

## In Memoriam:

Westport Art Group member

Barbara Price Farnell passed away this summer after a brief illness. She was the



sister of WAG member Gordon Price. Born in New York City to artistic parents, Barbara cultivated her life-long interests in the arts painting in watercolor and oil. After retirement, she and her husband, Frank Farnell, moved to Little Compton where she became active in the Westport Art Group.

Thank you to Barbara and her family for their generous donation of memorial funds, art supplies and art books for the WAG library.

## Annual Meeting & Potluck Supper

Don't miss WAG's Annual Meeting & Potluck on Monday, October 27. Bring a dish to share!

# WAG

WESTPORT  
ART GROUP  
P.O. BOX 157  
1740 MAIN RD.  
WESTPORT PT.  
MASS. 02791

508 • 636-2114

## BrushStrokes Deadline

Friday, October 24 for the Nov/Dec 2014 issue. Send info to:

Mary Sexton  
66 Peaceful Way, Tiverton RI 02878,  
914-217-7900 or email  
[info@westportartgroup.com](mailto:info@westportartgroup.com).

## Lees Slips

### Please Save Lees Slips!

Lees will send us money if YOU:

- drop Lees receipts at the building
- or give them to a board member or art class student
- mail them to WAG, PO Box 157, Westport Point, MA 02791

NOTE: Please don't circle anything on the slips!

## Members Gallery

All members are eligible to have their Artwork shown in the Members Gallery. Send 4 or 5 digital images with titles, plus a brief bio or artist statement to Mary Sexton at [info@westportartgroup.com](mailto:info@westportartgroup.com) for inclusion. It's FREE! Please participate.

## Board Meetings:

Thursday, September 11, 1:00 PM

Thursday, October 9, 1:00 PM

### 2014 WAG OFFICERS

**Mary Benefiel**, President  
**Paul Vien**, Vice President  
**Heide Hallemeier**, Treasurer  
**Peter Lenrow**, Recording Secretary  
**Nancy Mackay**, Corresponding Secretary  
**Sharon Connors**, Membership Secretary

### COMMITTEES

<b>CLASSES</b> <b>Barbara Healy</b>	<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b> <b>Mary Sexton</b>
<b>PROGRAMS</b> <b>June Roche</b>	Janet Gendreau, Publicity
<b>YOUTH EDUCATION</b> <b>Emily Sutton</b>	Toni Keavy, Mailing
<b>ORGANIZATION &amp; FUND RAISING</b> <b>Madeleine Ferraz</b>	<b>SCHOLARSHIPS</b> <b>Doris Magovern</b>
<b>EXHIBITIONS</b> <b>Sarah Brown</b>	Nancy Mackay
<b>HOSPITALITY</b> <b>Nancy Nagle</b>	<b>WAG SHOWS</b> <b>Jacklyn William</b>
<b>BUILDINGS &amp; GROUNDS</b> <b>Bruce Hubbard</b>	<b>MEMBER AT LARGE</b> Judy Keeley Mary Lou Murphy Sharlie Sudduth

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# BrushStrokes

WESTPORT ART GROUP

September/October 2014

## President's Letter

Summer was a bustling season for WAG with ongoing classes, *Artists in the Garden*, Paul Gruppe Workshop, The Summer Community Show, Artists in Action in July and August, Kids' Art Camp and a plein air painting excursion to Monhegan Island. Active and enthusiastic WAG volunteers made these activities possible.

Thanks to all who shared their energy and talent.

Fall turns our attention to a major change for WAG. The building project is moving forward with plans tweaked, building permit applications, and more. During the permit process

we discovered that our handicapped accessible bathroom must be brought up to current code before the building addition progresses. With generous donations from members and proceeds from our events and classes, we've accumulated 72% of the funds needed to complete the entryway, studio addition, and updated handicapped accessible bathroom. We are not there yet! The amount of \$50,000 is still needed to reach our goal for completion of the project.

Your help is needed! There are naming opportunities for the wing-studio addition and the entryway.

Another option for contributing is to "adopt a project" which includes providing funds for windows and doors, studio lighting, or heating and cooling.

You can meet the architect and view the building addition plans and artist's rendering of the new wing at our upcoming exhibition reception on Friday, September 19, 5–7 PM.

Looking forward to seeing you at a WAG event!

Always be inspired  
Mary Benefiel  
President

## Savor the Summer Art Exhibition and Reception

Reception with light refreshments, Friday, Sept. 19 from 5 PM–7 PM

Art Exhibition Sat & Sun, Sept. 20–21, 10 AM to 4 PM

Westport Art Group Artists and Artisans are celebrated in this exhibition for their recent depictions of summer on the New England South Coast. WAG extends a special invitation to honor our 36 Lifetime Members!

The exhibition provides an opportunity to *Savor the Summer* in all media—oils, watercolor, pastels, drawings, mixed media, and

photography with interpretations of coastal scenes, farmland, beaches, shore birds, and more. Call for Artists information can be found at [www.westportartgroup.com](http://www.westportartgroup.com).

## Membership Renewals:

Don't forget to send in  
your renewal form!



## Dates to Remember

September 8, 15, 22, 29

September 3, 10, 17, 24

September 4, 11, 18, 25

September 19

September 20 & 21

Monday Essential Drawing

Wednesday Figure Workshop

Thursday Painting Session

Savor the Summer Reception

Savor the Summer Show

October 6, 13, 20, 27

October 8, 15, 22, 29

October 9, 16, 23, 31

October 18

October 27

Monday Essential Drawing

Wednesday Figure Workshop

Thursday Painting Session

Saturday Workshop for Young Artists

Annual Meeting & Potluck Supper

## From the Classes

### Essential Drawing

Mondays at WAG, 9 am–12 pm  
Learn the basics of drawing!  
\$15 per session  
\$40 per 4-week month  
\$50 per 5-week month

### Thursday Painting

Thursdays, 9 am – 12 noon  
The Thursday painters are still outdoors!  
A map with our September locations is on the Classes page of the WAG website. If you are not already on the Thursday email list and would like to be added, email Barbara at [edlundhealy@comcast.net](mailto:edlundhealy@comcast.net).

Call Barbara Healy at 508-636-6773 with questions.

\$15 per session  
\$40 for a 4-week month  
\$50 for a 5-week month

### Figure Workshop

Wednesdays at WAG, 9 am–12 pm  
The fee is \$10 a session if paying monthly or \$15 a class. No instruction.  
Call Carolyn Winter at 401-316-8272 for more information.

Visit [www.westportartgroup.com/classes](http://www.westportartgroup.com/classes) for more information about our classes.



## WAG Summer Fun!

Left, WAG members on Monhegan: Sara Brown, Christine Matthieu, Mary Benefiel, Paul Vien, Bruce Hubbard, Alita Marks, Sharlie Sudduth, Heide Hallemeier, and Jacklyn William.



Above, Christine Matthieu painting on Monhegan in August.



Above Left, Undersea with Summer Camp.

Above, Well Attended Summer Show Reception.

Left, Summer Show Raffle Wall; WAG Member Dennis Brioadbent selling his painting at the Summer Show.

Below Left, Summer Camp Fun.

Below, July Artists in Action Booths featuring Paul Vien, Sue Prideaux, Liz Waring, Mary Benton, Heide Hallemeier, Sharlie Sudduth and Mary Benefiel.



## A Very Special Thank You!

A very special thank you to all of the WAG artists who so generously donated an orginal 5" x 7" painting for the Raffle Wall at the Summer Community Show. We had a record number of 45 small paintings! Everyone enjoyed the selection process. Once again, the Raffle was a great success.

A special acknowledgement to Paul Vien for cutting the mats, to Nancy Mckay, Doris Magovern and Tina Pacheco for helping with the drawing and to Mary Sexton for the email blast web site update.

(Hopefully, it's not too early to start working on next year's small painting!?!)

Thanks again,  
Madeleine Ferraz

## Robert Abele's Atelier:

Here we are! Can you believe the summer is over? What a season it was. Looking back at the plein air classes, we had a wonderful run of good weather and great paintings. Everyone grew and improved with stronger compositions, better value studies and draftsmanship. These are the three qualities that form the foundation for better paintings. Keep working on sorting out value before color; when the values are correct, you can do anything with the color.

Drawing, I always say, is the most important ingredient to the process of painting. My suggestion is to always carry a sketchbook and draw every day. It will loosen up your work and make you a better painter. We could all work a bit harder on composition. On our outdoor sessions, I've noticed that many artists are still having problems picking subjects. Just recently, we were at the New Bedford Yacht Club where honing in on a subject was a bit overwhelming. Always look for something simple. For example, I noticed a beautiful, simple, concrete urn on the grounds with radiant, red flowers flowing out from the top. In the background, I could see a jumble of sail masts and boats. What a simple story that image would tell; it says boatyard without the anxiety of



putting in too much detail. Simple is not always easy. When time is limited, simple is the best approach. When I arrive at a location, I always ask myself the question, "What image would best describe this place in a simple, sophisticated manner?" Inevitably, I conclude that less will always be more.

In July, Sakonnet Garden was one of my favorite locations. Our host was gracious and we had the largest turn out of plein air painters for the summer. High Elms Garden in Little Compton was another favorite with a wonderful hostess, beautiful architecture and lush gardens. I can only wonder and look forward to where next year will take us. The summers are really magical with wonderful painting locations and everyone working together to become better artists. It is a privilege to be a part of the history we are making at WAG.

## PLEASE HELP!

Eleven artworks created by sailor's valentine artist and WAG member Barbara Chadwick were stolen while on display at a restaurant in Westport, MA, on the night of August 14–15, 2014. Please help us find this collection of priceless sailor's valentines shell mosaics. A \$5000 reward has been posted for the arrest and conviction of the criminals. Anyone with information about the theft is urged to contact Westport Police at (508) 636-1122 or the lead investigator on the case, Detective Ryan Nickelson, at (774) 264-5174. Thank you for your help!



## Mark your calendars for these events:

**Saturday, October 18, 2014,**  
9:30 AM to 12:30 PM  
Workshop for Young Artists

**Monday, October 27, 2014, 6:30 PM**  
Westport Art Group Annual Meeting

**Saturday, November 1, 2014,**

WAG Art Trip to the  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

**Jamie Wyeth Exhibition**

The first comprehensive retrospective of artist Jamie Wyeth (born 1946) examines his imaginative approach to realism over the course of six decades, from his earliest childhood drawings through various recurring themes inspired by the people, places, and objects that populate his world. See sign-up information at [www.westportartgroup.com](http://www.westportartgroup.com) or contact [info@westportartgroup.com](mailto:info@westportartgroup.com).