



Chaparral Sketch

April 2023

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Inside this issue

General Meetings	1
Board Meetings	2
Group Outings	2
Gallery Displays	3
Previous Exhibit	3
Upcoming Exhibit	3
Artists of the Month	4
Art Exhibits - Basin and Beyond	4
Chaparral Collage	5
Dedicated to Creators	5
Thank you, Past, Present, and Future	
Volunteering Officers	5
Art & Craft Show Experience	6
Art Creation Workshops	6
Ongoing Invitation to Share!	6
Events Calendar	7

General Meetings

Our March meeting was held on the 13th of the month at Nancy Miehle's home. There were eleven (11) in attendance with our guest Carolyn Hawley receiving the door prize of a Chaparral Artists tote. Announcements were made for the Open Studio Art & watercolor workshops, featured artists at Healthy Generations and the Presbyterian Church and the upcoming 4th annual 29 Palms Art & Craft Festival. Speeches were heard from Myrtle Cassell and Nancy Kimes (unable to attend, so Raini read aloud her proposal). A blind vote was held to be continued digitally to the rest of membership via email. On

March 25 the vote was tallied. Congratulations, Myrtle Cassell, our 2023 Vice President.

It was a treat and a privilege to meet at Nancy Miehle's house for our March meeting. Her home is filled with artistic creations, from stained glass lamps, wallhangings, and windows to large paintings, fabric art, and painted chairs. Nancy supports the arts and is a productive artist; her home reflects her and her husband's interests, hobbies, and family.

I am in awe of Nancy; she has experience with multiple art mediums, conveying grace and confidence with each. Nancy was our host and guest speaker/demonstrator that afternoon, blowing me away with the project she has been working on - a large, transportable mural. Nancy explained the process she followed to create the mural, including changes needed to ensure the finished product would last.

The advice she shared was helpful for anyone interested in creating transportable murals, and the tips she offered could also be applied to outdoor murals.

Nancy began with a scene to be enlarged, using a grid system to aid her in the expansion from a legal-sized image to a wall-sized goal around 10x30 feet. The 'canvas' would be several panels of painter's cloth adhered together using velcro. Finally, the entire system of panels would hang from a long metal pole secured against the wall of a stage.

Mural projects come with many requirements ranging from safety considerations to presentation requirements, with indoor and outdoor applications coming with additional considerations, but universally they are the same. Size. These projects range anywhere from 10x10 ft up to 50 by 50. That is a lot of paint, time, and conversion between the image of inspiration and the planned surface. Nancy explained adding texture and depth to the mural and shared her consideration regarding color continuity between panels. A mural is rarely completed in a single day. Nancy's mural took around 3 weeks to finish, and paint mixtures could easily change in hue and intensity. Nancy's work on this transportable mural is impressive. Thank you so much, Nancy, for sharing this process with us. We could even put this information to good use now that the town of Yucca Valley is again considering mural projects.

Our NEXT meeting will be on April 10 starting at 1pm, held at the Center for Healthy Generations in Yucca Valley. In addition to the organization and member announcements we will hear from Jennifer Grandi and Victoria Sebanz as they share their experience with an acrylics workshop they attended earlier in the year.

Board Meetings

Our next Board meeting will be on April 10 from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM at the Center for Healthy Generations, right before the General Meeting!



Our group trip to the Living Desert

Remember that members are invited to join these meetings.

Group Outings

Chaparral artists have started with a bang this year, with members joining to visit 29 Palms, Indian Wells, Salton Sea, Redlands, and San Diego, for art events, cultural gatherings, and photo excursions. We recently visited the Living Desert and enjoyed beautiful animals and budding spring flora.

The Living Desert & Gardens field trip was held on the last Wednesday in March. Six of us attended a pleasantly moody day that set the critters on a path of casual laps and napping. The giraffes, cheetahs, and wolves were in motion most of the time, lending a challenge to each snapshot, whereas the coyotes and mountain lions were snoozing away the cool morning hours. The zoo's evening event - a series of massive flora, fauna, and mythical creature lanterns add additional joyous color to an already engaging environment. I certainly recommend a trip to our hidden gem of a local zoo and garden in the lower desert and I am definitely planning on a few trips back as the weather warms!

We hope to plan more and more field trips that might inspire our members to collect imagery for their next art project, provide scenic locations for plein air painting, or a pleasant gathering hub for lunch and conversation. These group trips often inspire our members to plan additional outings to revisit a site or find new ones once they have connected with like-minded art & culture searchers. So, we are always looking for events and locations we can share together. Please share your recommendations and requests for trips you would like to see us plan as a group by contacting us at ChaparralArtists@gmail.com



Photo of a quirky roadrunner at the Living Desert Zoo by Jennifer Grandi

Gallery Displays

Previous Exhibit

The March exhibit of Photography was on display from March 16th to April 12th. This was a judged show, open to public entry. We received a total of eighteen (18) entries from four (4) photographers. The judge was Marco Franchina, a professional photographer based in Palm Springs.

Congratulations to the artists that placed!

Nature's Kaleidoscope

- 1st - Raini Armstrong, "Solace Between Storm"
- 2nd - Tami Roleff, "After the Storm"
- 3rd - Patricia Quandel, "JTNP Snow"
- Honorable - Raini Armstrong, "Fleeting Textures"

Beautiful Creatures

- 1st - Tami Roleff, "Hey There"
- 2nd - Raini Armstrong, "Friends"
- 3rd - Patricia Quandel, "Its Cold"

Hand of Man

- 1st - Victoria Sebanz, "Fractal Man"
- 2nd - Patricia Quandel, "Home"
- 3rd - Victoria Sebanz, "Betty Boop"

BEST OF SHOW

Victoria Sebanz, "Fractal Man"

If you are interested in an article with greater detail for any shows mentioned in the newsletters, please visit our website to locate the article of interest. These articles have photos of the art that was on display during the show, they mention the titles of the pieces on display along with the creator, and often a general summary of the mood that the show created is provided.

Upcoming Exhibit

In April we hold the Open to the public Judged Art show at Rainbow Stew. This exhibit is open to all interested creators. You need not be a member of Chaparral. We invite professionals or educators in the field to judge the open shows. Look out for the Facebook or Chamber of Commerce announcement to pass along to family and friends, or copy the paperwork directly from the Chaparral website. These open judged shows are perfect for hobbyists, students and professional creators alike.

Intake for the Spring Art show will be held at Rainbow Stew on the 13th and 14th of April - a Thursday from 4:30-6pm and a Friday from 12:30-2pm. As always, let's have fun! There are fees for this show, ribbons and prizes will be awarded for first, second, third, and honorable mention in three different categories when possible - Creatures, Nature, Manmade. Look for the Best of Show and President's Award over the entire exhibit.

Information about upcoming shows *should* be available 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 and if you notice something missing, reach out to an officer to notify us of the absence.

Artists of the Month

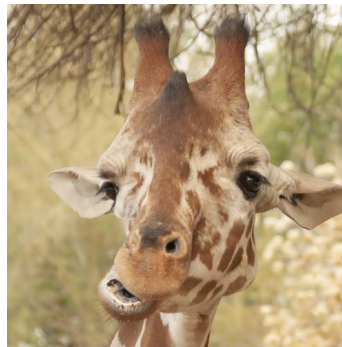
We feature Chaparral members at both the Desert Hills Presbyterian Church in Yucca Valley AND the Center for Healthy Generations in Yucca Valley. We do not control when these venues open, so calling in advance to a visit is recommended.

The featured artist at the Center for Healthy Generations in April is Joan Scott. She is presenting creations highlighting merely some of her talents in mixed media, acrylics and pastel. Stop by on one of the open days for the Center (Monday through Friday) to enjoy her work.

The featured artist at Desert Hills Presbyterian Church during April is Jennifer Grandi. A pastel artist presenting soft, bold, and beautiful scenes with a few bright acrylics tied into the exhibit.



Living Desert snapshots by Raini Armstrong



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 Exhibits - Basin and Beyond

Ed Keesling and Chuck Caplinger are exhibiting in the curated collection titled "Power in the Desert" at the 29 Palms Art Gallery. Ed's pottery is stunning and the story conveyed in this group exhibit is engaging. Be sure to catch the show before the end of month! Members' creations are on display in the members gallery, as well as photography by Diane Padys.

Victoria Sebanz and Jennifer Grandi have art on display at the Hi-Desert nature Museum until May 27th for the Metamorphosis: A recycled art exhibition show.

Did I miss YOUR exhibit? Please contact us at ChaparralArtists@gmail.com The announcement will

be placed in a few issues of the Sketch. Inform us of upcoming exhibit opportunities as well!

Chaparral Collage

Dedicated to Creators

Chaparral Artists celebrate the creator. We welcome all mediums, honoring them as best we can. Acrylic, bead, ceramic, cloth, digital, film, glass, inks, markers, metal, mixed media, oil, pastel, pencil, photo, recycled materials, spray paint, watercolor, and the written word. The list continues, and we have not forgotten vocal, instrumental, or dance! In a perfect world we would celebrate all creative forms, but for now we best represent 2-dimensional creators providing a friendly platform to share your creations at our featured artist venues or our gallery space at Rainbow Stew. And through this newsletter we hope to offer a place for your written stories and supportive imagery.

Four judged exhibits provide a competitive option, conforming to the traditional exhibit categories of photography or art. Local photographers can compete with their peers in two judged photo shows per year. Our judged art shows allow local material manipulators a platform to compete with one another. And then, we provide eight thematic exhibits a year that offer exhibit space to a combination of mediums, be they assemblage and crafty, abstracted or figurative, and everything in between. We might add other competitions as we grow, but for now, we want to present themes that inspire, engage, challenge, and promote member art at little or no cost to our membership.

We are a friendly group of creators who want to promote and inspire other creators through workshops, outings, challenges, and exhibits.

Thank you, Past, Present, and Future Volunteering Officers

Nancy Kimes, thank you for providing your experiences, your artistic insight, and your energy in the role of President during the years 2021 and 2022! You took on the role quickly when we needed you and we learned together how to survive the changes following a challenging world event. Together we continued offering monthly thematic exhibits, spirited workshops, and we gradually got back together to enjoy functions and field trips. Here's to looking ahead at more time spent together at future workshops, group outings and exhibits. We look forward to hearing about your projects and working together as we evolve in the creative sphere.

Myrtle Cassell, you have already jumped into the role of Membership first and then Vice President, working quickly to make sure we were current on membership and then drumming up excitement for possible group excursions. We look forward to traveling, creating, and exhibiting together as the months bring new experiences and opportunities to the organization.

We still hope to create an Education Outreach and Public Relations team to help us grow and continue to meet our goal of promoting arts culture and potential in the high desert through art related programs and demonstrations that stimulate the interests of youth and adult populations.

We also need a membership officer to manage applications, badging, and membership communication.

If interested in any of the unfilled positions, or if you have skills that are best suited to another role, please share your thoughts with us through email chaparralartists@gmail.com or phone 760-383-3005. Questions and comments welcome.

Art & Craft Show Experience

The popup event experience is full of joys and exhaustion and I absolutely respect those weekend warriors - the creators AND the organizers! Days start very early and often go late. Setup requires full body motion, lugging the tent, the boxes, and sometimes the friends. And by the end of the event you gain laughs, stories, insights, and yes, probably a few frustrations, but hopefully the positives outway the negatives!

My experience with the 4th Annual 29 Palms Art & Craft Festival this year was full of fun. I love coming away from a busy weekend with the desire to create more, because of the conversations I had with visitors. The festival was held on the 1st and 2nd of April and the weather was perfect, for the most part. The food was amazing and wow, the entertainment was diverse and fabulous! I am already looking forward to next year!

Art Creation Workshops

We have so many opportunities to create art here in the Morongo Basin from finding solace with our thoughts and taking advantage of plein air

opportunities OR seeking out group projects and art workshops.

Open Studio Art Workshops are offered at the Yucca Valley Community Center every Thursday morning, 9-11:30am. Participants bring their own materials, pay a fee of \$3, and are free to work on whatever they are interested in.

Watercolor Workshops are offered at the Yucca Valley Community Center every Thursday afternoon, 1-3pm. Participants bring their own materials, pay a fee of \$5, and can work on their own watercolor projects or follow along with the instructor.

Watercolor Workshops are offered at the Center for Healthy Generations in Yucca Valley every Friday morning, 9-11am. Participants bring their own materials, pay a fee of \$7, and can work on their own watercolor projects or follow along with the instructor.

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

Administrative Assembly 2023	
President	Victoria Sebanz
Vice President	Myrtle Cassell
Treasurer	Nancy Miehle
Membership	<i>Unfilled!</i>
Secretary	Raini Armstrong
Advertising	Rainbow Stew
Historian	<i>Unfilled!</i>
Newsletter	Raini Armstrong
Show Committee	Raini (chairperson) + Board members
Sunshine	Julia Terpening
Website, Social	Raini Armstrong
Publicity	<i>Unfilled!</i>
Hospitality	Nancy McHenry

have learned or devised along the way. Your voice belongs in this newsletter!

Please share art-related information by sending your thoughts to 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

April 10

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

April 10

Writing Workshop by Mil-Tree, 7-9pm
Online (Zoom), registration required

April 11

Plein Air Painting, 9am
Organized by Krista Wargo
Black Rock Canyon Campground

April 13

Open Art Workshop, 9-11:30am
All art mediums welcome!

+

Watercolor Workshop, 1-3pm

Yucca Valley Community Center - Ocotillo Room
57090 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

April 14

Friday **Watercolor Workshop**, 9-11am
Center for Healthy Generations
57121 Sunnyslope Dr, Yucca Valley

April 12

Wildflower Walk & Talk, 9-11am
Mission Creek Preserve, The Wildlands Conservancy
60550 Mission Creek Road Desert Hot Springs

April 13 & 14

Judged Spring Art Show
OPEN TO ALL Artists

Drop-off Day 1

April 13 at 4:30-6pm

Drop-off Day 2

April 14 at 12:30-2pm

Rainbow Stew, 55509 Twentynine Palms Highway

April 17

Writing Workshop by Mil-Tree, 7-9pm
Online (Zoom), registration required

April 19

Diamond Valley Wildflower Trail
Perfect for Photographers or Plein Air Painters
\$11 parking (\$5 for seniors/military/veterans) + \$4 per person

April 20

Open Art Workshop, 9-11:30am
All art mediums welcome!

+

Watercolor Workshop, 1-3pm

Yucca Valley Community Center - Ocotillo Room
57090 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

April 21

Friday **Watercolor Workshop**, 9-11am
Center for Healthy Generations
57121 Sunnyslope Dr, Yucca Valley

April 22 & 23

The Ramona Pageant, 1:30-5:30pm
1:30 doors open, 3:30 showtime
A classic love story of life in early California during the 1850's
Tickets available online!

April 24

Writing Workshop by Mil-Tree, 7-9pm
Online (Zoom), registration required

April 27

Open Art Workshop, 9-11:30am

All art mediums welcome!

+

Watercolor Workshop, 1-3pm

Yucca Valley Community Center - Ocotillo Room
57090 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley

April 28

Friday **Watercolor Workshop**, 9-11am
Center for Healthy Generations
57121 Sunnyslope Dr, Yucca Valley

April 29 & 30

The Spring 2023 Brewery Artwalk, 11am-6pm
Victoria Sebanz is exhibiting!
2100 N Main Street, Los Angeles

April 29 & 30

The Ramona Pageant, 1:30-5:30pm
1:30 doors open, 3:30 showtime
A classic love story of life in early California during
the 1850's
Tickets available online!

May 6 & 7

The Ramona Pageant, 1:30-5:30pm
1:30 doors open, 3:30 showtime
A classic love story of life in early California during
the 1850's
Tickets available online!



Spring flowers at Whitewater Preserve



4th Annual 29 Palms Art & Craft Festival