



# Chaparral Sketch

February 2021

Volume XII, Issue 2

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

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## Presidents Palette

I am delighted that Chaparral members are taking advantage of the year-round availability of gallery space at Rainbow Stew. As I've said, this year-round use was one of the planks in the platform I proposed for my first year as President. Eight months of the year will be open to all members to exhibit for free. All we're asking is that, for inventory purposes, you show up to retrieve your work on the days of transition between shows.

Of course, many of our members (including me) are consignors at Rainbow Stew, so we can always

hang our art there without up-front cost, but I like the show of solidarity we get to make when we display together. I think that belonging to clubs such as ours heightens the profile of art as a serious pursuit in the Basin, one of our mission's cornerstones.

As the pandemic comes under some control, perhaps we will be able to resume meeting in person as a club by mid-year. In line with our mission and another of my platform planks, I want to support our members' art businesses and serious hobbies.

(Not that there's anything wrong with making art a casual hobby, but I am most concerned with promoting the growth of those for whom growth will make a difference in their lives, and thus the arts-life in the Basin.)

So I plan to make the topic of our first member-meeting workshop "Bios and Artist Statements." I have been writing for about 45 years, including some journalism. I have been writing bios and artist statements for more than ten, so I have many opinions on the topic. If we have to submit them when we do shows, we may as well think about how we might make them as informative and interesting as we can. My experience is that prospective customers are more inclined to buy original art when they know about the artist.

It has been our custom in Chaparral that the President lines up the presenters at our monthly meetings. I welcome input on your preferences

around the presentations. Do you want to continue to have lessons in different media? Do you like my idea of focusing specifically on professional development workshops? Anything else? You may email me at khryso-at-gmail-dot-com or call or text me at 330-949-1859 with feedback. (It's an Ohio area code.)

At your service,

Khryso Heart LeFey

### **Vice President - An Artist's View**

We are now in deep winter's slumber. It is a time for introspection, dreaming the dream of what your art will become. It is a time to mold and reshape your perception of the art you want to create. Preparing your imagination for springtime with new beginnings, new insights, and new ways of expression.

I want to remind you of the opportunity you have during this pandemic to reunite your passion. Breaking the silence and projecting forth your inner voice expresses a universal language that most can understand at a soul level. Perhaps this is a time of renewal to merge your senses into one piece of art or a theme linking to several paintings.

Art is not only therapeutic; it is a conscious flow... sensations that speak to your emotions. Through your expression, art evolves. In wonderment, art admirers will ponder a piece of art and ask themselves, "What is the artist trying to convey, or how does this piece of art speak to me?"

These are my thoughts or perceptions I would like to share with you. As we move through February, let your thoughts reign on the heart of your desire, to let

your emotions speak through your art. Let your emotions rise to the occasion of freeing you from seclusion and opening to the vast landscape of inspiration and undying love.

Create an environment of peace and creativity.

Nancy Kimes

### **General Meetings**

Chaparral Artists are not holding general meetings at this time, however, we will be sure to notify everyone via email or phone when this changes.

### **Current Gallery Display**

We ended 2020 with a fantastic display of membership provided art in the themed show titled "Anything Goes". We continued the fun by starting the new year off with the same open-themed opportunity and held another "Anything Goes" show featuring Chaparral artists. The show remains on display at Rainbow Stew until February 10. Nine Chaparral members have art available for purchase - Raini Armstrong, Kim Clements, David Clements, Khryso Heart LeFey, Grey LeFey, Julianne Koza, Valerie Meyer, Nancy Miehle, and Kathy Miller.

### **Upcoming Gallery Display**

Our next show will present a "Black & White" theme!

Is it a simple filter you play with when capturing life around you? Maybe, at first. But the real power behind black and white art - in all its forms - is in the conveyance of a story. The process the artist goes

through to highlight a single subject, to express the emotion of a scene, to compose a moment in time that would otherwise be lost in the sea of colors, make black and white works pop.

Photographers and painters alike benefit from trying their hand at working with this limited palette. Some of you have already found a way to express yourselves in the contrast of lights and darks, so share your beauties with us.

I am a fan of color, myself, bold and beautiful and just a bit too pure for reality, but understanding how to work with black & white does amazing things to strengthen your existing painting and photography repertoire. So, let's celebrate our new and old black & white pieces in the members only Black & White show.

We welcome the membership to enter up to five pieces that demonstrate this classic theme. It will be on display at Rainbow Stew in Yucca Valley from February 13 through March 10. Intake will be held on Thursday, February 11, 4:30-6pm AND Friday, February 12, 12:30-2pm. This is a members only show. The display and intake dates are listed under the Events Calendar at the end of the newsletter as well as on the ChaparralArtists website. We ask that masks be worn and that social distancing is practiced when you deliver your entries.

For anyone that had art on display during the "Anything Goes" show, please be sure to pick up your unsold pieces during intake.

## **Future Gallery Displays**

March will be our Judged Photography show at Rainbow Stew in Yucca Valley. This is an open call. You do not need to be a member of Chaparral Artists to enter, so invite your friends and family to submit their unique photography, and make sure that you share your latest with use too!

The month of April will be the Judged Fine Art show. This too is an open call.

Detailed information will be provided for these shows in upcoming newsletters, and remember that all of these shows, the flyers associated with them, and any necessary paperwork for judged shows, are available online at ChaparralArtists.com.

## **Chaparral Collage**

### ***Finding Your Inspiration... Everywhere***

*by Nancy Kimes*

How can one find inspiration or a way to stir the imagination? This leads me back to the rock art I did for my son's birthday. Going back a few weeks, I was at my son's home. He has an aquarium, and one of the fish that caught my eye was the Oscar. I will reference him by that name. It followed me from one side to the other. Oscar would stop when I stopped, and we would gaze into each other's eyes. Then the thought came to me, 'maybe I could paint him.' So I took a couple of pictures.

On my way to Yucca Valley, I stopped at Whitewater Rock Supply. I have given Dan rock art in the past of various kinds, like trout and clownfish. I

found a lot of rocks to work with. As I was walking past a large bin of white stones, one, in particular, caught my eye, and I immediately envisioned that this was the perfect one for my project.

I paid for the rocks and went on my way. So you may wonder, there are a lot of rocks in the desert for free picking. Yes, that is true. But I was mostly looking for smooth river rock, which could take a lot longer to find. I am a rock hound, and when I stroll past many bins that contain them, I tune into what they can be used for. I have a rock garden in my backyard. I look for unique rocks - raw and natural, to give to my students for meditation and healing... and adorn my altars.

All rocks carry energy or vibration. It is like walking into a store looking for a crystal. But in fact, are you looking for the crystal, or is the crystal seeking you out? Most artists have that sense and connection with the tools they use and the expression of art that comes through them.

For the virgin artist, I would say, ‘take a chance.’ You have nothing to lose and everything to gain. As an artist friend once relayed to me, you will start opening to new perceptions and find your ‘jellybean.’ Let your art be an expression of you. Art can stimulate answers that you have been probing, possibly for a long time, to give you the insights you need for what is ailing you.

Get out there. Be brave. Show your work. It is a way to be acknowledged and understood.

At Chaparral, we hope you have found a comfortable community for self-expression and will extend an invitation for others to join us.



Rock Art Creation by Nancy Kimes  
Mixed Media - 8"x7"

<b>Administrative Assembly</b>	
<b>President</b>	Khrysso Heart LeFey
<b>Vice President</b>	Nancy Kimes
<b>Treasurer</b>	Carl Smelko
<b>Secretary</b>	Raini Armstrong
<b>Advertising</b>	Rainbow Stew
<b>Historian</b>	<i>Unfilled Position</i>
<b>Newsletter</b>	Raini Armstrong
<b>Show Committee</b>	Raini Armstrong (chairperson), Board members
<b>Sunshine</b>	Julia Terpening
<b>Website, Social</b>	Raini Armstrong
<b>Publicity</b>	<i>Unfilled Position</i>
<b>Hospitality</b>	<i>Unfilled Position</i>



Chaparral Artists Officers, right-left: Nancy Kimes, Khryso Heart LeFey, Raini Armstrong.

Thanks go out to Nancy McHenry who spent the first month of 2021 as Chaparral Artists' Treasurer. She could not continue in the position, and we wish her the best in all of her endeavors.

We happily welcome Carl Smelko as our new Treasurer for 2021!

**March 13 - April 14**

Judged Photography display at Rainbow Stew, 55509 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

**April 15 & 16**

Judged Fine Art show

Open to the public

*Drop-off Day 1*

[April 15 at 4:30-6pm](#)

*Drop-off Day 2*

[April 16 at 12:30-2pm](#)

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

**April 17 - May 12**

Judged Fine Art display at

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

**May 13 & 14**

"Abstract

members only themed show

*Drop-off Day 1*

[May 13 at 4:30-6pm](#)

*Drop-off Day 2*

[May 14 at 12:30-2pm](#)

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

**May 15 - June 16**

"Abstract"

members only themed show at

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

**Events Calendar**

**NOW - February 10**

"Anything Goes"

members only themed show at

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,

Yucca Valley

**February 11 & 12**

"Black & White"

members only themed show

*Drop-off Day 1*

[February 11 at 4:30-6pm](#)

*Drop-off Day 2*

[February 12 at 12:30-2pm](#)

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,

Yucca Valley

**February 13 - March 10**

"Black & White"

members only themed show at

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,

Yucca Valley

**March 11 & 12**

Judged Photography show

Open to the public

*Drop-off Day 1*

[March 11 at 4:30-6pm](#)

*Drop-off Day 2*

[March 12 at 12:30-2pm](#)

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,

Yucca Valley

**June 17 & 18**

“Anything Goes”  
members only themed show

*Drop-off Day 1*

June 17 at 4:30-6pm

*Drop-off Day 2*

June 18 at 12:30-2pm

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**June 19 - July 14**

“Anything Goes”  
members only themed show at

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**July 15 & 16**

“Mixed Media”  
members only themed show

*Drop-off Day 1*

July 15 at 4:30-6pm

*Drop-off Day 2*

July 16 at 12:30-2pm

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**July 17 - August 11**

“Mixed Media”  
members only themed show at

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**August 12 & 13**

“Anything Goes”  
members only themed show

*Drop-off Day 1*

August 12 at 4:30-6pm

*Drop-off Day 2*

August 13 at 12:30-2pm

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**August 14 - Sept 15**

“Anything Goes”  
members only themed show at

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**September 16 & 17**

Judged Photography show  
Open to the public

*Drop-off Day 1*

September 16 at 4:30-6pm

*Drop-off Day 2*

September 17 at 12:30-2pm

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**September 18 - Oct 13**

Judged Photography display at  
Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**October 14 & 15**

Judged Fine Art show  
Open to the public

*Drop-off Day 1*

October 14 at 4:30-6pm

*Drop-off Day 2*

October 15 at 12:30-2pm

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**October 16 - Nov 10**

Judged Fine Art display at  
Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**November 11 & 12**

“Same but Different”  
members only themed show

*Drop-off Day 1*

November 11 at 4:30-6pm

*Drop-off Day 2*

November 12 at 12:30-2pm

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley

**November 13 - Dec 15**

“Same but Different”  
members only themed show at

Rainbow Stew, 55509

Twentynine Palms Highway,  
Yucca Valley