

The Chaparral Sketch



in Alaska. The *Chaparral Sketch* is now published twelve months a year.

In closing; I want to thank everyone who has made my job as President so enjoyable and I want to wish Jan all the best as she assumes the leadership role. I'm sure that everyone will give her all of the help and support that she needs.



These photos by Raini Armstrong & Judith Nagel are among those currently hanging in the Director's office at the 29 Palms Chamber of Commerce.

Attaching wire to picture frames

Editor

Most judged art shows have strict rules regarding the preparation of artwork. One of the first things that will get your work rejected is the method used for hanging. For instance the Associated Artists of the Inland Empire have the following statement in their rules. "All paintings must be suitably framed, ready to hang with taut wire and hardware to support the weight of the art (no saw tooth hangers)."

Since the new show season is beginning I thought that I would share with you the process that I use for attaching wire to picture frames.

I recommended that you have an ice pick, pliers, screwdriver, tape measure, and wire cutters for attaching the wire to your picture frames. Before attaching the wire I recommend that you put your art in the frame.

1. Purchase eye hooks or

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Inside this Issue Editor: Patricia Quandel	
1	President's Palette
1	Attaching wire to picture frames
2	Encouragement
2	Smell the flowers
3	Chaparral Artists climb to new heights
3	Photographers on Display
4	Odds & Ends
5	Landscape Show Recap
5	Basin Wide Spirit
5	Notes from the Editor
5	Artist Discounts Offered
6	Event Calendar

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Secretary – Guila Gilmore
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Advertising – Suzanne Burton
Show Committee – Raini Armstrong (Chairman), Ron Churchwell, Vickie Culver, Julianne Koza, Nancy Miehle, Jean Towle-Pliss & Janice Westfall
Webmaster – Red Toph

Chaparral Artists
P. O. Box 2202
Joshua Tree, California 92252
(760) 362-1976
ChaparralArtists@gmail.com

President's Palette

Patricia (Pat) Quandel

This is my last month as President of Chaparral Artists. I was thinking that this was a bittersweet time but the more I thought about it the less I feel that way. I'm looking forward to turning the reins over to Jan Melchert who I believe will lead the group in new and exciting directions.

This month will also be the last one where I will be in charge of the monthly trips. Begun as an effort to allow others to accompany my friends and I on our excursions it's been fun but I need to cut back on some of my Chaparral Artists duties. I will still be on the Show Committee and will continue as editor of the *Chaparral Sketch*.

I have to say that I'm pretty proud of what I have accomplished, with the help of many other people, in the two years that I've been President. I think what I'm most proud of is the fact that I've helped increase our membership and the readership of our newsletter. When I became President in September 2010 only members who had an email account were receiving *The Chaparral Sketch*. Other club members could pick up a copy at the meetings. At that time we were sending out less than fifty newsletters a month. We decided to mail copies of our newsletter to members who didn't have a computer and offer free email subscriptions to anyone who had an email account. I set a goal of increasing our readership to 250 by June 2011. We exceeded my goal and after two years our readership has grown to almost 450 families with readers in various places throughout the U. S. and Canada; with our most northern reader living

hangers made especially for hanging pictures and buy picture hanging wire that has a breaking strength at least four times the weight of your framed piece. I use 25 pound wire on all my pictures and I prefer coated wire. (You can purchase wire at most department stores and craft stores.)



Guila Gilmore working on a basket at a class taught by Otter Smith-Martinez

2. Attach the hangers approximately 1/3 of the way down from the top on the frame. Make sure that the hooks or nails that you select aren't as long as the frame is thick. You don't want it going through to the front. I use my ice pick to start a small hole where I'm going to attach the hangers. Then I attach the eye hooks or hangers using the holes that I started with my ice pick. If I'm using eye hooks I insert the ice pick through the eye to help turn it. It makes the job faster and easier.
3. The next step is to attach the wire. I don't cut the wire before I start. (This cuts down on the waste.) Push the end of the wire through one of the hangers from the outside in and through the hanger on the opposite side. Run the loose end through the hook a second time and wrap it tightly around the long piece six to eight times and cut off any excess. Then pull the wire tight and cut the wire on the other side; leaving enough room to run the wire through the hook a second time and wrap it six or eight times.

Your artwork is now ready to enter in the show of your choice.

Encouragement

Editor

Since I've become a member of Chaparral Artists I've met many artistic people. Many of whom are quite well known for their art. Most of them are very encouraging to young or beginning artists.

Unfortunately; there are some artists who can't take the time to praise other people's endeavors and some even seem to relish telling others that their work isn't very good or not art. I wonder how they would have felt if they had been treated that way when they first started. By the way, an artist is a person who expresses them self through any type of medium.

Are these people afraid of the competition? Don't they realize that competition is good? If you are a true artist it should help you strive to improve your own work. I know that my own photography has improved thanks in large part to other photographers, artists, and judges who have offered constructive criticism. I may not always agree with their comments but I appreciate them.

There's a difference in constructive criticism and nastiness. How hard is it to praise a person for trying their best or possibly offer a suggestion to them on how they can improve their work? I've met three or four artists who have been treated poorly or received nasty comments about their work and it has affected all of them negatively. One person was so affected by the negative comments that she didn't even attempt creating anything for several years. A couple of others dropped their membership to an artists' group

(2 different groups) because of the way they were treated.

Do you want to be the person who crushes someone's dreams or do you want to be known as one of the people who helped further the career of the next great artist?

If you like expressing yourself in any way; don't let anyone tell you that you're not an artist. Also, don't forget to praise the art of others. Everyone likes a little encouragement.

Smell the flowers

Editor

If you attended this year's Lavender Festival in Cherry Valley you couldn't help but smell the flowers. The lavender fields were all in bloom and besides the human visitors the insects were also enjoying the flowers.

This was a perfect trip for our Chaparral Artists June excursion. No one in our group had ever been to the Lavender Festival at 123 Farms even though it's only a short drive from the Morongo



Julianne Koza, Mies Broome, Raini Armstrong, & Muffin Hill taking a wagon ride at the Lavender Festival.

Basin. We were all pleasantly surprised. As an added bonus there were magnolia trees in

bloom lining one side of the parking lot. We all spent several minutes photographing the flowers; first when we arrived and later when we were getting ready to leave.

There were several food stands as well as vendor booths. There was even a booth where a person could create crafts using lavender flowers. We all took a wagon tour through the fields and wandered around the area taking photographs of all kinds of interesting things. I even ran into one of the local residents who seemed to be confused by all the tents and people around his home. While I watched



The Chaparral Sketch

him; every few seconds he would pop his head out of his hole and look around at the people as if to say “What’s happening?”

123 Farms is the largest certified organic lavender farm in Southern California and besides being the host of the annual Lavender Festival it also has an annual Sausage & Beer Festival, an Olive & Wine Faire, and monthly cooking classes. For more information you can go to their website at www.123farm.com.

Chaparral Artists climbs to new heights

Editor

As I write this article about our upcoming trip to the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway on August 25th its 8:00 a.m. on July 9th. It’s currently 81 degrees in Twentynine Palms and the temperature is supposed to get up to 108 degrees. It’s 68 degrees at the top of the tram and the temperature is only supposed to go up to 79 degrees; two degrees less than it is right now in Twentynine Palms. I can only imagine what the difference will be when we take our trip.

The Palm Springs Aerial Tramway has the world’s largest rotating tramcar. It takes riders on a 10 minute ride from the Valley Station to the Mountain Station; a gain in altitude of 5,873 feet and if you want to hike any of the trails there are several to choose from. You can access any of the trails by exiting the Mountain Station and descending a concrete pathway less than a mile to Long Valley. In Long Valley there are picnic tables, water, a Ranger Station, and flush toilets. Trail lengths range from an easy ¾ mile loop to a 5 ½ mile one way hike to San Jacinto Peak, the second highest point in Southern California. For the less energetic you can relax near the Mountain Station and everyone can take advantage of the dining at either the Pines Café or the Peaks Restaurant. (Reservations are

recommended for the Peaks Restaurant.)

It’s recommended that you wear sturdy closed toe shoes, layered comfortable clothing, hat and sunscreen. You may want to take a light jacket or sweater. Water is only available in Long Valley and Round Valley. Bring your own water if you are traveling further. Hikers MUST stay on designated trails.

Ticket Prices:

- Children \$16.95 (ages 3-12)
- Adults \$23.95
- Seniors \$21.95 (62+)

You can buy your tickets at the Valley Station Ticket Booth or online at www.pstramway.com.

The deadline to sign up for this trip is August 18th. 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 for the gas of the individual you are riding with.



Brian Strader with some of his photographs at last year’s Photographers on Display Show.

We will caravan to the Valley Station. 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@gmail.com. You will be contacted with the time and location of where we’ll be meeting.



Photo by Julianne Koza

Photographers on Display

Editor

“Photographers on Display” was the first themed show that I scheduled for Chaparral Artists and it will also be the name of my last show. The first “Photographers on Display” came about because the artist that I had scheduled for the show canceled and I needed artwork “fast”. We had a great show and I’m hoping that this show is at least half as good.



Photo by Judith Nagel

This isn’t a judged show and all of the participants are members of Chaparral Artists. Many of Chaparral Artists’ photographers are multiple award winners and

this show will give you a chance to see some of their work, meet the artists, and even purchase a photo or two.

If you aren’t a member of Chaparral Artists, or a young artist who hasn’t graduated high school, and would like to display your work then you can do so by becoming a member of Chaparral Artists. Memberships start at \$25.00 and you can join when you take your work to the gallery.

We are asking all exhibitors to limit their work to no more than 12 pieces. Depending on the number of artist submissions we may need to limit each exhibitor’s submissions even farther. Please keep all hanging entries to less than 36” wide.

Turn in your artwork at A Roadside Attraction Gallery (in Indian Cove near the intersection of Hwy 62 and Lear Ave.) on either Thursday,

- August 16, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. or
- Friday, August 17, 10:30 a.m. – noon.



Flat Stanley at the Lavender Festival

Everyone is invited to attend the Artists’ Reception on Sunday, August 18 from 1:00 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Odds & Ends

Editor

Otter Smith-Martinez will be teaching one more **class on basket weaving** in Covington Park in Morongo Valley on August 16. The class will be held outside and begins at 9:00 a.m. and will last approximately two hours. Cost is \$10.00 per person. Students need only to bring a pair of scissors. All other supplies will be provided. Reservations are requested. Make your reservations at ottersmithmartinez@yahoo.com.

The **Associated Artists of the Inland Empire** is having their 48th **Annual Fall Juried Fine Art Show & Festival** in Rancho Cucamonga on September 7th, 8th, and 9th.

You must mail your entry fees and registration form to Associated Artists no later than August 18.

If you would like **Muffin Hill** to take your work down to the show on September 5th be sure to contact her at 760-367-9700 no later than August 20 to make arrangements.

HAS YOUR EMAIL ACCOUNT BEEN HACKED? If your friends are receiving emails from you with links to websites that you didn't actually send then your email account has been hacked. All that you need to do is change your email password and this should fix the problem.

The **Morongo Basin Historical Society** is having their **annual membership meeting** on Sunday, September 16 at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Become a member or renew your existing membership. Find out about what the MBHS did last year, and what's coming up for 2013!

The meeting will be held at the Morongo Basin Historical Society Museum and Research Center located at 632 Landers Lane in Landers.

Call for artists to paint Outhouse Race prizes for 29 Palms Pioneer Days – The Twentynine Palms

Chamber of Commerce would like to send a shout out to the artist community to bring back the painted toilet seats as first, second and third place prizes for the Outhouse Races for Pioneer Days in October.

Any Basin area artist who is interested in painting a toilet seat please contact Jodi or Rachael at 760-367-3445.

The cutoff date is September 21st.

The Town of **Yucca Valley** presents the **Summer Music Festival**, with free live music every Saturday this summer at the Yucca Valley Community Center Ballfield at 7:00 p.m.

August 4 – South Bound (Buddy Holly Tribute)

August 11 - Dublin Up! (shamrockabilly, Irish, swing)

It's recommended that you bring a blanket or lawn chair.

In September Muffin Hill will be hanging an art show, **The Grands**, featuring grandparents and their grandchildren **at the Department of Aging & Adult Services in San Bernardino**. If you're an artist age fifty or older and have an artistic grandchild under age eighteen, Muffin would like to show your artwork.

This show isn't restricted to residents of a specific state, county, town, or even country and can be any type of hanging art or photograph.

Each piece of work must be a minimum frame size of 11"x14", framed and wired, and have the entrant's name age, city & state, and title of work.

For more information or to make arrangements to get your work delivered to Muffin you can contact her at 760-367-9700.

The **Twentynine Palms Community Food Pantry and Outreach Ministries Inc.** is asking you to join us in our efforts to provide food to those in need in the communities of Twentynine Palms, Wonder Valley and The Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center

by making a donation to our **Annual "Pantry Picnic."**

Annually the Pantry raises money through our "Pantry Picnic", a dinner featuring a menu that is comprised of food supplies similar to those found on the pantry shelves and an auction. Funds raised at this event are a significant part of our yearly budget and will help us to provide emergency food to more than 4000 community members annually from our location at 6450 Star Dune Avenue in Twentynine Palms.

The Twentynine Palms Community Food Pantry is a nonprofit organization and any donation that you make is tax deductible. The 2012 "Pantry Picnic" is Saturday, August 18 and will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Immanuel Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, in Twentynine Palms. - Lori Jo Cosgriff

Tickets are \$20.00 per couple.

Editor's Note – If you would like to donate a piece of your art for the silent auction or the raffle you can contact Denice Perez at 760-361-0028 or email her at ddogwife@yahoo.com. She also has tickets for the dinner.

The **11th annual HWY 62 Art Tours** is approaching quickly, beginning October 20. The planning committee will be using Facebook this year to spread the word about Art Tours and create a buzz about the event.

Over the coming months, participating artists and their works will be featured on the HWY 62 Art Tours Facebook page, giving artists a great opportunity for you to spread the word about their works and the Art Tours. Artists who are not already sharing your art on Facebook are encouraged to do so with a profile or an artist's page.

Keep up with the HWY 62 Art Tours on Facebook at [facebook.com/hwy62art](https://www.facebook.com/hwy62art), or with the Arts Council at [facebook.com/mbcac](https://www.facebook.com/mbcac). The Arts Council's page posts current arts

The Chaparral Sketch

news and events daily, and the Hwy 62 Weekly Newsflash every Friday.

Landscape Show Recap

Editor

The Chaparral Artists Landscape Show has a wonderful selection of paintings and photographs on display at A Roadside Attraction Gallery this month.

Congratulations to Nancy Miehle who sold one of her paintings during the reception.

If you haven't done so already you need to see this show. You only have until August 15th.



Otter Smith-Martinez at the Landscape Show with a painting that she did at age 15

Basin Wide Spirit

Editor

Did you see the 2012 Summer Issue of the Basin Wide Spirit Magazine that came out in July? There's an article in it by Leslie Shaw titled "Artists' group staying busy through slow Season" and it's about Chaparral Artists. Besides Leslie's article there are also photographs by Jutta Biggerstaff showing works by Chaparral Artists members Julianne Koza, Nancy Miehle, Marci Vanderbilt, and Barbara Wells-Roberts (Her piece is also shown on the front cover and was on the front page of last month's Chaparral Sketch.).

I can't express how happy I was to have Chaparral Artists selected as one of the subjects for this issue of the Basin Wide Spirit. I can't even say how much it means to me so I won't even try.

If you haven't seen the 2012 Summer Issue of the Basin Wide

Spirit Magazine you read it online at deserttrail.com or hidedesertstar.com and click on Special Sections.

A big thank you goes out to Hi-Desert Publishing.



Some of the items offered for sale at A Roadside Attraction Gallery. These items are all created by members of Chaparral Artists.

Notes from the Editor

I had good intentions in July to get the August issue of the Chaparral Sketch out early but for various reasons I didn't get some of the articles written that I had intended to include. There were a few contributing factors in July for not getting everything done. The most stressful happened during a nine day period where my phone died and had to be replaced, a rock hit my windshield causing major damage and finally my telephoto/macro lens broke and had to be replaced. After these events I came down with a massive case of mental block and to make it more stressful my computer is extremely slow.

I promise to try and do better in the future.

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.



Photos by former Chaparral Artists President Bruce Miller at last year's Photographers on Display

Event Calendar

Chaparral Artists & club member events are highlighted.

The next regularly scheduled Chaparral Artists meeting will be at the Joshua Tree Community Center on September 10 at 1:00 p.m.

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

Now – Aug. 26
The 29 Palms Artists Guild members show at the 29 Palms Art Gallery

Now – Aug. 31
Desert Nights show on display at the Twentynine Palms Visitor Center & Gallery and Chamber of Commerce in Twentynine Palms.

Every Saturday at 2:30 thru Oct.27
Mane Street Stampede performs a Wild West show in Pioneertown.

Aug. 4 (7:00 p.m.)
South Bound (Buddy Holly Tribute) at Yucca Valley Community Center Ballfield

Aug. 11 (7:00 p.m.)
Dublin Up! (shamrockabilly, Irish, swing) at Yucca Valley Community Center Ballfield

Aug. 16 (4 – 6 p.m.) & Aug. 17 (10:30 a.m. – noon)
Pick up artwork from the Landscape Themed Exhibit at A Roadside Attraction Gallery & drop off artwork for the Photographers on Display themed exhibit

Aug. 18
Deadline to sign up for Chaparral Artists' trip to the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway

Aug. 18 (9:00 a.m.)
Otter Smith-Martinez basket weaving class in Morongo Valley

Aug. 18
Deadline to submit entries for the Associated Artists of the Inland Empire 48th Annual Fall Juried Fine Art Show & Festival

Aug. 18 (6 p.m.)
The Twentynine Palms Community Food Pantry and Outreach Ministries Inc. annual "Pantry Picnic" at Immanuel Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Twentynine Palms

Aug. 19 (1:00 – 3:00 p.m.)
Photographers on Display reception at A Roadside Attraction Gallery

Aug. 19 – Sep. 12
Chaparral Artists Photographers on Display themed exhibit at A Roadside Attraction Gallery

Aug. 20
Deadline to arrange for Muffin Hill to take your artwork to the Inland Empire Show on Sep. 5

Aug. 25
Chaparral Artists' trip to the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway

Sep. 1 – Oct 31
Sunrise, Sunset art on display at the Twentynine Palms Visitor Center & Gallery and Chamber of Commerce in Twentynine Palms.

Sep. 5 (2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)
Turn in artwork for the Inland Empire Show in Rancho Cucamonga

Sep. 7 & 8 (10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.)

Sep. 9 (11:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.)
Inland Empire Show in Rancho Cucamonga

Sep. 10 (1-3 p.m.)
Chaparral Artists meeting in the Joshua Tree Community Center

Sep. 16 (2:00 p.m.)
The Morongo Basin Historical Society annual membership meeting at the Morongo Basin Historical Society Museum in Landers

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

Sep. 21
Deadline for artists to sign up to paint the toilet seat awards for this year's Outhouse Race held during Pioneer Days in Twentynine Palms

NO MEETING IN OCTOBER

Oct. 8
Chaparral Artists Paint Out at Mission Creek Preserve

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