



# Chaparral Sketch

April, 2015

Volume IX, Issue 4

Chaparral Artists, a non-profit organization, is one of the oldest artists groups in the Morongo Basin and offers this free publication to all artists and art lovers.	
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<b>President</b> – Hugh Huffman
<b>Vice President</b> – Julianne Koza
<b>Secretary</b> – Becky Huffman
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<b>Hospitality</b> – Raini Armstrong, and Kim Clements
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 501C3 – Nonprofit

## President's Palette

Hugh Huffman

"Doo, Doo, Doooo, Lookin' out my backdoor". We may not have the same zany characters running around in our back yard as John Foggarty had , but there are starting to be some spectacular things to see out there. The early spring temps have the flowers really popping up in our part of Joshua Tree National Park. The yucca head in the picture below is a large as a beach ball and the yellow flowers are a perfect offset to the spectacular rock formations that are all over the park. It is now officially SPRING. The danger of your garden freezing is pretty much a thing of the past. So grab your camera or easel and head for the backyard. For those of you who may not have been up there yet (or in a very long time) the entry fee is \$15 and that is good for 7 consecutive days entry into the park.



If you prefer to have a little guidance in your adventure there are

Ranger led hikes that you can take. Here are a few examples:

Joshua Tree Rocks!! – (1 mile, 1.5 hrs) Leaves from Skull Rock parking area at 9 AM on Friday.

I Speak for the Trees – (1 mile, 1.5 hrs) Leaves from Echo Tee parking area at 9 am on Saturday.

Cap Rock Discovery Walk – (.25 mile, 45 mins) Leaves from Cap Rock Nature Trail at 2 PM On Sunday.

If you really want some inspiration to get out and enjoy the season call a friend in Boston and talk about the weather (if they don't hang up on you).



**Don't miss our photography show in May. See the attached entry form for the dates, times, categories and complete info.**

*Open Judged Photography Show  
 hosted by Chaparral Artists*

*At Rainbow Stew  
 55509 29 Palms Hwy.  
 Yucca Valley, CA*

*May 10 - June 10, 2015*

*Reception May 10  
 1-3 P.M.*

*Entry forms available  
 at Rainbow Stew*

Photograph by David Clements



Our 3rd Annual Art Fair is coming up in April.....Saturday & Sunday, April 18 & 19.

You are invited to participate either one or both days.

There is no charge for space at the Fair. You will need to provide your own tables/display and we will be outside.

All sales will go through the shop and Rainbow Stew's commission is 25% plus 3% for debit/credit cards.

Let us know right away if you'll be joining us!

In Peace.....

Stacey, Michelle & Valerie  
Rainbow Stew

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Don't miss Chaparral Artists opened judged art show this month.

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I'm a photographer from Morongo Valley & I found a great forum for artists & photographers to enter their artwork for cash prizes & recognition.

The American Art Awards, with 25 of the best art galleries in the United States judging the artwork.

I have won awards & have had nice articles written about my photography through American Art Awards.

I just thought I'd pass that along in case anyone is looking for an outlet to showcase their work.

American Art Awards allows artists to have their work acknowledged & gives an outlet for art purchasers to contact artists. It has been great for me to see the write ups they did on my photography after winning in different categories for photography.

[www.americanartawards.com/](http://www.americanartawards.com/)

Ron Morgan

*Editor's Note – Thank you to Ron and if anyone else has information our readers may be interested in please send it to me at ChaparralArtists@gmail.com. Pat*

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15<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show at Lucky Park in 29 Palms on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

For registration, sponsorship, and vendor information, contact the 29 Palms Chamber of Commerce.

760-367-3445

[www.29Chamber.org](http://www.29Chamber.org)

[29Chamber@29Chamber.org](mailto:29Chamber@29Chamber.org)

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Calling all artists! Reach Out Morongo Basin is getting ready for its 3rd Annual Art Auction benefit to be held on Saturday May 2 and is seeking donations of artwork for this fundraiser! The event will be held at ArtFx & Furnishings - Yucca Valley, CA and donations can be dropped off there from thru April 16 or at the Reach Out office in 29 Palms - 6539 Adobe Rd. All proceeds from the auction will go to fund programs for local seniors and disabled. For more information contact Reach Out at 760-361-1410 or Carlos at 619-990-5683!!

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At our March meeting Chaparral Artists members Julianne Koza & Nancy Miehle explained the principles of working with stained glass.

\*\*\*\*\*

Georgia Ryan will be Chaparral Artists guest speaker at our April meeting where she will talk about cast paper.

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The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, more than 700,000 high school students have been involved with this nationwide competition.

The Artistic Discovery Contest is open to all high school students in



The Chaparral Sketch the 8th District. Students will work through the art teachers at their high school to submit works to the competition. The winning artwork will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol complex for one year. In addition, second place will be displayed in Congressman Cook's Capitol Office, and the third place selection will be on display in the Apple Valley District Office.

All artwork must be submitted by April 10th. Art work entered in the contest may be up to 28 inches by 28 inches (including the frame) and may be up to 4 inches in depth.

- The submission may be:
- Paintings - including oil, acrylics, and watercolor
  - Drawings - including pastels, colored pencil, pencil, charcoal, ink, and markers
  - Collage
  - Prints - including lithographs, silkscreen, and block prints
  - Mixed Media
  - Computer Generated Art
  - Photography

All entries must be an original in concept, design, and execution.

If you would like more information on the annual Congressional District Art Competition, please contact Cameron Wessel at Cameron.Wessel@mail.house.gov in Congressman Cook's District Office at 760-247-1815.

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**CORRECTION** – Last month I reported the wrong date for the reception of Color Explosion: Nothing Subtle About the Desert" at the Twentynine Palms Visitor Center and Chamber of Commerce.

**The date and time of the reception is actually Friday, April 3 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

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Chaparral Artists members Becky & Hugh Huffman, Julianne Koza, and Tami Roleff are among those with entries in Color Explosion: Nothing Subtle About the Desert" at the

**Twentynine Palms Visitor Center and Chamber of Commerce.**

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The Art Queen Complex Artists and Merchants present the first ever East Joshua Tree Block Party at 61855 29 Palms Hwy in Joshua Tree on April 4 from 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

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Chaparral Artists Carolyn Eads Blaker was the featured artist at Desert Hills Presbyterian Church in March.

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Chaparral Artists next regular meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. on April 13 at Desert Hills Presbyterian Church at 56750 Mountain View Trail in Yucca Valley.

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23rd Annual Joshua Tree National Park Art Festival

The Joshua Tree National Park Art Festival has been celebrating the

The 23rd Annual Joshua Tree National Park Art Festival



With support by the 29 Palms Art Gallery



Join us as we celebrate the deserts of the Southwest through the spirit of Art.

April 3, 4 and 5  
9am - 5pm Daily

29 Palms Art Gallery

74055 Cottonwood Drive  
(off National Park Dr.)  
Twentynine Palms CA 92277

(760) 367-5530 www.joshuatree.org

inspiration of nature for over 20 years!

This year we will hold the Festival at the 29 Palms Art Gallery, right next door to the Oasis Visitor Center. The Visitor Center is undergoing a seismic retrofit so our "home" for 22 years was not available, although a temporary Visitor Center is serving visitors. A special thanks to our friends at 29 Palms Gallery for supporting the festival.

Over fifteen local and regional artists will on hand at the festival to show and sell their work, sharing their personal interpretation of Joshua Tree National Park and the desert southwest. Original works of painting, sculpture, photography, ceramics, art glass, jewelry and gourd art are featured each year. The Art Festival runs from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day on the patio next to the 29 Palms Art Gallery on National Park Drive, Twentynine Palms. As a special bonus, the 29 Palms Art Gallery will be open.

Admission is free - a portion of the proceeds benefit the Joshua Tree National Park Association.

Join us on April 3rd, 4th and 5th for the 2015 Art Festival!

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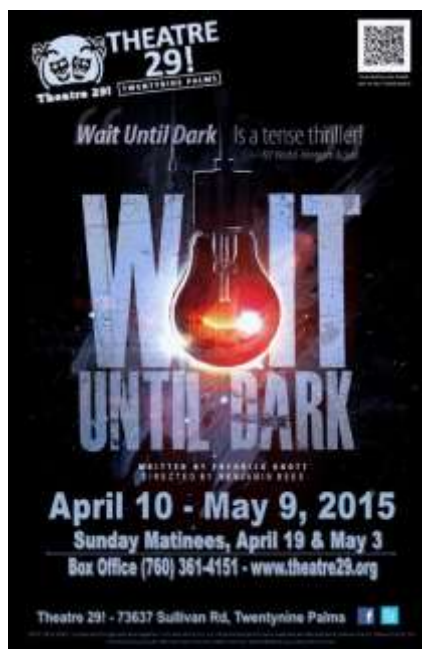
Kiwanis Club of 29 Palms presents Gala Opening Night fundraiser, "Wait Until Dark," Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at Theatre 29. Cost is \$25.00. 6 p.m. doors open for hors d'oeuvres, 7

### The Chaparral Sketch

**p.m. curtain.** Dessert at intermission. Silent Auction will be conducted, too. Proceeds to Kiwanis International/UNICEF World Wide Service project, ELIMINATE, the elimination of MNT, Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus which kills a baby every 11 minutes. (Protect a mother and her children through most of her child bearing years for \$1.80, three sixty cent shots.

Tickets are available at Z107.7 in Joshua Tree, 6448 Hallee Road, 29 Palms Chamber and Visitor Center, 73484 29 Palms Hwy, and at the Desert Trail Office, in 29 Palms, 6396 Adobe Rd.

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**Wait Until Dark at Theatre 29 from April 10 – May 9.**

Box Office 760-361-4151

[www.theatre29.org](http://www.theatre29.org)

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**Chaparral Artists vice-president Julianne Koza, shown here with two of her photographs on display at Whitewater Preserve, is a busy lady this month. She has one of her photographs in the Color Explosion: Nothing Subtle About the Desert" at the Twentynine Palms Visitor Center and Chamber of Commerce that has a reception on April 3 from 5:30 – 7:00. She is one of the featured artists at the Hwy 62 Gallery where there will be a reception from 6 – 8 on April 11. She's participating in Earth Day on April 18 at the Yucca Valley Community Center and she is the featured artist at Desert Hills Presbyterian Church among other things.**

**Chaparral Artists member Nancy McHenry will be participating in Earth Day at the Yucca Valley Community Center on April 18.**

### My latest excursions

I spent a lot of time in February and March taking pictures at various locations with others who enjoy doing the same thing. You can stay close to home and find lots of great things to photograph for a relatively small amount of money; especially when you go with friends.

On February 1 Rani Armstrong and her dog Tico, Julianne Koza, Barbara Wells-Roberts and I spent the day at the Salton Sea. We spent the day going from one end to the other with stops at various places.

One place we stopped was Bombay Beach which is the lowest community in the United States only five feet above the lowest point in Death Valley.

In 1976 and 1977 tropical storms caused the whole shoreline of Bombay Beach to be flooded and after almost 40 years that portion of the town is a desolate and haunting area with the rest of the town slowly falling into decline.

In 1984 Leonard Knight arrived at Slab City. Over the next 28 years he

dedicated himself to creating Salvation Mountain with help from various donors and volunteers. Even though he has passed on his work is still being enjoyed by people from all over the world. On the day that we visited there were dozens, if not hundreds, of people there. What we found the most interesting and surprising were the rooms next to the mountain.

We photographed many different birds and wildlife along the way and saw hundreds of migrating snow geese.

On the way back we lingered long enough to get some wonderful pictures of the sunset.

When people ask how long we'll be gone on one of our excursions the trip to the Salton Sea is an excellent example of just how long a trip can be. (I was gone about 11 hours that day but other trips have only lasted a few hours like the trip to the Living Desert where we were only there for about 3½ hours. We NEVER know what will catch our eye and extend our trip.)

The next trip I went on was Chaparral Artists' trip to Ryan's Ranch on February 22.

The night before the trip I checked that the spare batteries for my Nikon were charged and I made sure that I had spare batteries for my small Polaroid. The next morning we were in Joshua Tree getting ready to go to Ryan's Ranch when I realized that I left my Nikon at home. From there things went downhill as far as my picture taking went.

Besides me the people who attended this trip were Rani Armstrong, Becky & Hugh Huffman, Julianne Koza, and Barbara Wells-Roberts.

I was riding with Julianne and Rani and we stopped along the road to take a few pictures on the way to Ryan's Ranch. After I took one picture I saw the charge on my Polaroid battery drop dramatically. I managed to get a few more shots and when I

### The Chaparral Sketch

returned to the car I changed the batteries. For some reason I had rechargeable AA batteries as my spares and they were dead! I put my old batteries back in the camera and was able to coax a few more pictures out of the camera before it died completely.

I felt like I was in withdrawal or something because I felt really antsy without a camera. There were lots of opportunities for great shots both at Ryan's Ranch and the bonus locations that we visited and I could only mourn the shots that I missed. I didn't realize how attached to my camera I had become. I promised myself that I would NEVER forget my Nikon again and as soon as I got a chance I bought some spare AA batteries for my Polaroid so hopefully I won't be without at least one WORKING camera in the future.

At the March 9 meeting of Chaparral Artists I heard that there were wild flowers blooming at Whitewater Preserve. The next day Julianne, Raini, and I went to check it out. We stopped along the way a couple of times to take pictures and on this trip I realized that I need to start carrying my 500mm lens and 2x converter. We saw a pair of peregrine falcons but with my 300mm lens they were too far away to get a good shot. Besides the falcons and wildflowers there were plenty of other things to photograph including a lizard in a tree chasing a smaller lizard. People probably thought we were crazy because we kept going around the tree with our cameras pointing up.

Since it was still fairly early we decided to stop at Covington Park on our way home but first we stopped and shot some poppies along Hwy 62 near the Indian Avenue exit.

Thanks to Julianne I've found that Covington Park is one of the best places around to find birds.

The following weekend my friend Dottie Davis and I went to Laughlin. Unfortunately there weren't very many wildflowers blooming along the

way but I did find a few different types of birds along the river.

The next trip was to the Indian Canyons. This was a Chaparral Artists trip and once again it was Julianne, Raini, and I. We saw some great rock formations as well as other interesting scenery. We even stopped by the trading post where Julianne and I spent a lot of time taking pictures of the hummingbirds gathered around the feeders.

Finally the last trip was to the Living Desert on March 28. It turned out that it was the hottest day of the year so far and we decided to call it a day around 12:30. When we first got there we went to see the jaguars and then we went our separate ways. (We've found that it's best to set a meeting place and time when we're someplace like the Living Desert since we all have our favorite things to photograph. This time Raini wanted to photograph wild flowers, Julianne wanted to shoot the desert tortoises and I was interested in the various breeds of cats.) I didn't see either one of them again until we got to our meeting place.

I probably won't be taking trips every weekend over the next few months but I hope to see some of you on my excursions.

By the way, Julianne says that she doesn't plan to schedule anymore Chaparral Artists trips until it starts cooling off later in the year.

**Artists Discounts Offered**

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

**Cowboy Attic**  
 Located in the Historic Plaza  
 Twentynine Palms, CA  
**(If you are a Chaparral Artists member and create an account at Cowboy Attic then 10% of what you spend will be donated to Chaparral Artists at the end of six months.)**  
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**Ground Control Hobbies**  
 55696 29 Palms Hwy.  
 Yucca Valley, CA  
**(10% off on all art supplies)**  
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**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.)**  
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**Whitaker's Art Supply**  
 5684 Historic Plaza  
 Twentynine Palms, CA  
**(10% off everything in the store)**

### Event Calendar

*Chaparral Artists & club member events are highlighted.*

**Now – April 13**

Snake Jagger at Pie for the People  
 in Joshua Tree  
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**Now – April 14**

Paul Morehead  
 at the Bob Burke County Building  
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**Now – April 16**

Drop off for Reach Out Morongo  
 Basin Art Auction Benefit at ArtFx &  
 Furnishings in Yucca Valley & the  
 Reach Out office in 29 Palms  
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**Now – April 25**

"Desert Moods: A celebration of the  
 Ever-changing desert"  
 at the Hi-Desert Nature Museum  
 In Yucca Valley  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**April**  
 Julianne Koza featured artist at Desert  
 Hills Presbyterian Church  
 In Yucca Valley  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Now – April 25**

"Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" at the Hi-  
 Desert Nature Museum  
 In Yucca Valley



The Chaparral Sketch

**April 1 – June 26**

“Color Explosion: Nothing Subtle About the Desert” at the Twentynine Palms Visitor Center and Chamber of Commerce  
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**April 3 – 5 (9 a.m. – 5 p.m.)**

Joshua Tree National Park Art Festival at the 29 Palms Art Gallery In 29 Palms  
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**April 3 (5:30 – 7:00 p.m.)**

Reception for “Color Explosion: Nothing Subtle About the Desert” at the Twentynine Palms Visitor Center and Chamber of Commerce  
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**April 4 ( 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.)**

East Joshua Tree Block Party

in Joshua Tree  
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**April 10**

Annual Car Show at Lucky Park in 29 Palms  
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**April 10**

Deadline for the high school student Artistic Discovery Contest  
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**April 10 (6 p.m.)**

Kiwanis Club of 29 Palms Gala Opening Night fundraiser At Theatre 29 in 29 Palms  
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**April 10 – May 9**

Wait Until Dark at Theatre 29 In 29 Palms  
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**April 11 (6 – 8 p.m.)**

Reception at the Hwy 62 Gallery in Joshua Tree  
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**April 13 (1 – 3 p.m.)**

Chaparral Artists meeting in the Desert Hills Presbyterian Church at 56750 Mountain View Trail in Yucca Valley  
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**April 18**

Earth Day at the Community Center In Yucca Valley  
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**April 30 – May 2**

**(10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)**

Pick up artwork from the “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” show at the Hi-Desert Nature Museum In Yucca Valley  
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**May 2**

Reach Out Morongo Basin Art Auction Benefit  
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**May 7 (4 – 6 p.m.)**

**May 8 (10:30 – Noon)**

Pickup artwork from Chaparral Artists Art Show and drop off for Photography Show at Rainbow Stew in Yucca Valley  
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**May 10 (1:00 – 3 p.m.)**

Chaparral Artists Photography Show reception at Rainbow Stew in Yucca Valley  
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**May 11 (1 – 3 p.m.)**

Chaparral Artists meeting in the Desert Hills Presbyterian Church at 56750 Mountain View Trail in Yucca Valley  
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**June 11 (4 – 6 p.m.)**

**June 12 (10:30 – Noon)**

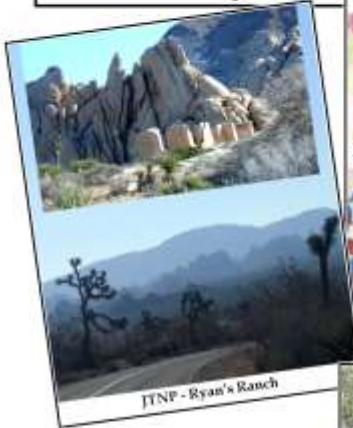
Pickup from Chaparral Artists Photography Show at Rainbow Stew in Yucca Valley



Bombay Beach



The Salton Sea



JTNP - Ryan's Ranch



Salvation Mountain



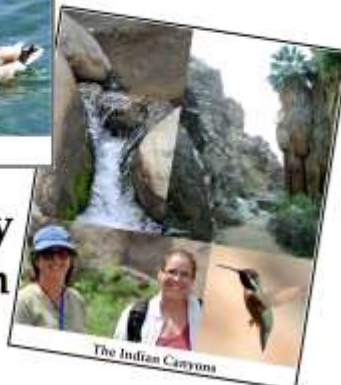
The Living Desert



Whitewater & Covington Park



Laughlin



The Indian Canyons

**February & March 2015**