

The Chaparral Sketch



Chaparral Artists members have been invited to the gardens on May 9th at 9:30 a.m. to paint, sketch, or photograph the gardens. I hope to see our members there.

This is an excellent chance to see the gardens now that they've matured. Also, if you haven't been there before this is a great time to see the work that Shirley and Bruce did on behalf of Chaparral Artists.

The Water Wise Demonstration Garden is located two blocks north of Hwy 62 at the corner of Park Blvd and Chollita Road next to the Joshua Basin Water District in Joshua Tree.

Take a trip to Moorten Botanical Garden

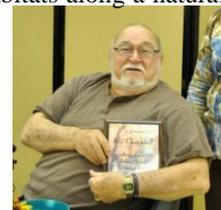
Editor

On May 26th Chaparral Artists will be hosting a trip to the Moorten Botanical Garden.

Moorten Botanical Garden is a historical landmark located in Palm Springs. This private arboretum was created by Chester and Patricia Moorten to share with everyone the beauty and extraordinary varieties of desert plants from around the world as well as their Mediterranean style home, called "Cactus Castle". There is a collection of more than 3000 varieties of plants designed in concentrated habitats along a natural trail.

The deadline to sign up for this trip is May 19th. Chaparral Artists still doesn't charge for hosting these trips and you don't

have to be a member to accompany us. We only ask that you help pay



Ron Churchwell with the plaque he received in recognition of his service to Chaparral Artists

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President's Palette

Patricia (Pat) Quandel

This month's meeting will be the final one of the season. Besides our monthly trips and a special paint out at the Water Wise Demonstration Garden in Joshua we will have one more get-together. It will be a Mexican themed potluck with Morongo Valley Art Colony at Covington Park in Morongo Valley in June. **(There won't be a June meeting.)**

Last month the club voted to not be in this year's Studio Art Tour in October. We will have our annual judged Harvest Show on October 14 so that it doesn't conflict with the Studio Art Tour.

See you at our meeting on May 14. Don't forget to wear your nametag.

Chaparral Artists Paint Out on May 9th

Editor



One of walls at the Water Wise Demonstration Garden

Some of you may remember that Shirley James and Bruce Miller were

honored by the Joshua Basin Water District for their work on the walls at the Water Wise Demonstration Garden in Joshua Tree in 2010. A plaque was installed at the entrance to the garden with the following inscription.

**Garden Wall Art A Community Gift from Chaparral Artists
 Morongo Valley Art Colony
 Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council**

**With special thanks to:
 Shirley James and Bruce Miller
 Sept. 2010**

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for the gas of the individual you are riding with.

We will meet at one of the local fast food restaurants we will then caravan to our destination. If you need a ride or have room available in your vehicle let us know when you make your reservation. Once we reach our destination it's not necessary to stay in a group. All that we ask is that you leave with the same people you arrived with unless other arrangements are made.

You can sign up for this trip by either calling 760-362-1976 and leaving your name and number stating that you would like to go on the trip or you can send an email to chaparralartists@hotmail.com.

Admission is \$4.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children 5 - 15.

Annual Spring Art Show

Editor

Chaparral Artists will be having their Spring Art Show this month. It is being held at A Roadside Attraction Gallery. This show is open to all artists and there will be separate groups for adults and youth. The categories are two dimensional and three dimensional. **(No photographs are allowed in this show.)** The subcategories are birds, flowers, insects, landscapes, man-made, other animals, people, plants & trees, still life, sunrise/sunset, and other. Any subcategory containing less than three entries will be combined with a similar subcategory.

Members of Chaparral Artists who have paid their 2011/2012 dues and kindergarten thru 12th grade students will pay \$10.00 for their first entry and \$5.00 for each additional entry. All other artists will pay \$10.00 per entry.

Only artwork that has never been shown in a judged show hosted by Chaparral Artists will be allowed.

An entry form and a membership application are

included with this newsletter and you can get additional artists tags at

<http://patriciaquandel.intuitwebsites.com/Chaparral-Artists.html>.



At our April meeting George Antis explained how he worked on this painting while it was upside down.

You can take your entries to the Chaparral Artists meeting on May 14th at the Joshua Tree Community Center at 1:00 p.m. or you can drop off your entries at A Roadside Attraction Gallery on Thursday, May 17th, between 2 – 6 p.m. or Friday, May 18th, between 10:30 a.m. – noon. If you currently have artwork in the Spring Photography

Show you can pick it up at the same times.

Cash prizes and ribbons will be awarded at the reception on Sunday, May 20th. The reception runs from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The show will be on display for a month and artwork can be picked up on June 14th between 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. or June 15th between 10:30 a.m. and noon.

An entry form for the show and a membership application are included with this newsletter.

2012 Las Vegas Painting Convention

Beverly Schmuckle

It was 9:00 a.m. and a gorgeous Saturday morning (Feb.25th) in the high desert. The kind of day made for a 150 mile long-distance trip. For seven months Jan Melchert, Dorene Fundin & I planned to attend the 21st Las Vegas Painting Convention being held at the Tropicana Hotel with a full week of non-stop painting. We were very anxious to get started. This would be my second time attending the convention and Jan & Dorene's first (the newbies).

We took two separate vehicles since I was the only one staying to take a Saturday & Sunday post-convention class with one of my favorite teachers. First stop was the

May 2012

Kelso train station, 125 miles from Yucca Valley. What a beautiful stopover. The rangers were quite helpful and invited us to take time to see the local art exhibit; a display of wooden cactus (3D) painted by young children with fantastic imaginations. The finished pieces were being offered in a silent auction to help make money for their school. Next stop would be at Stateline for gas then on to the Tropicana. The scenery was beautiful, rock formations galore, many photo opps.

Jan and Dorene were staying in a timeshare not far from the Tropicana. Registration check-in would begin on Sunday morning. Jan & I had signed-up to take a pre-convention class on Sunday evening, both in different mediums. The plan was to catch up to each other whenever there was time between classes, eating or sleeping. (I don't think any of us got much of that.)

There were 931 painters and 103 instructors in attendance. We had chosen our classes back in June so fortunately we got most of the classes we wanted. Over 170 classes were offered in many different mediums. Classes that were still open could be added. We attended renowned seascape artists



Jan Melchert, Beverly Schmuckel, Joyce Ortner, & Dorene Fundin at the Las Vegas painting Convention – Courtesy Photo

Joyce Ortner's class together. The only thing we had to make room for in our schedules was attending the convention itself.

There were more than 125 vendors offering their newest products at tremendous savings. The classes others. We were all very tired, but kept up the pace. (It wasn't always easy) The convention floor opened for attendees only on Wednesday morning, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. then opened to the public. There was a sea of painters gathered in the hall awaiting the bargains that were offered. It was GREAT fun when the doors parted to let us in, almost a

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free-for-all. We could continue our shopping 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Thursday and 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on Friday. The number of last minute shoppers was almost as many as Wednesday’s opening because the vendors added more sale items to their inventory.

Overall; each of us had a tremendous time, made many new acquaintances, learned new techniques and ideas, painted with fantastic instructors, and were very tired. There’s already talk about making the trek again next year for the 22nd Las Vegas Painting Convention. The catalog of classes should be available by mid-June. For more information go to www.vegaspaint.com.



Raini Armstrong with her Best of Show winner at Chaparral Artists’ Spring Photo Show – Photo by Brian Strader

CONTROL OFFICERS RELEASE NEW REPORT – HIGH DESERT ONE OF FEW REGIONS WITH NO UNHEALTHY DAYS IN 2011

Chaparral Artists members Roger & Louise Bridges and Chuck Caplinger were among the artists who had their work for sale at the 20th Annual Joshua Tree National Park Art Festival on April 6 – 8 at the Oasis Visitor Center in Twentynine Palms.

The town of Yucca Valley and the Hi-Desert Nature Museum are exhibiting some of the finest work of some of this community’s rising talent from Yucca Valley High School. Curated by YVHS art teacher Bruce Hamilton, the show displays a variety of compelling subjects in different mediums such as drawing and painting. You can see work by these young artists at the Hi-Desert Nature Museum from May 1 – June 2.



Teacher Bruce Hamilton & student artist Jake Bigornia at this year’s reception of the YVHS show at the Hi-Desert Nature Museum.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Hazel Bader on April 27. (Hazel was a former member of Chaparral Artists as well as a past president of the club.)

Our condolences go out to Hazel’s family and friends.

Hwy 62 Art Tours Applications Late-Entry Deadline is May 10. Call for artists and open studios applications are now open for the 11th Annual Hwy 62 Art Tours, produced by the Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council. This year’s

Art Tours are set for Oct. 20-21 and 27-28.

All artists throughout the Morongo Basin, working in all artistic disciplines, are encouraged to apply.



Roger & Louise Bridges with some of their work at this year’s JTNP Art festival.

Applications are currently being accepted online.

Deadline to sign up is April 23 before a late fee is charged. After April 23, a \$30 late fee will be charged. Firm deadline is May 10; no entries will be accepted after this date. To apply go to signup.hwy62art.com.

Congratulations to Chaparral Artists member Ronnie Besase whose photograph won Best of Show at Morongo Valley Art Colony’s Spring Art Show.

April Drawing Winners

Editor

The following individuals were the winners of our April drawing.

50/50 – Onna Addis

Door Prize – Diane Stamm

Raffle Winners

Gordon Crawford

Diane Stamm

Dorene Fundin (2)

Pat Lumbattis

Nancy Miehle

Pat Quandel

Barb Roberts

Dianne Stroble

Sunshine & Red (2)



Ronnie Besase with her Best of Show winner at the Morongo Valley Art Colony’s Spring Show – Photo by Beverly Schmuckle

Individuals with a number after their name won multiple prizes.

Remember that if you were a raffle winner you need to bring a prize to our May meeting for each one that you received.

"Desert Wildflowers: Kaleidoscope of Color" is an Art in Public Places exhibition, currently on display at the Twentynine Palms Visitor Center & Gallery. The show will be on exhibit through May 31.

The Mane Street Stampede (Formally the Pioneer Town Posse) wild west show is providing western shows each Saturday through October in Pioneertown in front of Historic Pioneer Bowl at 2:30pm...FREE to the public!

CALIFORNIA'S AIR POLLUTION

Photo Show Observations

Raini Armstrong

The 2012 Spring Photography 'Judged' show was quite fun this year. There were so many fantastic entries and I think I learned a few things regarding show setup and individual presentation. This was my first judged show setup so far, and I will admit that I was worried. Judged shows tend to be popular - which means more entries and the added steps during intake - accepting entry fees, separately creating tags to be placed 'after' judging, and sorting according to subject, made me sweat a bit. I am still in training, and thankfully I have some excellent teachers! Between the Chaparral president, exuberant show committee members and an especially wonderful woman that I can really rely on, and who knows the ropes, I was able to take it all in stride. These shows are all put on by people donating their time, wall space and even money, and I really am in awe of them.

Our judge this time around was a gentleman named David McChesney, a great photographer who I think captures the heart of the desert. His photos are not limited to this place I like to call home, but my favorite works of his are the flora, fauna and landscapes that begin to represent the magic of my home.

Now I will be the first to admit, I don't enjoy judged events. It is true that the result of a physical acknowledgment - a ribbon, trophy, maybe a mention of success, is neat and sometimes even helpful to boost your career or simply motivate you to do 'more' in the future. It is always nice to know that something about your work 'excited' others, or at least was clean and well presented. My experience, however, with judgment has always been mixed. Solid presentation can sometimes be considered more important than the subject, the subject itself might be ripped apart due to a minor flaw, or the meaning behind a subject may be misconstrued and the 'point' missed.

At times, even certain subject categories might be looked at under different 'lenses' because of the judges own artistic preferences. These issues lessen the enjoyment of contests for me, because I do not feel that everyone is truly playing on a 'level playing field. That being said however, there is always something to learn from the result if you have the heart to listen to even a bad review - and I have heard plenty of bad reviews over the years! Such opinions, taken in stride, have the potential to hone your craft, keep you on the right track to pleasing an audience, or let you know that you have already done what you wish - broken the Status Quo.



Photo by Raini Armstrong

If anyone is still with me on this rant, the photo everyone is looking at here is a very tasteful nude male positioned behind a desert plant. It did not receive any particular mention from the judge but it was none the less a focal piece. I myself would stare at the photo just to see what was showing. Others thought the flesh might actually be a part of the scenery; so no matter what drew your attention into the photograph you were captured all the same while trying to pick it apart. I think the artist is definitely on the right track with this image!

I myself did well in the show, receiving several ribbons but when competing against friends there never seems to be a 'winner'. I enjoyed the show immensely and loved the entries. I, typically, was mixed in my agreement of the judges decisions, but overall I think I took away a few pointers to better my work in the future.

Editor's note - You can

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find photographs that Raini took of this show at

http://raini.smugmug.com/Interests/Gallery-Shows/April-15-2012/22449438_tKLhb5#!i=1796324692&k=j6nrldhz.

The Sun Runner

Hi folks,

Our new website for The Sun Runner launched this morning, May 2. There are a couple of things you should know about it that may be helpful.

First, businesses and organizations are welcome to create their free listing in our Places+ directory. Please note that the directory will be geographically sortable in the next few weeks. Folks can post reviews on the business directories, and those listings can be shared through social media and e-mail. This means, if people like your business and review it on www.thesunrunner.com; you can use those reviews to promote your business across social media and elsewhere, a pretty useful tool. If your business is a venue for events listed in our calendar, it may already be input. If so, please take a look and if there are details you'd like us to add (since we input it originally, we have to edit it, but will be glad to do so), please send them to me here. We are building the options for our enhanced listings right now, so those will be online soon and will allow more features.

Also, our online events calendar (which will also be geographically sortable in the next few weeks), allows users to input their own events, so please feel free to do so.

You can sort by category already. The calendar will be evolving in the next month to allow expanded features. Once again, you can share the event from our calendar on social media, and Like it on Facebook. This is a great way to build exposure

and awareness of the event. Please continue to send us your calendar listings to calendar@thesunrunner.com,



Chuck Caplinger with some of his work at this year's JTNP Art Festival

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especially if you have artwork we can use in the Sun Blast and elsewhere.

Later this month, we will have online advertising, enhanced listings, and even enhanced event listings available on the site, along with social media campaigns and other online marketing options. I'm pleased

to say that even though we just launched the site this morning, we already have folks sharing stories on Facebook.

We'll be constantly working on, and improving, the features on the new site, but I'm excited to have a search engine optimized website that will build traffic, connect our editorial more across social media and the web, allow for contributors from around the desert to help connect us with what is going on everywhere, and make the site a hub for information about the desert.

We're launching a contest soon for new columnists for the site so if anyone would like to be a sponsor and offer some prizes for the contest, etc., please let me know and I'll get you the details soon.

Please feel free to share your ideas or thoughts on the new site and let me know if you have any questions. thanks,
Steve

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Chaparral Artists' Spring Photo Show

Editor

This year's spring photo show once again brought us some

wonderful work by some extremely talented photographers.

This year's judge was renowned photographer David McChesney who admitted that he had a tough time picking the winners in some of the categories.

Congratulations to all of this year's winners.

Best of Show
 Raini Armstrong –

Bowing to the Moon

People's Choice

Julianne Koza – Siblings Snuggle
 Brian Strader – Ripples of Water & Light

President's Award

Pat Harfield – Double View
 Julianne Koza – Stormlight Lakeside
 Jean Pliss – Joshua Tree

Animal

1st – Julianne Koza
 2nd – Brian Strader
 3rd – Bruce Miller
 Honorable Mention – Patricia Quandel

Birds

1st – Julianne Koza
 2nd – Brian Strader
 3rd – Dennis Hofelich

Flowers

1st - Raini Armstrong
 2nd - Raini Armstrong
 3rd – Dennis Hofelich
 Honorable Mention – Julianne Koza
 Honorable Mention – Bruce Miller

Insects

1st – Julianne Koza
 2nd – Raini Armstrong
 3rd – Patricia Quandel

Landscape

1st – Raini Armstrong
 2nd – Brian Strader



David McChesney judging the Man-Made Category at Chaparral Artists' Spring Photo Show



Nancy Miehle at our April meeting explaining why she prefers painting portraits

3rd – Brian Strader

Man-Made

1st – Judy Nagel
 2nd – Raini Armstrong
 3rd – Judy Nagel
 Honorable Mention – Raini Armstrong
 Honorable Mention – Julianne Koza

Other

1st – Raini Armstrong
 2nd – Rhonda Duval
 3rd – Patricia Quandel

People

1st – Dennis Hofelich
 2nd – Dennis Hofelich
 3rd – Tim Nagel

Plants & Trees

1st – Julianne Koza
 2nd – Tami Roleff
 3rd – Raini Armstrong

Still Life

1st - Patricia Quandel
 2nd – Patricia Quandel
 3rd – Jean Pliss

Sunrise/Sunset

1st – Dennis Hofelich
 2nd – Brian Strader
 3rd – Julianne Koza

You can see this show between now and May 16.

Letter to the Editor

Greetings 3D artists. We are looking for an artist to share space for the Art Tours show.

My name is Leslie Shaw and I am a stained glass artist. We will be showing at my house. My house is a good location for the show because it's on a busy, paved street only four miles from the intersection of Hwy. 62 and Hwy. 247.

The artist who is planning to share with me is Darlene H. Morris. She is a mixed media and acrylic painter. So she will be using the wall space, I will be using the window space and we want a third artist to show on the surface spaces. A ceramic, gourd, sculpture, jeweler etc... Artist would be ideal.

My home is at 58718 Buena Vista Drive in Yucca Valley and we are planning to show on the first weekend only.

We would be able to split the refreshment's cost and of course it

costs less in registration fees to share a space. I think visitors like to stop at multiple artist locations.

Give me a call if you're interested. I share a cell phone with my husband, Stephen, 760-567-7921 or you can reach me at work at 760-365-3315 ext. 237 between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Editor – Contact Leslie before Thursday, May 10 if you would like to join her and Darlene for the art tour.

The following businesses offer discounts to artists who present their artist membership card prior to checkout.

Ground Control Hobbies
55696 29 Palms Hwy.
Yucca Valley, CA
(10% off on all art supplies)

Oasis Office Supply
56925 Yucca Trail, Suite D
Yucca Valley CA
(10% off on all art supplies)
(Custom orders for all the supplies needed for your art classes with a 15% off discount to your students for those supplies.)

Whitaker's Art Supply
5684 Historic Plaza
Twentynine Palms, CA
(10% off everything in the store)

Roadside Attraction Gallery hosts Chaparral Artists monthly shows and exhibits.
Located in Indian Cove behind Acclaim Insurance
69197 29 Palms Highway
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

NOTE: The gallery is open for receptions and during the regular business hours of Acclaim Insurance.

Event Calendar
Chaparral Artists & club member events are highlighted.

Apr. 15 – May 16
Chaparral Artists Spring Open Judged Photography Show at A Roadside Attraction Gallery

May 9 (9:30 a.m.)
Chaparral Artists Paint Out at the Water Wise Demonstration Garden in Joshua Tree



Muffin Hill with the plaque she received in recognition of her service to Chaparral Artists

May 11 (9 a.m.)
Chaparral Artists board meeting

May 14 (1 – 3 p.m.)
Chaparral Artists meeting in the Joshua Tree Community Center

May 17 (2 – 6 p.m.) & May 18 (10:30 a.m. – noon)
Pick up artwork from the judged Spring Photography Show at A Roadside Attraction Gallery & drop off artwork for the Spring Art Show

May 20 (1 – 3 p.m.)
Chaparral Artists Reception for Spring Open Judged Art Show at A Roadside Attraction Gallery

May 20 – June 13
Chaparral Artists Spring Art Show at A Roadside Attraction Gallery

May 26
Chaparral Artists trip to Moorten Botanical Garden in Palm Springs

June – No meeting at Joshua Tree Community Center

June 17 – July 11
Chaparral Artists Flowers Themed Exhibit at A Roadside Attraction Gallery

June 20 (Noon)
Chaparral Artists & Morongo Valley Art Colony end of season potluck at Covington Park.

July 15 – Aug. 15
Chaparral Artists Landscape Themed Exhibit at A Roadside Attraction Gallery

Aug. 19 – Sept. 12
Chaparral Artists Photographers on Display Themed Exhibit at A Roadside Attraction Gallery

Sept. 16 – Oct. 10
Chaparral Artists Creatures Big and Small Themed Exhibit at A Roadside Attraction Gallery

Oct. 14 – Nov. 14
Chaparral Artists judged Harvest Show at A Roadside Attraction Gallery

Last Thursday of each month (10.am. – noon)
Crafter and Artist Meet & Greet at Whitakers' Art Supply in the Historic Plaza in 29 Palms.



Paintings by Nancy Miehle across from the Nurse's Station in the Hi Desert Medical Center

From the Editor

In the coming months you will see interviews of several people who call the Morongo Basin home. We are planning to interview artists, actors, as well as other people who have an interesting story to tell.

If you know someone whose story you think our readers would enjoy reading about please let us know at chaparralartists@hotmail.com.

As always we welcome articles as well as news briefs by our members and readers.