



# Chaparral Sketch

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## President's Palette

Greetings Everyone,

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in September. I trust you have been taking care of yourselves while taking care of the essential things in life.

In La Palma, where I live, it not only has been hot but also high humidity! Not a good combination for the most part. I have not been in the desert these past few months. How are you doing in sweltering pools of sand? I can handle the high temperatures when it is a dry heat. I love the desert. It has a beauty of its own. Many of you may be on vacation or just returning

from your escape-from-summer-sun. And the rest of you may stay in the comforts of your home to do just that, rest.

I appreciate all of you, meeting you, learning from you, and doing art projects with some of you. You are unique and amazing, and I would not have met many of you if it wasn't for Chaparral! I am deeply grateful for what you share, the art you resonate with, and your unique design.

I trust you are still working on your art projects.

See you soon!

Nancy Kimes

## General Meetings

Our last meeting before the summer break was such a fun experience! We got to visit with several Chaparral members who have not attended for a time due to all sorts of life's responsibilities. It was thrilling to share and receive art and life updates. The opportunity provided much appreciated time with friends before the summer heat took us off on all sorts of adventures or inner art discoveries!

Our June meeting was our last general meeting before summer, held on the 13th. We had eighteen members (18) attend the meeting. The door prize of a cloth Chaparral Artists tote bag went to Kathy Miller. Our guest speaker was the lovely local artist and new Chaparral Artists member, Jen Shakti.

Jen is a prolific creator with abundant talent that comes from a long line of creators! Jen's preferred medium at this point in time is acrylic due to its versatility. She also has extensive knowledge, experience, and skill with the art form of tattooing. The detail she works into each piece is balanced beautifully with the creative compositions she develops. Vibrant color, a visual narrative, and the fine details she includes in her work lend magic to her art. She creates her imaginative compositions using her own photography. I admire the sense of realism that she merges flawlessly with fantasy in her paintings.



Guest Speaker, Jen Shakti

Our NEXT general meeting will be on Monday, September 12 at 1:00 PM. We invite members that are participating in the Morongo Basin Open Studio Art Tours in October to bring announcement cards or

other advertisements for your studio. We can pass around these flyers and spread the word.

We will NOT be sharing food, so please bring only your own snacks and drinks.

### **Board Meetings**

Our next Board meeting will be on September 12 from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM at the Center for Healthy Generations, right before the General Meeting!

### **Group Outings**

We invite you to spend the evening with us at Keys Ranch in Joshua Tree National Park on Wednesday, September 14th. We will meet at the Joshua Tree Park visitors center on Park Blvd at 4:30pm with the goal of caravanning to Keys Ranch by 5:00. Tickets will be available until the day of the event and must be purchased online at Eventbrite.

The air could be warm but manageable, but always be prepared for changes in temperature by layering, and the night sky should be aglow with stars. Photographers and night sky lovers alike will enjoy this outing to the Keys Ranch, but make sure to bring your comforts, like a chair, water, and snacks. We have secured the Ranch until midnight, so we have plenty of time to simply enjoy the quiet of this desert wonderland.

Please remember to share your suggestions for fun outings by contacting an Officer or by emailing us at [ChaparralArtists@gmail.com](mailto:ChaparralArtists@gmail.com)

## Gallery Displays

### *Previous Exhibits*

The June show at Rainbow Stew in Yucca Valley featured the theme of FLOWERS. We received a total of thirty-seven (37) entries from fourteen (14) artists. The walls were full, the content brightened the room and we received many kudos for a beautiful display during the hours after everything was hung!

Our July show at Rainbow Stew featured the theme of ANYTHING GOES. We received a total of forty-four (44) entries from seventeen (17) artists. I always enjoy the open theme of “Anything Goes” because it allows us members to showcase something we created that we absolutely love. There is no limitation to the year of creation and you are not limited to showing something that you have shown before.

Our August show featured a theme of SUMMER DAYS. We received a total of twenty-one (21) entries from nine (9) artists. This theme wasn't meant to severely limit, but to change your focus, as they all are meant to do. We hoped it would spark recollection of the joys of summer travels, exciting summer breaks, summer night sky photography or a spark of inspired summer art. We received the perfect selection of creations spanning just that - pool fun to summer adventures, desert dwellers caught on camera and canvas, flowers that bloom despite the heat and so much more!

### *Upcoming Exhibit*

Our September exhibit is fast approaching, the first show as we officially come back from summer

break - the Judged Photography show. This is an OPEN call for entries, you do not have to be a member to submit photos! This is a judged show and a fee is collected for each piece you submit. These fees go toward prizes and ribbons. Please limit your entries to five (5) in a size not to exceed 16”x20”.

Intake for the Judged Photo show will be held at Rainbow Stew in Yucca Valley on Thursday and Friday, September 15 from 4:30-6pm and August 16 from 12:30-2pm. Please reach out to us if you want to participate but cannot make those days!

Information about upcoming shows can always be found on the Chaparral Artists website by navigating to Publications, then Exhibits, and locating the show paperwork that you are interested in. Be sure to check in regularly for updates.

## Artists of the Month

We feature Chaparral members at both the Desert Hills Presbyterian Church in Yucca Valley AND the Center for Healthy Generations in Yucca Valley. We do not control when these venues open, so calling in advance to a visit is recommended.

During the summer we featured multiple members for two months! We received a lovely selection of art for both of the venues and the walls looked amazing.

If you are interested in sharing your work at these locations, contact Jennifer Grandi for the Presbyterian Church and Raini Armstrong for the Center for Healthy Generations.

## Art On Display - Basin and Beyond

Victoria Sebanz has an intriguing display of art highlighting multiple mediums on display at the Glass Outhouse for the month of September. An opening reception celebrating the artists on display at this amazing venue will be held on September 10th from 5pm-9pm, 77575 Twentynine Palms Highway.

We invite you to share announcements about YOUR current or upcoming show. We want to celebrate one another's accomplishments so please reach out to one of our officers directly or email us at [ChaparralArtists@gmail.com](mailto:ChaparralArtists@gmail.com).

## Chaparral Collage

### *A Gathering of Art Experiences*

Written by Raini Armstrong

As some of you know, I love expressive yet quiet art processes. Basically, my way of rebranding the concept of: art accomplished between work meetings and tasks. If I can sneak in a sketch, dabble with ink, or weave words of excitement while working remotely for my employers, I'm all in!

This means that I can typically juggle painting and character writing and learning new or strengthening already known processes.

I took advantage of the summer 'break' in the best way I could; I signed up for online refresher courses in watercolor or ink as the medium. I made many trips out to the desert for photographic adventures during the cool mornings. And I tried my hand at learning how to draw faces from Jen Shakti. And let me tell you, I loved the sessions on repeatable steps for

drawing faces straight on, faces in profile and faces at a three-quarter view! I cannot wait to see how she builds on this series.

This burst of creative practice was something I truly hoped to commit to during the summer hiatus from Chaparral's recurring meetings and events. I also took the summer off from my Watercolor Instruction class at the Center for Healthy Generations. With that extra time, I had enough freedom to take lessons myself. And I am still having a lovely time with it!

I look forward to meeting up with everyone soon, but I have enjoyed the extra hours that I could dedicate to writing and small art projects! With any luck, I can keep the threads going as schedules become normal again. And I have high hopes, too, because I STARTED, and once you start fun processes like these, it creates pathways of creativity that often last quite a while!

Good luck to all that have done something similar over the summer break, and let the fun continue!

### *In Gratitude*

Written by Nancy Kimes

Not a day goes by that I don't show my appreciation of the beauty in the clouds or watch the red-throated hummingbirds drink nectar from the feeders I placed in my sacred garden. I am thankful for my Plumeria tree, so prolific with blooms and the caterpillars that morphed into monarchs! Here are a few pictures to describe part of my summer experiences (next page).



From caterpillar to butterfly - photos by Nancy Kimes

***Ongoing Invitation to Share!***

Members and friends of Chaparral Artists, it is never too late to share your artistic accomplishments, stories, poetry, art snapshots, or art advice that you are following, in the newsletter.

Please share art-related information with us by sending your stories to [ChaparralArtists@gmail.com](mailto:ChaparralArtists@gmail.com). For anyone that cannot access the internet, call Raini Armstrong at 760-383-3005 to arrange the conveyance of your submission via phone or in person.

**Events Calendar**

**September 12**

Chaparral Artists General Meeting, 1-3pm  
Center for Healthy Generations  
57121 Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley

**September 14**

Keys Ranch at Night  
Meet at the Joshua Tree visitors center at 4:30pm, sign paperwork, caravan by 5pm  
6654 Park Blvd, Joshua Tree

**September 15 & 16**

Judged Photography Show  
Open to the Public  
*Drop-off Day 1*  
[September 15 at 4:30-6pm](#)  
*Drop-off Day 2*  
[September 16 at 12:30-2pm](#)  
Rainbow Stew, 55509 Twentynine Palms Highway

**September 15**

Joshua Tree National Park Expo Contest Deadline  
End of day. Online entry.

**October 1 & 2**

Orchid Festival  
Chaparral space dedicated to the organization  
Plus kids paint with Chaparral Artists!

**October 8 & 9**

Art Tours first weekend, 10am-5pm  
Remember to share your studio number with Chaparral so that we can spread the word!

**October 10**

Chaparral Artists General Meeting, 1-3pm  
Center for Healthy Generations  
57121 Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley

**October 13 & 14**

Judged Fine Art Show  
Open to the Public  
*Drop-off Day 1*  
[October 13 at 4:30-6pm](#)  
*Drop-off Day 2*  
[October 14 at 12:30-2pm](#)  
Rainbow Stew, 55509 Twentynine Palms Highway