



Coachella Valley  
Watercolor Society

# Brush Up

## November 2023

**General Meeting: November 13, 2023**

6:00 PM, Social. 6:30 General Mtg.

## November Demonstrator: Geoff Allen



Please welcome Geoff Allen, our November Demonstrator and a respected professional with a passion for painting plein air.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in economics, (while deciding what would come next) Geoff enrolled in a postgraduate summer watercolor class. The experience painting plein air in the Sierras turned out to be a pivotal experience for him! He earned a BA from UC Santa Barbara and an MFA from Claremont Graduate School 1990. He is an active member of San Diego Watercolor Society, California Art Club, and the Laguna Plein Air Painter Association. His career has taken many forms, including contemporary art, modern art, abstraction, conceptual, performance, installation, illustration, folk art, and commercial.

His current move to teaching and painting plein air has been a natural evolution. Geoff says, "As an artist, plein air painting allows my art to showcase two of my greatest passions: my enthusiasm for being outdoors and the beauty of watercolor. Plein air painting helps me focus intensely on my work while promoting a sense of mystery and spontaneity.

In the studio, we practice our art within an open time constraint. In a plein air practice we are vulnerable to time, the whims of nature, and the social environment around us. I love that aspect of art making, when something is slightly out of my control and a challenge. It allows me to feel that I am playing with mysterious forces beyond my own understanding."

### 2023 Recent Awards and Exhibitions

First Place, Oceanside Museum of Art Plein Air Festival; Second Place San Clemente Art Association Plein Air Festival; Best of Show, 7th Annual Waterworks Exhibition Laguna Plein Air Painter's Association; First Place, Huntington Harbor Art Association Plein Air Competition; and Best of Show, 19th Annual Best of Plein Air, Laguna Plein Air Painters Association

*Don't miss his Geoff's 2 day Desert Impressions watercolor workshop through the Desert Plein Air Association on November 14th and 15th!*

[geoffallen911@icloud.com](mailto:geoffallen911@icloud.com)



# President's Message



*Connie Zane, President*

## CVWS 2022 – 2023 Officers

**President:** Connie Zane

**Exec. VP:** Robin St. Louis

**1st VP- Programs:** Marilyn Blitz

**2nd VP – Shows:**

Mary Anne Brower/ Ian Cooke

**3rd VP – Publicity:** Carol Cole

**Treasurer:** Cindy Mason

**Recording Secretary:**

Alicia Siegler

**Corresponding Secretary -**

**Newsletter:** Jean Grover

## 2022-2023 Committee

### Chairs:

**DVD Library:** Vera Knowles

**Equipment:** John Ressler

**Grants:** OPEN

**Membership:** Connie Collins

**Painter of the Month:**

Joan Ryan

**Raffle:** Tracy Hartman

**Sunshine:** Cindy Green

**Website:** Lance Brechbill,

**Workshops:**

Sue Ober / Traci Davis

At CVWS there were many things that went well during the last year, and I'd like to take a moment to mention them. I'm grateful not only for our hard-working and capable board, but also, for every single CVWS member who contributed in one way or another. I've listed below the major accomplishments that come to mind. My apologies for any omissions.

THANK YOU to everyone that helped to:

1. Foster 36 new members in a single year. (That's a record.)
2. Add to the success of our wonderful Annual CVWS Show/Sale that provided members with substantial sales income and exposure and attracted over 700 attendees.
3. Offer grants to 5 local youth art entities, funded through raffles.
4. Carry out 3 workshops by world-renowned artists.
5. Provide 1 Zoom and 5 live art demos at meetings by leading artists.
6. Coordinate member displays and award 30 "Painter of the Month" ribbons.
7. Secure the Galen Gallery for future years as a show venue.
8. Apply for grants to assist our shows going forward.
9. Establish a coalition with DPAA for Plein Air events.
10. Strengthen our CVWS Website and Facebook page.
11. Provide timely member news and recognition with a monthly newsletter.
12. Offer a Member Directory and name badges to foster networking and friendships.
13. Revamp and update the CVWS brochure.
14. Publicize our show and workshops.
15. Acknowledge members with cards and emails.
16. Photograph CVWS art, artists, and events.
17. Assemble and coordinate show raffle baskets.
18. Manage monthly raffles and DVD library and used book sales.
19. Welcome guests and sign-in meeting attendees.
20. Donate cash, books, raffle items and time.

So, there's plenty of work to do to keep this organization running, not only at each monthly meeting, but especially at show time in March. And too often it's the same crew that takes part to make it all happen. The best way to get to know your fellow members is to volunteer. It's how you make new friends and share your talents and find the camaraderie and fulfillment that comes with being part of an organization. We need committee chairs and/or volunteers for: Grant Awards, Grant Writing, Website assistance, Board Nomination, Annual Show.

We know you have much to give. And while a volunteer position may appear to be an insignificant endeavor, it is precisely what makes CVWS work. Please make this the year that you jump in and help make a difference. Contact any board member.

Take Part. Make Art.

Connie Zane

# 2023 Summer Challenge

A few of those who shared their Summer Challenge paintings:

(Photos courtesy of Terry Simmons)



*Thanks to all who participated!*

# October Painter of the Month

First Place: Robin St. Louis



Second Place: Vera Knowles



Third Place: Marilyn Blitz





Honorable Mention: Joan Ryan



**SIGN UP TO ENTER PAINTER OF THE MONTH by calling or texting Joan Revell Ryan at 442 282-227**



# Workshops

## Welcome to CVWS Workshops!

	<p><u>DECEMBER 9-10, 2023 in Palm Desert</u></p> <p>This is a two-day (weekend) watercolor workshop featuring Buffy Kaufman. She will share her love of color blending, lifting and granulation to capture the colors and textures of our sprawling California deserts!</p> <p>\$225 CVWS members; \$250 non-members All registration information is available on the CVWS website. <a href="http://www.cvws.org">www.cvws.org</a></p>	
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### Meet Buffy Kaufman

*Buffy Kaufman is a watercolor pour artist working in transparent watercolor with alternative media and techniques. She is a Brand Ambassador for Daniel Smith Watercolors and a Signature Member of the Louisiana Watercolor Society. Buffy currently resides in Calimesa California along the San Gorgonio Pass. "I believe the merger of a deepening faith and connection to nature gives each artistic expression meaning. My emerging style is focused on capturing the identity of a subject while celebrating the spontaneity and emotion watercolor presents."*

	<p>Please join us for this CVWS premiere 4-day workshop in January featuring Keiko Tanabe on January 9-12, 2024, in Palm Desert.</p> <p>\$550.00 CVWS members; \$600.00 non-members.</p> <p>Please proceed to the CVWS website for all registration and payment details: <a href="http://www.cvws.org">www.cvws.org</a></p>	
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### Meet Keiko Talabe

*Mostly self-taught, she embarked on a professional art career in 2005. Since then, her paintings have been in many national and international exhibitions, both juried and invitational, and gained worldwide recognition. Her work has been purchased by private and corporate collectors from all around the world. She also had her paintings published and featured in leading art magazines and a number of publications in the U.S., Europe and Asia. A sought-after workshop instructor since 2011, she has conducted numerous workshops and live demonstrations around the world. Her approach to teaching is to help students identify and solve their problems to further advance their technical skills and refine their style.*

# Workshops, continued



January 29 - February 5, 2024

## Taste of Watercolor

We have gathered some of the most talented artists and teachers from our Coachella Valley Watercolor Society and are presenting them to you in a format that will allow you to choose your learning experience. These instructors currently have teaching schedules in the Coachella Valley, but we are bringing them to you as a taste of what they can offer.

You will be able to take just one day of the five days offered or jump right in and take all five! Additional days are offered at a reduced rate - what a deal!

	<i>Instructor</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Instructor Contact</i>
MON Jan 29	Moira Johannessen	A loose, creative painting of the Palm Springs area	<a href="mailto:moirajohannessen@gmail.com">moirajohannessen@gmail.com</a> 760-322-2523
TUE Jan 30	Karin Felker Harris	... for the Love of Light	Website: <a href="http://www.karinharris.artspan.com">www.karinharris.artspan.com</a> Blog: <a href="http://www.karinfelkerharris.blogspot.com">www.karinfelkerharris.blogspot.com</a>
WED Jan 31	Diane Morgan	Bold and Colorful Floral with Waterdrops	<a href="mailto:www.dianem1111@aol.com">www.dianem1111@aol.com</a> 760-902-8855 <a href="http://www.dianmorganpaints.com">www.dianmorganpaints.com</a>
THUR Feb 1	Bob Hannah	Perspective, Shape, and Value Contrast	<a href="mailto:Rchannah44@gmail.com">Rchannah44@gmail.com</a> 206-409-9786 <a href="http://www.artofbobhannah.com">www.artofbobhannah.com</a>
FRI Feb 2	Ian Cooke	Floral Watercolors	<a href="mailto:lancooke49@gmail.com">lancooke49@gmail.com</a> 760-408-3313

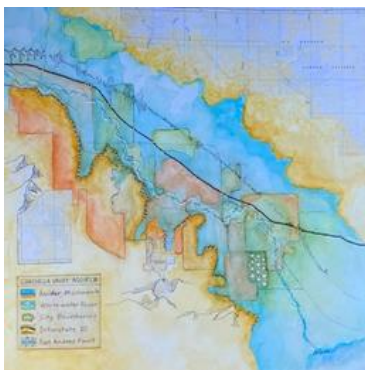
[www.cvws.org](http://www.cvws.org) for all registration information. Don't miss this one, and bring a friend!

# Kudos

		<h2>Supporting the Arts</h2> <p>Several CVWS members were spotted in attendance at the Desert Art Center's two-show, gala season opening evening in October.</p> <p>(Photos courtesy of Kathleen Irvine of DAC)</p>
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## ***Congratulations to our CVWS Artists:***

Tracy Hartman's painting "Rocky Mountainside Near Big Bear" was juried into Artists Council EARTH show, running from mid-October through mid-November.



*Beneath the Surface by Nancy Rizzardi*

Nancy Rizzardi's "Beneath the Surface" (a glimpse of the Coachella Valley aquifer) was juried into the current Artist Council show Earth".

Mixed Media: Watercolor, ink, collage, hand-embroidery

CVWS member Deb Fox was juried into the Quick Draw competition at the recent Jackson Hole Fall Arts Festival, where the requirement was to produce a painting in 1 ½ hours. When it was completed, a collector attending the event purchased this watercolor on canvas.



# News

## CVWS Annual Show 2024



Yes – next year’s show seems a long way away, but planning is well under way. Once again, we will be able to stage our paintings in the prestigious surroundings of the Galen, courtesy of the Artists Council. Last year we had the best sales ever and this year we have four sales days, one more than last year.

We need the support of our members in several ways. Firstly, we encourage you to paint and enter your work in one or more of the four categories: Traditional, Open, Plein Air or Mini Masterpieces. If you have never entered a show before, be brave and enter; we have a special award for Emerging Artists. Please tell all your friends and neighbors about the show. If you have a Facebook page or use social media, do include postings about this event. Visitors mean sales! And of course, we need help in many ways. If you can assist in one of the set-up or sales days, please let Mary Anne or myself know – if you don’t volunteer, we’ll have to ask you!

Intake will be on Tuesday March 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be a ‘soft’ opening on Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup> which means there will be sales, but paintings cannot be removed that day, just reserved with a red dot! Our wine reception and Awards ceremony will be from 5-7pm on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup>. The show will then be fully open for visitors and sales Friday March 8<sup>th</sup> to Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>, daily 10am to 4pm. Do reserve these dates in your calendar and be ready to take part in the show of the season!

[iancooke49@gmail.com](mailto:iancooke49@gmail.com) or [mabrower43@gmail.com](mailto:mabrower43@gmail.com)

### Plein Air November Paint-outs:

Details sent one week prior. See website: [www.desertpleinair.org](http://www.desertpleinair.org) Email: [desertpleinair@gmail.com](mailto:desertpleinair@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, November 6th:** Time: 8:00am - 12:00 noon (we must leave no later than 12:00 noon)

Location: Bubbling Wells Oasis, 14505 Yerxa Road, Desert Hot Springs

This is a private retreat with a few grand homes for rent \$400/day and up, with hot and cool spas throughout. It is not open to the public, so it is a special opportunity for artists. Bring your own food, drinks, and art supplies!

**Tuesday- Wednesday, November 14th-15th**

Geoffrey Allen Plein-air Workshop in La Quinta.

**Saturday, November 25th:** Downtown Palm Springs. We will meet at The Plaza at 8:00am or at will!



# A CVWS Member Contribution:

## Watercolor Granulation

By Nancy Rizzardi

When I set up my watercolor palette, I prefer granulating colors whenever possible. If you aren't familiar with granulation, it is when a pigment separates into the individual colors used to make that formulation. You need to use a lot of water or add granulating fluid for best results. For example, Cascade Green by Daniel Smith, will separate into the blue and green pigments that make up that tube color. The effect adds variety to the hue and is stunning. Unfortunately yellows and reds don't granulate. If you want to test your colors create a big test swatch and add a lot of water or granulating fluid, then drop in your paint. Most artist-grade watercolors have a code on the tube or on their website to identify whether it granulates. G = granulating, NG = non-granulating.

Give them a try. They are beautiful in a juicy watercolor painting.



Planning a watercolor palette.

*Thank you Nancy, for sharing this with us!*

# Odds & Ends

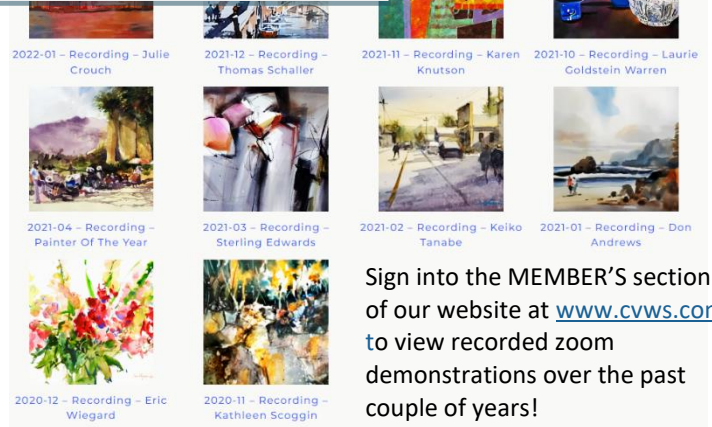
## Welcome to New CVWS Members!

- Juleen McElgunn
- Kathy Louis
- Claudia Naffziger
- Kathy Weyer
- Candace Kahn
- Lisa Van Herik
- Alisa Ashbrook
- Connie Scotti
- Nancy Chaves

## A CVWS membership perk:

Watch recorded zoom

demos at [www.cvws.org](http://www.cvws.org)



Sign into the MEMBER'S section of our website at [www.cvws.com](http://www.cvws.com) to view recorded zoom demonstrations over the past couple of years!



*If you hear of someone who needs a bit of cheer or support, please contact our Sunshine Chairman, Cindy Green at (425) 765-9509 or [cindynwrs@seanet.com](mailto:cindynwrs@seanet.com)*



**Editor's Note:** If you have a topic or feature that you'd like to see included in the CVWS newsletter, or on the CVWS.org website, please send an email to: [cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com)

## Many CVWS members offer excellent painting instruction and classes. Call for information:

Ian Cooke	760 408 3313
Bob Hannah	206-409-9786
Karin Harris	808-268-0847
Dave Howell	425-319-5858
Moira Johannessen	760-322-2523
Pat Kodet	530-388-8241
Diane Morgan	760-902-8855
Kathleen Scoggin	503-515-9633
Connie Zane	775-846-9719



NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DATES **Submissions to the newsletter are due on or before the 15th of the month.** We are always interested in hearing about any good news you have about your creative life (awards, show acceptances, etc.). [cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com)