



NEXT AWS MEETING: July 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

Inspirational Prompts: July - BIRDS • August - REFLECTIONS (See page 5.)

www.AWSOMEART.org

REFRESHMENTS July 20 Meeting

Please have your offering at the meeting before noon. If you are unable to come, please find someone else to bring food in your place.

Sandwiches/Finger Food

Kathleen Andre
Susan Barri
Patty Byrd
Kathy Byrne
Kathryn Hainke
Bob Hart
Deni Marrone
Rod Morgan
Bonnie Seyford

Dessert/Fruit

Carol Leif Gianni
Judy Leandro
Arlene Parnay
Rita Rhine
Nancy Sanchiatti



Sebastopol Art Venues July 18 - September 19

Tombe Realty (12+ pieces)
OUT: Lorraine Stribling IN: Rhea Schnurman

Umpquah Bank (6 pieces)
IN: Diane Ceccarelli

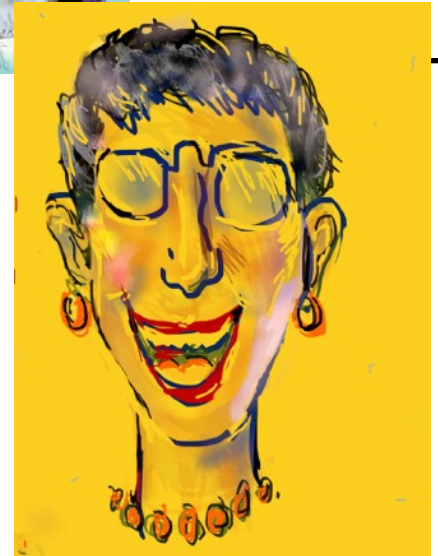
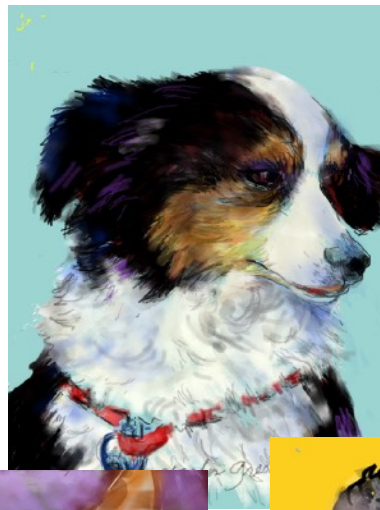
Eye Associates Medical Group (12 large pieces)
OUT: Phil Wilkinson IN: **OPEN!!**

Slice of Life Restaurant (10 pieces)
OUT: Carolyn Jarvis IN: Susan Barri

It's important that we maintain our exhibits in our partner venues, so please sign up to fill the venues at our next meeting.

In the meantime, we need someone for Eye Associates Medical Group in the time slot July 18-September 19. Thank you. Please contact:

Diane Ceccarelli, Coordinator of Art Venues
dianececcarelli@yahoo.com • (707) 823-3875



Art by Charles Gresalfi

AWS JULY 18 DEMONSTRATING ARTIST WILL BE CHARLES GRESALFI, who will talk about and show how to create art digitally.

Charlie has been able to make his living in the art field his entire working life. He will share his latest explorations in Digital Art, some of which you will not believe were created without a brush or paint.

Computer Art is here to stay, so come learn about what you can create on your iPad or tablet, realistically, artistically, seriously, or for fun.



FROM OUR NEW ABS CHAIRPERSON...

Hi everyone. I'm **Patricia Marina**, the new Apple Blossom Art Show Chairperson for 2020. I have been living in Sebastopol since fall of 2017 and joined AWS December 2018. I live with my husband Don Stewart and our cat Bennie. We also have ten chickens we brought from our home in West Marin.

I'm excited to be able to contribute to AWS. Since I'm fairly new to the club, please start introducing yourselves to me if you were a Chair of a committee this year, and confirm whether you will continue in that position — I hope you will, and that I can be of good support to you and your committee.

I will be on vacation for July's meeting but back in August and I look forward to getting to know you then.

My contact info is: collagegirl62@yahoo.com or 415-307-4734.

June 20 AWS Picnic



Photos by
Paula Pearce
& Gail Mardfin

Besides enjoying the food, company, and nature, we also came up with a list of "Inspirational Prompts." See page 5.

Member Profile with Avinash Pandey

by Paula Pearce

This profile is based on a reprint from January 2013, with updated information.

Paula: So, Avinash, tell us about your life.

Avinash: I was born in Mumbai (Bombay), India and I have two older brothers. We lived in Bombay until I was 9 years old. Then our family split up. My father was a professor of Hindi literature and language and got a job teaching in Frankfurt, Germany at the Goethe University. He was very insistent about getting us out of India to have a greater educational opportunity. My mother stayed in Bombay and moved back to her parents' home. My oldest brother was on his own by then and had migrated to the United States.

P: What was it like for you to make this move away from everything that was familiar to you?

A: It was extremely difficult. I entered into a German school without knowing one word of German. The saving grace to the school situation is that the people were very friendly to me and that helped a lot. But as far as the food was concerned I was out of sorts. My dad did not know how to cook. We were strict vegetarians and were used to a variety of vegetables, herbs, and seasonings that were just NOT available in Germany. Out of necessity we had to eat meat, canned vegetables or vegetables overcooked. This did not set well with me to say the least!

P: How did you adapt to this new life?

A: In the first six months that we were in Germany, I was doing very poorly in school so my father took me out.

P: What did you do all day?

A: We lived in a close-knit neighborhood and there was this German family close by that had children my age. My father asked the family if I could spend afternoons at their home, so I did everyday after school. This is how I learned the language and adapted to this new lifestyle in a playful way.

P: Did you go back to school eventually?

A: Yes, after six months I returned to school. By then I could communicate with the teacher - no more fear of school.

P: Were you interested in art as a youngster in Germany?

A: During that time I was very visual and did quick sketches of famous Disney cartoon characters. My classmates started to ask me to draw some for them. So I did and it seemed like anything in art came fairly easy to me and it became my favorite pastime.

P: Were there other interests you pursued?

A: Around this time, immigrants started to come at the invitation of Germany for manufacturing jobs or simply to do the jobs that the German people did not want to do. The children of immigrants noticed my artwork and wanted me to make them drawings or paintings of their homeland flags. This became another hobby of mine and a small source of income for me. I needed to purchase some art supplies so I had to charge them a small amount to cover these expenses.

P: When did you first start to get interested in photography?

A: It was when my stepmother bought me a Brownie camera and that started my fascination with photography. I will always appreciate my stepmother for not only giving me my first camera but for truly giving me unconditional love as she would have for her own flesh and blood. She had no children of her own and we became her family.

P: How long did you live in Germany?

A: I stayed in Germany through high school and then acquired an apprentice position with a newspaper in their advertising sales department. Germany has a strict apprentice system in all occupations. Once you start in an apprentice program you are obligated to see it to completion. You can't just jump from one job to another. But as a part of my apprenticeship training I was introduced to graphic designers - "not my program" but I liked it because it was visual art in advertising. It took me two and a half years to complete my apprenticeship in the sales program.

P: What happened after that?

A: I gained an internship with a local photographer. During this time I applied to different art and photography schools in Germany, but I had to wait to get in.

P: Did you ever enroll in one?

G: Yes, I enrolled in a privately based advertising school of photography in Stuttgart.

P: How many years were you there?

G: For two and a half years, and I learned the internal workings of the camera plus the different uses of all the lenses to master lighting issues of all kinds, indoors and out. My main interest in attending this school was to prepare my professional portfolio.

P: Were there any particular master photographers that inspired you?

A: Yes, especially Alfred Stieglitz, Ansel Adams, Irving Penn, Man Ray, and also some classical painters like M.C. Escher. (cont. on next page)



P: How would you describe your niche in your professional field?

A: It took me a long time to fine tune my style. By working together with other photographers I found my passion was all about bright colored stills with strong lights and shadows.

P: How did you happen to choose Sebastopol?

A: My wife's family lives here and we share the same acreage.

P: This is the first I have heard of your wife. Do tell, how did you meet?

A: Well, this actually rounds out my story because my wife is a nurse and was working at the Novato Community Hospital when my mother was admitted with a terminal illness. My wife was the nurse assigned to my mother. I would come in to feed my mother at lunchtime. We began talking and discovered a common interest in photography. I invited her to my studio to see my work and after that we started dating.

P: How does your photography benefit from the association of the fine artists in AWS?

A: Good paintings in general are inspirational to me because they hone into the essence of light and shadow, as does good photography.

Conclusion by Paula:

After much editing and fine tuning, I think Avinash and I created an interesting synopsis of his life story that conveys his many chapters of challenge and accomplishment time and time again. Not many of us can say we've survived such extreme cases of social adjustment through language, diet, and national customs, educational and occupational systems.

I have immense respect for Avinash as an immigrant twice over from India and Germany and to have aspired to be the fine man and photographer he is today. Congratulations, Avinash, and thank you for expressing to me your story so I could bring it to the members of AWS.

Updated information for July 2019 by Avinash:

A: I consequently moved away from my wife's family and relocated in the same town. After 21 years of living together as a married couple, my wife and I got divorced in 2018. I operate my photography business from my home here in Sebastopol.

Now I am teaching photography and offering workshops for young adults at the social services group in Napa and working with individuals with mental and physical disabilities. I am also exploring the opportunity of offering workshops to local artists who desire to master photographing their artwork. My next exciting venture may be coming up this August to teach photography at the technical university in Singapore. Please feel free to inquire concerning educational opportunities.

Visit Avinash's website at www.avinashphotography.com



“INSPIRATIONAL PROMPTS”

The idea for suggested monthly “themes” to help people who need a little KITB* to create, was proposed by Paula Pearce earlier this year. Participation is completely voluntary.

At the June picnic, we had a quick brainstorming session and took a straw vote among those present. I assigned each a month, below. The upcoming months' themes will be noted in future newsletters. - Gail M.

July - Birds

August - Reflections

September - Fish

October - Chairs

November - Shoes

January - Shadows

February - Faces in Nature

March - Elephants

April - Nighttime

May - The Mess in My Kitchen

* Kick in the Butt



Gravenstein Apple Fair Show

The Gravenstein Apple Fair is August 17 -18 from 10am to 6pm. This is a great family fair with things for kids, delicious food, and lots of music. Everyone sells.

Cost for a space is \$35.

We have 11 signed up with room for 15 total. Join us for the fun! Questions?

Call or text Hale Darby at 707-484-3539

My favorite part of the AWS website AWSOMEART.ORG is the Members' Artwork page, reproduced here and on the next page. I love grids and I love how you can see the remarkable diversity of styles, subject matter, and mediums used by our members! • When I first put the site together, there were 30 artists represented — each with a link to her/his own page with three larger images on it. Since then, 17 more members have submitted

their work. Five of you took advantage of my offer to update your page with new images in June. The next time to add your work, if you're not yet shown, or to update your images, will be in December. Until then, take a look at the site (*although this page still looks a little wonky on smaller devices, so I recommend a laptop or desktop computer for viewing*). Our newsletters are there, too (under About). Enjoy! xo gail



ART WORKSHOP OF WESTERN SONOMA COUNTY

[Welcome](#) [About](#) [Monthly Meetings](#) [AWS Exhibits](#) [Members' Artwork](#) [Location/Contact](#)

Members' Artwork

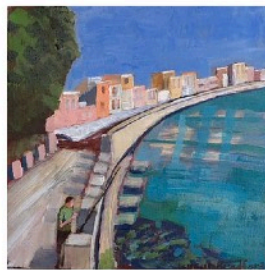
Please click on icons to view work by some of our member artists.



Kathleen Andre



Susan Barri



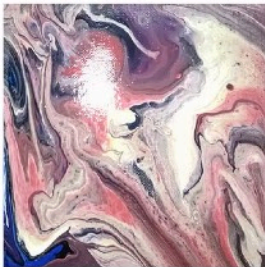
Susan Bradford



Kathy Byrne



Gary Caldwell



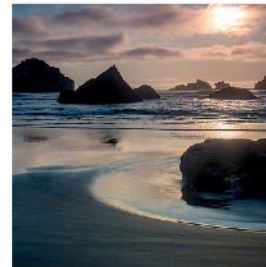
Diane Ceccerelli



Jerry Fabiano



Marilyn Gale



Bob Hart



Marlene Horn



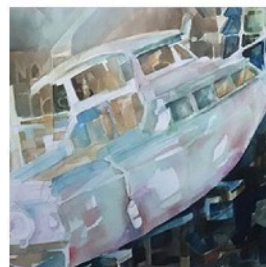
Carolyn Jarvis



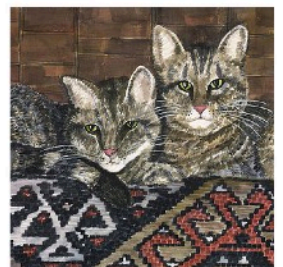
Merrie Krisl



Carol Leif



Carol Leonti



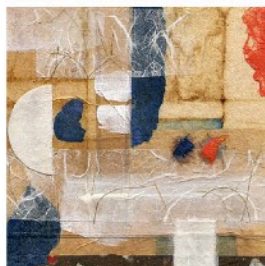
Gail Mardfin



Patricia Marina



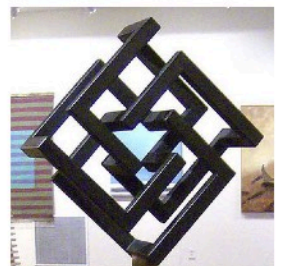
Deni Marrone



Christine McNamara



Carol Mills



Rod Morgan



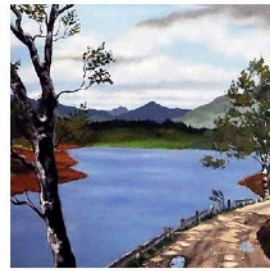
Marjorie Murray-Cortez



Lonna Necker



Fran Nielsen



Paula Pearce



James Reynolds



Rita Rhine



Lorraine Stribling



Cher Traendly



Nancy Tulloh



Phil Wilkinson



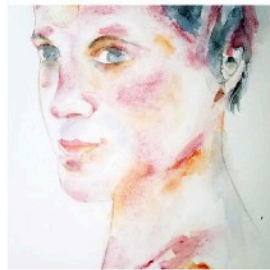
Dante Corsetti



Rhea Schnurman



Jonnie Chrystal



Ann Storms



AL Lynch



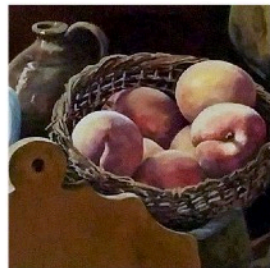
Beverly Bird



Carolyn Wilson



Valerie Koppala Gardiner



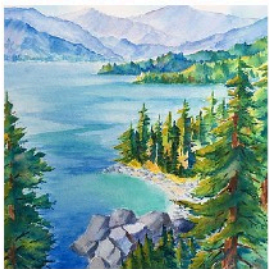
Gail Radice



Avinash Pandey



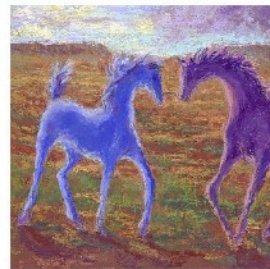
Trula LaCalle



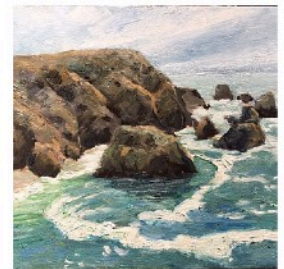
Sky Richardson



Karen A. Miller



Patty Bird



Georgia Simons



Marilyn Sommer




Rhonda Mertle



Members' Announcements

If you have news you would like to share with AWS, please send an email with *brief information* to: gail@PLPgraphicdesign.com. Please put "FOR THE AWS NEWSLETTER" in the Subject line so I don't lose it. I am not always at all meetings, so I may not know about announcements made there.

If you would like to have a fancier announcement about an event, including an image, the cost is \$10 per month, \$25/year for an ad. Thank you, xo gail mardfin



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