

“Watercolor Expressions”
An Exhibit of the Takoma Watercolor Group

In the Atrium and Gallery 3 of Takoma Park Community Center
May 3 to June 01, 2010

Opening reception: Friday May 7th, from 6 to 8PM,
with live music of the “Bruce Krohmer Trio”.

Most of the members of The Takoma Watercolor Group found common ground in a watercolor painting class at Montgomery College in 2007 and 2008. When the Group’s esteemed and highly respected instructor, Mr. Leroy Lawson, unexpectedly passed away in the summer of 2008, the Group debated how to honor him, and the personal and artistic contributions he had made to each member of the group. Since then, the group has committed to meet every Thursday in the Takoma Park Community Center Art Room to enjoy painting, learning from one another, and benefitting from the expertise of outside professionals. The TWG believes that Mr. Lawson would be very proud of each member of the Group and would be pleased to see the artwork that has been produced.

David Daniels, a well-known Takoma Park/Silver Spring watercolorist is the Group’s artistic advisor, fellow painter and member of the Group. David has made outstanding contributions to the Group and helped each member continue his or her growth as artists. His work is included in the exhibition.

The TWG is pleased to have the opportunity to display its work in a public forum. Individual members of the Group are currently exhibiting throughout the Washington Metropolitan Area as part of other associations and groups such as the Rockville Art League, the Montgomery Art Association, the Montgomery County Plein-Air Artists, Strathmore Mansion, the Yellow Barn Studio and Gallery at Glen Echo Park and other locations.

This exhibition contains over 30 watercolor paintings. All works are original art conceived and executed by members of the Group. The painting display includes landscapes, still lives, florals, architectural subjects, abstracts, and non-representational art.

The artwork ranges from approximately 8” x 10” up to as large as 30” x 48”. Each piece is carefully hung - with most under glass - and signed by the individual artists.

If you want to know more about The Takoma Watercolor Group,
please contact Michael Shibley : mfs-art@comcast.net

The Takoma Watercolor Group is a diverse group of men and women from a variety of professional and personal backgrounds. All members are citizens of Montgomery County.

Barbara Bell



Barbara began her formal training in art while on academic leave from university teaching. She worked in studio arts at Montgomery College (Rockville) in the 1980s, primarily with Roger Speidel (drawing and color), Zdislaw Sikora and Carolyn Thorington (lithography). Before re-entering the workforce as a teacher in Montgomery County Public Schools, her works hung in numerous local exhibitions. Retirement twenty years later afforded her the time to resume her artwork. She studied with the late Leroy Lawson at the Maryland College of Art and Design and later at Montgomery College (Takoma Park). She is currently a member of the Art League in Alexandria, Virginia, The Laurel Art Guild, Rockville Art league, and the TWG. Her work is held in private collections in Washington, New York, New Haven, Palm Beach and London. Contact Barbara at: barbara.f.bell@gmail.com

Jim Burks



Jim began watercolor painting as a hobby after retirement. He has a love of nature and color, which is reflected in his paintings of landscapes and flowers. He is especially fascinated with the color and movement of skies, and enjoys experimenting with these elements in his paintings. He has taken classes at Maryland College of Art and Design and Montgomery College (Silver Spring/Takoma Park) and continues to learn as a member of the TWG. Jim is also continuing to develop his art skills through classes at the Yellow Barn Studio at Glen Echo Park. Contact Jim at: jburks8@aol.com

David Daniels



David is an accomplished watercolorist who displays a remarkable range of experimentation with the medium and a unique personal sense of composition and color. His impressionistic style gives new freshness to the beauty of nature, and his sense of color is inspired. The influence of his former training as a botanist and biologist are evident and his love and reverence for nature are endemic to his work. David earned a Masters of Arts Degree from Central Michigan University. After 15 years of teaching in the Michigan public school system he moved to Washington, DC to pursue an art career. In addition to being a working artist, David teaches

painting at Montgomery College, the Smithsonian Institution and privately in his Silver Spring studio. Contact David at: misterwatercolor@gmail.com

Rolf Eppinger



Rolf's earned a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering Sciences from Wayne State University in Detroit. He conducted and directed basic research efforts to understand the complex mechanics of automotive impact trauma at the U.S. Department of Transportation for more than 30 years. Upon retirement, he pursued his long standing interest in the soft arts; specifically expanding and honing his techniques of painting with watercolors. Rolf finds he especially enjoys the challenges that watercolors present the artist while creating images that not only engage viewers but stimulates them to draw upon their own, unique life's experiences as they interpret his art. Contact Rolf at: rheppinger@msn.com

Monika Griff



Monika began her art career studying at Queens College, NY, and has continued studying drawing, painting and lithography for many years. She began studying watercolor in 2007 at the Maryland School of Art and Design and Montgomery College and has found it well-suited to her interest in movement, form and color. Monika's exploration of wash and masking techniques produces rich and vibrant land and seascapes. Her work can be simultaneously representational and abstract, depicting natural subjects in new and striking ways. Monika's work has been exhibited at the Women's Club of Chevy Chase; the Foundry Gallery in Washington, DC. Contact Monika at: griffm@verizon.net

Jim Haynes



Jim is the president of Graphics Plus, Inc. an illustration company located in Silver Spring. Jim began his art career with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Commercial Art from Northern Arizona University. He is an active member of the Montgomery Art Association, the Baltimore Watercolor Society and the TWG. Jim gets his inspiration from the natural world. He tries to visualize what is before him and share his reactions and emotions with the viewer. He enjoys the problem solving inherent in the execution of a successful watercolor as well as the unexpected events that are bound to occur with the medium. His works are displayed in galleries in the

Washington DC metropolitan area and surrounding jurisdictions including Strathmore Mansion in Rockville, ArtSpring in Silver Spring. Contact Jim at: jimahaynes@verizon.net

Margo Kabel



Margo's early interest in art focused on ceramics and sculpture while at the University of Michigan where she was working on a degree in botany and environmental science. Always intrigued by the colors and organic forms found in nature, she later found watercolor a new way to pursue that interest. She began working in watercolor in 2006 and took instruction at the Smithsonian Institution, the Maryland College of Art and Design at Montgomery College. Over the last two years Margo has continued to paint and expand her skills with her colleagues of the Takoma Watercolor Group (TWG). Working with the TWG, she has been exploring new and creative approaches to her painting in addition to branching out into plein-air painting as part of the Group's activities. Contact Margo at: mkabel@verizon.net

Phyllis McElmurry



Prior to retirement, the last 'art class' that Phyllis had was in 6th grade. Later the long and demanding hours in her career as a Nursing VP, Chief Operating Officer in hospitals left her little time to indulge in the creative aspect of art. Exploring watercolor was on Phyllis' 'bucket list' and she joined this group of artists at Montgomery College midway through a class. She enjoyed the group and happily became a member of the newly formed Takoma Watercolor Group. Though still a novice at watercolor she has enjoyed the opportunity to pursue her creative side with the support and encouragement the other group members. Contact Phyllis at: pmcelmurry@gmail.com

Jane Salomon



Jane has been a painter for many years and is a member of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists and the Washington Watercolor Association, in addition to her affiliation with the TWG. Jane is also a regular volunteer

at the Strathmore Mansion offering her time to support the arts at Strathmore. She has a particular interest in floral painting. In Jane's words, "Looking out the window today, I am reminded why art is so important to me. The world is a beautiful place, full of interesting people and nature in all its glory. Studying and sharing class time with other like-minded artists is a special time for me. It is a time of growth, of friendship, of sheer enjoyment. Painting through the years has been both challenging and supremely fulfilling." Jane also enjoys plein-air painting and participates actively in the TWG's plein-air outings. Contact Jane at: jane.salomon@gmail.com.

Michael Shibley



Michael learned to express himself through painting while in Architecture School at Virginia Tech. Since retiring in February 2008, Michael has devoted full-time to his passion for watercolor painting. He continues to develop his skills under the guidance of local watercolor artists at the Yellow Barn at Glen Echo. In addition to being a member of TWG, he is a member of the Montgomery Art Association (where he is the Editor of the MAA Newsletter); a signature member of the Washington Watercolor Association; the Rockville Art League; and, the Montgomery County Plein-Air Artists. His award-winning artwork is on display in private and corporate collections in the Washington metropolitan area and across the U.S. He takes a loose, painterly approach to his art that focuses on interpreting the landscape, gardens and architectural subjects. He was recently commissioned to create a watercolor painting of the interior of the Ohr Kodesh Congregation sanctuary. . Contact Michael at: mfs-art@comcast.net.