



the society of layerists in multi-media

"...the relationships in art are not necessarily ones of outward form, but are founded on inner sympathy of meaning."--Wassily Kandinsky

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Message from the President

Many thanks to all who contributed to the success of the 2019 National Conference in St. Louis, Missouri - all of those who attended came away inspired, informed and connected!

Mary Carroll Nelson planted the seed to hold the meeting in St Louis in order to visit the nearby Cahokia Mounds, the remains of the most sophisticated prehistoric native civilization north of Mexico. This historic site which existed ca. 1050-1350 CE, lies directly across the Mississippi River from St. Louis in southern Illinois. The largest of the mounds, Monks Mound, is the largest earthwork in the Americas and the largest pyramid north of Mesoamerica – at its base it is roughly the same size as the Great Pyramid of Giza. People from around the world visit the park and its Interpretive Center which houses an amazing display of artifacts and replicas.

Shirley Eley Nachtrieb researched local venues to host a national exhibit and was able to get SLMM on the calendar at the St. Peters Cultural Arts Centre in St. Peters, MO, an impressive modern facility with performance auditorium and classrooms. *'Do You See the Arch?'*, September 5-October 27, 2019 was the first national show displayed by the center which caused much excitement for this small community of approximately 60,000 residents. Shirley and her twin sister, SLMM member **Sharon Eley** taught our group a short workshop in a classroom of the center, where we were welcomed by the mayor of St. Peters, Len Pagano. Shirley also did the leg work to find our conference venue, the Moonrise Hotel, located in the Historic Delmar Loop, which is listed as one of the top 10 streets in the United States. Members were able to safely explore the area shops, galleries, and restaurants during their free time.

Other SLMM members pitching in to help with the duties of a smooth running conference were **Jaleh Etemad**, **Shirley Eley Nachtrieb** and **Mary Carroll Nelson**, who got attendees off to a great start at the registration table; board members **Gale Craig** and **Kathy Farr**, acted as escorts for our bus rides and made sure no one was left behind! Executive Administrator, **Karen Van Hooser** kept us on top of things by keeping everyone informed and handling the financial obligations to the hotel and transportation company, making for a stress-free and enjoyable event.

We are all in agreement that the experience of attending a national conference is paramount to our group of philosophically connected artists. It is the only opportunity the members of our society have to get together en masse. In order to continue to hold these events, which continue to increase in expense, we need the participation of our members. Our SLMM members devote many hours toward conference planning and there are large financial commitments for our organization. In spite of rising costs, we try our best to make them affordable for

everyone. New member **Beth Ann DeMont**, from Hays, KS, and recipient of SLMM's \$500 travel grant, addressed our group during the General Meeting with her heartfelt appreciation for the financial assistance which made it possible for her to attend this year's conference - a memorable experience!

Very important to our society is its governing body the Board of Directors. This year we would like two new members to join **Terri MacDonald (Board Treasurer), Gale Craig, Kathy Farr and Jenny Badger Sultan** to take on the task of leading SLMM into the future. Term of service for board members is three years with a second term option. It is our board members who take on the added responsibility to act as President, Treasurer, and Secretary, all important positions to the operation of our organization. Please help us in this effort to find two such members to nominate – we will be asking for suggestions in the spring before sending out a ballot.

Revenue to keep our group running is always a challenge, especially with another decline in membership experienced this year. Since SLMM has not raised membership dues in over twelve years, the board has approved an increase in membership dues and postage fees which will go into effect immediately. As all other non-profit organizations do, it was decided that we will ask for tax deductible contributions in support of our society as well. The possibility of developing an E-Commerce store on our website where members can donate a piece of their work which will be available for sale to benefit SLMM is being considered. We are open to other fundraising ideas if you have any, so please share them with our board.

As members relocate and move farther apart, we feel it is important to improve our connection to each other through more communication so those members isolated geographically will not feel left out. We encourage members to reach out to one another through personal notes, email, text, social media, etc. and utilize our SLMM website and Facebook Page to share your news.

SLMM can only be as excellent as our members make it. Our Board of Directors is willing to work for you and wants your input. We will be reaching out to our members through a questionnaire soon – please do not discard it, return it for the advancement of this great organization.

Let's stay connected!

Laura Pope, SLMM President

REPORT ON THE 2019 CONFERENCE IN ST. LOUIS by Shirley Nachtrieb



The SLMM conference in St. Louis began with a short board meeting at the Moonrise Hotel Business Center on Tuesday, October 8. At registration, old friendships were rekindled as guests poured into the lobby, and new friendships were made. Mary Carroll Nelson, Win Ratz, Jaleh Etemad, Sharon Eley and Shirley Nachtrieb manned the registration tables. (Also pictured is our newest member, Cindy DuBois, in black).

Thirty-three members including guests registered. Two new members included, Cindy DuBois of MO and Beth Ann DeMont of KS. Attendees were excited to experience the history, culture, food, art and architecture that was vibrant in the St. Louis area. This writer would like to thank her sister, Sharon Eley, for helping her put together the welcome bags, and Laura Pope who created clever little programs to go inside them to keep the members knowledgeable on their schedule for the next three days. Dick Blick Art Materials supplied gifts, as well as store coupons. It was great to meet some of the husbands that attended the conference. Joi Niedner, St. Louis commercial real estate agent who helped Shirley find The Moonrise Hotel, was also in attendance. Shortly following registration, the group enjoyed the opening social with heavy hors d'oeuvres in the Apollo 8 room where more visiting commenced. Afterward, many went up on the open roof top to admire the ten-mile view of St. Louis.





On Wednesday, SLMM members boarded the bus to visit the St. Peters Cultural Arts Centre in St. Peters, MO where the SLMM National Exhibit was on display. Mayor Len Pagano greeted the members.

Loaded back onto the bus, SLMM members enjoyed traveling to St. Charles, seven miles away to have lunch at the Lewis and Clark Restaurant on Main Street. At 1:30 the members returned to the SPCAC for dessert and a mini workshop. Cindy DuBois, art leader at SPCAC, supplied a tempting array of desserts and coffees. Shirley supplied the wine. Amy Wilson and a St. Peters PR team filmed the occasion. Marsha Ralston, one of Shirley's friends, helped pass out paper, supplies, and brushes. Sharon Eley, Shirley's sister, demonstrated how to fold 8 1/2" x 11" paper into small book pages. Shirley followed with her art demonstration



using dry watermedia. This included watercolor pencils, watercolor crayons, and watercolor bricks, all available in the Dick Blick catalog. Supplies were shared and small paintings were created and washed with water to make the colors flow together. When dry, they were folded and used as the book cover for the small folded pages made earlier. A ribbon held the book together. Shirley showed several options of using scrap, painted papers to create colorful design formats. From there, the bus drove the weary travelers back to the Moonrise Hotel to relax and re-energize.



Thursday, SLMM members boarded the bus to tour St. Louis area landmarks. Included in their travels was the St. Louis Arch, the St. Louis Art Museum, and Cahokia Mounds in Illinois. Some members climbed to the very top and were inspired. A few of the members travelled to see the "Who Is God?" Exhibit at the Union Avenue Christian Church on Union Avenue around the corner from the Hotel. Visitors studied the many variations on the subject, curated by Mary Martin of St. Louis. Shirley had two paintings juried into that exhibit. Back to the bus and on to the Hotel. Rest was short-lived when a delicious banquet was soon served in the Apollo 8 room at 7 pm. More visiting and picture taking.



A short general meeting was conducted by Laura Pope. A discussion on when to have next year's conference was raised along with what do SLMM members want to get out of their membership. The need for larger membership numbers in SLMM was discussed to help offset expenses. **Could every member bring in one new member?** The general meeting was closed by a prayer circle lead by Shirley Nachtrieb. Shirley would like to thank everyone who lent a hand to help with the conference, especially Laura Pope. This is what fellowship and community is all about.

Respectfully submitted, *Shirley Nachtrieb*

Conference Photographs — submitted by Kathleen Kuchar, Beth DeMont, Laura Pope, Georgia Mason, Sharon Eley, Jaleh Etemad, Sage Schmutz and other members who had their cameras clicking away.





The mayor of St. Peters, Len Pagano, welcomed us all with great enthusiasm. This was the first national exhibition they have hosted and he thanked us for being here. In a letter dated Oct. 11, he wrote: *We were honored to have layerists from throughout the country to visit our Cultural Arts Centre and engage in a mini-workshop with local artist Shirley Nachtrieb on Wednesday, October 9th, while attending the SLMM Conference in St. Louis. We are quite proud of Shirley and the many talents and contributions she has given the City of St. Peters.*



“Do You See the Arch?” National Exhibition, St. Peters Cultural Arts Centre, St. Peters, MO, Sept.5-Oct.27, 2019.

Participants exhibiting a total of 42 works, all 18” x 18”:

Carolyn Berry, Gale Craig, Janaia Donaldson, Jaleh Etemad, Jane Winders Frank, Herlinda Giandalia, Sylvia Harnick, Ann Hartley, Paul Kensinger, Kathleen Kuchar, Gloria D. Lee, Vicky Lennon, Terri MacDonald, Georgia Mason, Lynn Mikami, Shirley Nachtrieb, Mary Carroll Nelson, Linda Penrod, Carol Perroni, Win Ratz, Janet Ruffin, Barbara Jo Stevens, Barbara St. John, Henry Sultan, Jenny Badger Sultan, Peggy Wambold, Margaret Watts, and Nancy Young.



Workshops

Shirley Nachtrieb Workshop

Shirley taught a three-day workshop in Michigan in September

Jan Sitts Workshops

Check out Jan’s many workshops by visiting her website

www.jansitts.com

Oct. 1-4, 2019, Lake Granbury Art Association Granbury, TX

Nov. 4-6, 2019, Sedona Arts Center, Sedona, AZ

Workshops in 2020

May 4-6, 2020, Sedona Arts Center, Sedona, AZ

May 25-28, 2020, Studio ARTHouse, Flower Mound, TX

July 13-16, 2020 (Demo July 12), San Diego Watercolor Society, San Diego, CA

August 10-13, 2020, Crooked Tree Arts Center, Petoskey, MI

Nov. 2-4, 2020, Sedona Arts Center, Sedona, AZ

Nov. 11-14, 2020, Award Winning Workshop, Matthews, NC



Regional News

Deep South/South Central Region

On June 24th, Kathleen Kuchar hosted the local SLMM group at her home/studio for a pasta luncheon followed by art making and discussion. What a fun day it was with a PASTA SALAD as the main course. Terri made the pasta and each member brought an ingredient to add to the salad. How is that for sharing and connecting!! Attending were Linda Bittel, Leah Bowers, Beth DeMont, Betty Baker, Cal Mahin, Terri MacDonald, Kathleen Kuchar, Dereama Allenbaugh, Von Pounds, Peggy Wambold and her husband Bob. Unable to come were Angela Muller, Kari Schultz, and Barbara Jo Stevens. Since holding this meeting, we have gained another new member from Great Bend, Mary Kottman. This brings the Hays area membership up to 14.



Some have asked how this group of artists learned about SLMM. *It is basically through word of mouth.* For a long time, **Kathleen Kuchar** was one of two members in Kansas, having joined in 1990 at the urging of her friend Linda Faw Light, a member of SLMM. Eight years later, (1998) Kathleen attended her first SLMM conference in Massachusetts and there is where she experienced her first taste of what SLMM is all about—connections, friendships, sharing and caring. *You have to attend a conference to really know!* She has attended 15 national conferences since that first one. In 2004, Kathleen attended the conference in Hot Springs, Arkansas and needed a roommate to share the costs of a hotel room so she invited **Betty Baker** who immediately joined and has been a loyal SLMMer ever since. **Terri MacDonald**, a friend of Kathleen, joined in 2009 after learning more about the organization in casual conversations during shared studio visits. When Hays decided to host the 2014 national conference, we had three new members get on board to enthusiastically help: **Keri Schultz, Dereama Allenbaugh, and Cal Mahin.** In 2018, a big boost in membership came unexpectedly when Kathleen was teaching a watercolor monotype workshop in connection with her exhibition at the Shafer Gallery in Great Bend, KS. There were so many people needing to use the press at the same time that one of the workshop participants jumped into action to help—**Barbara Jo Stevens.** *I was so grateful and as we lunched together after the workshop, I told her about SLMM. She looked at our website and was so excited about what we were doing that she became a member almost immediately.* With her enthusiasm, she quickly told her friends and soon we had three other new members: **Beth DeMont, Peggy Wambold, and Von Pounds.** Beth and Barbara Jo have been instrumental in reaching out to others who also joined in 2018 and 2019, **Linda Bittel, Leah Bowers, Mary Kottmann, and Angela Muller.** So that is the story of how the Hays area SLMM member group has grown over the last few years. They have been meeting periodically for lunch and workshops and will have a group exhibition, “Hidden Stories,” April, 2020, at the Deines Cultural Arts Center in Russell, Kansas.

As your newsletter editor I would like to share an email that Karen Van Hooser received from Barbara Jo Stevens when she renewed her membership. It tells us all how much enthusiasm Barbara brings to SLMM. *I am LOVING SLMM!!!! My art career has TOTALLY changed since I became a member of SLMM. Andrea Mastrangelo asked to represent me as one of her artists after the national convention show last year so have had some ceramic pieces in her gallery since October last year. She also had me COME to Shelton to be a featured artist in a national installation show she held there on April 6, 2019. I gave a 20 minute presentation (performance) for the opening night and it was a great*

experience. I am thinking of “taking it on the road.”! Also there is a small group of SLMM members in Hays KS and we have started getting together a few times a year. Sometimes we meet only for lunch but we have also had some “studio days” that are marvelous! We are all such different artists but the stimulation and sharing of ideas is magnificent. I can’t tell you how much belonging to this group means to me. It was the best move I’ve every made and plan on continuing to be a member for the rest of my life. ...I talk about SLMM all the time and have been recruiting members. I have several more people I’m hoping will join.

Editor’s Note: At the conference in St. Louis one of topics at the meeting was the decline in membership. What can we do as members to gain new members? As a member, I have observed that the connections we have with one another and our enthusiasm for kindness and sharing are the best recruiting tools we have. The challenge given us at the conference was for each member to reach out to someone we feel would like to taste what we have. Perhaps all it takes is an invitation to a lunch or an art show or to your studio to make a new connection—and possibly a new SLMM member will be gained and our circle of friends will grow.

New Member Spotlight Cynthia DuBois

As your newsletter editor, I have selected Cindy DuBois to honor as a new member of SLMM. I met her at the Conference in St. Louis and found her working hard behind the scenes at the St. Peters Cultural Arts Centre greeting the SLMM members and making us all feel so welcome. Come to find out, she had recently joined SLMM and was so enthusiastic that I wanted to share her story.

For over sixteen years, Cindy has been the manager of the business operations of the St. Peters Cultural Arts Centre. The Centre, a 14,000 square foot facility, provides banquet space for up to 280 people, a performing arts theater to accommodate 307 guests, classrooms, galleries, and a music studio offering disciplines in piano, voice, guitar and violin. The Centre is home to many non-profit organizations that provide the community with art experiences in education, performance, visual arts, textiles and literature. There are over 60,000 patrons attending events annually at the Centre.



In 2017, during SLMM’s regional exhibit at the Centre, Cindy was inspired by several of the works on the wall. Although she is always inspired by exhibitions held annually at the Centre, it was this one that encouraged her to want to create again. The idea of layers to show the story intrigued her since she has devoted much of her life to the written word.

Cindy will retire in December, 2019. I asked her what her plans were. She replied, *Art is an inherent part of life. It is always there for you and should evolve as we do. I am looking forward to rediscovering the resting artist inside of me while continuing my advocacy for the arts in the rural communities of Missouri. You never give up on art. You embrace it, change it, and advocate for those who didn’t get to have the same experiences you did.*

MEMBER NEWS

Renee Amitai

Renee participated in two group shows. "Art and Democracy" opened September 7 at Plummer Park, Long Hall, 1200 N. Vista St., West Hollywood, CA. The following day "For Heaven's Sake," Jerusalem Biennale 2019, opened at USC Hillel Gallery in Los Angeles. She exhibited in an invitational solo show called "New Works" from October 24-November 5, 2019, at Helms Design Center, Culver City, CA.



Judie Bordic

Judie had a painting accepted into the "56th Annual Exhibition of the Sumi-E Society of America". The Chinese brushwork piece is titled *New Visitors* and acknowledges 2019 as the **Year of the Pig** on the Chinese Horoscope.



Beth Ann DeMont

Beth had a very generous invitation by Artists@Work Studio artists in Hays, KS to be a part of the 2019 Fall Art Walk. She displayed 22 pieces of work. It was a wonderful experience and her first ever personal exhibit. *I met so many amazing people that evening I cannot count them all!*

Besides painting in her studio, Beth has taken up the adventure of learning how to quilt. She reports that she has learned to use a seam ripper quite well!

Beth attended the "Great Bend Artists at Large" group as a guest of friend Barbara Jo Converse Stevens. *I met MORE amazing artists and was able to see and talk about their journeys! The Schafer Gallery is phenomenal! Before the meeting we found a play area with adult facilities. We had so much fun! Who says we are old?*



She also attended Barbara Jo Converse Stevens' opening at the Deines Cultural Center in September and felt blessed to see her performance and her work! *I am so lucky to know her! I am always amazed at the strength of the art groups in our area!* The Hays area SLMM group seems to be growing by leaps and bounds! Two of Beth's dear friends recently joined. Linda Bittel of LaCrosse was Beth's supervising teacher when she did her student teaching. The other new SLMM member, Leah Bowers, High School Art Instructor of Lyons, KS, took Beth's art teaching position after Beth retired in Herington KS in 2014.

Oct. 8-11 Beth attended the National SLMM conference in St. Louis. *I would like to thank SLMM for the travel grant! I am one lucky lady. THANK YOU!!!! Also, thank you, Jaleh, for the SLMM book, "Bridging Time & Space". It means a lot!*

Beth also reported sad news when on September 28 she had to make the decision to send her mini dachshund, Elvis, to wait for her at the Rainbow Bridge. *I have never done anything so difficult. He was truly my loyal and best fur friend I have ever owned.* On a happier note, Beth's dad, Jim Arnold, will be inducted into the Dodge City Boothill Cowboy Hall of Fame in November *We are so lucky to still have him at 91.9 years of age! He still drives himself to rodeos!*

Sharon Eley

Sharon enjoyed attending her first SLMM conference in St. Louis this year. She assisted at the welcoming table and in her sister, Shirley's, mini-workshop. Sharon was happy to actually meet the SLMM members, having only read about them in the newsletters. The artwork submitted for the international show was well received by the St. Peter's Cultural Arts Centre and the mayor who visited and supported the arts. *It was an honor to meet our founder, Mary Carroll Nelson. I was impressed by the friendliness of the SLMM members.* Sharon is pictured with one of her award winning handmade books.





Jaleh Etemad

Jaleh cherishes her close connection with the SLMM family. She continues to be busy with her personal life and as Heritage and Arts Commissioner in her community. Art is always a part of her life and she exhibits as much as possible. The most significant show this year was at the Dominican University Art Gallery. The exhibition theme was “Timeless Themes of the Persian Perspective.” Jaleh showed her memory bundles installation which has grown in numbers since the show at the Albuquerque museum a few years ago. She showed paintings and the installation which was interactive with viewers. Jaleh asked the viewers to write a short memory and crumple it and drop it in a basket. At the end of the show, Jaleh stacked up as many as a hundred pieces of memories.



On the left is a photo of Jaleh's Studio.

Jaleh enjoyed attending the SLMM conference in St. Louis.

Judi Foster

Judi has been honored by having a full-page biography in “Who’s Who in America , 2019”, 72nd Edition. The 16th annual Sandia Heights Studio Tour featured 36 artists on September 14 and 15, 2019. There were 13 home studio stops in the far northeast corner of Albuquerque.



Kathleen Kuchar

Kathleen traveled to Nevada in September to be with artist friends and to create new work. On the left were the three watercolor monotypes created at THE ART HOUSE in Yerington, NV and are now being exhibited at the “Sandzen Gallery Holiday Gift Show” in Lindsborg, KS, from November through mid-January. The Fall Art Walk in Hays, KS, showcased an invitational exhibition at the Hays Arts Center with Kathleen being one of the invited to show works based on a flower theme. The show was called “Flowers, Real and Imagined” and displayed not only



artwork but the floral creations by local florists. There were over 1000 in attendance at the opening reception on a beautiful evening, August 23. Kathleen was invited to show two works at the “Friends and Acquaintances” show at Shafer Gallery at Barton County Community College in Great Bend, KS in November and December. *Memory Lane* is one of the two collage paintings, 12” x 12”, being exhibited. This painting was also shown at “Flowers, Real and Imagined.”

Kathleen was so happy she was able to attend this year’s conference in St. Louis. *There is nothing better than connecting with SLMM members.*



Cal Mahin

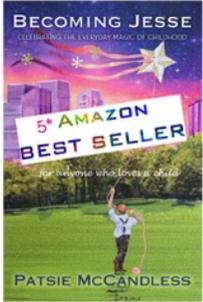
Cal has been busy this fall preparing for his show that opens with a reception on November 3 and runs through January 5, 2020 at the Birger Sandzen Memorial Gallery in Lindsborg, KS. He also has work in their annual holiday gift show. He won an honorable mention in the ROAR (Russell Original Art Review) show in Russell, KS.

Cal attended the annual Kansas Art Educator Association Fall Conference in Overland Park, KS, Oct. 10-12, 2019. He has been an active participant for many many years. The collage on the left is called *A Little Bit of This, A Little Bit of That.*



Georgia Mason

Georgia achieved Signature Status and received the Canyon Courier Award for her painting, *In the Greenhouse*, at the 2019 Rocky Mountain National Watermedia Exhibition in Evergreen, CO, The juror was Sterling Edwards.



Patsie McCandless
author ~ artist ~ speaker
TEDx Wilmington
an independently organized TED event



Patsie McCandless

Patsie has had a very busy year since she published her book "Becoming Jesse", an Amazon best seller. She has hit the road with book signings and speaking engagements. *It is quite gratifying to feel creativity keeping the Light within us all shining brightly. SLMM is a grand Light in our firmament of creativity!* She will have three shows this fall so does take a break from her writings to work on some miniature PaperSolo art pieces. *I love creating!*

Mary Carroll Nelson

Mary reports that this has been one of her most productive years having entered the Regional Show and having a piece in the South Broadway Cultural Center, the handsomest city gallery. She also entered the miniature division of Masterworks. Mary also had two works accepted for "Fusion IV" and another piece in the current "Who is God?" exhibition in Washington. For the first time, this inspired show curated by Mary Martin is also happening in St. Louis for Missouri artists. On the right is Shirley Nachtrieb's painting in the "Who is God?" exhibition in St. Louis.



Nancy Nikkal

Nancy is very involved as an artist member of an artist coop in her area near New York City. It takes much more time than she could have imagined. She also teaches collage to adults at a local art center and is writing a book about women collage artists. *My blog of art of collage was recently revised, so please take a look as I think the content is robust.* <http://www.nikkal.com> and <http://artofcollage.wordpress.com>



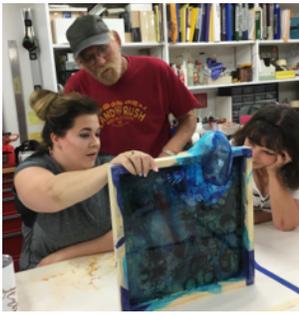
Richard Newman

Richard had a work *Orphic Memory* selected for the "2nd National Paperwest Juried Exhibition" held Oct. 7-Nov. 1 at the Gittens Gallery at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. The painting is acrylic on paper, 35" x 28."

Mari O'Brien

Mari's acrylic collage painting, *Reliquary*, was among 20 pieces accepted into the exhibition "Insights," sponsored by the San Luis Obispo Museum of Art and the Painters Group, held in March, 2019. Her India ink and acrylic ink painting, *Sunset Sail*, was juried into the "Central Coast Watercolor Society's Fall 2019 All-Member Show", held in September, 2019. *The Chase*, an acrylic painting, is currently on display through October 28, 2019 at the Morro Bay Art Associations' Annual Juried Show.





Von Pounds

Von exhibited in the annual October "Russell's Original Art Review," Russell, KS where he won 2nd place for his 16" x 20" watercolor entitled *Walking the Back Roads*. In January, 2020, Von will be giving a watercolor workshop for the local SLMM members in Cal Mahin's studio in Hays, KS. Von is an active Hays area SLMM member who attends all the workshops and lunches

and appreciates the friendships and sharing. Here he is with the two newest members, Leah Bowers and Linda Bittel at Kathleen Kuchar's studio on June 24th.

Janet Ruffin

Janet had a piece entitled *Threads* in an exhibition called "New Directions" at the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts, Spring, TX from June 1-July 6, 2019. She also had two artworks in the WIVLA exhibition entitled "Midsummer Light" at Christ Church Cathedral Cloister Gallery in Houston, TX from June 13-July 19. Janet also exhibited work in the "36th Visual Arts Alliance Open Exhibition", Silver Street Studios, Houston, TX, June 26-July 19, 2019.



Barbara Seidel

Barbara has a new 44 page book with 24 illustrations published by Blurb, September, 2019. "The Bardos of Life and Death" is available for purchase in two formats from the Blurb website. Several of the images are printed on white aluminum and are 20" x 30". In the book, Barbara shares her life-changing experience and spiritual journey into Buddhist practices about the benefits of practicing death prior to dying.

A series of seascapes overlaid by fog become a metaphor for the transience emptiness and liquid formlessness of the bardo themes. Her photographs of a single scene overlooking the sea, reveals the constantly changing nature of reality and the bardo concept of formless awareness or what is left with us after death. Images become an aspect of her meditative practice.

Death is certain
 the time of death is uncertain
 life is fragile
 nothing can help me at death
 except the practice
 practice it now.



Luminosity



Lumi



Sea

Mervyn Seldon

Mervyn has been a resident of Claremont Manor, a senior citizens retirement center at 650 Harrison Ave., Claremont, CA for five years. When she moved in, the Manor had a two-hour show of residents' work in a very small room. After that first year, Melvyn convinced the management to have the shows in the Citrus Room, a much larger and brighter space. This is the "Fifth Annual Exhibition" and was held Oct. 18-20, 2019. The number of residents showing work has grown from 20 to now around 40 who do work in painting, sculpture, pottery, woodwork, metal work, quilting, and many other crafts, and some classes are available too.

It has been amazing to discover how much talent we have among people in their 70s-90's. New residents are quickly absorbed into the disciplines they enjoy. We are now beginning to include artists from nearby senior citizen centers, expanding friendships among senior artists and opportunities to show their work in new places.

In the past five years, it has been a pleasure for me to find so much local talent and to see how much they enjoy a new outlet, new friends, and new opportunities to create art and show it to the public. Claremont is known for its many nearby colleges and universities and as a city of "Trees and Ph.Ds."

Barbara Jo Stevens

Barbara Jo held a solo show at the Deines Cultural Center in Russell, KS with 140 works of hand built ceramic sculpture, mixed media paintings and Wabi-sabi photographs. At the opening on August 30th, she gave a similar performance of her installation "Sacred Circle—God's Path" that she gave at Andrea Mastrangelo's Museum Contempo in Shelton, WA on April 6th, 2019. The performance, explaining what an installation is as well as the concept surrounding her installation also featured her Native American flute playing. The show ran through Oct. 6th. SLMM member Peggy Wambold and her husband Bob attended the opening with the special treat of Bob playing the piano for the entire opening. Other SLMM members to attend were Beth DeMont, Kathleen Kuchar, Von Pounds and wife Connie.



Barbara will be in the "Friends and Acquaintances" show at the Shafer Art Gallery on the Barton Community College Campus October and November, 2019, and part of the "Holiday Show" at the Sandzen Gallery in Lindsborg, KS from November, 2019 to January 2020. A special show will be held at the Great Bend Library during the month of November and the "Artist's At Large of Central Kansas" group will be showing paintings of poppies which will be sold with the proceeds going to a Veteran's charity. Barbara's contribution is a mixed media piece with poppies made from dyed cheesecloth entitled *Hope*.



Barbara has also been included in the 2019 "Fusion IV" and "Who is God?" shows at the Museum Contempo Gallery owned by SLMM member Andrea Mastrangelo in Shelton, WA.



Barbara Jo received an honorable mention at the "Russell Original Art Review" in Russell, KS for her ceramic work. Cal Mahin also received an honorable mention for his mixed media piece directly above Barbara's orange ceramic work. Also pictured is Angela Muller's work, receiving 2nd place for Mixed Media.

Barbara not only does artwork, she fishes once a year in Canada with her husband and friends. This year she pulled in the biggest fish of all.



Jenny Badger Sultan

Jenny participated in the exhibit, "Night Dreams," at the San Pablo Art Gallery, in San Pablo, CA, June 15-July 14, with fellow dream artists Diane Rusnak and Richard Russo. The show included paintings, photographs, and sculptures based on actual dreams. All of the artists have been involved in local dream groups, IASD, and events at Berkeley's Dream Institute for many years. To have this opportunity to show our work together was very satisfying. On the left is *Descending the Mountain* and on the right is *Ocean teeming with Life and The Earth Cooking Pit*.



Carolyn WarmSun

Carolyn has had two paintings, *The Fire This Time* and *Glacial Blues*, accepted into Expressions Gallery's exhibition, "Climate Change is Real" at the Berkeley Central Arts Passage located at 2055 Center Street, Berkeley, CA. The show's opening reception will be October 26 from 4-6 p.m. with the show running until February 7, 2020. The painting *The Fire This Time* was also selected for the flyer and event poster.



Juliet Wood

Juliet recently sent this note to share with SLMM . *What a pleasure to see the photos of the exhibition! I know all must have had a fine convention. Out here in California I continue to heal and adjust to senior life. I recently was asked to place ARBOL DE LA VIDA in the new palliative care rooms at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. The prints, cards and bulletins for continuing care are now using this image. When I started art classes in 1980, I had hoped someday to make images for healing environments. What a ride!*
XO Juliet Wood.

Welcome 5 New Members

Linda L. Bittel - LaCrosse, KS, Deep South/South Central
Aileen M. Cave - Springfield, OH, Northeast/Midwest
Cynthia DuBois - Cuba, MO, Deep South/South Central
Mary Kottmann - Great Bend, KS, Deep South/South Central
Diana Scott - San Francisco, CA, Pacific Coast/Canada

Membership renewal is due annually by the 1st of July. Dues must be current to be eligible to participate in SLMM national and regional exhibitions, national conferences, website, web gallery, social media and newsletters. Membership has its privileges!

Circle of Prayer

Let us offer a prayer for members who have passed and those going through difficult challenges.

There are so many storms, fires, and other natural disasters that we continually offer Prayers for those SLMM members affected.

Dori Pendergrass from the Deep South/Central Region fell in early summer and broke her arm and 9 ribs.

Nina Mihm reported in July that she was undergoing cancer therapy. She wrote "I'm thankful for all your energetic thoughts and prayers. I really believe the SLMM energy along with all others is helping me tremendously."

Betty Baker, long-time member from the Deep South/South Region, Hays, KS, has been diagnosed with a brain disorder and thanks everyone for prayers as she takes one day at a time.

Memorial for the late Meinrad Craighead



A Summer Solstice Memorial for **Meinrad Craighead** occurred June 21, 2019, on the grounds of her home and studio in the valley near Albuquerque. Mary Carroll Nelson and her daughter attended this nostalgic occasion. Mary Carroll met her in Old Town in 1984 just after she arrived from England. She was a loving part of Mary's grandchildren's childhood. Her art, spirit and wisdom drew many admirers around the world.

Meinrad passed away on April 8, 2019 and was 83 years old and a lifetime member of SLMM.

Remembering the past

The Houston Conference in 2006 provides us with a good memory. Pictured is the late Hannah Nepote and best friend Mary Carroll Nelson. Hannah's husband, the late Alexander Nepote, was the first president of SLMM and inspired Mary Carroll to found SLMM in 1982.



Update on Susan Dreiling and family



All of us are so grateful for our **Website Administrator, Susan Dreiling**. She does an outstanding job in keeping our website relevant and well designed. Here is the latest photograph of Susan, Penelope, and Johnny. We thought you would like to see how much Penelope has grown. For those who don't know Susan, she helped design the programs and other items we needed for the 2014 Conference in Hays, KS. She was a student in graphic design at the time, attending Fort Hays State University. Her great personality, design and organizational skills didn't go unnoticed. She was at the top of our list when it came time to find a new SLMM web administrator. **Thank you, Susan. We are glad you said "yes" when asked to do the job!**

Officers

President

Laura Pope

Treasurer

Terri MacDonald

Board of Directors

Gale Craig

Kathy Farr

Win Ratz

Jenny Badger Sultan

ex Officio

Mary Carroll Nelson, founder

Alexander Nepote, past president

Richard Newman, past president

Nancy Dunaway, past president

Nina Mihm, past president

Jaleh Etemad, past president

Staff

Executive Administrator: Karen Van Hooser

Newsletter Editor: Kathleen Kuchar

Website Design & Administrator Susan Dreiling

Regional coordinators

Deep South/South Central

Kathy Farr

Northeast/Midwest

Open

Pacific Coast/Canada

Jenny Badger Sultan

Southwest/West/International

Win Ratz

SLMM Mentors

Win Ratz, Committee Chair

Marilyn Christenson

Kathleen Kuchar

Nina Mihm

Lynn Mikami

Nancy Egol Nikkal

Mary Wilbanks

Suzan Kraus, digital imaging

Newsletter Editor. Please submit any inclusions directly to Kathleen Kuchar, Newsletter Editor, at kakuchar@hotmail.com Newsletters are published two times a year, April and October at which time they will be emailed to all members. Hard copies can be mailed at \$10 but always free when found on the SLMM website.

The deadline for the Spring Newsletter is April 15th, 2020.

Membership Roster is published once a year in September at which time it will be emailed to all members. Hard copies can be post mailed for an additional fee of \$10. The membership renewal notices will be sent via email in May with a deadline to renew of July 1st. The membership term runs from July 1st through June 30th of the following year. Any updates to your contact informations should be sent directly to Karen Van Hooser, Executive Administrator, at karensvh@gmail.com

Membership Application

SLMM is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization incorporated in the state of New Mexico in May 1982. Annual dues are \$50.00 for Individuals, additional \$25.00 for spouse/mate. The membership term begins July 1st and ends June 30th of the following year. Karen Van Hooser, Executive Administrator, will send an application form by request. Her email is karensvh@gmail.com. Completed application and dues should be mailed to SLMM, PO Box 897, Guthrie, OK 73044.

Reminders and information

Artist Link or Artists Page. Susan Dreiling is the person you need to contact when submitting work for your Artist Link or Artists Page. She reminds us that it is free to have an Artist Link that gives your name and contact information and one photo of an artwork plus an optional short statement. If you want an Artists Page, it will allow more information on the website such as additional photos, a resume, etc. This will cost a one-time fee of \$60. payable directly to Susan. To get the ball rolling, here is Susan's email: susya.dreiling@gmail.com

Facebook. SLMM has now launched a Facebook page where members can connect with other members.

Website. www.slm.org Check it often as it is our way of keeping in touch

Treasurer's Report

It was an exciting and wonderful conference in St. Louis. The weather was beautiful and the paintings in our show were amazing. So as we move forward, here are the numbers and budget overview for next year. Currently we have 147 paid members and we need to grow our membership to 165 to meet our budget and continue to grow. **To address the falling membership numbers, a survey will be sent out asking what ideas or thoughts you have that will make SLMM grow.**

It is a privilege to be your SLMM treasurer and if there are questions, please feel free to contact me at 785-650-3998 or terri@paulmac.com

Respectfully submitted, *Terri MacDonald, SLMM Treasurer*

2019-2020 Projected Expenses

\$6,000	Executive Administrator
\$1,620	Website Administrator
\$500	Newsletter Editor
\$300	Office Supplies
\$75	Internet Service
\$10	Annual State License Fee
\$8,505	Total General Operating Expense

2019-2020 Projected Income

-\$8,250	Membership Dues (165 members @ \$50.00)
-\$250	Book Revenue/Royalties
-\$5.00	Interest Earned
\$8,505	Total Income

Netting \$0

As you can see, to sustain the general operating expense of \$8,505, we need to collect this amount in membership dues, book revenues, and interest earned.

Here are the Executive Administrator's suggestions to the board in moving forward:

- increase the annual dues from \$40 to at least \$50. We currently have 147 paid members and 9 lifetime exempt members. We will need 165 @ \$50.
- eliminate the dual membership. (we currently have 10 dual memberships @ \$55, with a loss of \$250)
- increase the mailing fees for the annual membership roster from \$5 to \$10
- increase the mailing fees for the semi annual newsletter from \$5 to \$10

At the Executive Board Meeting, October 8th, 2019, the Board of Directors made some important decisions to sustain the general operating expenses.

The board voted to increase the Individual membership fees to \$50.00 and an additional \$25.00 for spouse/mate. They voted NOT to eliminate the dual membership, but to increase its fee.

The board voted to increase the mailing fee for hard copies of the membership roster and for the newsletter. The new fee for this service is \$10.00 for mailing the membership roster and \$10.00 for sending hardcopies of the semi-annual newsletter.

There is no fee involved for those getting the roster and newsletter through email.

Karen Van Hooser, Executive Administrator, has submitted the following Profit and Loss Statement for the year July 2018 through June 2019.

...the society of layerists in multi-media

Profit & Loss

July 2018 through June 2019

	<u>Jul '18 - Jun 19</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
National Conference Revenue	12,218.71
Regional Exhibit Entry Fees	1,560.00
Art Book Publication Revenue	100.00
Membership Dues	6,950.00
Credit Card Convenience Fee	88.00
Grants/Endowments	5,000.00
Postage Income	222.69
Total Income	<u>26,139.40</u>
Gross Profit	26,139.40
Expense	
Contract Labor	2,060.00
Credit Card Processing Fee	113.85
Exhibition Expenses	851.99
Internet/e-mail Service	71.68
Licenses & Permits	10.00
Office Supplies	281.98
Postage & Delivery	401.27
Professional Services	6,000.00
National Conference Expenses	10,628.32
Total Expense	<u>20,419.09</u>
Net Ordinary Income	5,720.31
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Earned	3.65
Total Other Income	<u>3.65</u>
Net Other Income	3.65
Net Income	<u><u>5,723.96</u></u>