

ERIC WIEHARDT AWS. NWS

Visual Pleasure for Generations

The Journey Continues

The Life and Times of the Long Beach Peninsula

Fall and Winter Life and Times Paintings-T'is the Seasons

I have enjoyed this one-time experience of painting a variety of local events on the peninsula. Having grown up here, I have strong feelings for the way of life and hope to capture not only visual reminders of what a unique place it is, but also my love for it.

This has brought an opportunity for tackling subject matter new to me. Had I not ventured out on this journey, I probably would not have approached painting such interesting subject matter that is uniquely the Peninsula way of life.

Since our last newsletter introducing the first month, **September** in the *Life and Times Collection*, four more months of paintings have been released and another set of Giclees. **October** was the month of cranberry harvest and musical delights with the Water Music Festival. Giclee prints of these are now available. **November** is all about food. Whether it is about preparing for the spring garden, sitting in a duck blind or chasing the razor clam, these paintings capture some of the life during this season. **December** is about its storms and one of the peninsula's favorites for Christmas Dinner. The latest release is January which depicts one of the biggest industries on the peninsula, Crabbing. **January** has gray winter days so capturing the quiet beauty of a figure on the beach seemed appropriate.

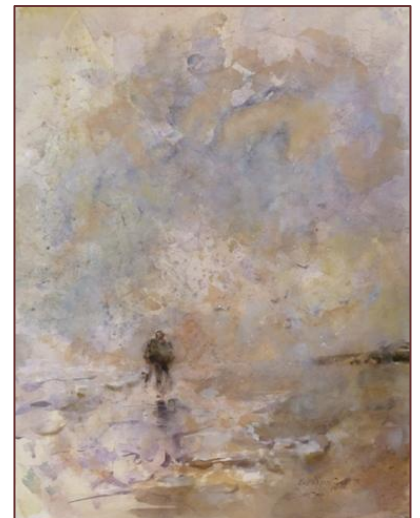
January...



Tools of the Trade



Cooking the Crab at Jessie's



Flotsam & Jetsam

Since I am incorporating more figures in my paintings, especially through this series of the Life and Times collection, I would like to share with you the additional dimensions that the figure can add to a painting in my next newsletter.

School of Painting

A Year of Judging...

This has been a big year in judging opportunities for me. The first was with the *Southern Watercolor Society* in Greenville, North Carolina, the second with the *Hawaiian Watercolor Society*, and coming up with *The Transparent Watercolor Society of America (TWSA)*. With all three, the judging was done digitally in the comfort of my home; whereas previously it involved numerous slide trays, a noisy projector, and a dark room. I have come to really appreciate the digital age! With all three organizations I am called upon to visit the location of the show in person, assign awards, and conduct a workshop.

The TWSA is in the top three national watercolor shows by size and prestige. I was asked to select 86 out of over 700 entries represented nationwide and abroad. As you can imagine, the competition is extremely tight. The craftsmanship is astounding.

It was a pleasant surprise to see a few paintings entered by my peers, including two art teachers from the American Academy of Art, my Alma Mater.

Planning 2012 Workshop in France...

For June '12 I am planning a two week Plein air workshop in France, near Nice. I've been to Nice before and found it fascinating. It is a town that never sleeps and has a kaleidoscope of visual painting subject matter that is always changing: from beautiful marine scenes along the French Riviera to twisty and turning cobblestone streets of the past. We are taking reservations now, so please inquire to get your name on the list! Last year's class filled up so sign up early. Contact us at watercolors@ericwiegardt.com, noting *France Workshop* in the subject line. More information will follow as it becomes available.

The Figure...

The *Life and Times Collection* has opened up a dormant subject matter for me: the figure. I enjoyed figure drawing class at the Academy, but found my primary interest in landscapes or marinescapes. Yet the painting principles I learned in landscape painting also apply to the figure. A successful organization of shapes and values is far more important to the success of the painting than trying to capture the ubiquitous details. So as with any other subject, whether it's a still life or a landscape, I focus on design patterns and not anatomy. As long as the overall design carries, the painting should be in good shape.

Sometimes I will take a photo first, as in many cases the environment (rainy) is not suitable for me to do a painting sketch on the spot. After a quick and rough pencil sketch (value study), I then work up a smaller study in the studio, followed by a larger finished painting. So even though I may paint quickly, it can still be quite a process to the finished piece.

In my next newsletter, I would like to discuss how to paint the potentially awkward limbs of the figure, so that they are not a visual distraction.

Watercolor Store

Signature Three Brush Set- 28 years of experience has proven these brushes to be the best. They hold a tremendous amount of water and pigment, giving bold juicy washes for my signature loose style. All three together offer the broadest range of techniques, from broad washes to fine detail. These brushes are also great for "detailed" paintings. Look no further! Also can purchase **Flat Brush** separately, \$75.00 plus shipping.

Retail Price \$266.-00 per set *shipping and handling \$5.00*



Russian Blue Squirrel Quill Mop—Large. Like the Russian Blue Squirrel Quill Mop included in the Three Brush set, this brush provides full strokes across the paper with an even larger reservoir of water for those bolder wash and mop techniques. This one is a real experience!

Retail Price \$155.00

shipping and handling \$5.00

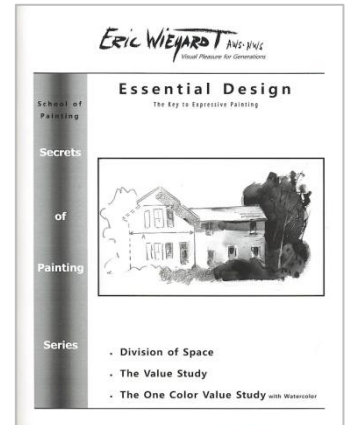
Introducing Essential Design Art Kit

Essential Design Workbook has been so successful we have added the **Essential Design Art Kit**. This kit will be available beginning of April with an introductory price of \$127.50. They will normally retail at \$150.00. This special price is good through April 2011.

Included in the kit is: *Essential Design Workbook*, watercolor palette, sketchbook, watercolor paper, pencil, graphite 6B pencil and eraser, sponge, Graham watercolor paint, Cosmo Top synthetic 1 inch flat brush, spray bottle, collapsible water bucket, custom watercolor apron and a custom tote to carry all your supplies in.

To pre-order, simply email us at watercolors@ericwiegardt.com, noting Art Kit in the subject line and we will reserve a kit for you. Once they are in, we will contact you and you may pay on-line or call us at 360-665-5976. All items in the kit may be purchased separately at retail price.

You can find the Eric's *Signature Brushes*, *Essential Design Workbook* and DVDs at www.ericwiegardt.com under **Watercolor Store** and **Books and DVDs**.



Collectors' Corner

Life and Times October Giclees Prints now available...

October is harvest time for the cranberries scattered all up and down this 26 mile long peninsula. These bright red little berries have a peculiar characteristic: they have a light, spongy center. The harvesters fill the bogs with water, the cranberries float to the top and are raked into a boom, which conveys them to the waiting trucks. It is early, long hours and hard work, but oh how we enjoy them for Thanksgiving!



This painting, *Cranberry Harvest-Pulling in the Boom* captures the vivid colors and a harvester manning the boom. I so enjoyed being out during harvest in the cool, crisp air, capturing this time in the life of our peninsula.

Not only are there contrasts in color but there are contrasts in events. October is also Water Music Festival month. Local talent, musicians, and vocalists from around the country participate in this gala of music from classical to blue grass. Although Water Music Festival has performances other times of the year, a weekend in October is filled with music from Ilwaco, the entrance to the peninsula, all the way up to last village 20 miles north in Oysterville. The challenge is deciding which performances to

enjoy.

There were so many subjects to choose from, but I decided on *Reynolds and Emlen Duo* playing the viola and violin. The imagery of these two professionals captured for me the essence of Water Music Festival. I hope you enjoy *Water Music Festival-The Duo*, as much as I enjoyed painting it.



The Art of Framing

By Christl Mack- Framing for Wiegardt Studio Gallery

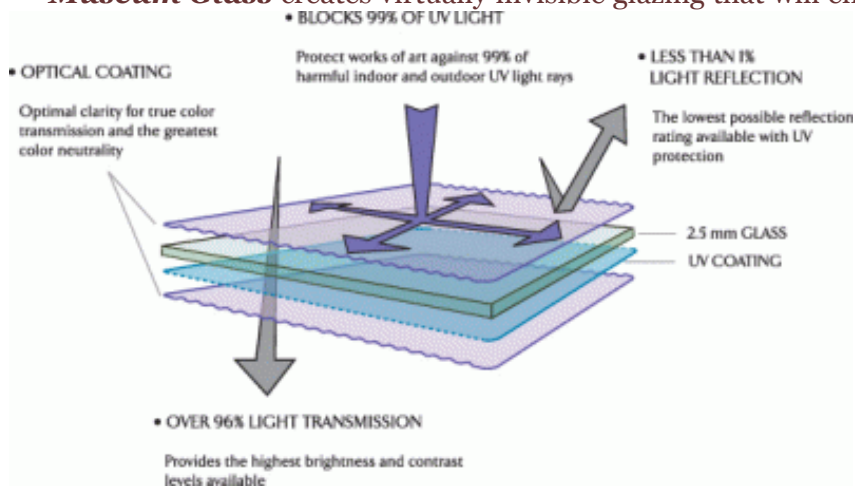
The painting materials offered in the watercolor industry today are superb. They have come out of the automotive and plastics industry and have a top rating of permanence. Eric uses these professional materials for his originals. A high UV protection glass is not necessary. However, if additional protection or a non reflective appearance is desired, these other products are available.

Types of glazing used in framing artwork...

Have you ever been asked what type of glass you would like when having something framed? Let me elaborate a little on the different types of glass.

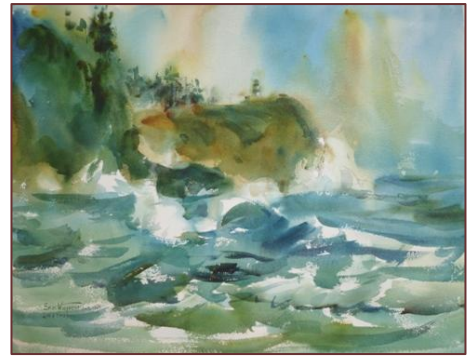
Perhaps most commonly used is **Premium Picture Framing Glass**. It blocks 45% of UV light rays, and is suitable for non-conservation type framing. Both indoor and outdoor UV light rays can cause serious color deterioration, loss of brightness, and paper brittleness. In order for your precious memories, photographs and works of art to be preserved, we recommend that most UV light be blocked. Here are two types of glass:

- **Conservation Glass** blocks 99% of damaging UV lights and is suitable for conservation framing.
- **Museum Glass** creates virtually invisible glazing that will enhance colors, brightness and contrast of all types of artwork. Those of you who have seen art framed with Museum Glass will understand why we are excited about this product. Museum Glass has an ultra thin coating that represses the reflection of visible light. The coating renders Museum Glass nearly invisible to the eye, for optimal clarity and true color transmission. You won't see a reflection of your sofa or that photo of Aunt Millie in your art any more. Museum Glass offers 99% UV protection.



In the next newsletter, I will give you information on the different **mat boards** available and how to use mats in your **framing design**.

Announcements: North Light book has selected one of my *Life and Times* paintings *Storm Surf at Cape Disappointment*, the month of December, to be in *Art Journey America: Landscapes* to be published this year. Regarding my painting, "It's lively, exciting, and so evocative of the American coastline," as quoted by the Acquisitions Editor of North Light books.



Art show: *Ilwaco Port* has been accepted in the *National Watercolor Society 2011 All Member Juried Exhibition*, May 15 - June 12, at NWS Gallery in San Pedro CA.

Another entry *Our Pond* is with Northwest Watercolor Society Show 71st Annual Open Exhibition, Mercer View Gallery, Mercer Island, WA March 21-May13.



Originals and Giclee Prints are available framed and unframed on our Website, www.ericwiegardt.com. We have selected two frames that complement my paintings. You may purchase any painting or giclee print with our house frame, *Couleurs Provence* or the beautiful *Canaletto* frame. For your convenience each painting and print has the image size and frame size for enhancing a special place in your home or business.

Help us to continue to refine our database: We appreciate how many have replied to our request for state locations to add to our email database. If you have not shared the state where you reside, we would appreciate this information to update our database. When an event or workshop is in your area, we would send you a notice so you may participate if so choose.

Thank you for your help!