

Abby Bill has been teaching art at her alma mater, Mishawaka High School, for over a decade where she teaches painting, jewelry, and design fundamentals. She recently completed her MFA in Painting from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in their Low Residency program. Watercolor became her primary medium during her time at Indiana University in Bloomington where she took plein air painting classes and soaked up the beautiful architecture and landscapes of the campus.

Abby's work is centered on the intimate relationship between people, plants, and hormones. She is interested in the cyclical growth and decay that consumes the life of both species.

Currently she is taking a year off of teaching to stay home and take care of her new baby boy, Milo!



Artist News

2024 Leeper Park Art Fair

The 57th annual Leeper Park Art Fair sponsored by St. Joe Valley Watercolor Society had another successful year! We had 80 artists and 87 booth spaces for guests to shop and admire a wide variety of art pieces. Awards of \$4,000.00 were given to winning artists.

Our watercolor society's member booth had 9 participating artists – Marta Francis, Gina Mitchell, Judy Rossow, Jude Phillips, Renee Keller, Diane Beecher, Sallee Field, Anne Marie Peck, and Dee Thornton. Our booth winners are Jude Phillips, first place; Marta Francis, second place; and Anne Marie Peck, third place. Congratulations to everyone!



Art Exhibit “Coming Back” Watercolors and Pastels of Daniel J. Slattery

Hosted by First Unitarian Church, 801 E. Washington, South Bend, Indiana

The exhibit runs from August 4 until October 4

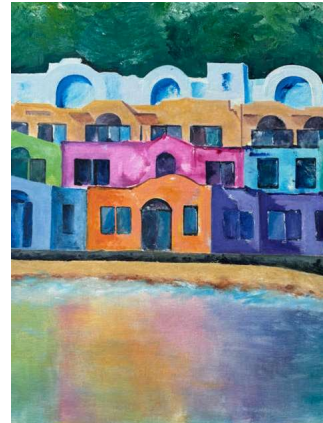
First Unitarian Church is located on the corner of E. Washington and N. St. Peter St., a few blocks east of the river in downtown South Bend.



Around the Bend

The annual Around the Bend exhibit held at the South Bend Museum of Art's Warner Gallery accepts art from St. Joseph and surrounding counties.

This summer's exhibit featured over 275 artists, several of them from the watercolor society. I encourage everyone to check out the museum's website next spring to find out details of the exhibit and enter a piece of your own!



Joan Spohrer's digital painting “Summer Afternoon” was accepted to the Art Barn's 30th Annual Juried Art Exhibition April 13-May 23 in Valparaiso. Her digital painting “Alpine Vista” was included in the South Bend Museum of Art's “Around the Bend” exhibit May 25- Aug 25. She also had three watercolors on exhibit at the Art Barn with the Area Artists' Association show “Knee High by the 4th of July” July 2- Aug 1, and will exhibit an acrylic painting, “Capitola” in the Area Artists' show “Spirit of Place” at Moontree Gallery, Plymouth, Sept 16- Oct 25.



Nancy Turner's painting, "Farm Kitchen," was accepted to the Watercolor Society of Indiana juried show that runs through Sept 29 at Newfields in Indianapolis. She had 3 paintings accepted to the Mahoning Valley YWCA Women Artists: A Celebration juried show in Youngstown, Ohio. Her painting, "Maine Moment," received the Watercolor Award by Tom & Lindy McMurray. Her watercolor, "Spring Tulips," was exhibited at the Around the Bend show at the South Bend Museum of Art that ran through August 25.



Anne Marie Peck's painting “Remains of the Day” was accepted in the Watercolor Society of Indiana's Annual Juried Exhibition at Newfields Indiana Museum of Art in Indianapolis.

Other News & Announcements

Photos from the May Social with NIA Members



Latest Works by Janet Johnson

