



Coachella Valley  
Watercolor Society

# Brush Up

April 2024

**General Meeting: April 8, 2024**

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



## April Demonstrator: Karin Felker Harris

Karin received a BFA from Southern Oregon State University. Her art career has included leading World-wide Art & Cultural Tours, creating, and owning the Portland Oregon gallery, "An Artist's Place," teaching BFA students at Marylhurst College, and owning Space Planning and Interior Design in Maui, Hawaii.

Now in the Coachella Valley, she is pleased to be active in the vibrant art community, including the Artists Council, Women Artists of the Desert, Desert Art Center, and the Coachella Valley Watercolor Society. She is grateful to have received awards & recognition from the Coachella Valley Watercolor Society, the Desert Plein Air Association, and ribbons from various Art Festivals.

Old Town Artisan Studios, Ironwood Art Group and Shadow Hills are venues where she currently teaches the 'Joy of Watercolor' and 'Drawing for the Fun of It'.

[www.karinharris.artspan.com](http://www.karinharris.artspan.com); [karinfelkerharris.blogspot.com](http://karinfelkerharris.blogspot.com);  
[karinharris76@gmail.com](mailto:karinharris76@gmail.com)

"The illumination of color and the dance of light & shadows has always intrigued me, so I paint."



If you missed our March 2024 zoom meeting, you can watch a replay of the demonstration on our website:  
<https://cvws.org/2024-03-recording-andy-evansen/>

## President's Message



*Connie Zane, President*

### CVWS 2023 – 2024 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

### 2023-2024 Committee

#### Chairs:

**DVD Library:** Vera Knowles

**Equipment:** John Ressler

**Grants:** Joyce Kingman

**Membership:** Connie Collins

**Painter of the Month:**

Joan Ryan

**Raffle:** Tracy Hartman

**Sunshine:** Cindy Green

**Website:** Lance Brechbill,

**Workshops:** Sue Ober/

Traci Davi

Pros and Cons of Repetition...we've all been there. You've made a great painting and try to repeat it, but the results are disappointing. You say, "I did it once, so why can't I do it again?" There're two main reasons: 1. Watercolor doesn't repeat. And 2. Today is different from yesterday.

Today everything is different...even if only in minute ways. WE are different. Our cells have changed. Our planet's position in space has changed. Our mood, the phases of the moon, the weather, the people we encounter and how we interact with them, etc...virtually everything is different. And so, the way we respond in paint is different. Our choice of color, mark, shape, etc., will vary. Even if we try to make things identical, it's impossible to create a replica of yesterday or yesterday's painting. And perhaps that's a good thing.

If you really want yesterday's painting, take a photo, and make a print of it. Otherwise, rejoice in the fact that you can make a totally new painting today that you've never made before. Use yesterday's results as a springboard into today's interpretation of that concept and move forward. Innovation awaits.

Originality is the lifeblood of art, and we needn't keep making more of what we've already made. I'm not suggesting that making a series isn't useful. Series paintings definitely help us define our style and hone our skills. But making duplicate paintings may not further our creative goals. Repetition, with variation is the key. Repetition is a standard device in the Principles of Design. Repetition with Variation is taking repetition to the next level by applying a different twist in color, value, size, shape, etc. And that variation will always occur because our marks are never identical from one stroke to the next. Again, that's a good thing.

So, rather than repeating paintings, consider how using that previous idea (with variation) might help you evolve into the painter that you strive to be...whether that's more realistic, more abstract, more inventive, more colorful, or whatever. Take yesterday's achievements and deliberately make today's painting not only slightly different but pointed in your chosen direction. You can do this.

That means: Isolate and define the direction in which you want to grow, i.e. more abstract, more colorful, etc. Then vary an element (line, color, value, shape, etc.) based on that goal. You may begin to see your work in a new light and discover unexpected ways to grow. Experiments can produce surprising results as we move into tomorrow, repeating (with variation) what we did today. How exciting is that? There's more I want to say here, but I'm out of room. Call me. We'll chat.

Take part, Make art.  
Connie Zane

# Painter of the Month

## MARCH WINNERS:

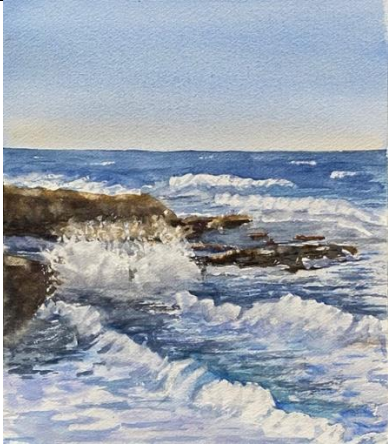
1st place Karin Harris



2nd place: Julene McElgunn



3rd place Roberta Wilson



Honorable Mention: Alannah Kern



Demonstrator's Choice: Robin Staton



## Painter of the Month, continued



"Pink Sunrise"

We are delighted to acknowledge  
**Rosalind Mitchell**  
as the winner of the  
**January 2024 Painter of the Month  
DEMONSTRATOR'S CHOICE AWARD**



### **LOOKING AHEAD: PAINTER OF THE MONTH IN APRIL**

The last opportunity this season for you wonderful painters to display a painting for Painter of the Month will be at our meeting on April 8th. All CVWS members enjoy this event, and it is also good for our artists to show what they can do. We will meet in person at the Joslyn Center.

You are eligible to enter if you have not won a ribbon in a previous month. Please let me know if you are bringing a painting. I am subbing for Joan Ryan in April's Painter of the Month.

Moira Johannessen

Email: [moirajohannessen@gmail.com](mailto:moirajohannessen@gmail.com).

### **PAINTER OF THE YEAR IN MAY:**

If you won a ribbon at any Painter of the Month showing from October 2023 through April 2024, you are eligible to enter the Painter of the Year competition.

You can enter the painting that originally won in the POM, or you can choose a different painting that conforms to the POM rules.

Send your entry request between now and May 5<sup>th</sup> to Connie Zane and she will send you the link (same process as our March zoom meeting) that allows entry of your painting on the CVWS.org webpage. Voting will be done on our website between May 6 – 11.

Frank Eber is our POY judge, and he will provide a critique for all the paintings entered. This critique takes place at the CVWS General Meeting May 13th on Zoom.

Be sure to tune in for this final meeting of the year where we will also announce the Summer Challenge.

**Check our website for POM & POY rules:** <https://cvws.org/painter-of-the-month-guidelines/>

# News

## IN MEMORIAM

We are saddened by the loss of treasured members:

**David Stokes, Suzanne Greenberg and Pat Kodet.**

All were truly talented, giving artists.

The vivid, prize-winning landscapes of David Stokes captured his love of the outdoors.

CVWS past presidents, Suzanne Greenberg and Pat Kodet produced award-winning figurative and abstract art year after year.

They all taught others, generously sharing their knowledge and skills.

The keen interpretation of the world by these three accomplished artists lives on with a legacy of beautiful paintings that will continue to bring inspiration and appreciation.



Rest in peace, dear friends; we've been enriched for having known you. CZ

# Kudos

## 2024 Annual Show



Our 34th Show! We have the greatest members in our Watercolor Society. There were so many accolades from the people who visited our show. They belong to all of you who volunteered your time and energy and the 69 artists who entered your outstanding work in the show. Some of you started many weeks ago, like our webmaster and those who led take in. Then there was the preparation of the beautiful baskets, with all the wonderful donations, which generated so much interest and \$1,734. Those who delivered all the equipment and set it up helped so much to be ready for take in. Thank you for the hard work of those who did take in, for the long hours of those who hung the show so beautifully, those who cheerfully greeted our guests, those selling the raffle tickets and those answering questions as well as those at the sales table who carefully kept track of our money. Our income was \$1,000 more than was forecast. \$253 was the total for cookbooks, which have sold out.

Your generous donations of wine, water and food for our reception made it a big success.

Our judge, Richard Scott from the Huntington, was most impressed with the show and commented that many of the paintings captured “the poetry of the artist’s inspiration “.

Many people complimented those who demonstrated and those who painted out front.

We are very appreciative of the generous support of the following organizations: Blick Art Materials, The Desert Art Center, Purvis Art Gallery and Design, Frame Master Galleries and The Hideout Kitchen and Bar.

Our members are awesome. The success of our show belongs to all of you.

Thank you, thank you. Ian and Mary Anne



Photos courtesy of Jean Grover

## 2024 CVWS Annual Show Winners

Photos courtesy of Terry Simmons

**BEST IN SHOW:**  
Morning at the Oasis  
by Robin St. Louis



**PUBLICITY AWARD:**  
Eucalyptus on the  
Hillside  
by Michael Cedeno



**EMERGING ARTIST:**  
Floral Abundance by  
Trudy Adler



**EMERGING ARTIST:**  
Whale by Maggie  
Dover



### TRADITIONAL PRESENTATION:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Morning at the Oasis by  
Robin St. Louis



2<sup>nd</sup> Place: The Blues by Kathleen  
Scoggin



3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Coastal Storm by  
Alannah Kern



Honorable Mention: Jim Nelson, Moira Johannessen, Suzy Voss, Mary Anne Brower, and Jean Grover



**OPEN CATEGORY**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Sunlight & Shadows by Mike Pascavage



2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Cotton Candy Sunrise by Leslie Skuchas



3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Pink Geraniums by Connie Collins



Honorable Mention: Nancy Frey, Andrea Raft, and Cindy Mason



**MINI CATEGORY**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Flashy Lily by Ian Cooke



2<sup>nd</sup> Place: A World Beyond by Lynn Liffick



3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Sunflower by Traci Davis



Honorable Mention: Nancy Rizzardi, Karin Harris, and Jennifer Winn (not pictured)





**PLEIN AIR CATEGORY:**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Eucalyptus on the Hillside by Michael Cedeno



2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Coastal Arrangement by Ellen Jean Diederich



3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Palm Springs Pool VI By Mandy Main



Honorable Mention: Sue Ober, Nina Harlan, and David Howell (not pictured)



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***AND A SPECIAL "THANK YOU" TO OUR ANNUAL SHOW CO-CHAIRS,  
IAN COOKE AND MARY ANNE BOWER!***



# Membership

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU!

Written by Kathy Weyer

New CVWS member Susan Shankin is an artist who bought a place in Pinyon Pines six years ago just to set up an art studio and be able to focus and produce in the quiet wilderness three to six months out of the year.



*Watercolor Molokai Hawaii*

A book publisher by trade, she splits her time between Venice Beach and Pinyon Pines. Originally from Michigan, she grew up in the San Fernando Valley, spent most of her later years in Southern California, and settled in Venice Beach.

She is experienced in oils and acrylics, but a watercolor class in Hawaii last year hooked her on the medium. She joined the CVWS recently - her membership was validated when she went to the art show and watched the Zoom demonstration. It inspired her even more to work with watercolor, the most difficult medium, as she readily admits. Gaining more inspiration, increasing her skills, and joining a community of like-minded people are her reasons for joining the CVWS.

# Odds & Ends



*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)*

## Welcome to New CVWS Members:

- Buffy Kaufman
- Stephen O'Hara
- Susan Shankin
- Rosy White

This is the **proposed slate of CVWS Executive Board members for 2024-25** to be voted on at the April CVWS General Meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> at the Joslyn Sr. Center:

President: Bob Hannah  
1st VP Programs: Alleyn Yasskin  
2nd VP Shows: MaryAnne Brower & Ian Cooke  
3rd VP Publicity: Connie Zane  
Treasurer: Cindy Mason  
Recording Sec: Alicia Siegler  
Corresponding Sec. (Newsletter): Jean Grover



**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:**

<b>Ian Cooke</b>	<b>760 408 3313</b>
<b>Ellen Jean Diederich</b>	<b>701-799-9505</b>
<b>Bob Hannah</b>	<b>206-409-9786</b>
<b>Karin Harris</b>	<b>808-268-0847</b>
<b>Dave Howell</b>	<b>425-319-5858</b>
<b>Moira Johannessen</b>	<b>760-322-2523</b>
<b>Diane Morgan</b>	<b>760-902-8855</b>
<b>Kathleen Scoggin</b>	<b>503-515-9633</b>
<b>Alicia Siegler</b>	<b>650-207-0585</b>
<b>Kristen Olson Stone</b>	<b>808 469-2092</b>
<b>Connie Zane</b>	<b>775-846-9719</b>



**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).