

February 2015

P.O. Box 4631 Walnut Creek, CA 94596 www.californiawatercolor.org email: info@californiawatercolor.org

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PLEIN AIR

Come paint with us February 7 at at the Harrington Gallery in Pleasanton

For details, go to: www.californiawatercolor.org on the plein air page.

California Association

General Meeting • 7:30pm, Wednesday, February 18, 2015 • Shadelands Center, 111 N. Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek, CA

Katherine Chang Liu, February Guest Artist



Please join us to welcome our first guest artist, a returning CWA Workshop favorite, Katherine Chang Liu.

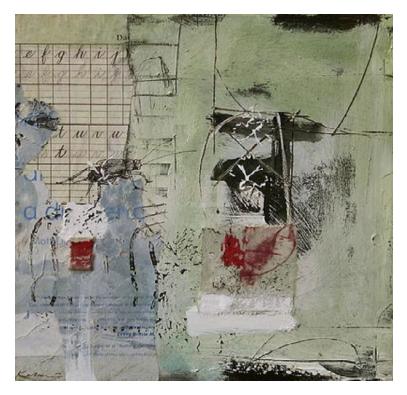
Katherine Chang Liu

"In recent years my work often has come from my reading. Words lead to ideas. Sometimes a word or two will trigger the imagination enough to create a series.

I keep a note book for such words. When I started out years ago, I relied on visual information to feed my work. Now I begin with the idea, and generate sketches for my work. My painting process is a process of addition and subtraction, during which I try to edit the image down to only what is needed."

Newspaper Review of Solo Exhibit in Turku, Finland, 2001

"In Liu's work what is especially fascinating are the details that lead to reflections of the 'unfinished' state of things. The West is obsessed with time. How would our perception and goals change if we were to be defined by our pace? You can say that Katherine Chang Liu's work encourages us to *continued on page 2*







Katherine Chang Liu continued from page 1

pace life, to return to introspection, examine the past, and in general, to slow down."

As CWA welcomes Katherine back for the 3rd time in recent years, you may ask why we have continued to invite her, given the wealth of artistic talent out there. The simple reason is that our members keep requesting her. Some of her students refer to her as the "The Art Whisperer," a tribute to her ability to relate to each artist's ideas and strengths right away, and help in their development of those ideas.

Katherine clearly is doing something right, as she was featured in the American Artist March 2008 article entitled Watercolor: 20 Great Watercolor Teachers: Biographies and Artwork. Katherine has years of experience working with artists individually to help each painter develop his or her strengths and personal style. This approach is a major focus of the renowned Taos Intensive Studies Seminar (ISS), and Katherine is one of their key instructors. Ask previous CWA members who have studied with Katherine and you will get confirmation of the value of her workshop.

About Katherine – Artist, Teacher, Curator

Katherine Liu is an abstract painter and printmaker living in Southern California. Katherine has been featured in numerous international invitational exhibits, including Art Paris, Art Copenhagen and Art Miami. Her work is included in major publications and collections. She is a frequent invited juror of competitive shows, as well as a curator of shows for various galleries.

Since the early 90's, Chang Liu has juried over 80 national, regional and statewide exhibitions and competitions, including Chair of Jury of Selection, National Watercolor Society International Competition (2014), Sole Juror for the Abstraction Category, The Artist Magazine Open Competition (2014), Sole Juror, International Society of Acrylic Painters, CA (2012), and Sole Juror for CWA's 2011 National Exhibition.

Teaching has been a lifelong passion of Katherine's, going back to tutoring math to elementary school kids. "My belief is that teaching is about the effective sharing of information, whether it is in math, science, or in art. Since 1978, I have been in the wonderful position of teaching where I want to, and working with artists in various capacities."

Katherine has extensive experience as a curator as well. She was elected Co-Chair for the Nanjing Biennale, 2012, an International Invitational Biennale, based in Nanjing, China. She served with other CWA favorites, Co-Curator with John Salminen and Advisor Chang-Khee Chee. She is already looking forward to the next Nanjing Biennale in 2016, in which 100 artists from around the world will be invited to take part.

CWA is pleased to have her as our "keynote" artist for 2015. We hope to see you there to help us welcome her back.



newsletter deadline info

The deadline for placing items in the March newsletter is the <u>15th of February.</u>

Send articles and photos by disk, email, fax or in writing to: Patricia Rosa newsletter@californiawatercolor.org 5499 Wilke Dr. Concord, CA 94521 eFax: 413.375.1851

membership/ data manager

Mail all changes of address, phone number and email to: Anne Jacobson cwa.data@gmail.com c/o CWA P.O. Box 4631 Walnut Creek, CA 94596

monthly meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month (except June and December) at 7:30pm, **Shadelands Center** 111 N. Wiget Lane Walnut Creek, CA (NW corner of Wiget Lane and Ygnacio Valley Road).

cwa workshop info

Wendy Oliver 925.280.1944 June Hunt 510.520.3802 Anne Jacobson 510.339.6916

e-newsletter info

To receive this newsletter electronically please send a note to our Data Manager with the email address at which you wish to receive the newsletter.

from the president Focus - Inspiration - Motivation

In our busy lives, my own included, we really have to focus our thoughts and actions to create or do... **ANYTHING!**

What do I mean by that?

It's simple. If we focus we can create a fabulous meal for our family, a beautiful garden, a wonderful home, an outstanding studio or workshop, a piece of art.

Focus leads to motivation. With inspirational material such as an art book or video, for a short time, try sitting alone in a room, outside in nature, or anyplace without distractions and you will find yourself being motivated. Maybe it's that snapshot you took while on vacation, that workshop or demo, or possibly it was just a glimpse of a person or building while walking. In any case, you were inspired and are now motivated to do your next project.

Once motivated, you will be able to hear your inner creativity. For me that will mean trying new paints that I received for the holidays. Changing up my pallete to incorporate new colors. For you it may be trying a completely new style. Stretching your goals.

You may be motivated in other ways. You enjoy art and you enjoy belonging to an organization like California Watercolor Association, but you just don't have anything ready for an upcoming show. Don't be a bystander. Try volunteering on a committee (you get volunteer hours!). In either case **GET MOTIVATED!**

New paintings equal more new entries in CWA California Shows and of course the 46th National Exhibition. Maybe it will be your painting that inspires a new member. We also need people to work on these shows (did I mention - you get volunteer hours!). To make the shows bigger and better than ever. **New people = new ideas.**

Your CWA Board is focusing on the workings of our association. Past and present board members met in mid-January to strategize and create a cohesive member focused organization. How can we inspire and motivate you?

What will be your focus, inspiration, and motivation this year? Show your results in a show - volunteer on a committee. **DO SOMETHING.**



Sincerely, Carol Husslein





2015 watercolor workshop series

California Watercolor Association





Are you thinking about taking a CWA Workshop in 2015?

There are only 2 workshops with space still available: Iain Stewart & Mary Ann Beckwith



lain Stewart

3 days, July 16-18, Light in Watercolor, All Levels – Members \$395



Mary Ann Beckwith

3 days, October 22-24, Brush and Beyond, All Levels Members \$395

Don't delay, and especially, don't miss out!



Katherine Chang Liu 5 Days | February 16-20 "Open Studio" Workshop | Intermediate/Advanced CWA Members \$595, Non-Members \$650. See Katherine's work at www.jenkinsjohnsongallery.com

The students who take Katherine's class keep coming back for more. Why? Because Katherine gives every artist a great deal of personalized attention. In fact, that is really what Katherine's classes are all about. This is Katherine's 3rd seminar for CWA in recent years, and the reason is that our members keep requesting her. Clearly not all great artists make good teachers, but Katherine certainly does. She was featured in the American Artist March 2008 article entitled Watercolor: 20 Great Watercolor Teachers: Biographies and Artwork.

Katherine has years of experience working with artists individually to help each painter develop his or her strengths and personal style. This approach is a major focus of the renowned Taos Intensive Studies Seminar (ISS), and Katherine is one of their key instructors. Ask previous CWA members who have studied with Katherine and you will get confirmation of the value of her workshop. Apparently some of her students refer to her as the "The Art Whisperer," a tribute to her ability to relate to each artist's ideas and strengths right away, and help in their development of those ideas.

Regarding her teaching philosophy, Katherine says that her preference and strength is to work with artists one on one. "I pay much attention to the observation of each artist's particular intent and ability in his work, and hopefully sort things out, and guide this artist's further development. Sometimes I suggest small adjustments, and other times I try to work with the artist to find the clarification of his content, and how he might best express that content."

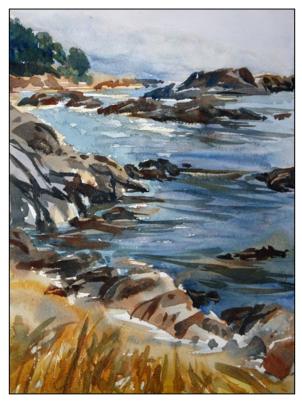
Since this is an "open studio" workshop, each artist will bring the resource material and supplies most suitable for his or her own work. This is definitely not a "cookie-cutter" workshop!

member news



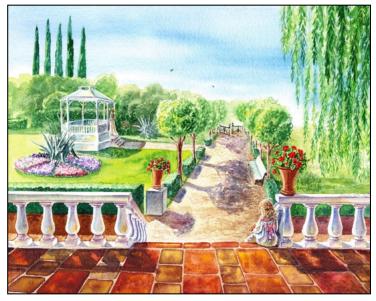
After the Fire VIII by Robin Purcell

Robin Purcell, MCWA has two exhibits coming up in early 2015. "After the Fire VI" will be exhibited in the Sixth Annual Signature American Watermedia Exhibition Fallbrook Art Center, February 8-March 22, juried by Stephen Quiller. "By the Old Field" and "After the Fire VIII" will be in the 104th Annual Gold Medal Juried Exhibition of the California Art Club at the USC Fisher Museum of Art, March 22-April 19. This is Robin's fifth time in a row exhibiting in the gold medal exhibit.



Sea Ranch Morning by Juanita Hagberg

Juanita Hagberg's watercolor exhibit, "From Plein Air to Abstraction - Impressions From Nature," will continue until April 11 at Head Quarters, 3040 Claremont Avenue (below Ashby) in Berkeley. Hours are 10:00am-5:00pm, Tuesday-Saturday. Phone: (510) 547-9222.



In The Garden by Irina Sztukowski

Irina Sztukowski's new painting "In The Garden," as well as seven other paintings with landscapes and flowers, are presented in the solo exhibition in the Art Room of a famous Martinez Courtyard Copper Skillet restaurant. The exhibited paintings are completed in realistic manner with variety of techniques from wet-on-wet to detailed dry brush applications. Stop by, enjoy breakfast or lunch and have a great time! 811 Ferry Street Martinez, California. www.artirina.com



Morning Light by Qian Gao

Qian Gao's painting, "Morning Light" has been selected into AWS's 148th International Exhibition, April 2015, in New York. He is also awarded a signature status of American Watercolor Society (AWS).

Rae Ann Williams is a contributor to *Zen Doodle oodles of Doodles*. This is the newly released book from North Light Books and is their second compilation of doodle ideas.



board of directors

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chair california shows Liz Johnston 925.988.0450 co-directors of programs Marilyn Miller 925.631.6673

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Victoria Bianco 925.687.8675

Robert Davidson 510.552.4924

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membership/data manager Anne Jacobson newsletter editor Patricia Rosa bookkeeper Melissa Alva audio/visual set up Unfilled

volunteer committees

national exhibition Ruth Miller community outreach Carol Smith Helene Yu-June Rice Mona Rivers-Vasquez **Charlotte Huntley** Deb Taylor mail distribution Sue Johnston hospitality Open, assistant: Open greeter Donna Gamel treasurer assistants Annette Hodtwalker video library Charlotte Morris* Terrie Moore plein air Samantha McNally Andrea Baron photographer Rolando Barrero panel rental Barb Bochenek* Pam Howett cwa webmaster Efrain Ibarra members at large Susan Scolnick Dmitry Grudsky



Clean Out Your Studio!

The April 15 CWA Membership Meeting will be a White Elephant Sale. Members can bring the art gizmo that you used once, that paint color you loved in the catalog but turned out to be weird, the supplies you bought for a workshop and never used again, the art books with beautiful pictures that you never look at, etc., etc., to sell at this event. Details will be published in the March newsletter, but start now on finding those treasures that maybe someone else can use!

Missing Email?

Are You Missing Your Email? Did You Add CWA to Your Personal Contacts?

If you think you are missing CWA email, please start by putting CWA addresses into your personal contacts. The most commonly used email addresses are: datamanager@californiawatercolor.org, national@ californiawatercolor.org, membership@californiawatercolor.org and cwa. data@gmail.com. This will help to keep your newsletters and other CWA communications from going astray.

If you can, add @californiawatercolor.org to your Safe-Senders list. If you don't know how, check the webpage below from Constant Contact.

- a. You can allow mail from specific email addresses to safely come into your inbox without it being placed in your junk or spam folder by "white-listing" email addresses within your email client or Internet security software and adding email addresses to a safe senders list
- b. Check this Constant Contact webpage for tricks to work through individual ISPs: http://support2.constantcontact.com/articles/FAQ/2753. All the major providers like AT&T, Earthlink, AOL, Verizon, Gmail, Comcast and Yahoo are covered.

Remember to check your spam folders regularly. we send the messages out but we need your help to make sure they get through. If you are getting our messages, please read them!

45TH NATIONAL EXHIBITION 2015 CALIFORNIA WATERCOLOR ASSOCIATION



New Signature Members recognized at the National Reception, The Harrington Gallery, Pleasanton, California on January 15, 2015

Left to Right: Juror of Awards, Gary Bukovnik, Niz Brown, Geoff McCormak, Kathy Byrne, Joyce Leopardo

Also Awarded: Bob Davidson, Ruth Armitage, Suzanne Wilson



Don't miss this prestigeous event

We are so fortunate to have this remarkable art right in our own back yard. Harrington Gallery 4444 Railroad Ave. Pleasanton, CA January 15 - February 21, 2015 Wedneday- Friday 12:00 noon - 5:00pm, Saturday 10:00am - 3:00pm

Participating Artists: Hand Pick Ups Monday, February 23, at the Gallery between 11:00am - 1:00pm

Volunteers Needed For National Take Down and Pack Up

Monday, February 23, 11:00am - 1:00pm at Harrington Gallery, Pleasanton. We will take the paintings down, check out the hand pick ups, bubble bag shipped paintings and load them on to a truck to be returned to Bishop Ranch.

Tuesday, February 24, 9:00am - 12:00 noon at Bishop Ranch, San Ramon. We will box shipped paintings and get ready for UPS and FedEx pickups the following day.

Both of these jobs require a sizable crew. Please check your calendars, ask a friend or relative to join you and try to help out. With more hands we get done quicker!

Contact Ruth Miller at national@californiawatercolor.org (925) 837-2818

Congratulations!

Congratulations to CWA members who received their signature status at this years National Exhibition Reception at the Harrington Gallery on Thursday evening, January 15.

The following members have been received into three national exhibitions and are now Signature Members of CWA: Robert Davidson, Geoff McCormak, Niz Brown, Suzanne Wilson, Kathy Byrne, Joyce Barron Leopardo, Nancy Near, Ruth Armitage and Anita Zymolka-Amrhein.

Those present enjoyed meeting many of these members in person and hearing their stories. Among them, Anita Zymolka-Amrhein and her husband Hans, came from Camano Island in Washington to receive her award.

A charming and vivacious personality punctuates Anita's art and her personal story. Born in Germany, she "escaped East Germany just a day before the Berlin Wall went up." With her husband Hans, she has lived and traveled throughout Europe and Asia. She studied at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in Singapore, in Hamburg, Germany, and finally in the U.S. crediting Linda Doll, Michelle Tremaine,

Skip Lawerence and Paul Jackson for helping to refine and shape her style.

Anita has exhibited throughout Europe and America and was accepted into the Shenzhen International Watercolor Biennial in 2013. She is a signature member of Northwest Watercolor Society (NWWS) and now California Watercolor Society (CWA). Her life experiences have added a world vision to her creative journey. At her website, Zymolka.com she states, "Watercolors are ideal for my interpretations of nature's many treasures in their various forms." Take some time to visit all our new signature members websites and see how their work colors our world.



Generations by Anita Zymolka-Amrhein



Try Something New In 2015

Like many others, I have thoughts of change as I begin the New Year. I am slow though and in mid-January, I am still thinking about resolutions for becoming a better person. For decades, my resolutions have centered on losing weight and exercising more. Sadly enough, success has been limited and this year, I am turning my attention to my work as an artist. I am considering how I might grow as a watercolor painter.

Growing means changing and change is an integral aspect of moving forward. So, how might I change and grow in the process? I decide the first step might be saying yes to something that I might ordinarily avoid. As a painter, I might try working on a different schedule. I might start from a different perspective, use different tools, different colors, or a different subject. I could use larger brushes, paint with a restricted palette, change my subject matter, or change the time commitment to my work. I might look for inspiration in new places.

I love figurative work and often find examples to consider. Maybe, I need to look at something completely different. Searching the fiveminute Tate Shots introduces John Squire, former rock musician, and an experimental watercolor painter. I found Squire with his low key, North England accent interesting and unusual. I am including the website below.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9d9e0cOJPU

I liked Squire's focus on process and his comment that the (watercolor) medium itself wants to pitch in and have a say in the painting. I know just what he means. I love the first moments when paint and water are moving on paper. I think most watercolor artists do. I also liked his playful testing of surfaces, images, and color.

Watching Squire's careful attention to the moment gives me some ideas. I might change my focus and concentrate on process rather than product. I might say yes to mindful moments during the painting process and think or worry less about creating a successful painting. I might say yes to the medium and work with the flow instead of trying to work with my idea for the painting. With Squire's work as inspiration, I came up with a plan.

Currently, I paint on one or two days during the month. I think I will start with the time schedule. For the next thirty days, I am planning to paint a little every day rather than a lot on one day. I am going to change my focus and work with the flow of paint rather than worrying about the final product. After thirty days, I can consider how the changes have worked for me. As a final inspiration, I am including a watercolor series by Cy Twombly, who developed this series of small watercolors during one day.



Souvenir de L'lle des Saintes, 1979, watercolour and gouache on paper © 2011 Cy Twombly ARTIST ROOMS Tate and National Galleries of Scotland.

I would love to hear from you dear reader about how you are changing or growing as an artist. What have you tried? What works? What might you share with the CWA community about inspiration for change?

"Everyday, we can play on the milky way and if that don't do; I'll try something new"

Smoky Robinson and the Miracles, released Tamla Records, April 1962

Thanks for reading and send your watercolor questions to ejohns5513@aol.com.

sponsorships

The CWA newsletter is accepting ads from anyone who would like to be a sponsor of CWA. The newsletter is emailed monthly to all of our members. It is a very effective way to reach a large audience of artists. All CWA artists paint with watercolors, but not exclusively. Many members also paint in oils, acrylic and pastels.

We are offering the following sponsor packages that reflect available advertising space. All ads, except Classified, run for a minimum of 3 months and are payable in advance. A 10% discount is available to CWA members, members also get classified ads for free. Deadline for insertion is the 10th of each month prior to publication (ie, Feb. 10 for the Mar. newsletter).

Formats accepted are digital or camera-ready artwork. Images should be scanned at 300 dpi. File format preferred is PDF, but we can accept JPG, TIFF, EPS files. All ads will appear in black and white in the print version, and in color in the email version.

Contact Patricia Rosa at newsletter@californiawatercolor.org for further information.

sponsor levels

Distinguished Donor

Full Page/7.5 x 10 3 months: \$750 12 months: \$3000

Benefactor

Half Page/7.5 x 5 3 months: \$450 12 months: \$1800

Fellowship

Third Page/7.5 x 3.25 3 months: \$360 12 months: \$1440

Patron

Quarter Page/3.75 x 5 (vert) 3 months: \$240 12 months: \$960

Friend

Eighth Page/3.75 x 2.5 (hrz) 3 months: \$180 12 months: \$720

Classified

text only: approximately 400 characters, including spaces. \$50/month (free to CWA members and non-profit organizations)

show news

Call to Artists – Animal House Annual Fine Art Exhibition February 18—March 8, 2015

HAND DELIVER WORK: Friday, February 6, 2015 from 1:00pm-5:00pm Saturday, February 7, 2015 from 11:00am-3:00pm

Animal House 10th Annual Juried Fine Art Exhibition of Animal Themed Artworks. It's a ZOO out there! Co-Sponsored by Sacramento Fine Arts Center, Carmichael Recreation and Park District, Sacramento SPCA. Special Ticketed Event, "Poetry, Art and Jazz Concert" featuring Animal House Art, Sacramento Poetry Center and Brubeck Institute Quintet, Saturday, March 7, 2015, 7:00pm. Reception, Sacramento Fine Arts Center and Sacramento SPCA will host an Animal Rescue and artist award presentation during a show closing Reception, Sunday March 8, 2015, 12:00 noon-3:00pm. Food, refreshments and live music. Sacramento Fine Arts Center, 5330B Gibbons Dr., Carmichael, CA 95608.

Valley Art Gallery in Walnut Creek is pleased to announce A CALL TO ARTISTS FOR SLOPES OF DIABLO 2015

THEME: The subject is the artist's view and interpretation of the iconic East Bay landmark Mount Diablo.

CATEGORIES ACCEPTED: Only two dimensional paintings in oil, acrylic, watercolor, and pastel mediums will be considered. No photographic prints, reproductions or computer generated artwork.

JUROR: Randall Sexton, an award winning, nationally acclaimed painter of the California landscape

JUROR'S AWARDS: First Place Award \$350, Second Place Award \$250, Third Place Award \$150, Three Honorable Mentions **ELIGIBILITY:** Artists residing in the San Francisco Bay Area

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: April 10, 2015

EXHIBITION DATES: May 9-June 13, 2015

FULL PROSPECTUS AVAILABLE ON GALLERY WEBSITE:

http://valleyartgallery.org/events/slopes-of-diablo-2015-2/

Valley Art Gallery 1661 Botelho Drive, Ste.110, Walnut Creek, 94596 Email: valleyartgallery@gmail.com Telephone: (925) 935-4311 Web: ValleyArtGallery.org

workshop corner

An Italian Afternoon

Carol Maddox and Lisa Guthrie invite you to an "Italian Afternoon" to learn more about La Romita's almost 50 years of providing the ideal "artist's working vacation" in Umbria. Carol and Lisa's 10-day workshop will be August 21-31, 2015. The local event will be held at Carol's home in Pleasanton on Saturday, February 28. They will be joined by La Romita's manager as well as past participants. A film will be shown, along with photos, paintings of Italy and sketchbooks; Italian snacks will be served. Please call Carol at (925) 462-8866 for address, or email Carol at cmad4paint@pacbell.net for directions.

Attention Plein Air Painters

plein air corner

Get an early start on the outdoor painting season by joining CWA for a couple of hours of painting at the **Harrington Gallery in Pleasanton** on Saturday, February 7, from 11:30am to 2:30pm.

Show your support for the **45th National Exhibition**, get some sunshine, and have some fun with your fellow outdoor painters. The gallery is in downtown Pleasanton, and the **Farmer's Market** will be in full swing just down the block, or walk a block south to paint historic Victorians, or stay near the gallery and study the amazing ginkgo tree just outside.

Meet up at 2:30pm at the gallery to share your work with friends and onlookers.

Questions?

Email the CWA plein air coordinators at pleinair@californiawatercolor.org.







CWA 2015 CALENDAR

CWA MEETINGS & DEMOS

January 21, 2015	Leslie Wilson
February 18, 2015	Katherine Chang Liu
March 18, 2015	Joyce Faulknor and Guy Magallanes
April 15, 2015 N	lember White Elephant
May 20, 2015	John Finger
June 2015	NO MEETING
July 15, 2015	lain Stewart
August 19, 2015	TBD
September 16, 2015	Joseph Zbukic
October 21, 2015	Mary Ann Beckwith
November 18, 2015	Carol Maddox
December 2015	NO MEETING

2015 CWA WORKSHOPS

February 16-20	Katherine Chang Liu
April 20-24	Charles Reid Session 1
April 27-May 5	Charles Reid Session 2
July 16-18	lain Stewart
September 14-16	Joseph Zbukvic Session 1 (EB)
September 18-20	Joseph Zbukvic Session 2 (SF)
October 22-24	Mary Ann Beckwith

2015 CWA PLEIN AIR DAYS

A plein air day is scheduled for March. Everyone is welcome.

Submissions for the newsletter must be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication! March Newsletter Deadline is February 15th. Send to newsletter@californiawatercolor.org

CWA Member Shows

John Muir **Medical Center** August 29 - October 9, 2015

Drop Off: Saturday, August 29, 2015 9:00am - 11:00am

Pickup: Friday, October 9, 2015 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Bring a Friend Night!!!

At the February general meeting, Wednesday, February 18 at Shadelands, we invite you to bring a friend or friends who may or may not have attended a CWA meeting before. Katherine Chang Liu is an engaging speaker and is worth hearing even if your guest(s) do not paint.

Cookies, Cookies, **Cookies!**

At our January meeting cookies were provided by members of the CWA board. Thank you to the following members who have volunteered to bring cookies to our meeting in February: Pablo Villicana Lara, Margo Santolla, Audrey Hall, Grace Castro, Shirley Arrigo and Liz Johnston



Photos of Paint Outs, CWA show winners, and Monthly Demos are on www.facebook.com/californiawatercolor