



Coachella Valley
Watercolor Society
Est. 1989

Brush Up

March 2020

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Next General Meeting:
at Joslyn Sr. Center, March 9, 2020
6:00 PM - refreshments/Painter of Month voting
6:30 - General Meeting begins

March Demonstrator: Stella Canfield

Stella Canfield is an inspiring and beloved teacher sharing her painting knowledge with students in the United States and Europe. Born in Bulgaria, Stella left her country to escape the oppressive regime of communism. She lived in Germany and came to the United States in 1985. Starting over, she discovered her true calling, painting with watercolors! In 2001, Stella was invited to teach at DANIEL SMITH in Seattle and now shares her passion for painting and joy for life with her many delighted students who love and appreciate her.

Stella's paintings are appreciated and recognized by collectors and art organizations from whom she has received many awards. Today, Stella teaches mostly on the West Coast of the USA and Texas for the first part of the year and she spends the remaining six months painting, teaching and exhibiting in Europe. Stella has taught workshops in Switzerland, Czech Republic, Republic of Georgia and her native Bulgaria. DANIEL SMITH in Seattle remains her favorite teaching place where she returns year after year for her very popular watercolor workshops.



President's Message



What a fabulous display of artistic & creative talents at the Coachella Valley Watercolor Society's Annual Show at Hope Center in Palm Desert last month. The efforts from at least half our membership were appreciated by guests, family and friends, including the Hope Center staff. Show chairs, Jude Wiesenfeld and Mary Anne Brower were professional, and thorough, with sub-committees handling so many details. Our gratitude and appreciations are extended beyond measure. Many thanks to all the volunteers and demonstrators that donated their time to make this year's show a great success.

As we move forward (along with our clocks) into Spring, our days are getting longer with more opportunities for painting plein air. Sue Ober, our Field Mice Chair, has some wonderful, inspiring venues planned, so I'm hoping to see you there. It isn't too late to make a New Year's resolution related to art; such as getting yourself setup for plein air painting. I suggest you start small and limited. Start with: a hat, a chair, a sketchbook, and a good set of pens.

My recommendations are:

Pens - Sharpie Twin Tip (it's waterproof, so you can paint over it.)

Sketchbook - Aquabee Super Deluxe Mixed Media (93 lb. paper)

Chair - Coleman Camping Chair with Side Table (Amazon)

My resolution this year is to focus on "wabi-sabi" (a Japanese World view, which is filtering through my art.) It's the concept of the impermanence, imperfection, and incompleteness of life. So, when you start painting outdoors, leave the idea of 'perfect' at home. Nature is a good example of wabi-sabi. It forces you to consider the impermanence and imperfection of life in general.

I encourage you to paint new subjects. Try a new tool, color, or brush. Or start a small group to share paintings and give positive feedback in support of each other.

And most importantly keep your brushes busy.
Diane Moore, CVWS President

CVWS 2019-2020 Officers

President:

Diane Archie Moore

Exec. VP:

Marcia Slater Hatfield

Programs:

Bob Hannah

Shows:

Judy Wiesenfeld,
MaryAnne Brower

Publicity:

Marilyn Blitz

Treasurer:

Cindy Mason

Secretary:

Nancy Rizzardi

Newsletter

Connie Zane

2019-2020 Committee Chairs

Website:

Lance Brechbill

Equipment:

John Ressler, Jim Nelson

Field Mice:

Sue Ober

Historian:

Joyce Kingman

Hospitality:

Elaine Trei

Life Drawing:

Elaine Trei, Vera Knowles

Membership/Directory:

Connie Collins

New Member Liaison: Open

Painter of the Month:

Moira Johannessen

Raffle:

Tracy Hartman

Sunshine:

Pam Waterman

DVD Library:

Bob Hites

Workshops:

Diane Moore, Nina Harlan

Special Activities: Open

February Painter of the Month



1st - Lance Brechbill



2nd - Sandy Kalas



3rd - Cindy Burlingam



Hon. Mention - Vicki Marcinko



Demonstrator: Joseph Stoddard



Demonstrator's Choice - Linda Hanna

The nominees for Elected Officer positions will be presented to the general membership at our March general meeting, with the vote taking place at our April General and Painter of the Year meeting April 13th. Nominees are:

President - Robin St. Louis

1st VP Programs - Moira Johannessen

Recording Sec. - Alicia Siegler Secretary

There are two open positions for Standing Committees:

Grants - We haven't had a need to fill that position. We have been continuing to donate to CV Cultural Museum's youth programs which we have done for many years, but if you're interested, contact us.

Special Activities - This is an appointed position, and can be filled by the new Board in the future, if needed.

Many Thanks for Jude Wiesenfeld and Mary Ann Brower for their wonderful job coordinating the CVWS Annual Show. All could not be possible without the many volunteers and demonstrators who generously give their time to make this a yearly success. And thank you to our Judge



Demonstrators:

Ian Cooke
Bob Hannah
Karin Harris
Pat Kodet
Kathleen Scoggin
Jude Wiesenfeld

CVWS Annual Show Winners

With over 300 paintings, fabulous raffle baskets and a large list of winners, CVWS counts this year as a huge success. You can see the winning paintings at cvws.org.

Best of Show - Robin St Louis - "One Perfect Day"

Publicity Award - Kathleen Scoggin - "Pathways"

Emerging Artists - Cindy Burlingham - "Myah and Scout"

Donna Haggerty - "Raindrops Keep Falling"



Traditional Category

1st - Jim Nelson - "Saul"

2nd - Lance Brechbill - "Down on the Farm"

3rd - Robin St. Louis - "The Maggie Rose"

Honorable Mentions:

Traci Davis - "Bull Moose"

Alicia Siegler - "Their Kind of Music"

Moira Johannssen - "Ready to Roll"

Diane Morgan - "Good 'ol Poppy Top"

Mary Anne Brower - "Oh, a Bug"

Charlotte Lerner - "Path I"

Mandy Main - "Red Barn"

Kathleen Scoggin - "Pathways"

Sunny Patton - "Teapot with Apples"



Plein Air Category

1st - Diane Moore - "High Desert"

2nd - Connie Zane - "Desert Dusk"

3rd - Karin Harris - "La Quinta Fountain"

Honorable Mentions:

Claudia Barrett - "Water, Trees and Park"

Alicia Siegler - "Pinion Crest"

Mandy Main - "Sunset III"



Open Category

1st - Diane Moore - "Putting it Back Together"

2nd - Pat Kodet - "Artistic Blocks"

3rd - Karin Harris - "Woven Agave II"

Honorable. Mentions:

Alicia Siegler - "Let's Dance"

Jean Grover - "Antiquity"

Nancy Frey - "Remembering"

Mini Masters

1st - Scott Stoltman - "Ripe for the Picking"

2nd - Sunny Patton - "Teapot with Pears"

3rd - Traci Davis - "My Final Word"

Honorable Mentions:

Linda Harris - "Rio Grande River"

Linda Hanna - "An Apple a Day"

Anette Fragasso - "Follow Me"



Art News and Kudos

To All CVWS members: **Welcome back to Life Drawing**

Location: 45480 Portola Community Center on the NorthEast Corner of Portola and Shadow Mountain, Palm Desert.

Life Drawing starts January 10 and are the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month from 9AM-Noon. The cost is \$10.00. We have a clothed model. However, if less than 4 sign up, we cancel. It's a very casual atmosphere. Bring your own supplies. Chairs tables are provided or you can bring an easel if you prefer.

So if you haven't tried it you MUST give it a go. Please e-mail [Vera Knowles](#) if you can make it!

Riverside County Fair Winners from CVWS

Jean Denning - Award of Excellence , 3rd Place, & Hon. Mention

Mandy Main - Best of Division, & 1st

Sonja Price Ravet - 1st, 1st, & 3rd

Ian Cooke - 1st, 2nd, & 3rd

Bob Hites - 1st, 2nd, & Hon. Mention

Donna Haggerty - 1st & 2nd

Connie Zane - 1st & 3rd

Karin Harris - 1st

Carol Mulvihill - 3rd

Sunny Patton - Hon. Mention

Just a reminder:

The last time to enter Painter of the Month is in March. The Painter of the Year competition is in April, in which all winners from 2019-2020 can enter a painting. Contact Moira Johannessen if you have questions.

CVWS Annual Show

All winners can be viewed on the CVWS website at: CVWS.org



Member Profile

I'm **Nyra Fahmie** , retired hairstylist, and full time resident here in the desert. We lived, worked, and raised our children in Orange County, CA, of which I'm a native. I grew up with art in my life because my Mother went to Cal State Fullerton and received her fine arts degree slowly, but eventually, while she raised her children. Art projects were spread all over our small home, including our dining table. Of course art was my favorite subject through school. I learned a lot about many media's, except watercolor. When I retired in 2017, watercolor and drawing became my goal. I needed to have a creative outlet since I wasn't doing hair anymore But, I still do some, since I miss the people.

Now that I'm a member of CVWS, I can enjoy the best of both worlds. I've never done outdoor painting and will look forward to joining the group soon to learn and experience all its' facets. Art is my therapy and I take pride in what I've created already. I've painted different subject matter to challenge myself and enjoy a sence of accomplishment. Art is a niche where one can discover so much.



Field Mice

Greetings all rodents! Hope your Plein Air painting is going well. Those of you who didn't make Indian Canyons, you missed a good one.

So glad everyone is on the ball when it comes to the Field Mice Schedule! I kinda goofed on the last notice. February 25 is the Michael Wolfson Park - NOT the sculpture gardens! oops. Please mark this change on your calendar.

Feb 25 - Michael S Wolfson Park Intersecting at Frank Sinatra Drive and DuVall in Rancho Mirage.

Mar 3 - Desert Willow Golf Resort.

38995 Desert Willow Drive, Palm Desert

Meeting at the east patio and event lawn. Please use the walkway on the east of the main building. It will be easier to bring your gear through this way.

Mar. 10 - Sculpture Gardens , 72567 Hwy 111, - Palm Desert

Mar 17 - Wellness Park - 777 Tachevah Dr., Palm Springs - Happy "Green" Day

Mar 24 - San Jacinto National Monument Visitors Center - Hwy 74, Palm Desert
Hopefully we will see some wildflowers!

Starting time is still a question. 9:00 is a good start time - but, some start early...
See you there! Sue

CVWS Instructors

Ian Cooke	760 408 3313
Bob Hannah	206-409-9786
Karin Harris	808-268-0847
Moira Johannessen	760-322-2523
Pat Kodet	530-388-8241
Diane Morgan	760-902-8855
Kathleen Scoggin	503-515-9633
Jude Wiesenfeld	818-903-4083
Connie Zane	775-846-9719





Tips & Techniques

How do we evaluate our own work? Give it Distance.

We invest so much of ourselves into our paintings, that it's often impossible to be objective about what we create. Usually it's easier to critique the work of our fellows, rather than our own creations. Because it's so hard to be objective about our work; we need DISTANCE. Distance in both Time and Space. Listed below are a few ways that may help you to evaluate your own stuff.

Distance in Time

It's easier to be ruthless (and truthful) if you've let that painting lay dormant for awhile before you take it to task. We still love the things that we painted yesterday. But those that were painted a month ago are less dear, and thus, more likely to be viewed objectively. So I suggest that you let paintings age awhile before you try to evaluate them. This is Distance in Time, and it's important, because perspective and wisdom usually improve with age.

Distance in Space

It's helpful to stand back and view paintings from across the room or in a mirror to get a different and distant perspective in space.

In retrospect, ask yourself if there was an idea, a mood, or a subject that you wanted to convey. Did you accomplish that? What's missing? Keep it simple. Give the idea space. Find ways to simplify your idea or design in order to bring that central idea into focus, without clutter or confusion.

From across the room, assess your work by:

- a. Division of color, design, and value pattern
- b. Focal point/focal area? Are there pointers to this area?

There are many more criteria that you can apply, but then it gets more complicated and you're likely to get frustrated or give up. So, just take a few ideas and apply them....let things stew for awhile longer, and then tackle the assessment anew. Sometimes the ideas/solutions that occur after you've forgotten about a painting for awhile, turn out to be the solutions you couldn't see previously because you were too involved in the project.

So, just allow yourself some distance.

Connie Zane



General Meeting - Joslyn Center, 6:30 PM

Joslyn Center is located at 73750 Catalina Way, Palm Desert, CA 92260. It is about half way between San Pablo Avenue and Portola Avenue; south of Fred Waring Drive and north of Highway 111. You can access from either San Pablo or Portola.

