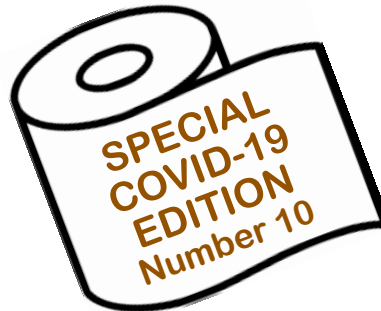


Art Workshop of Western Sonoma County
8214 Covert Lane • Sebastopol CA 95473



Happy 2021!!

January 21st Zoom @ 12:30

PROMPT: SELF-PORTRAIT

Whether it's a sketch, watercolor, oil, acrylic, collage, sculpture — realistic or abstract — working from a photo or a mirror — we hope you'll create a January self-portrait! Bonus points for wrinkles.....(just teasing)

—>To screen-share at the meeting, you're invited to send your self-portrait to gail@PLPgraphicdesign.com by Jan. 20 (the day before the meeting).



Here's the video VP Jerry Fabiano picked out to inspire us, *which we will discuss at January's meeting*. It's six minutes long, of artist Chris Hong demonstrating and explaining decisions she made

in her watercolor portrait process:
<https://youtu.be/vJtwpWK2MXU>

You will get a reminder earlier in the week, but **look for the Zoom email invitation the morning of the meeting**, and click on the link in the email. Hope to see you then!

Zoom etiquette: Please arrive a few minutes ahead of time, say hello, then mute yourself. Then we can start on time so we can end by 1:45.

**Final Reminder:
2021 AWS Dues Now Due!**



Send check to Membership Chair
Lorraine Stribling
3 Oakwood Drive
Petaluma CA 94954

See more inspiring portrait
and self-portrait video suggestions
on page 5



One of Gustave Courbet's many self-portraits
"The Desperate Man" (1843-45)
This French realist produced more than 20
self-portraits throughout his life (1819-1877).



FROM THE PRESIDENT...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

As this year is drawing to a close, this is the time to look back. 2020 was a year of staying home and puzzles, Netflix, walks, podcasts, baking, books, Zoom, and of course ART. Even though we weren't together in person, we were able to come together through our newsletters and

Zoom! Thanks to Gail!!

Our board is at work trying to find ways to keep us together in the coming year. If you have suggestions, let us know! I feel I have gotten to know members better through our "member highlights" in our Zoom meetings and in our "member profiles" in our newsletter (thanks to Paula!)

I enjoyed our "breakout rooms" in our last Zoom. I hope those that participated did too. I would like to continue doing this at each Zoom meeting. With

three or four of us in a group, answering a question, we can get to know one another better and learn something more about each other. It would only be for five minutes or so. If you have a question you think would be a good one to spark a conversation, please let Gail or me know.

I hope you all watched the video that Jerry chose for us, and have started your "self-portrait"! I just finished mine. I have to tell you, it's tough looking at your face that close and being honest with those lines and bags!!

We are all looking forward to a better year in 2021, but still taking it month by month on AWS's plans. I would be surprised if the Chamber puts on the Apple Blossom Parade and Festival in April, which means no art show for us. We will have to get creative in ways to show our art. Let us hear your suggestions!

Meanwhile, I'm grateful for the health and happiness of my friends and family. I hope you are with those who brighten your day and make you excited for whatever the new year has in store.

Love, Carol



Sebastopol Venues

PLEASE NOTE: VENUE EXHIBITS WILL HANG FOR 3 MONTHS AT A TIME NOW.

Tombe Realty

Currently: Phil Wilkinson

1/21/21-3/18/21: **ANYONE ELSE INTERESTED?**

Umpquah Bank

11/19/20-1/21/21: Patricia Marina

1/21/21-3/18/21: Sky Richardson*

Specialty Center

11/19/20-1/21/21: Deni Marrone & Nancy Sanchietti

1/21/21-3/18/21: Gail Mardfin*

***Make arrangements with previous artist as to a mutually convenient day/time to change shows (sometime in that third week of the month), or call Venues Coordinator Deni Marrone at (408) 202-3875.**

If interested in showing in any of these venues, please contact Deni.



Susan Bradford - "A Christmas Story" 16x20 oil



Ann Storms - 7x9.5 watercolor

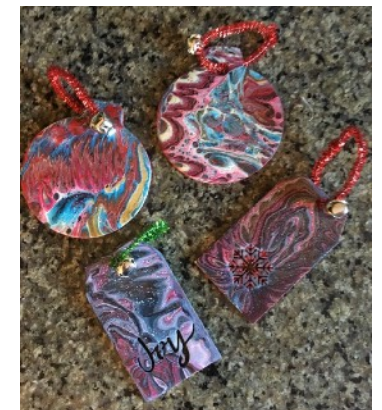
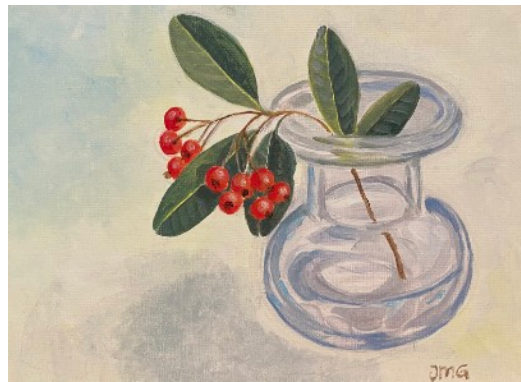


Chris McNamara - Four 4x4 collages in the colors of Christmas

More Seasonal/Holiday Creations



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
Lonna Necker - 8x8 seasonal pastel
Gail Mardfin - "Elf" 4x5.5 ink & watercolor
Carol Leif Gianni - 2.5"-3" creatures of Sculpey (polymer clay) & mixed media "They are so much fun to make and they each come out with their own personality," says Carol.
Kathy Byrne - 7x5 seasonal watercolor
Sunny duPuis - "Cardinals" 7x5 watercolor
Deni Marrone - acrylic pour ornaments
Patricia Marina - mixed media ornament
Marjorie Murray-Cortez - 5.5 x4 acrylic
Fran Nielsen - "Calico Cat St. Nick" (commission) 14" high mixed media
Carol Mills - "Poinsettia" 5x7 watercolor & glitter
Nancy Tulloh - "Red Sleigh" 5x7 acrylic
Nancy Tulloh - "Horse in Snow" 5x7 acrylic
BELOW CENTER:
Judy Goldberg - "Pyracantha Sprig" 5x7 acrylic



December Holiday Gathering Zoom

by Gail Mardfin

There were 36 members at the Holiday party — a few for the very first time! Three others had RSVPed that they wanted to come but circumstances precluded. Festively adorned, President **Carol Mills** welcomed everyone to our seasonal gathering.

Announcements:

Congratulations to **Patricia Marina!** During the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Sebastopol Public Arts Committee created the COVID Artist Lottery to help support local artists who were impacted by the pandemic. Four artists were selected to receive the \$1000 grant. (Former AWS member **James Reynolds** also won,) Patricia said she'd applied so long ago, it was a real surprise, and she's decided to enter Art@TheSource again this year, using her winnings toward the entry fee.

Relatedly, **Art@theSource** will take place with open studios in June 2021 and there will be a catalog as well as an online presence. Members **Beverly Bird**, **Fran Nielsen**, **Susan Bradford**, and **Patricia** will all be on the studio tour.

Webmaster **Gail Mardfin** reminded people that if they wanted to update their artist page on our website, images were due by December 31st. [NOTE: Fifteen members will have their pages updated, including four who've never had a page before. Updated site should be done by January 5th.]

Jerry Fabiano announced the January prompt of **Self-Portrait** and this was followed up with an email that evening linking to a video he had selected. (See box on front page.) Gail encouraged everyone to enter so she can print all the self-portraits in the February newsletter, where everyone can try to match the artist to the artists' images. A fun challenge.

Next we moved on to art "screen shares" — some of our members have been prolific lately and it was good to hear each talk about their creations while looking closely at a large image. There were a lot of comments and questions during this interactive stage, and we hope to make this a steady feature of future Zoom meetings.

Then those who had created small holiday paintings or ornaments shared from home and those that people had

sent in beforehand were screen-shared, again with lots of commentary and questions. All are pictured in this newsletter.



Three of Carol's clever ornaments: ski hat, coronavirus 2020, and melted snowman

With so much interaction and sharing, by this point the meeting had gone on for an hour and many had to leave, but for the 20+ who stayed after our ergonomic break, we enjoyed two craft presentations, first by **Carol Mills**, who shared several cute or pretty tree ornament ideas, and then **Lorraine Stribling**, who showed how to make a folding box out of old watercolor paintings using 90 lb paper — 140 lb would be too heavy. Gail followed up with an email that evening so people had the pattern to work with if they chose.

After this, the 20 remaining members were randomly divided into private "breakout rooms," where two or three people discussed the topic, "My favorite handmade holiday gift I ever gave or received" for five minutes. This activity was well received. **Patty Bird** said it really felt like "old times at our regular meetings." It's nice to have some extended time for art-related conversations with other members (who you may know well or not at all!) and we hope to make this a part of our regular meetings as well, while trying to end no later than 1:45. It's fun and Gail promised to work out the kinks for next time!

Hope to see you all at our regular January 21st meeting at 12:30.

Please come a little early so we can

start on time. Send in your self-portraits to Gail by Jan. 20 (the day before) so people can listen to your comments while looking directly at your art. Rod Morgan will be our featured member and we will discuss the video Jerry selected for us.

Georgia Simons -
"Poinsettia" 10x8 oil





FREE ART SUPPLIES!

Lorraine Stribling still has the following art supplies she inherited from an art teacher friend:

- 9x12 Strathmore watercolor blocks (8 left)
- Canson 15x20 heavyweight, rough Canson watercolor paper (15 sheets)
- Bob Ross oil paints

Contact her at (707) 775-3234 or lorrainestribling@comcast.net



HOW TO DRAW A SELF PORTRAIT – From the New York Times 5/30/20

If you need some guidelines, here is a simple template to help you along...you'll need a pencil, an eraser and a mirror.

[https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/30/at-home/coronavirus-draw-a-self-portrait.html?<\/a>](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/30/at-home/coronavirus-draw-a-self-portrait.html?action=click&module=RelatedLinks&pgtype=Article)

“Look three times, think twice and paint once”



SEEING OUR OWN REFLECTION IN THE BIRTH OF THE SELF PORTRAIT

– From the New York Times 9/25/20

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/09/25/arts/durer-self-portrait.html>

An interesting, close examination of a self-portrait by Albrecht Durer (age 29) from early 1500 - surely one of the original “selfies”!



NOT TO BE MISSED! BRITAIN'S PORTRAIT ARTIST OF THE YEAR! –

Much like the British bake-off competitions which people love, you will be thoroughly entertained and inspired by the many styles depicted in this series from 2019 and 2020. Each 45-minute episode includes nine artists, some professional and some not, engaging in the challenge of making portraits of two celebrity sitters within an actual 4-hour timeframe. As they introduce each challenger, you are shown a SELF-PORTRAIT each did and can size up their style. It's fantastic, with judges, critiques, and winners! All with British accents! You can get started here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6abKz2LID_s Enjoy!



Leonardo da Vinci
“Mona Lisa” (1503-6)
30x21 oil on canvas

From Robert Genn's Painter's Keys – “The Closed-Mouth Convention”

“A portrait is a painting of a person with something wrong with the mouth.” (John Singer Sargent)

“If you do paint teeth, you may need to gloss them over and blur them a bit. Portraits don't usually look so hot when the teeth are painstakingly correct. For some reason carefully delineated teeth tend to look like false teeth. False teeth from Dr Reidar Sognaes' collection are on display at UCLA. In the good old days the rich and famous had teeth made from the darnedest things. George Washington's included carvings from elephant and walrus tusks as well as the teeth of cows, hippos, and people. Apparently a difficult mouth to fit, some of his teeth had to be held in place with springs. Contrary to popular belief, none of George's teeth were made out of wood. The wooden ones were reserved for senators and congressmen.”

Member Profile with Lonna Necker

by Paula Pearce

Paula: So, Lonna, where were you born and raised?

Lonna: I was born in Napa and raised in the suburbs of Napa after World War II.

P: Did you grow up with siblings?

L: Yes, I have a sister, Pam, two years younger than me.

P: Did you have relatives that were artists?

L: : Not that I know of. My mom was very good at sewing and knitting and creating a beautiful home.

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

L: No, I cannot recall doing any visual arts as a child but when I was eight or nine I took tap dancing lessons.

P: What about your middle school years?

L: The most memorable was home economics when I was in seventh grade. It was a sewing class and my teacher was very patient and sweet. My problem was I didn't notice all material has a right and wrong side and I kept stitching the wrong sides together. Another semester was dedicated to cooking. There was this baking contest and all the girls chose something different to bake. My choice was supposed to be a chocolate cake but it never rose. So my mom said, "Just tell them you made brownies!"



P: What art form did you enjoy in high school?

L: I was in the Modern Dance Club where we performed for many of the school plays. I also loved square dancing at the Red Barn in Napa.

P: What was your major in college?

L: I started out with English as my major at the Napa Junior College. Then I transferred to San Francisco State. It was there I fell in love with John, dropped out of school, and we got married. I then got a job as a sales clerk in San Francisco and later I worked for Rosenberg's in Santa Rosa. I worked to put John through Sonoma State College and we are still married today after 54 years.

Comment by Paula:

That in itself is a major accomplishment in today's world! Congratulations to you both!

P: After that what did you do?

L: In 1972, we immigrated to New Zealand because Nixon was President and we wanted to live somewhere else!

P: Why did you pick New Zealand?

L: My husband suggested anywhere where

they speak English and it didn't snow! We also had to prove my husband had a trade that was needed there. We qualified because he had electrical skills and expertise that he had acquired in the military and working for United Airlines.

P: How did you like it there?

L: At the time, it was very provincial. We visited much of the country and made some life-long friends. We left in 1976 after I completed my college degrees in Sociology and Education.

P: Then what happened?

L: We traveled the world and eventually made it back to California and settled in Sonoma County. I worked for the Social Services Department and John started his own electrical business.

P: How did you get to be the artist you are today?

L: After I retired in 2008, I went to a free art class for seniors through Santa Rosa Junior College. The teacher asked me, "What is your medium?" And I said, "What is a medium?" Dead silence followed... I looked down and noticed her watercolor painting and said, "Something like that!" So she gave me a supply list and that was the start.

P: Where did you go from there?

L: My dream came true in 2014 when I took a painting workshop in Giverny, France. We painted in Monet's garden for a week and this changed my life forever.

Comment by Paula:

Wow, Lonna. That is truly amazing!

P: How did you hear about AWS?

L: When I came back from France, I met up with Marilyn Sommer, Georgia Simons and Susan Barri and they all encouraged me to join AWS in 2016.

Conclusion by Paula:

Lonna and I really had fun with this interview. We kept laughing because most of the early questions did not pan out as usual. So we pursued and I learned so much about her interesting life. It was a pleasure, and I hope all the members enjoy it as well. Here's to a Happier New Year than 2020.

Lonna's paintings, from the top:

"Morning Figs" 11x13 oil

"Sonoma Coast" 8x11 pastel

"Barn" 9x12 pastel

"Tuscan Pitcher" 8x11 pastel oil





Gail Mardfin -

ABOVE: "Lizzie" 8x10 watercolor and "Lindsey's New House" 8x10 watercolor
As you may know, I was selling cards during November and December (my Elf card on page 3 was one of my designs) and I sent emails to 500+ people on my list. I was pleased with how many cards I sold, and better still, as people were noodling around on my website www.SeeTheGood.net, I sold other artwork! These two watercolors were commissioned as Christmas presents.



ABOVE: **Carol Leif Gianni -**
Rose Studies - 9x12 oil & 11x14 oil



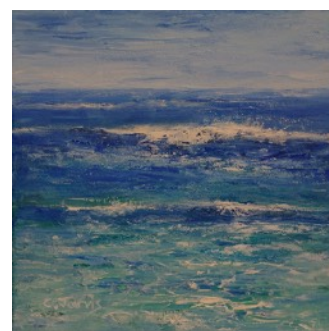
ABOVE: **Susan Bradford -**
"Glass and Cherries" 16x20 oil
"The Artist's House" 16x20 oil



ABOVE: **Kathy Byrne -**
Two of my winter watercolor paintings using two colors, each 11x14



ABOVE: **Georgia Simons -**
"Rose Study" 8x10 oil
"Roses" 10x8 oil



LEFT:
Carolyn Jarvis -
"White and Blue Rooster" 8x10 oil

"Salmon Creek Bird Walk" 6x8 oil

"Oceans Greens and Blues" 8x8 oil

SEBASTOPOL
CENTERARTS
 FOR THE

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 @ 1PM – Zoom ART SPOTS
THE TRUE STORY: GAUGUIN with Linda Loveland Reid

Paul Gauguin was born 170 years ago in the cradle of French anarchy, and yet, what do we really know about this man? His art, boldly charged with color, speaks of love but has roots in the darker recesses of the human mind. Support our sister organization through your attendance by donation: <https://www.sebarts.org/classes-lectures/art-spots-the-true-story-gauguin>



BELOW: **Bev Kjeldsen** -
 “River” 10x8 acrylic
This is my granddaughter’s dog.

“Fort Bragg Trestle Bridge”
 8x18 acrylic



In addition the Center is offering a host of CLASSES: Everything from Beginning Charcoal Drawing and Watercolor sessions to Understanding Color Theory (a 3-hour class taught by MaryBeth Sasso that meets for 6 weeks starting Jan. 6). You can also take Beginner and Conversational Spanish! Subscribe to their newsletter here: <https://www.sebarts.org>



Patricia Marino -
 “Holiday Flower Joy II” 12x12 acrylic

ABOVE: **Deni Marrone** -
 “The Edge of Night” 12x12 acrylic

GOOD WILL
I extend good will and compassion in my neighborhood, in my community, and on social media.

I affirm a willingness to build bridges of love between all people.

- From Beyond 20/20 Spiritual Vision,
 Center for Spiritual Living Santa Rosa

*When life knocks you down...
 Roll over and look at the stars.*

RIGHT: “Birch” 12x24 acrylic



Carol Mills -
 “Friends” 16x20 watercolor



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