



# Waterworks

L. L. McGuire, Ed.

May, June, July 2019

## WARMING UP....

Well, Spring has certainly arrived and warmer weather is upon us. After a long winter being cooped up inside the house and studio the balmy temperatures are an enticement to head outside and enjoy Idaho's scenic beauty. A wonderful way to enjoy the outdoors more deeply is to paint what you see during trips around our state. IWS has several artists who excel at plein-air painting and they often bring their field works to the critique group on the first Monday of each month to share with the many members who attend the gathering. I am always impressed by the scope and quality of the work our intrepid outdoor artists produce in such a brief time and under sometimes difficult conditions. The plein-air works are often complete in themselves or they serve as preliminary sketches for larger, more finished works completed later in the studio. The ability to simplify a subject, do a quick accurate drawing or sketch and then fill in with watercolor, brushed or penciled on, is a set of skills I just don't have but would love to learn. It would be wonderful if we could put together some teaching events or a series of outdoor painting gatherings where sketching techniques could be shared. **If you have ever considered leading or participating in a plein-air group please contact your Regional Representative and try to get an activity going.**

New learning experiences for our membership is one thing IWS does well in every region. **The state-wide summer workshop with Iain Stewart is coming up on June 5<sup>th</sup>** and as of this writing, there are still a very few seats available. Iain is an internationally known artist renowned for his land and cityscapes. **If you are interested in attending, please contact Joanne Duffin as soon as possible to reserve a space in the class.** In September, we always have a two-day workshop in conjunction with the IWS annual membership meeting. **We currently do not have an instructor for this workshop, so we welcome suggestions for instructors or volunteers to teach this class. I would especially welcome a member from outside the SW Region to step forward and lead this workshop.** We don't often have opportunities to share talents across regions and this would work well with attending the annual meeting. Please contact me or your Regional Rep if you are interested in teaching the Fall class.

Summer is coming and it brings wonderful opportunities for growth. I know this is true because my lawn is badly in need of mowing. Have a great summer! - Dennis

## Regional News

The SOUTHWEST region will be meeting at Bishop Kelly High School on May 21st at 7:00 PM to view digital entries into the IWS and WFWS shows.

### SOUTHCENTRAL

May brings opportunities to paint at the 2nd Tuesday painting session held in the classroom at the Twin Falls Center for the Arts. We continually have new painters show up to check out our group. We are grateful to have their company, share techniques and resources, and laugh a lot!

June is the month for the South Central IWS members to showcase their work in our regional show. The show goes up on the 2nd Tuesday of June in the main lobby gallery at The Twin Falls Center for the Arts. Be sure to stop in to see the varied works done by our local IWS artists.

July brings the Traveling Show to Twin Falls, and it will take the place of the regional show in the Lobby Gallery at the Center. We look forward to seeing the award winning work done by statewide watercolor artists. This show is always popular with the public!  
Connie Pepper

# It's Spring – Time to Play! - Linda Aman-Aman Arts

Spring is the time of year that inspires me to fresh ideas. The weather is warmer, and my walks allow peaceful thinking time. I pick up new ideas of subjects to paint and what methods and materials I might want to incorporate.

It is not unusual to want to add to my supplies to bring a fresh thought or two. We know the manufactures of art materials entice us to buy the newest of art stuff. If you are like me, you will walk into an art store and have no idea what the art tool or medium you just encountered - but you must have one (or more)! In our defense, as artists we are always going for the next discovery to make the best painting possible. We also have other hats we wear, such as teachers, creators, scientists, engineers,



mathematicians and chemists who stir up the next concoction. We need new ingredients for our creations. I enjoy the discovery of new tools and art mediums to go with watercolor, they have impacted my work and stretched my “What IF” in my paintings.

I thought I would share just a few materials that are some of my favorites as well as a couple of new ones I just started using.

- Old favorites M Graham paints, Daniel Smith granulating watercolors.
- Derwent Inktense watercolor pencils
- Derwent Inktense watercolor blocks
- Caran d’ It Neocolor Artist Crayons
- Stabilo All water-soluble pencil black
- A new medium to me Brusho Crystal Color (very strong pure pigment powder)
- Another new favorite is Stabillo Woodys

I thought I might introduce the Woody pencil to you. It is a colored pencil that is water-soluble and a bit waxy. Depending on what surface you choose the Woody will change its personality mark, either smooth or textural. They are short and fat and remind me of when I was a child coloring with fat crayons. It helps me create with a bit of child wonder. They feel good in my hand for scribble and linear marks.

Over the years I have found that the way art materials feel as well as how it performs is what helps my imagination and spontaneous spirit. Art is about the discovery and outcomes....so pick an old favorite tool or purchase a new one and go play!

Linda Aman – Aman Arts ©April 2019. Send comments to: [www.amanarts.com](http://www.amanarts.com)

## Fun in the Sun!

We are 13 months away from WFWS 2020 – Idaho style! The Hospitality Team invites all state-wide IWS members (and friends) to preview some of the ‘Optional WFWS Activities.’ First 2 activities: **James Castle House**, Thursday, May 2, and **½ day of River Rafting on the Payette**, Friday, June 21.

**James Castle House** (not on the Activity list, yet, but we will be considering it):  
**Thursday, MAY 2, 11:00 am.** Free admission. Gallery talk is at noon.

James Castle - one of the most unlikely and enigmatic American artists of the twentieth century. Born on a farm in Garden Valley in 1899, James Castle was born two months premature. Profoundly deaf, he mainly communicated through art ... using soot, spit and saturated crepe paper leached to make ‘watercolor pigments.’ Largely eschewing brushes and pencils, he fashioned tools from discarded sticks, strings and broken fountain pens to create likenesses of buildings and landscapes on cardboard, scrap paper and other found surfaces. It wasn't until Castle was in his 50s that his work was recognized as extraordinary.

Castle’s art was known only to his family and friends until 1951. His art has been displayed in galleries in Portland, at the Boise Art Museum, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and Madrid. Castle’s work hangs in [the Smithsonian](http://www.smithsonian.org) and [The Whitney Museum of American Art](http://www.whitney.org) and others. The James Castle House stands today as a testament to the artist’s unique talent and artistic legacy.



James Castle in Living Room with Lilac Wallpaper, Image courtesy of James Castle Collection and Archive L.P.

**DIRECTIONS:** Located off State Street in the Collister Neighborhood at 5015 Eugene Street, Boise, Idaho. It does not have public parking facilities. Visitor parking is available at [Castle Hills Park](http://www.castlehillspark.com), located one block north of the James Castle House at 5350 Eugene Street. Vehicles bearing appropriate tags for visitors with disabilities may park in reserved accessible parking spots. Please review all James Castle House policies at: [https://www.jamescastlehouse.org/](http://www.jamescastlehouse.org/)

# THE LOADED BRUSH

By Dwight Williams



## WHERE TO BEGIN

In this busy season of getting the garden ready I wondered, with plants and seeds in my hand, what this column might be about. What is something new that would spark interest? Then, in looking through some written thoughts, I saw a list of things to think about when starting a painting. It's a list I've used often in my old classes and workshops, and it's right in line with the ideas and exercises of our recent spring IWS workshop. It's *not* new but is central to the beginning of a worthwhile painting. Like I've been doing in the garden, replant these ideas for future growth.

- **Composition is always the main thing.** Think shapes and contrast. Ignore the third dimension look at the start. Keep it simple. Three values are enough.
- **Begin each painting as an abstract,** even in a painting that may end detailed and realistic. Still be thinking shapes and contrast. I'm saying always be thinking interesting shapes and contrast.
- **Be your own best critic.** Don't be too easily satisfied, but on-the-other-hand, learn to like your own processes. Hone your own style and skill.
- **Investigate and experiment.** Don't always be too satisfied with your first thoughts or someone else's either. Constantly ask yourself what could be. Look for your own touch and viewpoint.
- **See what you can get away with.** Be impulsive and audacious. To paraphrase Picasso: paint lies that tell the truth.
- This list could expand much further into successful completion: **balance, focal point, repetition, line as shape, color and maybe the illusion of distance and perspective.**
- And, of course, using these thoughts to ultimately hold the viewer to stay with the painting at hand.

**Plant things well and with good composition,  
then all will mature beautifully.**

Drawing Eugene Street 2, found paper, soot



### .....More Hospitality Fun!

**JUNE - River Rafting!** Nancy Inaba has reserved 4 spots (and can get more) on June 21, Friday for 11:30. \$45 per person, 1/2-day trip on the Main Payette. Mid-May we will send out more information via email or website with a form and early June deadline to go on this wild-water trip!

**JULY – Birds of Prey.**

**AUGUST & SEPTEMBER – Tractor tour at JUMP and the Idaho State Museum.**

**OCTOBER – World Museum at BSU Art Center.**

**NOVEMBER – Ornament glass-blowing at Warne Studio.**



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### 2020 WFWS Team Recap Save the Dates: June 3-7, 2020

At our last delicious and fun-filled WFWS Team Meeting, we

- Watched the sensational IWS-2020 WFWS video created by Mia Miller of Timberline High School. See it on the IWS website [www.idahowatercolorsociety.org](http://www.idahowatercolorsociety.org) under the WFWS link.
- Saw and signed up for our beautiful WFWS team shirts with our new IWS/WFWS logo designed by Lori Seale. Call Joanne Duffin to order yours!
- Kudos to amazing work done since our last meeting: Cherry Woodbury, Laurie Asahara, Gloria Shirley, Nancy Inaba, Louann Krueger, Lynn McConnell and all team members!!!
- Heard about our fabulous IWS and community financial support committed in the \$15000 plus amounts. Thank you everyone! We are getting closer to our goal!
- All contracts for venues are signed. Idaho State Museum - Exhibition and Opening Reception. JUMP for the Gala and Awards Banquet. Riverside Hotel for accommodations, Convention/Classes, Trade Show and activities hub.
- Played Guess the Winners! Watched the slide presentation of all IWS entries into WFWS. 2 paintings will be awarded prizes in San Diego. Congrats to Dennis Hayzlett and Nyla Tillery of Rigby!
- Finished with 15 min breakout discussions sessions in our teams.

Thank you everyone for your enthusiasm, support, ideas and hard work!

Anne Watson Sorensen and Pam Grant  
WFWS-45 Project Manager/Asst PM