MARCH 18, 2023

SWS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

9:30-10:00 am social time

President Oral Carper called the meeting to order at 10:00. The meeting was recorded.

President's Report:

Last month SWS had a balance of $33, 023. This month there is a balance of $33, 435. There are outstanding bills for the spring show and the workshop. Valerie Woelk haswas voted by the board into the position of treasurer.

Kim reported there are 80 members currently. She reminded members to look in their spam and trash for Mailchimp mailouts.

Current Events:

Workshop:

 Margo reported that all seats are sold for the Iain Stewart workshop. Two registered participants wish to make their spots available. Contact Margo Sety for further information.

National Show update:

 Oral reported there are 30 paintings accepted from 27 artists, about half of the artists in the show are from out of state. The smallest entry is 8" x 8" and the largest is about 30" x 30".   Entries include acrylic and watercolor pieces.   The reception will be at the Helen South Gallery at the MAC on April 20th from 5-8pm. This will serve as the April general meeting. The show will run from April 7th through the 30th.

Plein Aire and Demos:

 Kathi reported there is a plein aire event scheduled for Saturday, May 6th at Sue Rohrback's ranch. There will be new calves, a stream and a barn for possible subjects. Sue will provide directions to the ranch as the date approaches. Carrie Dugovic has also offered her home on the Little Spokane for a plein aire event on Saturday, June 3rd. There is the river, a barn, a meadow and the lilacs should be blooming. Directions to her home will be provided.

Margo reported the May meeting will be held in person at Spokane Art Supply. This will be an art supply swap/buy/sell/trade event with each member participant given ½ of a 6' table for display of their goods. Details will be sent by Mailchimp.

Challenge Paintings: The March challenge was a portrait of a person or animal. 27 paintings were shown by 20 artists. The winner of the $15 Spokane Art Supply gift certificate was Gloria Fox.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35.

The guest artist painting demo was presented by Tim Oliver, timoliverart.com.   Tim studied with Iain Stewart among other well known artists, has been an instructor for Plein Air Live, and has been featured in Watercolor Artist Magazine. Tim mostly paints the sky and land of his rural west Texas area and loves the medium of watercolor. After a period of feeling disjointed he developed his own unique way of doing things. **His guidelines are**: doing successive washes in a layering process, trying to go with the flow. He works from top to bottom, back to front, light to dark and thin to thick. His approach is to work loose to tight, tight to loose, then loose to tight again for final details. He finds his approach simple, intuitive and repeatable. He sketches regularly preferring a Stillman and Birn sketchbook and encouraged everyone to develop a healthy sketchbook habit. He spends considerable time planning with his sketches before beginning to paint, which he feels always makes his paintings more successful. His process starts with looking at a sketch to decide if it is paintable adding or removing elements as needed to create a better composition.   He stresses that he is creating a piece of artwork- a story – not a recording of a scene.   He looks carefully at values and composition, then does a sketch on his watercolor paper. Next he does a copy of this sketch to figure out values, how washes will work and marks areas to be kept white with a yellow marker. He plans all aspects of the painting before beginning to paint.   Tim prefers Daniel Smith paints and likes to work with complimentary colors.   He uses Saunders Waterford rough 140# paper mounted to a panel (adhered using acrylic matte medium by Golden), a Winsor and Newton squirrel mop for washes, an Escoda Perla brush for more detailed work and Cheap Joes Happy Strokes Riggers for fine lines, which he buys 3 dozen at a time. His work surface is at about a 30% angle. His demo today was a barn he sketched while traveling through North Dakota. He used Quinacridone Burnt Orange ("QBO", like Winsor and Newton Burnt Sienna), and Ultramarine Blue, working from puddles of both, with a mixing area between. He started by laying some water across the top of the paper, followed by dropping in blue being sure to keep a bead going and working down the paper. He feels the sky sets the tone for the painting. He weakened the wash as he moved down, being careful to paint around areas to be left white. This was followed by a wash of QBO in the land area, continuing to paint carefully around reserved white areas and darkening with blue a needed. Several times through the painting process he lightly sprinkled water on the wet surface to create more texture. This was also the time he scratched in lines with a fingernail. Tim likes to soften some edges as he works, running over them with clear water. He dried the paper after the washes. Background trees were added around reserved whites with muted greens from a mix of Deep Sea Green and Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Red, Quinacridone Orange &/ or Transparent Orange Pyrol.   He likes to let the "paint do the painting, not you". Variegated washes help achieve this, allowing colors to mix on the paper. Layering in some darker areas in trees he was careful to leave specks of white. He then dried these washes in preparation for laying in more detailed work, which included areas of the barn and some shading. He likes to use some purple in shadows and considers it part of his loosening up after detail work, as well as a unifier for the composition. He always leaves some light in a shadow area. Bare branches of trees were added with a rigger. He uses white guache to recapture white as needed. Tim will send an image of the completed painting when he has it done.   He will also send information about prepping the panels he paints on. It was a very informative, easy to follow and inspiring presentation.

Respectfully submitted by SWS Secretary, Gloria Fox, March 27, 2023