

GREEN COUNTRY WATERCOLOR SOCIETY



BOX 33435, TULSA, OK 74153

greencountrywc.com

Next General Meeting: November 10

Green Country Watercolor Society meets at 10:00 am, the 2nd Thursday of the month. The meeting is held at the South Tulsa Baptist Church (102nd and Sheridan), Door is on the back side of the building (west side).

Links

[Website](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Pinterest](#)

[Newsletter Archives](#)

Green Country Watercolor Society
P.O. Box 33435
Tulsa, OK 74153
Jim Buchan - Contact

Art In The Square Success!

For those who were unable to attend the event - it was a gorgeous October day - 4 artists sold paintings - crowds were large - many patrons visited and became familiar with GCWS!

But the absolute best benefit was the opportunity for many of our members to “socialize”

with each other!! With the beautiful temperature - several members sat in chairs and “simply visited”!! They utilized the hour or so (or more) to learn more about fellow members. So, next year, consider submitting a painting or two (or more). Linda Behnken did this year and sold one of her paintings! All that is required is that you agree to



provide one hour of help at our location (in front of Walgreens) and enjoy the day.

GCWS members Dede Burgess and Teresa Herndon also had separate displays. I think they sold several by the end of the day!



Jim Buchan, President



October Program - Show and Tell



Members were invited to take a few minutes to show an item, demonstrate a process, or just enlighten the group. Donna Grisham showed us how to cut glass, Fred Cook showed an old unknown family member photo he found hidden on the back side of a framed piece he had, and Robert Freeman gave us some insight into design and layout, just to name a few examples. —❖—

November Meeting

The upcoming November meeting will be a Christmas card painting workshop. This is a great opportunity to make your own Watercolor Holiday Cards. Jim Buchan always presents a fun and productive Christmas card workshop. Members should bring their painting supplies. Also included in the workshop will be helpful ideas on printing and duplicating your cards. —❖—

Show your Smalls

Hosted by Grant's Frames — October 27 — December 20

The opening reception is Thursday, October 27th, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at Grant's Frames. —❖—

2023 Workshop by Tony Couch

Tony Couch workshop tuition is \$420.00. Members can make a deposit of \$100.00 to reserve a spot. The workshop runs April 12th, 13th, and 14th 2023. Contact Jeanette Hooks if you are interested in enrolling in the workshop.

Learn more about Tony Couch on his website:

www.tonymcouch.com —❖—



12 Must-Know Watercolor Tips for Beginners & Pros Everywhere

<https://homesthetics.net/watercolor-tips/>

Watercolor In Review

SHERRY GRAINGER

This will be a monthly GCWS Newsletter feature in which Sherry Grainger will review watercolor paint, paper, and other items..Sherry is a 6 year member of GCWS and currently does Name Tags for the Society..Sherry has been painting in watercolor since 1969 when she studied with the late Irving Shapiro at the American Academy of Art in Chicago, IL. Sherry loves trying new colors and methods, so she will be reviewing those things for everyone's information.

For the next two months, we are taking a break from paint and pigments to cover a potpourri of other watercolor items. Hint: This will be excellent for holiday shopping.

Watercolor In Review

Potpourri Part 2**

Daylight Smart Go LED Travel Lamp



This lamp from Cheap Joe's is both portable and rechargeable. If you have ever tried to paint while travelling, the hardest thing to be sure about is good lighting. This device charges and runs using a USB-C port. It has three brightness settings. The temperature of the light is Daylight. The base is 2.5" x 2.25", it is 10.5" tall (folded) and it weighs 1.5 lbs. It literally fits into a tube sock or a travel shoe cover.

Herend Brushes



Hake style brushes are great for watercolor painting and their general price point makes them almost disposable. They are not without their issues, their very cheapness makes them prone to hair shed and just generally a shorter useful life. Herend Brushes in Korea makes hake and other watercolor brushes that are high quality and perform to that standard. The brushes can be purchased from Amazon, but, if purchased directly from Herend, the brushes are 20% cheaper and at this time they are running a Laser Imprint Event in which they will laser etch up to 30 characters on the brush handle as shown on my personalized brush. The owner of Herend also sends a gift brush with the order either way.



If you're not sold on Hake brushes, give this manufacturer's Flower Brushes a try. They are a Filbert with an exaggerated point designed to produce a flower petal or leaf in one stroke. They work well for that purpose, but, they really shine in negative painting because that point can reach tiny areas while the generous belly of the brush allows it to hold lots of paint. For comparison, shown left to right, Escoda Prado Filbert Size 20, Herend Flower Brush RF-8800 Size 3, and Silver Black Velvet 3/4" Oval.

Tip: Either way, the brushes ship directly from Korea via US Mail. If you order from Herend, in the shipping instructions, you can request that it be sent with no signature required to save a trip to the Post Office if you miss the delivery at home. Shipping takes about 5-10 business days.

MaimerBlu 621 Medium



Have your honey based watercolors gone dry and crumbly and adding water doesn't help? Well, MaimerBlu has a medium for you. Their medium #621 is honey based. Pair it with the mini-dropper with bellows, note the red cap for the dropper so waste is reduced, and refreshing your honey based paints is easy. The medium can also be used with watercolor paints made with other mediums. Both items are available at [St Louis Art Supply](#).

** Part 1 may be found in the October 2022 Newsletter.

P.S. If you have any suggestions on materials or techniques for review or just need a new nametag, please email Sherry at wtrclrppr@yahoo.com.



Painting Studio

All Painting Studio sessions will be on the fourth Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise noted) at St. Pius X Church Activity Center, 1717 S. 75th East Ave, Tulsa. A sign

will be posted at the south door of the activity center, which is closest to the parking lot. Thank you, Jo Lynch, Judy Gregg, and St. Pius Church. —❖—

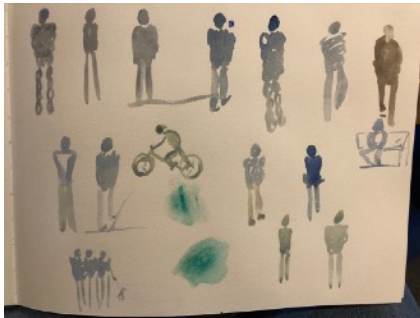
Becky Brady Attended Steve Griggs' Workshop

Steve Griggs' Workshop Highlights

By Becky Brady

I recently had the lucky opportunity to attend a Steve Griggs' watercolor workshop in Little Rock, Arkansas, hosted by the Mid-Southern Watercolorists. The workshop was wonderful, and the people I met down there were wonderful artists and very gracious hosts. I learned so much.

The fact that I got to go was such a fluke. I listen to a podcast called "The Learn to Paint Podcast" on which the host, Kelly Ann Powers, interviews artists of all types of media. (I highly recommend it; she asks great questions.) A few weeks ago, I was listening to the most recent episode, and she was interviewing Steve Griggs, a watercolor artist out of Colorado. It was a great interview – so much of what Steve said really resonated with me,



This was practice, working on the human proportions.



This is the follow-the-leader exercise where we didn't know what we were painting. We just painted the shapes as he did. It was fun.



This pic is an exercise of shapes and people.

so much so that I was compelled to look him up online. Well, after a bit of looking around, I saw that he had a workshop coming up in Little Rock, *just a few miles from where my sister lives!* I considered that a sign from the universe, so I immediately registered and got the last spot. I'm so glad I did, it was a great workshop, and I had a good visit with my sister, too!

The focus of the week was learning to see and paint shapes, not things. Steve took us through several exercises to bring this point home. In one exercise, we did a "follow the leader" painting, focusing on shapes, and it wasn't until the end that we realized we were painting a sailboat docked along the shore in front of some woods. It was so much fun.

Steve uses a minimal, split-primary triad palette, adding in a couple of "shaders". This was helpful in the 'keep it simple' theme he was trying to convey to us. One of our exercises was to capture the landscape reference picture we were looking at in only 7 strokes. That was hard but very useful as a tool to really look at what is important in the scene. We did several exercises where we identified the big shapes and then assigned the shapes their comparative value, the value of one shape compared to another.

We also spent some time learning to paint figures, or what Steve called "the essence of the human form". He paints the suggestion of a person, no detail really. For the proportions he

uses the formula: head/neck = 1, shoulders to hip socket = 4 heads, hips to feet = 4 heads. He doesn't paint arms unless there's a reason, for example if the figure is walking a dog or pushing a stroller. (Look at his website, <https://www.stevegriggswatercolor.com/> and you'll see many examples.) We spent a whole morning just painting figures, or the "suggestion of a human", so I'm no longer afraid to add a figure to my picture! Win!

During the week we also worked quite a bit in sketchbooks. This is a big part of Steve's process. He works out an idea, or what he calls his motifs, or an "idea that has cousins", in his sketchbook. He told us that in his home studio he has at least a hundred sketchbooks full of his ideas from the past years. He showed us an example of a sketchbook he filled with his ideas for an exhibition where the required theme was "light and dark". It was so interesting to see the book full of his ideas progressing from one iteration to the next, through the pages with all his "what-ifs", subjects changed this way and that, until the last page where he sketched what would end up being the painting he submitted. It was fascinating!

One morning he showed us some pages from his workbook where he had spent the previous evening painting figure studies, focusing on different ways a group of people could be rendered. I couldn't believe that after teaching us all day, instead of watching TV, he went back to his hotel and painted more to work on an idea. And *that* is my big AHA moment from the week. You must always do the work, what he called "putting in the mileage". For every painting he finishes and sells, which are many, he has put in hours of time, painting out his motifs, working on the color variations, doing his "what-if" exercises, experimenting with different ways to scratch in some detail or lift out accents. Painting, painting, painting.

Some of the mantras Steve repeated to us all week:

"You can't ruin a watercolor."

"Paper is cheap."

"That's not what I wanted, but what did I get?"

"There is something inherently beautiful in all that we do."

It was a great workshop, I'm so glad I went! Here are some links you might find interesting:

<https://www.stevegriggswatercolor.com/>

<https://www.midsouthernwatercolorists.com/>

<https://www.learntopaintpodcast.com/>

Becky Brady —❖—



is for brushes. Brushes are an arrangement of fibers bound to a handle to allow the transfer and manipulation of paint. The fibers can be natural hair or synthetics, or even a mixture of the two. The variety of natural hair used in brushes includes sable, squirrel, raccoon, goat, pony, horse, and chipmunk. Handles can be metal, plastic, resin, bamboo, and wood. The size and shape of brushes varies wildly depending on its function and the medium of the paint in use. *Sherry Grainger.* —❖—



Announcements

- ◆ **Teresa Herndon's** current class is now full with a wait list. It's on Wednesdays from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 at Ziegler's. Teresa may be starting a beginner class on Monday afternoon in January. Information about that is forthcoming.
- ◆ **Robert Freeman** is offering a Drawing / Sketching Class at Ziegler's Art & Frames. Summer Session : July 22nd - Aug 26th; Fall Session: Sept 23 - Oct 28; Winter Session: Nov 11 - Dec 16. Time: Friday's 10:00 - 12:00.
Text Robert Freeman at (918) 231-4615 for more information or to enroll. (Check my Facebook page for more info)
- ◆ Please send GCWS info and correspondence to the appropriate board member listed below. Contact information is listed in the 2022 Roster.

FOR SALE

To reduce her inventory of frames, Donna Grisham has a variety of sizes and styles for sale. She also has some unassembled metal frames. Everything is priced from \$5-\$15. Call Donna if you have questions or to arrange a time to see the frames.



Donna Grisham
(918) 493-2162



Artist Elite Mat Cutter. Original box, 2 cutting blades, stops and guides. \$175.00.
DeDe Burgess



*Things found, lost, and misplaced are listed here.
Contact person: Jim Grisham (918) 808-8031*

Someone left a light blue Asbury Church sippy cup at the August meeting. You may contact Jim Grisham to claim the cup.

Jim Grisham
(918) 808-8031
57cruizer@gmail.com

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