



Coachella Valley
Watercolor Society

Brush Up

October 2024

General Meeting: October 14, 2024
6:00 PM, Social. 6:30 General Meeting
at the Joslyn Center
73750 Catalina Way, Palm Desert, CA 92260



Welcome Back

for the

Coachella Valley Watercolor
Society's

2024 – 2025 Season!

President's Message



Bob Hannah, President

CVWS 2024 – 2025 Officers

President: Bob Hannah

Exec. VP: Connie Zane

1st VP- Programs:

Alleyn Yasskin

2nd VP – Shows:

Mary Anne Brower &

Ian Cooke

3rd VP – Publicity:

Lance Brechbill

Treasurer: Cindy Mason

Recording Secretary:

Alicia Siegler

Corresponding Secretary -

Newsletter: Jean Grover

2023-2024 Committee

Chairs:

DVD Library: Vera Knowles

Equipment: John Ressler

Grants: Nancy Rizzardi

Membership:

Connie Collins

Painter of the Month/Year:

Marilyn Blitz

Raffle: Tracy Hartman

Sunshine: Cindy Green

Web Chair: Lance Brechbill

Workshops:

Sue Ober &

Traci Davis

Welcome to the beginning of our 2024-2025 season!

I am very humbled to be your President and very excited about this new season. But most of all I'm very fortunate to work with an incredibly capable and inspired Board. All Board positions are important, but three standouts are non-elected positions: Membership Chair Connie Collins makes sure you get all your communications through email; Sue Ober arranges Workshops along with Traci Davis; and Lance Brechbill manages our website. This year in addition to his website duties, Lance will serve as Publicity Chair and act as the clearing house for most of the other committees. Of course I would be remiss not to mention Cindy Mason, our very capable Treasurer, and Recording Secretary-Alicia Siegler.

Additionally, we have Programs Chair-Alleyn Yasskin, Vera Knowles-DVD Library, Grants-Nancy Rizzardi, Executive VP Connie Zane, Raffles-Tracy Hartman, and Sunshine-Cindy Green. Our newsletter is authored by Jean Grover, Workshops chaired by Sue Ober and Traci Davis, Painter of the Month and Painter of the Year are under the guidance of Marilyn Blitz, and the Annual Show by Ian Cooke and MaryAnn Brower. All of you named above, I'm proud to work with you all.

We have some important challenges but also wonderful traditions to continue to celebrate. In my opinion, the most pressing challenge we face is growing our membership. The growth of our membership is vital. A new and larger membership will not only be financially beneficial, but new members can inject a new excitement and needed participation in the organization.

I am challenging each one of you to recruit and sign up two new members into the Coachella Valley Watercolor Society. Personally, I feel the simplest way to do that is to bring them to a meeting so they can experience our friendship, the quality demonstrations and workshops, opportunities to paint plein air with a group, the Painter of the Month/Year competitions and learn how participation in this organization can help further and improve their own art.

We are so fortunate that we have an annual show that all our members can enter. There is no juried process for selection. Every member can enter. It's held at the very prestigious art museum, The Galen, in Palm Desert. This is an incredible venue and has produced many sales for our artists. It is very well coordinated and chaired by the competent team of Ian Cooke and Mary Ann Brower.

With everyone rowing our boat in the same direction, I'm confident we'll make this the best season ever!

Keep your paints moist!

Bob Hannah

CVWS Schedule of Events 2024-2025



Oct 3 - Board Mtg. Zoom 4PM

Oct 14- General Mtg. Joslyn Center 6PM

- Summer Challenge
- POM by CVWS Board Members & Chairpersons

Nov 7 - Board Mtg. Zoom 4PM

Nov 11 - General Mtg. Joslyn Center 6PM - Demo = David Lobenberg

Nov 12-15 Workshop w/ David Lobenberg

Dec 5 - Board Mtg. Zoom 4PM

Dec 9 - General Mtg. Joslyn Center 6PM - Demo =Jim Nelson

Jan 2 - Board Mtg. Zoom 4PM

Jan 13 - General Mtg. Joslyn Center 6PM - Demo = Ellen Deiderich

Feb 6 - Board Mtg. Zoom 4PM

Feb 10 - General Mtg. Joslyn Center 6PM - Demo = Stella Canfield

Feb 11-13 - Workshop w/ Stella Canfield

Mar 4 - Show take in 10AM

Mar 6 - Show Judging & Reception 5PM (Judge = Chip Tom)

Mar 6 - 9 Show

Mar 9 - Pick up 3:30 PM

Mar 13 - Board Mtg. Zoom 4PM

Mar 17 - General Mtg.

- Demo = Kris Knutsen
- Presentation of 2025-2026 CVWS Board officers for April vote

Apr 3 - Board Mtg. Zoom 4PM

Apr 14 - General Mtg. Joslyn Center 6PM (last chance to enter POM)

- Demo To Be Determined
- Voting for Board officers

May 1 - Board Mtg. Zoom 4PM

May 12 - General Mtg. Zoom 6PM - Painter of the Year - Judge to be Determined

June 5 - Final Board Mtg.?

2024 SUMMER CHALLENGE



Dear Painters,

It's time to reveal your inner self. If summer has had a fantasy hold on you, it's over!

For those of you who have already completed the portrait assignment, you are one of the exceptional members in our Club. Our website (www.cvws.org) is ready to receive it, so send it off to Lance as soon as possible to lighten his load.

If you are just getting around to working on your painting, here are a few more ideas to inspire you:

- *Use a pose that looks away from the viewer for a moody twist*
- *A vulnerable depiction might reveal a "you" that none of us know*
- *Include some personal objects or script*
- *Put another person or thing in that you care about*
- *Make your image a different age, older or younger*

We can't wait to see your personal interpretation of YOU.

See you at Joslyn Center, Monday, October 14th at 6:00.

Marilyn Blitz, (ex) Program Chair

Membership

Welcome to New CVWS Members:

- Lorna Boa
- Carla Graifer
- Christine Houser
- Brenda Jacobs
- Barb Tourtillotte

Getting to Know You!

Written by Kathy Weyer



Lorna Boa

Lorna Boa is a maker! – Sewing, cooking, knitting, gardening, designing...and now watercolor.

Lorna has an interesting background – born in Britain, her father’s career allowed her to have friendships around the world including exotic places such as Barbados and Fiji. Although born in Britain, she is a self-proclaimed American since she has been here for fifty years. After graduating from art school in England she moved to New York and spent the next eighteen years in textiles, commuting from Connecticut daily while raising two children. “You know those double-knit pantsuits in the seventies? You can thank me (somewhat) for them!” she said, laughing. Her previous painting has been in faux finishes, furniture refinishing, acrylics, murals, and other creative endeavors.

Lorna moved here to be close to family (she has four grandchildren – two boys and two girls) two years ago and decided to pick up watercolor painting through an art group in Sun City, where she lives with three cats and happily moves among all the classes offered in the community.

She joined the CVWS to expand her horizons and meet like-minded people., Welcome Lorna!

News



CVWS Annual Show 2025

Yes, folks it's that time of the year when Mary Anne and I chase you or hopefully inspire you to paint for our annual show. As yet there is plenty of time but do start painting in advance, so you have some good work to submit.

Once again, we are in the wonderful surroundings of the Galen Art Center. The building is already booked with intake planned for Tuesday March 4, the evening reception on Thursday the 6th from 5-7pm, and pick up on Sunday March 9. I know many of you have generously offered to help so do mark your calendars for that week. The show will be open to the public and for sales on Thursday the 6th to Sunday the 9th. General hours are 10am to 4pm, although pick up will be at 3pm on Sunday.

The judge has been booked and most importantly the bartender for the reception! Most of our conditions remain the same, although minimum sale prices have changed. Framed pictures must be priced at a minimum of \$150 with the exception of the Mini Masterpieces at \$95 and the bin pieces at \$95 or more. We also want to upgrade the image of the bin pieces. It easy to think of the bins as a place for work that you can't sell or don't want. Let's try and go for a better quality – art that is every bit as good as your wall art but just unframed! The prices can reflect this. An all-round win!

Any queries or offers of help to iancooke49@gmail.com or mabrower43@gmail.com

Workshops

Greetings from your Workshop volunteers and welcome to Fall. We currently have two great workshops lined up for this coming season. The first in November with the very talented and humorous David Lobenberg, and in February with Stella Canfield.

David Lobenberg will be in the desert November 12 - 15, 2024. This 4-day workshop will feature his California Vibe style with 2 days of portraiture work and 2 days of line and wash instruction. There are still a few seats left. Don't let this one pass you by. David is a seasoned instructor and his past workshop for the Coachella Valley Watercolor Society was sold out. Give yourself a break before the holidays with this workshop.... Better yet, sign up with a friend!

Stella Canfield is booked for February 2025. Stella is another returning artist to the desert. I personally was able to take her previous workshop, and it was fantastic. Her energy is very contagious, her workshops are fast paced and loaded with humorous stories of her amazing experiences here and abroad. This Watercolor Magic workshop is all about you and developing your process. Go to www.cvws.org to view the bios, artwork and videos that have been provided.

Thanks, and we'll see you all soon.

Susan Ober - Workshop Volunteer

watertonsue@gmail.com

CALIFORNIA VIBE
WATERCOLOR PORTRAITURE AND
LANDSCAPE™

*Meandering
Line and Wash*

No drawing skills needed.
Learn my photo/tracing technique
to create eye catching portraits and
landscapes. We will integrate
meandering black line work with
bright expressive chalk marker and
watercolor washes. **Follow me step-
by-step as you learn this stunning
style with two different subjects!**



In this new California Vibe Watercolor Portraiture and Landscape™ workshop style, David teaches the art of integrating energetic, gestural line work with energized hues of color (including the use of colored chalk markers). And like in past workshops, absolutely no drawing experience is necessary. Both beginner and more advanced artists can attend the workshop.

David Keith Lobenberg

Internationally published and exhibiting fine artist
David Lobenberg has over thirty-five years experience
teaching both college and private art classes. He has
also established a reputation for conducting well
organized, energetic, hands-on watercolor and drawing
workshops across the United States and Canada.

Website: lobenbergart.com

Visit www.cvws.org to sign up!

Workshops, continued

**FEBRUARY
2025!**

We are very excited to welcome back Stella Canfield to the desert for a 3-day workshop. Stella will present her signature style with this “Watercolor Magic” workshop.

Fast paced morning demos lead into “getting into your zone” of hard work and fun.

Join us for Stella’s great humor and amazing experiences in February.

Stella Canfield



*“Dedicated to YOU
and YOUR
process”*

www.facebook.com/stella.canfield

[@instagram.com/stellacanfield](https://www.instagram.com/stellacanfield)

A watercolor workshop with Stella is all about YOU! Stella will help you to develop your own creative process and guide you to finish a painting every day (if not two). From sketching to design, color, light and techniques to applying emotion, brush strokes, and final touches, Stella will be there for you throughout the entire day, making sure you feel comfortable and confident with your process.

Let It Flow

Stella is a working artist, mother of four and a friend, an active member of society, and a volunteer keeping up with life on two continents, America and Europe. Her energy is contagious and her passion for life and art is admirable.

There are no limits to creation!

Stella teaches watercolor, juries and participates in exhibits initiated by art organizations in the USA, Europe and Asia. She has received many international awards for her work. Her paintings are in several private, corporate and museum collections in America, Europe and Asia. She is an Official Brand Ambassador of Daniel Smith, USA president of IWS California, and a Representative of the USA for UrbinoInAcquerello, Italy.

Contact us at: www.cvws.org

Guest Contributor: Connie Zane

No Risk Opportunities

Just when I felt that I had no business calling myself a painter and that I'd forgotten all I'd ever known about art, I came across a wonderful pick-me-up piece of wisdom from Australian artist, Judy Woods.

She'd been working to paint something she was happy with, but after a futile afternoon, just gave up in disgust. I quote her reflections about what she learned:

- "That you're ALWAYS capable of creating something ghastly
- When facing something ghastly - WALK AWAY
- A new day can offer a new approach - TRUST THE PROCESS
- Ghastliness can very quickly become LOVELY".

I immediately latched onto the first item on the list. "Hooray, I'm not alone," I thought. "Creating ghastly stuff is my forte!" So, given that I have a whole boxful of notably bad material to work with, there's no place to go but up. Everything in that box is a NO RISK opportunity. No matter which trash-worthy paper I pull out, each is equally capable of becoming a sleeping beauty, and I am free to experiment to my heart's content.

For me, experimentation is the magic key. Once I give up trying to reach perfection, I can allow myself to take risks. I've nothing invested in this disaster and so I just put on my 'Devil May Care' hat and try anything. It's like I'm starting with a clean slate. Except the slate isn't clean, so I bypass the blank white paper problem. Plus, I am already appalled by the previous results, so I don't have any fear about saving a "precious part". Perfect! I'm set to go.

I start by using black or white (either paint, collage, or gesso), covering up areas I don't like and then go about building some links between the remaining sections. Surprisingly, as I work away, some areas take on a new persona and fresh ideas start to percolate. Before you know it, I've found a path to follow and sometimes, when the muses are smiling, it turns into something I really like.

That's when I sit back, put my feet up and think smugly, "I just love being an artist."

"The tradition of creating is not the tradition of instant enlightenment, but of steady progress; not of finding relief from life, but living life; not of desperate hopelessness, but of living a life filled with the purpose of bringing new creations into being."

~ Robert Fritz, *The Path of Least Resistance*

Kudos



ANDREA RAFT was featured in the
June 17, 2024
Stories & Insights on
CANVAS REBEL
Conversations with
Entrepreneurs, Artists &
Creatives
<https://canvasrebel.com/meet-andrea-raft/>



In our June 2024 newsletter, we published the news that Robin Staton won 1st place in mixed media at the Yucaipa Performing Arts Center during the Art Gone Wild Music & Jazz Festival. Done with watercolor and charcoal pencil, the title of the painting was “The Bouquet”. These photos were not available at the time of publication, but we are happy to share them now.



“Shade & Shelter” by Ellen Jean Diederich

Congratulations to Ellen Jean Diederich!

Her painting “Shade & Shelter.” the runner up for our CVWS Painter of the Year this past spring, is on exhibit at the 2024 Watercolor West International Exhibition!

She has also won a Merit Award for her painting Roadside Stop at the 2024 Red River Watercolor Society National Juried Exhibition.

And finally, she has been hired to be workshop instructor and juror for the Watercolor Society of Alabama’s 2024 Members Exhibition, where she is teaching a Color Design Workshop. Well done, Ellen!!!!

Odds & Ends

Follow us on social media!			
	Instagram		Facebook
	@Coachella Valley Watercolor		Coachella Valley Watercolor Society



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

Desert Plein Air Association's October 2024 Paint-out Schedule

Monday, October 7th: Melissa Morgan Sculpture Garden, Palm Desert on El Paseo. Arrive at 8am, or at will.

Thursday, October 17th: Lake Fulmore... Arrive at 8am, or at will.

Wednesday, October 23rd: Palm Springs...Marilyn Monroe sculpture...Arrive at 7:30am, or at will.

Confirm with Diane Moore if you plan to attend: Diane Moore, President 760-485-6798

*Do you have Art Books or DVDs to donate to CVWS?
Please contact Vera Knowles at veraknowles@icloud.com*



Editor's Note

If you have a topic or feature that you'd like to see included in the CVWS newsletter, please send an email to:

cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com

Many CVWS members offer excellent painting instruction and classes.

Call for information:

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