



## NEXT AWS MEETING: April 18 , 2019

**Board mtg:** 10:30 am **Lunch:** Noon **Meeting:** 12:30 pm **Art Demo:** 1:10 - 3 pm  
Sebastopol Veteran's Building, 282 South High St., Sebastopol, CA

[www.AWSOMEART.org](http://www.AWSOMEART.org)

## Upcoming Demos & Activities

**April 18**

**Avinash Pandey:**

***“How to Photograph your Painting”***

Avinash is a multitalented photographer with roots in advertising. Don't miss this useful workshop! [www.avinashphotography.com](http://www.avinashphotography.com)

**May 16**

**Round Robin Painting**

**June 20**

**AWS Picnic & PaintOut**

**July 18**

**Charlie Gresalfi:**

***Digital Art Demonstration***

## Sebastopol Art Venues March 21 - May 16

***PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THE NEXT  
PERIOD: May 16-July 18***

**Tombe Realty** (12+ pieces)

Avinash Pandey

**Umpquah Bank** (6 pieces)

Annie Springer

**Eye Associates Medical Group** (12 large pieces)

Deni Marrone

**Slice of Life Restaurant**(10 pieces)

Susan Bradford

**Edward Jones** (11 pieces)

Gail Mardfin

Phil Wilkinson

**Sebastopol Senior Center** (2 rooms, 12 each)

Rhea Schnurman

Diane Ceccarelli

**Diane Ceccarelli, Coordinator of Art Venues**  
[dianececcarelli@yahoo.com](mailto:dianececcarelli@yahoo.com) • (707) 823-3875

# AWS Board Minutes

## March 21, 2019

**Members Present:** Patty Bird, Gary Caldwell, Bob Hart, Merrie Krisl, Gail Mardfin, Carol Mills, Fran Nielsen, and James Reynolds.

Meeting was called to order at 10:37 by President, Carol Mills.

**President:** Still need Publicity Chairperson(s)! Carol announced **we have received a grant from the county Community Investment Fund of \$1000.**

The county logo will appear on our advertising. Thank you, Carol, for getting this grant for us! Although we can reapply, we can't count on this money every year. Bob moved and Patty seconded that we create and implement a tiered plan for dues. This passed, and Bob will chair to create this plan. We also discussed raising art show fees in the future, but no action was taken.

Discussed the section under Board in the Constitution and voted to accept the document as currently written. This version will be in the April newsletter for the members' ratification vote in May. *(See pages 5-7 of this newsletter.)*

We are exploring less expensive meeting places and Bob suggested the Cultural Arts Center. It is available as of June and would save us \$1200-\$1500 per year. We will need to look at storage and display capabilities and Bob will arrange a time for the board to visit. Before a move, Carol thinks we should take our info on other places to SCA to see if they can match.

**Treasurer:** Patty reported a balance of \$635.35. She will track our Mielke fund and the county grant money separately from our general fund.

**Vice President:** Avinash Pandey will talk about photographing our art in April. We will have a round robin painting in May, and the picnic in June. Charlie Gresalfi will demonstrate digital art in July.

**Apple Blossom Show:** Contracts have been signed and paid. Has all the committee chairs. Carol will distribute entrance tickets to show volunteers at the painting drop off on Thursday or at the Friday reception. Be sure to see her. Bob reported that a group passed out posters for display to downtown Sebastopol businesses. Think we have enough card racks. Fran asked where to display smaller show banner and the terrace side was suggested. We have paid a cleaning deposit of \$100 which we need to get back. Gail asked about the possibility of giclée pieces for the donation paintings only. Not this year, but will bring up for next year.

**Membership:** Gary reported 57 members are currently eligible for the ABS. Gary will send Lorraine changes to the roster and she will email additions/corrections to members.

**AWS Cards:** Gail showed us a sample postcard to advertise our group. She will have 1000 printed with color on both sides.

**Gravenstein Apple Fair show:** Fran reported the \$500 entrance fee is due April 15. The show is the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of August and has been a good source of sales for people in the past. Sign up!

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Merrie Krisl

Recording Secretary

## Thank you, Carol!

President Carol Mills' efforts in filling out a multi-paged application form for a grant from the county has yielded AWS \$1000! The monies must be used for advertising, and this seal must now appear on AWS materials.



## April 18 Refreshments

Please deliver your food to the meeting BEFORE NOON. Thank you.

### Sandwiches/Finger Food

Diane Ceccarelli  
Susan Barri  
Dante Corsetti  
Trula Lacalle  
Judy Leandro  
Gail Mardfin  
Linda Neese  
Lorraine Stribling  
Cher Traendly  
Phil Wilkinson

### Dessert/Fruit

Carol Leif-Gianni  
April Lynch  
Carol Mills  
Arlene Parnay  
Nancy Sanchietti

**NEW IDEA!!**

Paula Pierce suggested a monthly "theme" for members in need of inspiration/motivation.

April's theme:

"FACES IN NATURE"

*Have fun, and share your work!*

# 3/21/19 AWS Artist Demo:

## Huihan Liu by Beverly Bird

Thrilling and inspirational to watch, Huihan truly creates magic in his work. Huihan Liu immigrated from China in 1987, having studied art there, followed by graduate work at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. He then taught at the Academy for nearly 20 years.

While he emphasized repeatedly the importance of painting directly from life, his demonstration at AWS was a painting from a reference photo of a model. He noted that one needs to paint from life, in order to learn what to select from a photo reference for studio work. **“Draw, draw, draw,”** he urged. His support was an 11 x 14 inch wood panel, which he immediately covered with a brownish wash to eliminate the white. He has tried a number of mediums over time, but generally uses half turp and half linseed oil. He stressed the importance of training your eye to be accurate, carefully placing points of reference and skipping excessive detail, so painting can be “more fun.” He sketched an outline with the paint, paying attention to major shapes. It is so important to take care at the beginning stage to ensure the drawing is accurate, so you can avoid frustration at later stages, he advised. He checked the size, angles, and shoulder placement.

Huihan uses the palette knife to mix paints, but also throughout the painting process. He also used the edge of a fan brush often, even for details. He used the knife and a large brush to block in, starting with the dark shape of the hair and headdress. Constantly checking shapes and connections, he proceeded with the background, which he extended to the right side of the face, choosing a color more aligned with the garment. He noted that it’s best to treat the background more abstractly. Moving on to the face, he mixed a flesh color and blocked in. “Take only what you need from the reference photo.” His approach to the eye socket was very light and careful, stating “Make sure the eye socket is in the right place.” He switched to a small brush to add details.

As the major areas were warm, he chose a cool color for the highlights. He noted that it is best to have either cool or warm colors dominate in a painting. After checking the drawing, he moved the ear placement. In the final stages, he added the detail of the headdress, not copying details directly, but getting the feeling with a few carefully placed strokes. “Don’t get too tight,” he noted.

Huihan brought examples of his work, a mixture of plein air and studio work. He also brought several books filled with his stunning paintings. **He will be teaching an intensive 3-day workshop May 2-4, 2019 in Oakmont.**  
**On the web: [huihanweizhenart.com](http://huihanweizhenart.com)**



*“Painting is...  
“problem solving.”  
“a fun thing.”  
“a process.”*



*All-over wash*



*Blocking in dark shapes*



*Working with fan brush*



*Steadying his painting hand*

# Member Profile with Gail Mardfin

by Paula Pearce

**Paula:** So, Gail, where were you born and raised?

Gail: I was born and raised in a small coastal town in Connecticut.

**P:** Did you grow up with siblings?

G: Yes, well kind of. My brother and sister are six and nine years older, so I was kind of raised as an only child by the time I was in junior high.

**P:** Did you have any family members who were also artists?

G: Looking back, I know now that my paternal grandfather was a fabulous pencil sketcher. Recently one of my cousins sent me a whole packet of small sketches of faces of commuters our grandpa did while he rode the subway to work. My mother was also very creative and beautified our home and yard with her artistic skills. She did everything, from painting walls, hanging wallpaper, and sewing all the curtains to planting and maintaining beautiful gardens.

**Comment by Paula:** Those are all the same skills my family enjoyed from my mom. How lucky we were to grow up with moms like ours.

**P:** As a young child did you enjoy art?

G: I was often sick with asthma and I would occupy myself by drawing in bed for hours at a time.

**P:** Did your art interest continue into high school and later on?

G: I loved my high school art teacher and decided then I wanted to be an art teacher. I first went to Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York, to major in art education, but transferred to Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, where I met the man I would marry after graduation. I ended up majoring in psychology, but once we moved to New Jersey, I went back to school and earned my Masters in Studio Arts with an emphasis in silkscreen.

**P:** What happened after that?

G: Eventually, my husband and I both taught in the art department of Purnell School, a small, girls' boarding school that focused on the strengths of each student and really supported the arts.

**P:** What kind of art did you teach there?

G: I taught drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, jewelry, art history, watercolor, you name it!

**Comment by Paula:** Wow! That is impressive, anything else you want to add?

G: Yes, I also helped with the school newspaper, yearbook, and alumnae publications, and that led me to my graphic design career later.

**P:** Talking about careers, what kind of art did your former husband focus on as an artist?

G: My "wusband" was and still is a very talented and prolific impressionist landscape painter and I did a lot to promote his work when we were married. I kind of sublimated my own



creative pursuits, busy with teaching and raising our kids. In those days, I would not have called myself an artist.

**P:** What brought you to Sonoma County?

G: I moved out here three and a half years ago because my daughter, O'Neil, lives here in Sebastopol with her husband and my granddaughter, Zaylie.

**P:** Once you were divorced and free, was there ever a milestone in your artistic development that you can recall?

G: Yes, in 2007 when I lived in Bernardsville, New Jersey. I put together a large, one-person show of 63 pieces! In preparation for that show I produced a lot of work, including a combination of mixed media collages and photographs with uplifting text. I also produced acrylic paintings, mostly still lifes, in a stylized technique I had developed. That art show definitely launched my career as an artist. For the next eight or nine years, I was successful in creating and selling many of my stylized paintings. I also co-founded an Artists' Studio Tour called "ARTsee," similar to Art Trails here, which is still going strong in its ninth year in New Jersey.

**P:** Gail, with such a wide variety of artwork you have created, can you share with us the underlying theme for your artistic passion?

G: The theme of all my work and my life is "See the Good!" I am very active in the Center for Spiritual Living (first in New Jersey and now in Santa Rosa).

**P:** How did you find out about AWS?

G: About a year ago Bob Hart, also a member of the Center for Spiritual Living, introduced me to AWS.

**Conclusion by Paula:**

Gail, thank you for accepting my invitation to be our April interview candidate. It was my true delight to have you share your life story and to be in your lovely home, surrounded by an array of your amazing artwork. Words cannot really convey the width and the depth of your artistic expression, variety of art forms, and your willingness to make art your life's desire from the get-go until now. Congratulations Gail, you are truly one of a kind.

## Apple Blossom Show Reminders...

Deliver your art work, properly labeled, Thursday, April 11 (4-7 pm)

Reception is Friday, April 12 (7:00 - 9:00 pm)

*Everyone, please deliver your plate of finger food and a bottle of wine to the kitchen from 6:30 on.*

Art Work Pick-up: Sunday, April 14 (5:00 - 6:00 pm)

***Volunteers make this show happen! Cheers to the best ABS ever!***

- Bob Hart, ABS Chair

## ATTENTION AWS MEMBERS!!!

Below you will find Draft 4 of the AWS Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules. Your Board has been working for months to clarify and update these documents, making them easier for everyone to understand. Please take a close look and bring any questions to the April 21st meeting, where their ratification will be put to a vote. HUGE THANKS to Secretary Merrie Krisl who managed to keep track of it all!

## ART WORKSHOP OF WESTERN SONOMA COUNTY (AWS) CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS and STANDING RULES

### CONSTITUTION

#### ARTICLE I. NAME

**Section 1.** The name of this association shall be "Art Workshop of Western Sonoma County" (AWS).

**Section 2.** The place in this state where the principal office of the association is to be located is the City of Sebastopol, Sonoma County, CA.

**Section 3.** This association is organized exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### ARTICLE II. PURPOSES

**Section 1.** To foster a spirit of cooperation, exchange of ideas and mutual helpfulness among members.

**Section 2.** To provide an atmosphere in which the individual members can further develop their art.

**Section 3.** To arrange for stimulating programs, work sessions, instruction, demonstrations, critiques, art exhibits and special events.

#### ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to those interested in the practice of creative fine art and shall be limited to 125 active members.

**Section 1.** Types of membership

**a.** Active. All qualifications listed in Article III of the Constitution.

**b.** Honorary/Life. Shall be named by the board from active members to honor them for outstanding service to AWS. They need not pay annual dues, but they shall pay for any workshops and art show entry fees. They shall meet all other eligibility requirements including the Apple Blossom Show.

**Section 2.** Annual dues for the upcoming year are payable in November and are delinquent after December 31<sup>st</sup>. Members who are delinquent are not eligible to participate in club activities until their dues are paid. Special requests for waiver of dues will be reviewed by the board and, if accepted, will require volunteer tasks in lieu of dues payment. *(continued on page 6)*

**Section 3.** Active members in good standing must:

- a. Attend six meetings each calendar year and record their attendance on the roster. Exceptions can be made for illness, or very special circumstances. Requests for exceptions must be approved by the board. The membership chair will enter excused absences on the attendance roster.
- b. Bring four works of art a year to any meeting for critique or display and record them on the attendance roster. Art shown at the Apple Blossom Show counts toward this total.
- c. Bring refreshments to the meeting a minimum of twice a year and record that at the refreshment table.

**Section 4.** New members

- a. Upon payment of dues, new members shall show some of their recent artwork.
- b. New members who join after June 30th need only pay one-half the dues for that year.

**ARTICLE IV. BOARD**

Administration of this organization shall be entrusted to the board composed of the elected officers and standing committee chairs. Attendance at Board Meetings is required by Elected Officers and other key Standing Committee Chairs. No action shall be taken by the Board or any Board Member which could damage the financial wellbeing of AWS, or which could result in the dissolution of the organization.

**Section 1.** Elected Officers

- a. President: Shall be the chief executive officer, preside over all monthly meetings of the organization, serve as chair of the board, appoint all standing committee chairs as needed subject to the approval of the elected officers, be ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.
- b. Vice President: Shall preside at the general monthly meetings in the absence of the president and assist the president as needed. Will be the program chair, schedule the programs for the monthly meetings (with approval of the board), assist with the production of each program and be in charge of the room set-up and layout for each monthly meeting.
- c. Recording Secretary: Shall keep written records of all AWS monthly board meetings and general membership meeting agendas and maintain the organization's official records. Shall give copies of all minutes to the president and board within 5 days of the meetings.
- d. Corresponding Secretary: Shall maintain all correspondence for the organization.
- e. Treasurer: Shall receive and deposit all dues and money in the designated official bank. The treasurer is charged with custody of all funds, pays all authorized accounts payable and renders a financial report for each monthly meeting.

**Section 2:** Standing Committee Chairs

- a. The following committee chairs are appointed by the president: Apple Blossom Show, Publicity, Venues, Historian, Membership, Nominating, Hospitality, and Newsletter.
- b. The chair of any committee may request the help of the president or board to appoint members to assist as needed. The president may appoint special committee chairs without approval of the board.

**Section 3:** Indemnity: AWS is a volunteer organization. Revenue is generated through membership fees, art show fees, art sale commissions, donations, etc. It is assumed the Board Members will act in good faith as stewards of its resources and when representing the organization publicly. Beyond theft and similar illegal acts, members of the Board will be held harmless by the membership in relation to the management of the organization.

**ARTICLE V. AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** Proposed amendments to the Constitution must be submitted in writing to the board at least thirty days prior to the date of any regular meeting.

**Section 2.** Revisions and amendments must be submitted to the membership in the newsletter or by separate mailing prior to the meeting when the issue is to be considered.

**Section 3.** Revisions and amendments to the Constitution shall be made by a two-thirds vote of the members present, and by a majority for the Bylaws and Standing Rules.

## CONSTITUTIONAL BYLAWS

**ARTICLE I. PROCEDURES**

**Section 1.** The board shall meet at a place and time agreed upon at the previous meeting or at the call of the president or vice president.

**Section 2.** The fiscal year is January 1 - December 31.

**Section 3.** The simplified edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be used by the organization.

**ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** The Nominating Committee shall announce the slate of officers in the October newsletter and at the October meeting. At that meeting, further nominations may be made from the floor. The vote will take place at the November meeting and officers will be installed at the January meeting.

**ARTICLE III. FISCAL POLICY**

**Section 1.** Proposals for AWS activities involving expenditures of more than \$300.00 shall be authorized only upon the majority vote at a general membership meeting.

**Section 2.** All bills are to be paid by check or the club's debit card and shall be signed by the treasurer. *(cont. page 7)*

## **ARTICLE IV. CLUB FUNDS**

**Section 1.** General Fund: Monies are to be used for the operating expenses of AWS, which includes commission payments paid to artists for art sold at AWS events.

**Section 2.** Activities: Any monies received from any activities shall go into the general fund.

**Section 3.** Donations: All monies from Apple Blossom Show donations shall be used to support art activities in the community.

## **STANDING RULES**

### **ARTICLE I. REFRESHMENTS**

Refreshments at general meetings may include coffee (regular and decaffeinated), tea, sandwiches, finger foods and dessert. The food shall be provided by the membership. If a designated member cannot bring food they must find a substitute and notify the chair.

### **ARTICLE II. PANELS**

Panels shall not be lent or rented to any other organizations.

### **ARTICLE III. PARTICIPATION IN APPLE BLOSSOM SHOW**

**Section 1.** All members must meet the following criteria between Jan.1 and Dec. 31 of the year preceding the show:

**a.** Active members participating must have complied with Article III, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution; attended six meetings, brought four works of art to any meeting for critique or display, and brought refreshments to two meetings the previous year.

**b.** New members must have complied with Article III, Section 4 of the Constitution; joined and paid their dues no later than the January meeting of that year, attended three meetings prior to the show, shown two pieces of art, and brought refreshments to one meeting.

**Section 2.** All members must meet the following deadlines:

**a.** Participants in the Apple Blossom Show must sign up for work assignments no later than the March meeting. Each exhibiting artist shall be required to work at least four hours toward the production of the show. Failure to meet the work requirements may disqualify the member from exhibiting in the next year's show at the discretion of the Apple Blossom chair.

**b.** All entry fees, deadlines, space limitations and space availability shall be decided by the board, with recommendations from the Apple Blossom Show Committee.

### **ARTICLE IV. GENERAL MEETING ACTIVITIES**

Each meeting will consist of a business meeting and an activity except for the June paint-out/picnic and the December holiday party.

**Section 1.** Critiques: There will be at least one program each year devoted to critiques.

**Section 2.** Demonstrations: There shall be a minimum of two demonstrations a year.

**Section 3.** Activities: Activities for the other meetings will be up to the discretion of the board with suggestions from the membership.

### **ARTICLE V. SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

Special activities such as trips to museums or exhibits, extended workshops, retreats, salons and new shows may be offered to all members in good standing. These activities may be opened to guests by a decision by the board.

### **ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP FILE**

The membership chair shall maintain a file and update it as needed for payment of dues, change of membership status, change of address, phone number, or e-mail address. He/she shall notify the president, treasurer and the newsletter chair of any changes. Current members are responsible to report these changes to the membership chair.

### **ARTICLE VII. PROPERTY AND OWNERSHIP**

The property of the AWS is irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes, and no part of the net income or assets of this organization shall ever inure to the benefit of any officer, director or member thereof or to any private individual. Upon winding up and dissolution of this association, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a non-profit fund, foundation, or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, and scientific purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**The names and addresses of the persons who are the trustees for 2019 of the association are as follows:**

President: Carol Mills, 6109 Anderson Pl. Forestville, CA 95436

Vice President: James Reynolds, 514 Parquet St., Sebastopol, CA 95472

Recording Secretary: Merrie Krisl, 646 Fairmont Ct., Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Treasurer: Patti Bird, P.O. Box 23, Rio Nido, CA 95471

Corresponding Secretary: Fran Nielsen, 8214 Covert Lane, Sebastopol, CA 95472

AWS: 8214 Covert Lane, Sebastopol, CA 95472



## Gail Mardfin "See the Good"

Mixed Media & Photographs w/ Uplifting Text

April 1 - June 30, 2019  
Center for Spiritual Living  
Upstairs Gallery

2075 Occidental Road • Santa Rosa  
Mon-Wed 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Sat 10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Sundays 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

RileyStreet Art Supply  
103 Maxwell Court, Santa Rosa  
(707) 526-6421



Classes Taught Every Friday  
3:00-5:00 at RileyStreet

## Inks In Motion

Workshops in Painting With  
**Alcohol Inks**

Original Alcohol Ink Artwork

Rhea Schnurman  
(707) 820-7432  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
RRRhea1@gmail.com

[www.InksInMotion.com](http://www.InksInMotion.com)

