

**May 14, 2003**  
**“Watercolor Demonstration”**  
**with Theresa Wonson**

**Guild Hall, Congregational Church (Middle side door), Sanborn St., Reading, MA**

A Native of Cape Ann, **Theresa Wonson** interprets the beauty of Cape Ann in her watercolors and oils. Wonson studied art with some of the finest teacher/artists of Cape Ann including; **Betty Lou Schlemm, Don Stone, John Terelak, Martin Ahearn, Ruth Hagstrom, May Bennett-Brown, Howard Curtis, Bob Benham, and Helen Van Wyk.**

A former Vice President and Treasurer of the *North Shore Art Association*, she continues her interest in the association as a member artist. She is also an associate member of the *Rockport Art Association*.

Theresa has exhibited her work in one-person and group shows throughout the North Shore area. Her paintings are in collections in the United States, Canada, and Europe. Her work has received recognition in print, and awards.

Ms. Wonson’s demonstration subject will be the *Ten Pound Island Lighthouse* and Gloucester’s outer harbor. This island is where Winslow Homer painted his watercolors in 1880. “I see this view of the ‘Island’ from my house, which is on the top of a high hill overlooking the harbor” she comments. “I like to emphasize aerial perspective and capture the mood of the day in plein-air painting”

**June 11, 2003**  
**“The RAA Annual Dinner Meeting”**  
**with Gerry Weisenberg**  
**THE HILLVIEW, 149 North Street, North Reading, MA**

The Reading Art Association’s Annual Dinner Meeting will be held this year at the *Hillview*, 149 North Street, North Reading, MA.

Guest speaker Gerry Weisenberg, who has taught and lectured at the Worcester Art Museum, and the Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Concord-Carlisle and Newton Center for Adult Education, will present a slide show on the Dutch artist, Jan Vermeer (1632 – 1675)

Come and enjoy his lecture, with a choice of a Sirloin Tip or Baked Haddock dinner, including appetizers and dessert. The cocktail hour starts at 6 p.m., dinner promptly at 7:15 p.m. The complete dinner is \$18.50 per person, gratuity included. All members and Non-members are welcome.

Invitations will be sent out shortly. Please return the reservation slip with your check made out to R.A.A. with your name, number of attending and choice of dinners to Pat Wells, 45 Grazing Field Lane, Dennis, MA 02638, Tel: (508) 385-6158. **Deadline for Reservations is Monday, June 2nd, 2003.**

Get your reservations in early to enjoy this fabulous night with your associate friends.

**Presidents Message**

This is the last Mixed Media for this season and the end of my first year as President draws near.

First I want to express my gratitude to the members of the Board for making my job so easy. RAA is fortunate to have such a dedicated group to serve them. I also wish to thank Mary Costa who chaired the spring exhibit along with her staff members Evelyn Knox, Grace Cherwek and Pat Wells. What a tremendous job they did coordinating this event. I must also thank Arthur Knapp, Lou Doto, Judy Meagher, Kay Mallette and all of the volunteers who helped make this show a success.

I would encourage all of you to attend the annual meeting and banquet on June 11. This is always a fun time breaking bread with good friends, enjoying a good program and most important voting for a new slate of officers for the coming year. Please attend if you can.

And now I want to wish you all a safe and relaxing summer and do look forward to seeing you all in September.

Leo

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### **Member Notes!**

RAA artist/member Audrey LaRosa generously donated an oil painting, which will be awarded in a drawing to a lucky ticket holder, who does not need to be present to win, Sunday afternoon, May 4. Raffle tickets for this drawing were sent out with the Spring Exhibit Entry Forms. If you need more tickets, they will be available when you drop off your entries or at the show. Please help

### **Judges for the Spring Exhibit 2003**

**Marjorie Glick** received her BFA from Massachusetts College of Art in 1974. She is known for her large scale, vividly colored realistic watercolors. Her work has been exhibited in several galleries and regional museums in the New England area in addition to being included in numerous corporate and private collections. One of her watercolors was published as a poster for Graphique de France. Exhibitions of note include The Forum Gallery in New York and the Beth Urdang Gallery in Boston. She is a senior faculty member of the Decordova Museum School, where she was featured in a one-person exhibition in 1997. In 2003 she was the recipient of an A.R.T. (Artist's Resource Trust) grant.

**Mimi Johnson** is an award winning artist and teacher whom has exhibited her work throughout the New England area. She studied printmaking at the Boston Museum School, drawing at Bradford College in the Creative Arts program and received her Masters in Curriculum and Instruction in the Education Department of the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. She studied with Daniel Greene, Constance Flavell Pratt, and Art Wood. She works in pastel and oil, with an emphasis on portrait and landscape. She taught art at Londonderry High School in New Hampshire for the past fourteen years, and teaches in the night school program at Montserrat College of Art. Included in her numerous awards is receiving the Principal's Special Recognition Award in 1993. Her work is in private collections throughout the United States, Poland, and Australia.

**Johanna Chao Rittenburg** is an oil painter who received her BA with distinction in Anthropology and Studio Art from Stanford University. She also studied painting at the Boston Museum School. She was a resident painter at the Vermont Studio Center, Johnston, VT, and a resident fellow at the Edna St. Vincent Millay Colony for the Arts in Austerlitz, NY. She settled on Cape Ann in Rockport in 1996. Among the numerous awards she has received is the Paul Strisik Memorial Award for Excellence in Oils in 2001, from the North Shore Arts Association, of which she is a member.

When asked about art, Johanna talks about the significance of relationships, relationships of things in space, the play of light, masses & volumes, closeness & distance, color, material and message. "Mostly, painting connects me with the best things about being alive. For as the poet Coleman Barks

writes, 'When you do things from your soul, the river itself moves through you' Freshness and a deep joy are signs of the current" Her work can be seen at her gallery on -line at [www.CapeAnnStudio.com](http://www.CapeAnnStudio.com).

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## From the Editor

### The difference between Professional and Amateur

It would seem that for many years there have been "discussions" or "arguments" about what constitutes a professional and/or an amateur. Many have expressed their views and opinions. especially the arguments about what constitutes a professional and amateur. There have been those who know exactly what the difference is between the two, but too many just banter the words professional and amateur around without having the foggiest idea of what they really mean!

According to the New Century Dictionary;

I. a. Professional - Pertaining to, connected with, or appropriate to a profession or calling . .also engaged in one of the learned or skilled professions, following an occupation as a means of livelihood, or for gain . .also, undertaken or engaged in as a means of livelihood or for gain, or by professionals rather than amateurs.

II. n. Professional - One belonging to one of the learned or skilled professions; also, one who makes a profession or business of an occupation, etc.,esp. Of an art or sport in which amateurs are accustomed to engage for amusement or recreation.

I. n. Amateur - One who cultivates any art or pursuit for the love or enjoyment of it, instead of professionally or for gain: often implying desultory action or crude results.

II. a. Amateurish Like or suggestive of an amateur, as in crudeness or other faults.

In respect to the definitions above, there are amateurs who deliver "professional" quality work, and, vice versa, there are "professional" artists who deliver very amateurish, atrocious and very poor quality work! Qualifying these statements has nothing to do with subject matter, whether fine art on one side or abstract on the other.

*A professional is a person who;*

- 1) Makes a living (earns his/her keep) painting and selling their work in order to provide for themselves and their family. Painting, for them, is NOT a hobby or leisure activity.
- 2) Prides him/herself on the quality and technical proficiency of their work. Hence the term "professional", as in professional quality paint, professional quality paper, etc.
- 3) Acknowledges that there is always a need to improve. They never stop studying, as there is always more to learn.
- 4) Is expected to (and should) be skilled in his/her "craft".

*An amateur is a person who:*

- 1) Does not make a living out of art, even though they may sell their paintings. Just the plain act of selling does not mean one is a professional per se. It is only making one's hobby pay for itself!
- 2) Paints only for pleasure and as a hobby for recreational purposes.

Re-written in part. - Joe

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**Welcome new members!**

**Kelsey Carmichael, Reading, MA**

**Catherine Grassello**, Wakefield, MA  
**Thomas Maguire**, Wakefield, MA  
**Arlene Stanton**, Melrose, MA  
**Susan Jeffery Wood**, Lexington, MA

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### **People Doings!**

Some of us wish we had the energy that **Crist Filer** has. Crist has been busy! Some recent shows that he was juried into included the New England Watercolor Society 2003, the Winter Members Show New England Watercolor Society 2003, the Regional Show at the Attleboro Museum Center for the Arts, the Rhode Island Watercolor Society Show "Bon Apetit", and the Cambridge Art Association Show "Interiors-Exteriors".

He's also been receiving awards for some shows including an Honorable Mention in Watercolor, Framingham Artists Guild Winter 2003 Show and a Norman Feather Award for Use of Color, Framingham Artists Guild Spring 2003 Show

He also held a demonstration at the Watertown Art Association in January and a solo show of watercolors at the Sacramento St. Gallery in Cambridge through mid April.

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**Barrett S Bacall** received First and Third Place awards in the Professional Photographer division at *Saugus Rotary's 32nd Annual Art Festival* held in April.

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Recent watercolor paintings by Melrose artist **Tom Sutherland** will be exhibited at the historic Beebe Estate, 235 West Foster St. Melrose, during the month of May. About forty impressionistic watercolors, many from recent painting trips to Europe will be on display during this solo exhibit. Artwork may be viewed each Saturday in May from 11 am to 4 pm and on Wednesday evenings, May 14 and 21 from 5pm to 9 pm. An artist's reception will be held on Saturday Evening, May 3 from 5pm to 9 pm. Admission is free and everyone is welcome. For information, call the artist 781-662-6533.

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**Jack Jones** will be teaching an outdoor watercolor workshop on Cape Ann, June 9, 10, & 11. The hours will be approximately 9:am to 3:pm. Call Jack for a Brochure and more info at 978-777-2242.

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**Paula Beaulieu, M.Ed.**, has been selected as a participant in the *Wang Center's "Artist's as Educators"* Program, which was developed by the *Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts*. Beaulieu continues to provide a wide variety of programs for people from 3 years of age to 103.

Upcoming are a series of three hour workshops entitled "Watercolor and Relaxation", given in conjunction with **Jean DeThomas RN**, a stress management consultant and Reiki Master. The workshops will be given on May 4, from 1-4 PM at the *North Shore Community College* in Beverly.

Paula and Jean also provide weekends away in Lake Ossipee, NH, where people are taught relaxation techniques along with painting. Paula continues to provide watercolor classes in her studio on Tuesday and Saturday mornings. Children's classes are ongoing and summer art camps are planned. Please call 978-741-8550 for a complete schedule of classes.

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"Blinded by the Light" is a weekend open-house show of photography by **Geoffrey Brahmer**. Framed and matted prints as well as cards will be shown. Portfolios of Brahmer's work, spanning the full range of his vision, will be available to preview. All are welcome Saturday, May 2, 1-8 PM and Sunday, May 3, 12-4 PM, 32 Newman Way, Arlington, MA. Call 781-643-9362 for easy directions.

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**Fran Foy** has many back issues of artist magazines she would like to offer to RAA members including; "Arts Around Boston", the American Art Review", "Art News", and years of "Southwest Art". Call her at 781-944-0932 to make arrangements to pick them up.

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## Coming Events

The *Woburn Guild of Artists* will be hosting its **39<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Exhibition** representing the surrounding communities of artists, guild members, Middle School, and Senior High School students.

The exhibit will take place on Saturday, May 17, 2003 at the *Woburn Veterans Senior Center*, 144 School Street, Woburn, MA Public viewing will be from 12:00 to 4:00 PM

The deadline for entries is May 9, 2003. Ribbons and Cash awards will be in the following professionally judged categories; *Watercolor, Photography, Oil/Acrylic, Sculpture, Graphics* including drawing, computer generated, pen & ink, marker, and graphite, and *Dry Media* including Pastel, Chalk, graphite/charcoal, and mixed media

Artists may be amateurs, students, or professionals. All entry forms will be located at the *Woburn Public Library*. Admission is free and is open to the public.

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*Somerville Open Studios*, is an annual event that takes place across the city of Somerville. During the SOS weekend, over 100 visual artists open their studios to the public. Somerville Open Studios 2003 will take place on Saturday and Sunday, May 3 & 4. For more information, maps, shuttle buses, directions and parking, go online at <http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org> or pick up information at various locations throughout Somerville.

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Attention all Artists! An Open Art Show, to all Associate, Artist, and Non-members of the *Marblehead Arts Association*, May 3 to 25, 2003. The Juried and Judged Adult Division (18+) is \$10 for one-entry limit and is restricted to a 24" x 30" frame size. There will be a \$100 First prize, a \$75 Second prize, and a \$25 Third prize, plus three Honorable mentions and other awards to be announced.

The Junior Division will be broken into four age groups, and there is a \$5 entry fee for a one-entry limit. The Artists reception will be Sunday, May 4 from 2-4 PM. Drop-offs are Sunday, April 27, 1-4 PM and Tuesday, April 29, 1-4 PM and 7-9 PM.

Marblehead Arts Association is located at King Hooper Mansion, 8 Hooper Street, Marblehead. For more information call 781-631-2608.

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## Tips and Techniques

### The Hierarchy of Design

By Jenny Sullivan

"Each painting is a matter of prioritizing," says Jean Pederson, an artist in Calgary, Alberta. "The most successful paintings emphasize one or two design elements, with all the other elements playing more

subtle, supporting roles. If you give every element equal weight, you usually end up with an image that's uninteresting and too busy." For example, in some paintings, Pederson allows value to steal the show, with color as secondary. In others, color is the dominant theme and shape follows as a close second.

What makes prioritizing a little trickier, Pederson notes is that not all design elements are created equal. "There's a certain hierarchy even in how we see things. The rods and cones in our eyes cause us to register value first, particularly black and white. Next, comes color, which has its own underlying pecking order: We perceive reds first, then yellows, then other colors. Next, we detect shapes, with large shapes registering more quickly than smaller ones. Line and texture are among the last things we're likely to observe. So if your goal is to paint an image that emphasizes line, you really have to subdue more powerful elements such as value and color to get that aesthetic across."