



Special - April 2015

# *Brushstrokes*

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## From Our Treasurer

Dear Art Friends,

We each have joined our CVWG for many reasons. I believe a love of art binds us together. We want to make the Guild function to benefit you and your art experiences. Participating in the workshop survey included with this message will help us to better understand your interests and needs. Your participation in the workshops is critical to the financial health of the Guild because every workshop has a built-in profit amount that helps fund our annual show. Outlined in the following paragraphs is a bit of the history and financials of our annual watercolor show.

I've heard we are the largest watercolor group (excluding the Virginia Watercolor Society) in Virginia and the only local or regional one to hold an annual statewide show each year. I think we've held a juried show every year for as long as I've been a member (since 1995). We hit a milestone when McGuffey Art Center accepted us as one of their monthly shows.

Having a state-wide juried show for the public is a huge undertaking and expense. It costs about \$5300. We receive about \$2100 in entry fees with a net cost to our guild of \$3200. How do we make up that \$3200? Until this year we have been able to raise about \$1500-\$3000 profit from holding 2 major workshops a year—one in the spring and one in early fall. The remaining show expenses come from our dues and specific donations toward the show from our members. The latter is a new phenomenon as some of our members have recognized the need for additional financial support for the show.

There is another consideration for the annual show. We have had great difficulty finding a chairman each year. Pam Roland has been so generous with her hard work as chair, but she can't and shouldn't do it every year. We had to beg her to do it yet another year as no one else stepped up to take the responsibility for our 2015 show.

If we are unable to raise sufficient funds from our workshops we will have to either have a show every other year or not at all. Ask yourself how important the annual show is to you and the CVWG. Are you willing to give your time and skills to make it happen? Are you willing to take workshops that contribute funds toward the show? We are not going to make a decision about whether to have future annual shows yet, but the possibility is looming.

I'm sharing this information to help you understand how the guild functions and what your membership dues go for. Your membership dues only cover our operating expenses and very little for the show. Operations include rent for our meeting facilities, storage fees, refreshments, and speakers' fees. Our outreach budget of \$500 plus our annual show for the public allows us to be a non-profit organization under IRS rules. We also send the Virginia Watercolor Society \$200 for an award in our guild's name. Should you like more detail, I'll be happy to provide you a copy of our 2015 approved budget.

In the meantime please fill out the workshop survey!

Vicki Dibbern, Treasurer

# Survey

CVWG provides 4 day workshops for several reasons: TO make money in support of our annual show; TO give members opportunities to learn from world class instructors; TO allow members to meet one another through shared experiences.

For the past 3 years we have had difficulty in filling the workshops in a timely manner. Workshops have a large impact in the annual guild budget. Please complete the survey. Write on the back any additional comments.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

anonymous

1. Are you interested in attending the workshops?

**If no, please answer the questions in this part:**

~Is it a time issue?	Yes	No
~Is it too costly?	Yes	No
~Is it the subject?	Yes	No
~Are you just not interested in a structured class?	Yes	No

Comments \_\_\_\_\_ (con't on back)

**If yes, please complete. Our guild rents a facility with a large space; pays the artist a fee, room, food & transportation; and the workshop general supplies and coffee.**

~Do you like the current workshop set up, \$295/4 days	Yes	No
~Would you attend a 2 day or a 3 day workshop instead?	Yes	No
~Would you attend a full day workshop on a Saturday?	Yes	No
~Would you attend a full day workshop on a Sunday?	Yes	No

~ What are the best months of the year for you to attend a workshop? \_\_\_\_\_

~Currently, a member pays 73.75/day. Due to continued increased costs, are you willing to pay \$75-80?

~How much are you willing to pay per full day? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Are you interested in taking the Portrait workshop with Suzanna Winton September 29-Oct 2, 2015?

Yes                      No                      If no, please state a reason. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What painting topics interest you? i.e. realism, abstraction, flowers, other watermedia

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Is there a specific technique you want to learn? i.e. using gesso, painting without a brush, collage

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What level of skill interests you?                      Beginning                      Intermediate                      Advanced

6. Recommend art instructors to lead a workshop \_\_\_\_\_

7. List sites we could use for a workshop. It needs to be large (16 – 22 people at tables) & have a sink.

\_\_\_\_\_