



Chaparral Sketch

November 2023

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Editor's Greeting

December is right around the corner and with the refreshing chill that first greeted us back in October comes even better weather conditions to support outdoor activities, gallery visits, creativity in our studios or outside in the beautiful desert, all while donning cute sweaters and other cozy outer-wear! We have already enjoyed amazing Basin-wide and lower desert Festivals and events and there are more to come. We are updating the Chaparral online calendar as quickly as you send us updates, so keep them coming! Remember to enjoy your creative adventure by taking advantage of the outdoor temperatures. We have gallery openings, hiking experiences, creative meetups, artistic workshops and discussions, and collaborative events a plenty in our magical hi desert. Keep on creating!

General Meetings

The October meeting welcomed members and visitors alike and was held on the 9th. Eighteen (18) attended the meeting. We were able to share the results of our fundraising efforts at Gubler's Orchid Festival and thank our volunteers. Without volunteers we cannot possibly attend such wonderful events. We were excited to hear what photographers Paul Ivanushka and Robert Rufer had to say about planning for judged shows. They touched on the importance of composition, emotional impact, and where possible familiarizing oneself to the judge(s) of a competition.

Our NEXT meeting will be on November 13 - 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 simple. Our next Board meeting will be on November 13 at 11:30 AM, also held at the Center for Healthy Generations. Remember that members are invited to join these meetings.

Group Outings

No outings were scheduled for October due to all the amazing events held during that month, but we do have something planned for this month!

November's trip is scheduled for Cabot's Pueblo Museum in Desert Hot Springs on Wednesday the 15th. For those wishing to carpool and/or caravan we meet at Jack in the Box in Yucca Valley at 9am. We do not wait long, so if you plan on meeting up with us, consider telling someone so that we know to expect you! There are a variety of tours and fees for them so make sure to visit the Cabot's webpage at cabotsmuseum.org for more information on ticket prices. Adult ticket price for the tour is \$16.

We aim to organize more field trips to inspire our members, whether it's collecting images for art projects, painting outdoors, or simply enjoying lunch and conversation in scenic locations. These trips often lead to further outings as members connect with others who share their passion for art and culture. We're constantly seeking new events and locations to explore together. Please share your suggestions and requests for group trips by contacting us at ChaparralArtists@gmail.com.

Gallery Displays

Previous Exhibit - Judged Creative Photography

October was dedicated to an open to the public judged creative photography show. The show was on display from October 14 through November 15. We had five (5) members submit a total of nineteen (19)

entries making a decent collection of creative expressions. And remember, these judged shows are open to the public, so pass along the invite to friends for future shows. We want to support local creators and holding accessible, friendly shows like these are a great way to warm creators up to the idea of sharing their work with the public.

Bill Brewer, a California native and high desert resident was our judge. Bill's photographic journey has taken him across the globe. With a graduate degree from USC, he has shared his passion for photography at Long Beach City College. As an artist, he appreciates the detailed nature of photography. Bill's goal is to capture moments that reflect his experiences and emotions, conveying the unique feeling of a particular time and place.

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

Nature's Kaleidoscope

1st - Victoria Sebanz, "Passages"

2nd - Victoria Sebanz, "Party Dress"

3rd - Raini Armstrong, "Bobbles"

HM - Bob Rufer, "Barker Dam"

Beautiful Creatures

1st - Victoria Sebanz, "Evocation"

2nd - Raini Armstrong, "Can't Catch Me"

3rd - Myrtle Cassell, "Tree Hug"

HM - Bob Rufer, "Hi, Neighbor!"

Hand of Man

1st - Victoria Sebanz, "Temple"

2nd - Meilani MacDonald, "Infrastructure"

3rd - Raini Armstrong, "Weaves"

HM - Bob Rufer, "Purple Mercedes"

BEST OF SHOW

"Noir (Twilight)" - Victoria Sebanz

For more in-depth coverage of the shows mentioned in the newsletters, including photographs



"Noir Twilight" by Victoria Sebanz
Best of Show
2023 Fall Judged Photo Exhibit

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 - "Same but Different"

In November, we're excited for the Same but Different show. We love how this theme allows workshop attendees to display their paintings together. It also encourages creators to collaborate together to create their own themes like 'owls', 'night sky' and 'flowers'. Participants can challenge themselves to represent the theme with a single entry, such as a bird reflected in water or a cat sitting by a

mirror. We've seen many creative interpretations over the years and hope to keep the tradition going!

Intake for the Same but Different exhibit will be on Thursday, November 16 from 4:30-6pm and Friday, November 17 from 12:30-2pm at Rainbow Stew in Yucca Valley.

To find details about upcoming shows, visit the Chaparral Artists website. Go to Publications, then Exhibits, and find the paperwork for the show you're interested in. Check back often for updates, and if you see anything missing, contact an officer to let us know.

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 artists at the Center for Healthy Generations through November are Sharon George and L. Hilary Slotta. A powerful duo, these women work in many mediums and they enjoy color! The walls are much improved by the joyous hues in use. And the detail presented in the mercurial alcohol inks of L Hilary and the fine strokes in the scratch art of Sharon offer a sense of awe and admiration. Be sure to visit before while you still can to enjoy and maybe purchase a gift for that special someone.

The featured artist at Desert Hills Presbyterian Church during November is Patricia Quandel. Patricia has wowed us over the years with her photographic eye. She often captures scenes with an

interesting story behind them, presenting landscapes with careful planning backing them as well as luckily timed moments many might have missed. But she is now sharing a different side of her creative mind with us through her watercolors!

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).

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!

Attention Chaparral Artists members and friends! We welcome your artistic achievements, stories, poetry, snapshots of your art, or any art advice you'd like to share in our newsletter. Your voice matters! Please send your contributions to ChaparralArtists@gmail.com. If you can't access the internet, you can call Raini Armstrong at 760-383-3005 to arrange for your submission to be conveyed over the phone or in person.