



# Chaparral Sketch

November & December 2019

Volume X, Issue 8

Chaparral Artists, a non-profit organization, is one of the oldest artists groups in the Morongo Basin.

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501C3—Nonprofit

## PREVIOUS MEETING October 14, 2019

Our October demonstrator was Georgia Ryan who provided us with information about hot glass. Hot glass is pretty amazing, involving various molding techniques, and very high baking temperatures. Georgia is a

fantastic artist who has jumped into numerous art forms that appeal to her, somehow becoming a practical expert in all of them.

Georgia has shared her talents with Chaparral Artists in the past, presenting an art form known for calming the nerves and focusing the mind - Zentangle.

Georgia's work with glass could be considered as far from creating patterns with the pen as one might get, but the focus and dedication are likely similar.

Georgia introduced the group to several glass art processes, including Sand Caching, Sheet Glass, Slumping, Paste of Glass, Warm Glass, and Hot Glass.

Working with glass can be complicated and extremely technical, but I was amazed at the variety of techniques used with the medium. Working with glass is fascinating, extremely adventurous, involves a great deal of experimentation, and is very time-consuming. The process Georgia went in-depth on was Hot Glass, which includes creating wax molds that can be permanent or temporary, coloring

*Editor's note—if you have any questions please send them to ChaparralArtists@gmail.com and include your name and phone number so that one of our volunteers can reply.*

glass, packing the glass 'paste' into hand-made frames or molds, baking the glass, and cooling it. Some of Georgia's creations take countless hours to complete. She designs a pattern and begins creating a temporary or lasting form. She prepares the glass paste and begins packing it into the mold, taking 10+ hours, depending upon the details of the mold. Practically the same number of hours/days are required to cool the glass as it took to bake it. And finally, much care is taken to unpack the finished product.

Working with glass looked terrific. I do not think that I will expand my hobby list to include it, in part because of the expense of kilns, but I honestly admire Georgia Ryan for her diligence and experimentation!

Other business covered during the meeting included announcing the October Artists of the Month at both the Center for Healthy

Generations and the Presbyterian Church, and the upcoming judged shows. Changes to judged shows were announced—6 entries will be needed per category. Chaparral made \$346 from Orchid Festival sales and raffle. The turnout for the festival was much lighter than expected.

Twenty-two members attended the meeting. The door prize went to Sunshine Laue, and the 50/50 winner was Virginia Neal.



October demonstrator Georgia Ryan

**PREVIOUS MEETING  
November 11, 2019**

I was the demonstrator for November (Raini Armstrong) and though I cannot convey how the presentation was received, I can say that I set out to paint a subject dear to my heart; the night sky. The medium used was watercolor, and the process went quickly. On a quarter sheet of watercolor paper, I started painting using a wet-in-wet technique by submerging the paper in water

before setting it on a plastic board. I washed in blues and purples, going as dark as I could, and allowing the paint to trickle down the paper. I left unpainted a portion of the paper dedicated to the milky way, and I brushed in orange as I came to the foreground of the ‘scene’. Simple table salt was peppered onto the paper and left to soak up the surrounding water and ink, leaving behind a star-like dot of paper once the watercolor dried enough. After several questions were asked and answered, the painting was set aside, for in watercolor, plenty of time must be provided between applications of paint so that the watercolor layers can soak in.

Other business covered during the meeting included announcing the December members only show “Same but Different”. Also announced were the current and upcoming Chaparral artists on display in the Basin. Khryso Heart LeFey introduced his work with digital collage.

We had 20 members in attendance during the December meeting and 1 guest. The door prize went to Sampatti in the form of a Chaparral Artists tote bag, the 50/50 winner was June Fingler.



November demonstration, Raini Armstrong, before and after

**UPCOMING MEETING  
December 9, 2019**

Our LAST meeting of 2019 will be our Holiday party on December 9, 1-3pm at the Center for Healthy Generations.

Bring a dish to share for a festive potluck, a handmade/ designed greeting card to show off (we hold a greeting card competition), and a small wrapped/bagged gift to auction. The December meeting promises lots of fun with the ‘pig-n-the-poke’ silent auction and the opportunity to spend time with friends. No demonstration is planned but there will be plenty of opportunity to share your ideas and hopes for a new Chaparral Artists year. I hope to see you all there!



## ARTISTS OF THE MONTH

November's Featured Artist, at the Center for Healthy Generations on 57121 Sunnyslope Drive in Yucca Valley, was Susan Davenport. Susan works in several mediums, including acrylics, poured acrylics, mixed media, and watercolor. Susan has a beautiful way of drawing out and building up a three-dimensional quality with her poured acrylic pieces.

November's Featured Artist, at the Presbyterian Church on 56750 Mountain View Trail in Yucca Valley, was Nancy Miehle. As always, Nancy's art is grand, uplifting and a desert favorite.

December's Featured Artist, at the Center for Healthy Generations is Jennifer Grandi. Jennifer works with pastels, creating soft and realistic desert scenes. She has a knack for drawing out fine details with a seemingly tricky medium.

December's Featured Artist, at



October demo examples—glass mold and resulting glass bowl

the Presbyterian Church, is Khryso Heart LeFey. Khryso is multi-talented in the arts, with a keen eye for creating gorgeous collage art. An art reception will be held on December 8, 12-2pm. Live folk music and refreshments will delight visitors during this coffeehouse gathering.

Show your support by visiting these venues. If you would like to get on the list to display YOUR art, contact us at [ChaparralArtists@gmail.com](mailto:ChaparralArtists@gmail.com).

### COFFEEHOUSE CONCERT & ART RECEPTION

By Khryso Heart LeFey

Desert Hills Presbyterian Church in Yucca Valley will feature a coffeehouse concert featuring folk singer Khryso Heart LeFey as part of the opening reception for his exhibit in the Chaparral Artists' gallery in the church on the afternoon of Sunday, December 8.

Chaparral Artists feature a different artist every month at the church, one of several galleries it maintains. Collagist Khryso is the featured artist for December. This exhibit will consist mostly of what he calls, "digitized collage." Pastor Wayne Morrow says, "I have thought for a long time that

it would be great for Desert Hills to start a coffeehouse, and Khryso has a lot of experience with them."

The gallery is open to the public, but the office hours at the church don't facilitate daily traffic to it. "A concert is an excellent way for us to welcome the community and to let people know that the gallery is always here," says Kim Clements, the church's office manager and a member of Chaparral Artists herself.

Khryso performed folk music starting in the early '90s in Ohio, his longtime home. He now lives in Morongo Valley. He sings and plays guitar and mountain dulcimer, a folk instrument with roots in the Appalachian Mountains. He specializes in 19th-century music but will focus on more contemporary songs for this concert, which he expects to last about an hour. "Both because this is a church and because I think it's important, I will present a program of uplifting, though not religious, music," says Khryso. He usually encourages his audiences to sing long with him.

The concert will begin at noon in the social hall outside the gallery. There is no cover charge

for this concert, but donations will be accepted to help the church defray operating costs. The reception will last until 2:00 PM. The social hall will be open following the morning's church service, which ends at about 11:15 AM.

The church is located a few blocks from Yucca Valley High School at 56750 Mountain View Trail, Yucca Valley, CA 9228.

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**UPCOMING  
CHAPARRAL SHOW**

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Chaparral artists organize up to six shows per year, two open judged shows in the spring, two in the fall, and two themed shows. Our last show of the year is one of the themed shows called "Same but Different." This is a member-only opportunity that will feature a selection of semi matching pieces by either the same artists or collaborating artists.

This show has been consistently one of the most inspiring, exciting, and somewhat confusing shows that Chaparral has come up with. The show provides members the freedom to come up with their own themes or show works that came from a shared workshop environment. The theme was born out of the

desire to share group works. Often, Chaparral photographers and painters would attend paint out sessions, photography outings, and sign-up for painting/ photography classes. After group events such as these, artists realized that they couldn't always share their works at judged shows due to the similarities of their entries, and the art didn't always fit the upcoming themed show opportunities. So, the Same but Different show was devised.

One of the most remarkable things that shine through, when artists get together to paint or photograph the same scene or set out to reproduce the same concept, is uniqueness. Each artist comes in with their own style, their personal preferences, and they bring their own history to their representational efforts.

The Same but Different show offers an opportunity to share this artistic uniqueness of seemingly similar subject material with the public. It might even provide a time to share the results of a group learning process, and best of all, it offers an opportunity for members to collaborate together during the year.

This year, the Same but Different members-only show

will be at Rainbow Stew beginning on December 12. It will display until January 15, 2020.

For those members still in search of a subject, the show committee and Photography reception attendees shared their interest in the following topics:

**Keys Ranch cars**

**Dense Fog Scenes**

**Peacocks**

**Orchids**

**Burrowing Owls**

**JTNP rock walls**

Remember, collaboration with other members is not a requirement, you might already have a subject in mind and have many beauties to share with the public! If you have a small collection of similarly themed works, or you work in multiple mediums yourself, bring in your 'same but different' representations. Refer to the Events Calendar on the last page to find show intake and reception dates.



Landscapes category, Fall Judged Fine Art Show

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## GLASS OUTHOUSE RECEPTION

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The Glass Outhouse is celebrating student art during their December show, with artists from Yucca Valley and 29 Palms High Schools. The art reception will be on Saturday, December 7 from 1-5pm. Entertainment will be provided by Chaparral member Khryso Heart LeFey on the mountain dulcimer, with Grey Forge LeFey. Guitars will surely come into play as well.

Khryso specializes in old folk music, but you never know what can appear on a set-list during a four-hour concert. Given that it's December, he will probably bring out some old and rare holiday music.

Join the fun at the Glass Outhouse on December 7, 1-5pm!

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## CHAPARRAL OUTINGS

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There are no planned group outings to close out the 2019 year, but we have a few trips planned for 2020!

The Southwest Arts Festival is in January, and Chaparral Artists are invited to carpool or caravan on Saturday, January 25. We will meet at Jack in the Box

in Yucca Valley and leave promptly at 8:30am. General admission is \$15 per person, or \$13 for seniors.

More information will be shared about upcoming trips once we greet the new year, but as a teaser we are discussing the Calico ghost town, Mitchell Caverns, Whitewater Preserve, a paint out at Gubler's Orchids, and visiting art galleries in the lower desert.

Remember, we want to hear from you about your interests in trip planning as well. Please contact us at our email [ChaparralArtists@gmail.com](mailto:ChaparralArtists@gmail.com). Or you can reach out to one of the administration by telephone if you have a trip suggestion!

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## JUDGED FINE ART SHOW RESULTS

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The judged Fine Art show was open all entries, regardless of whether the entrant was a member of Chaparral Artists. 22 entries were received, and the show was on display between October 18 and November 13, at Rainbow Stew. This Fall Fine Art show was divided into three categories after several requests were made to find a way to increase prize money and competitive spirit. Judging results are as follows:

### Landscapes—1st, 2nd, 3rd

“Tidal Power” by Beverly Schmuckle

“Joshua Tree” by Nancy Miehle

“Between Rays” by Raini Armstrong

### Animals—1st, 2nd, 3rd, HM

“Clowning Around” by Susan Davenport

“Cactus Pygmy Owl” by Sharon George

“Quail on Watch” by Raini Armstrong

“Memories” by Susan Davenport

### Plants—1st, 2nd, 3rd

“Avatar Tree of Souls” by Beverly Schmuckle

“Wildflower Run Away” by Jennifer Grandi

“Cascading Shadows” Raini Armstrong

### BEST OF SHOW

“Avatar Tree of Souls” by Beverly Schmuckle

### PEOPLE'S CHOICE

“Between Rays” by Raini Armstrong



Animals category, Fall Judged Fine Art Show

## JUDGED PHOTO SHOW RESULTS

The judged Fall Photography show was open to all two-dimensional artists, received 28 entries, and was on display between November 16 and December 11. The art was divided into three categories, the second test of a discussion on how to increase prize money amounts and competitive spirit. Judging results are as follows:

### Hand of Man—1st, 2nd, 3rd

“Ghosts of the Past” by Raini Armstrong

“A Round San Francisco” by Julianne Koza

“Southern Comfort” by Patricia Quandel

### Beautiful Creatures

#### 1st, 2nd, 3rd

“Sea Flight” by Julianne Koza

“Feline Profile” by Kim Clements

“Equine Silhouette” by David Clements

### Nature’s Kaleidoscope

#### 1st, 2nd, 3rd

“Fog-tographer” by Julianne Koza

“The Caress of Fog” by Raini Armstrong

“Beautiful Bloom” by Tami Roleff

### BEST OF SHOW

“Fog-tographer” by Julianne Koza

### PEOPLE’S CHOICE

Announced at the December meeting



David Clements receives 3rd place for his photograph titled “Equine Silhouette”



Julianne Koza hanging the Best of Show ribbon for her photograph titled “Fog-tographer”



Hand of Man category



Kim Clements hanging the second place ribbon for her photograph titled “Feline Profile”

## ART CREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Raini Armstrong volunteers at the Center for Healthy Generations to provide Watercolor Instruction on Fridays, 9am-11am. She provides a subject to paint, demonstrates the process in a step-by-step fashion, and offers tips and reminders about watercolor techniques. This class molds to the individuals in attendance. All watercolorist levels are welcome, but attention will be directed toward beginners. Participants provide their own materials. Cost is \$5/person at the door OR \$17/month.

Beverly Schmuckle coordinates an Open Studio Art Workshop on Thursdays, 9am-11:30am at the Yucca Valley Community Center. The workshop offers an open space for interested artists to gather and create art. Tips, tricks and suggestions for various mediums can be sought out due to the expertise in attendance at nearly every workshop. Come join this casual workshop and create your art in a comfortable environment. Participants provide their own materials. Ages 18 and over. Cost is \$2/person at the door.

## **MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Chaparral Artists hopes to stay interesting, active, and supportive within the arts community, and to do so we want to hear from you! It becomes challenging to maintain excitement and engagement within an organization without the active sharing of ideas. We understand that not everyone will offer up recommendations while sitting in a room of people, and because of that, we want to remind everyone that you can share your thoughts, recommendations or suggestions with an officer, or you can email ChaparralArtists@gmail.com.

In 2019, we have implemented several changes that we hope are streamlining processes, opening up opportunities for discovery, and increasing collaboration, and all have stemmed from your suggestions.

Some of the following are in full swing, and we hope that others will work their way into our events in 2020.

### **Demonstrations leading into workshops**

Chaparral Artists have enjoyed countless demonstrations, discussions, and even a few

workshops. Still, we would like to offer more opportunities for exciting and well-attended group workshops. Julianne Koza, 2019 and 2020 president of Chaparral Artists, hopes that a 'sneak preview' in the form of general meeting demonstrations might lead to such workshops. If members enjoyed a specific presentation, expressing an interest in seeing more, a workshop could be arranged.

### **Judged show categories**

Chaparral Artists have always provided categories for their judged shows. These categories might merge or split depending on the number of entries received, but in general, there have been seven judged grouping we have worked with (Landscapes, People, Animals, Flowers, Plants/Trees, Manmade, and Other). Over the years, we have experienced fewer entries per show, and retaining a large number of groups while collecting a smaller number of art entries have resulted in limited competition and minimal prizes. Several members requested that something changes so that larger prizes might be provided to those that placed within a category. We responded by drastically limiting the themed categories to three.

This experiment was first initiated during the 2019 Fall Fine Art show using the groups of "Landscapes", "Plants", and "Animals". We continued to use this three-category division during the 2019 Fall Photography show, this time using the categories "Hand of Man," Nature's Kaleidoscope," and "Beautiful Creatures." We understand that the limit to three categories is drastic, and we can employ a fourth category for entries that cannot fit into the above. We also require that a category have a minimum of six entries before a judge can review it. These changes have both increased competition within a single category, and increased prize money.

### **People's Choice award**

The People's Choice ribbon has always been a voted placement, conducted on the day of the reception. It was brought to the attention of the Board that due to limited reception attendance during some months, the vote is not an adequate representation of the 'People.' A recommendation to leave the voting box out for the entire month was offered, with the plan that the winner would be announced during the following General Meeting. As a note, this

means that Rainbow Stew must help Chaparral in the voting collection process. Rainbow Stew has agreed to help us in this endeavor and we greatly appreciate their commitment. We will continue to determine the People's Choice award for as long as we have the support of Rainbow Stew.

**Same but Different themes**

A complaint was shared with the Board that the Same but Different topics are not open or known to all Chaparral members. The Board did not realize that this was a problem since the categories or themes had always been organic, created by members coordinating with other members, throughout the year. One suggestion was to offer several recommendations to the membership so that a member could simply bring in art that fits a few general themes. We will be experimenting with this idea during the last show of the 2019 year. Members are invited to continue to work together to create their own themes as well!

**Judge's criteria**

Chaparral Artists have never divulged a judge's name to show entrants, prior to the hanging of the show, so as not to give an

unfair advantage to any artist that personally knows the judge and their preferences. It has been shared that this practice might actually limit the educational aspect of a judged show.

For example, if an artist understood that a judge preferred a 'story' in the work they reviewed, then an artist might gear their entries to the two-dimensional representation of a story. If a judge placed extra importance on 'action' or 'serenity,' then an artist might challenge themselves to capture or represent those qualities in their art. Ultimately, knowing what a judge uses as criteria for an 'excellent' capture or art creation might actually challenge an artist more. The knowledge of a judge's expectations might help to improve an artist's eye, once they evaluate the remarks on the winning entries. Chaparral is willing to plan for and provide a judge's criteria on the next judged shows come spring 2020, but we will continue to keep the name of the judge unknown until a show has been hung.

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**MEMBERS ART ON DISPLAY**

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Raini Armstrong, David Clements and Kim Clements are each showing a piece of their art at the 29 palms Art Gallery during the month of December.

Joan Scott, David Clements, and Dorene Fundin are showing their art at the Hi-Desert Medical Center in Joshua Tree as part of TheARTISTS rotating galleries managed by the Hi-Desert Cultural Center. David Clements' photography is displayed at the Nurses' Station. Dorene Fundin is displaying her watercolors in the ER Lobby. Joan Scott is displaying her mixed media art in the Main Lobby. Each artist has a lovely selection of art in the Desert Breeze Cafe as well!

Raini Armstrong, David & Kim Clements, and Kathy Miller have multiple pieces of art on display at Gallery 62 in Joshua Tree during the Holiday theme show, art under \$100, a special show in time for Holiday shopping.

If we missed announcing YOUR art show, please contact us at chaparralartists@gmail.com. The newest/revised newsletter can always be located on the Chaparral Artists website.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Now—December 11

“Fall Photo show”, the Chaparral Artists judged photography show at Rainbow Stew, 55509 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

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Now—December 27

David Clements, Kim Clements, and Raini Armstrong art on display in the members gallery at the 29 Palms Art Gallery , 74055 Cottonwood Dr,

Twentynine Palms

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Now—December 27

Jennifer Grandi art on display at the Center for Healthy Generations, 57121 Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley

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Now—December 28

Holidaze, art boutique style show, giftable art all priced under \$100. Several Chaparral members art on display at this Holidaze event at Gallery 62, Chaparral indoor booth & kids paint tables at Gubler’s Orchids, 2200 Belfield Blvd, Landers

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Now—January 3

Khryso Heart LeFey art on display at Desert Hills Presbyterian Church, 56750 Mountain View Trail, Yucca Valley

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Now—January 26

David Clements, Dorene Fundin, and Joan Scott art on display at the Hi-Desert Medical Center, 6601 White Feather Rd, Joshua Tree

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December 7

Glass Outhouse Student Art Show Reception, 1-5pm at the Glass Outhouse, 77575 Twentynine Palms Highway, Twentynine Palms

December 8

Coffeehouse & Art Reception, 12-2pm at the Desert Hills Presbyterian Church, 56750 Mountain View Trail, Yucca Valley

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December 9

Chaparral Artists Meeting on Monday, 1-3pm. The end of year Holiday Party, bring a dish to share! at the Center for Healthy Generations, 57121

Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley

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December 12 & 13

Same but Different members only show Intake Day 1, December 12 at 4:30-6pm Intake Day 2, December 13 at 12:30-2pm at Rainbow Stew, 55509 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

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December 15

Same but Different show reception, 1-3pm at Rainbow Stew, 55509 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

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January 3, 2020

Call for Art for the PAAC show “Cold Days, Warm Hearts” Intake Day, January 3 at 11-1pm Reception, January 4 at 2:30-4pm 73484 29 Palms Hwy, Twentynine Palms

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January 13, 2020

Chaparral Artists Meeting on Monday, 1-3pm at the Center for Healthy Generations, 57121 Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley

EVENTS CALENDAR

January 16 & 17

Same but Different members only show
PICKUP Day 1, January 16 at 4:30-6pm
PICKUP Day 2, January 17 at 12:30-2pm
at Rainbow Stew, 55509 Twentynine Palms
Highway, Yucca Valley
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January 25, 2020

Trip to the Southwest Arts Festival in Indio
Meet at Jack in the Box in Yucca Valley at 8am
Leave Jack in the Box promptly at 8:30am
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February 10, 2020

Chaparral Artists Meeting on Monday, 1-3pm
at the Center for Healthy Generations, 57121
Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley
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March 9, 2020

Chaparral Artists Meeting on Monday, 1-3pm
at the Center for Healthy Generations, 57121
Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley
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April 13, 2020

Chaparral Artists Meeting on Monday, 1-3pm
at the Center for Healthy Generations, 57121
Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley
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May 11, 2020

Chaparral Artists Meeting on Monday, 1-3pm
at the Center for Healthy Generations, 57121
Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley
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June 8, 2020

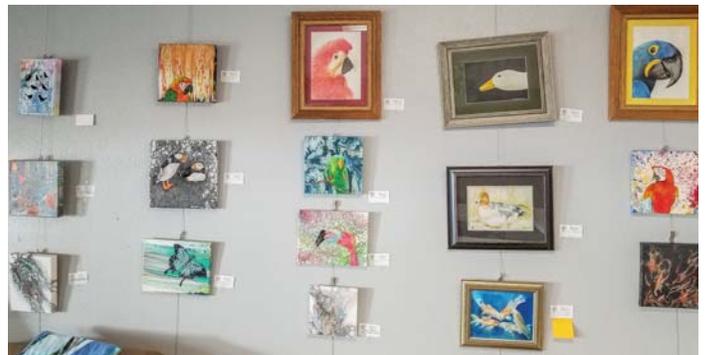
Chaparral Artists Meeting on Monday, 1-3pm
at the Center for Healthy Generations, 57121
Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley
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Art by Khryso Heart LeFey, December Artist of the month at Desert Hills Presbyterian Church



Dorene Fundin, October Artist of the month at the Center for Healthy Generations



Art by Susan Davenport, November Artist of the month at the Center for Healthy Generations