



Chaparral Sketch

October 2023

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Inside this issue

General Meetings	1
Board Meetings	1
Group Outings	1
Gallery Displays	2
Previous Exhibit - Judged Creative Art	2
Next Exhibit - Judged Creative Photography	3
Artists of the Month	3
On Display - Basin and Beyond	3
Creative Opportunities	4
Workshops and Paint-outs	4
Ongoing Invitation to Share!	4

General Meetings

The September general meeting was held on the 11th of the month, our first general meeting after our summer hiatus and we had 19 people attend. We mixed it up a little with our discussion/presentation time by providing painting options to attendees - acrylics, watercolor, alcohol ink, and collage materials were provided along with watercolor papers and thin Joshua tree wood - long ago donated to us. Members were encouraged to have fun experimenting, and extra wood sheets were provided to members to make their mark and create something to be sold at the Orchid Festival on their own time. The event was amazingly fun and we hope to have more creative events in the future where people can continue sharing advice and experimenting with mediums and/or techniques that are unfamiliar or forgotten.

Our NEXT meeting will be held on October 9 - the regular place and time - every second Monday at 1:00 PM held at the Center for Healthy Generations in Yucca Valley.

Board Meetings

Our Board meetings are held on the same day as our general meetings to make things easy! Our next Board meeting will be on October 9 at 11:30 AM, also held at the Center for Healthy Generations. Remember that members are always welcome to join these meetings.

Group Outings

Chaparral Artists embarked on a journey to the slightly cooler mountain community of Big Bear on September 19. Our first stop was the renowned Farmers Market, a unique experience set against the mountain backdrop that I fondly miss. The market offered an array of fresh foods and featured some delightful canned goodies, breads, yogurts, and food trucks. Numerous arts and crafts booths kept us engaged as we strolled through the market grounds. The only challenge was finding parking, but that's par for the course in Big Bear. Seven ventured on this outing together, caravanning in two vehicles.

Following the market, we explored the Alpine Zoo. The zoo relocated to a new spot, approximately

three-quarters of a mile from its previous location, in 2020. The new enclosures are safer and more manageable, with well-constructed walking paths that are easily navigable for everyone. While the dense foliage and old shade trees are still developing on the three-year-old grounds, the zoo becomes more inviting with each passing year. Housing over a hundred creatures, the Alpine Zoo is a delightful addition to your Big Bear travels, especially if you're in search of cooler weather!

No trips will be taken this month because it is more than packed with festivals, markets, functions, and tours in our surrounding communities. Take it easy, enjoy the creativity and inspirations, and safe travels!

November's trip IS scheduled for Cabot's Pueblo Museum in Desert Hot Springs for Wednesday the 15th. More information will come in the next newsletter.

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

Gallery Displays

Previous Exhibit - Judged Creative Art

September was dedicated to the judged creative art exhibit. We hold four judged shows per year, each open to general public entries. The art exhibit was on display from September 15 through October 12. We had six (6) creators submit a total of thirty-three (33) entries

Sharon Davis out of Morongo Valley was the judge of our Fall Art exhibit. She creates striking, whimsical, colorful scenes in acrylic. She has a passion for repurposed materials and creates with her entire heart and soul. Thank you, Sharon, for judging and providing a bit of feedback.

Congratulations to the artists who secured a place in the recent exhibition!

Nature's Kaleidoscope

- 1st - Janet Kruser, "The Forest"
- 2nd - L Hilary Slotta, "Maple Tree Path"
- 3rd - Noreen Lawlor, "Hidden Valley"
- HM - Krista Wargo, "Desert Show-off"

Beautiful Creatures

- 1st - Jennifer Grandi, "Gliding"
- 2nd - Victoria Sebanz, "Vista"
- 3rd - L Hilary Slotta, "Morning Hummingbird"
- HM - Jeni Bate, "So Far"

Hand of Man

- 1st - Nancy Miehle, "Feathers"
- 2nd - Victoria Sebanz, "Moon Goddess"

3rd - Victoria Sebanz, "Birth of Aphrodite"

HM - Joan Scott, "Spring in the Desert"

BEST OF SHOW

Jennifer Grandi, "Gliding"

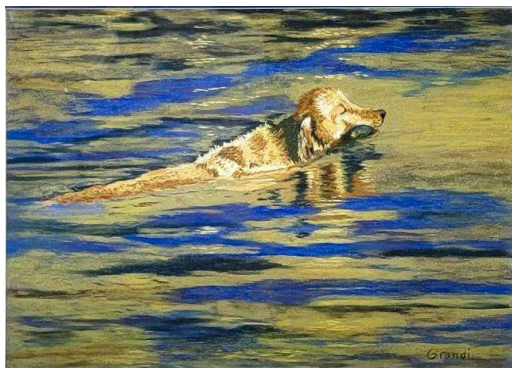
PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Suzanne Burton, "Evening Forest"

For more in-depth coverage of the shows mentioned in the newsletters, including photographs of the exhibited art AND any comments left by the judge, please visit our website. These articles may be packed with fun stuff, so be sure to check them out online.

Next Exhibit - Judged Creative Photography

We are holding another judged show this month



"Gliding" by Jennifer Grandi
Best of Show
2023 Fall Judged Art Exhibit

dedicated to our amazing photographers. The judged Creative Photography exhibit will be held at Rainbow Stew. This is an open-to-the-public exhibit opportunity, judged by a professional or educator in the field. This exhibit welcomes all photographers, regardless of Chaparral membership. Intake is on

October 12th and 13th at Rainbow Stew, with fees applicable. Enjoy the opportunity to showcase your talent and compete for ribbons and prizes in categories like Creatures, Nature, and Manmade. Don't miss the chance to win the Best of Show or the President's Award for the entire exhibit. Let's have fun!

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.

Jennifer Grandi is being featured at the Desert Hills Presbyterian Church during the month of October.

Healthy Generations received twenty-seven (27) submissions from nine (9) members and will be on display until September 22. You still have time to enjoy the featured artists!

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 (December is available).

On Display - Basin and Beyond

Nancy Kimes and Nancy Miehle's exquisite artworks still dazzle visitors at Rainbow Stew, where they showcase their pieces in the Invited Artists Room - back of the shop. Be sure to stop by, maybe you will find the perfect gift for a loved one in glass, oil, acrylic, and cloth - they have everything!

Did I miss YOUR exhibit? Are you displaying creations at any of the local art galleries? We have so many creative gift shops, exhibit spaces and offices that feature art so please share these amazing accomplishments with us so we know to visit. Please contact us at ChaparralArtists@gmail.com The announcement will be placed in issues of the Sketch. Inform us of upcoming exhibit opportunities as well!

Creative Opportunities

Workshops and Paint-outs

We have many opportunities to create art here in the Morongo Basin from finding solace with our thoughts and taking advantage of plein air and writing opportunities OR seeking out group projects, creative workshops, photography excursions, and writers groups.

Mil-Tree Writers Group meets Monday evenings, online via Zoom, 7-9pm. This writing group welcomes individuals of all writing levels and fosters a relaxed and friendly environment. The primary expectation is that members are open to providing feedback on their peers' writing, but all are encouraged to share their own written work as well. Interested in joining? Contact info@mil-tree.org and ask questions OR sign up.

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.

Plein Air meetups are coordinated by Krista Wargo around the desert most months and are announced on the Chaparral calendar when we hear of them. Attendees bring their own materials, prepare for any weather changes, and bring plenty of food and water for their adventure in painting on site in the wild. Krista chooses locations that have basic amenities, such as restrooms, but otherwise you must pack in and pack out anything you need to create with. Please contact Krista directly to share your attendance intention, so that she knows to expect you.

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 wish to offer. 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.