

# awesomeart

P.O. Box 1160 Sebastopol CA 95473

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

**Meeting: Thursday, March 19, 2009**

Sebastopol Veteran's Memorial Bldg.

**DEMONSTRATION  
Luncheon: 12 Noon**

Business meeting and demonstration following lunch.

The newsletter of the Art Workshop of Western Sonoma County  
Edited by Andrea Way (email: [andreaway@sbcglobal.net](mailto:andreaway@sbcglobal.net))

## BOARD MEETING

The board meeting will be held February 19 at 10:00 am in the main room.

## REFRESHMENTS

### Sandwiches:

Joan Chandler  
Fran Nielsen  
Nancy Wilkins  
Nancy Malon  
Helen Shane  
Eula Jenkins  
Susan Lee  
Judy Morrison

### Desserts/Fruit:

Paula Pearce  
Beverly Bird  
Lorna Skinner  
Trudy Istel  
Bob Freis  
Idona Larson  
Adriane Hatkoff  
Bitte Bertelson

Please call or e-mail me if you have any questions - [sharonemiller@comcast.net](mailto:sharonemiller@comcast.net) 829-0177. Thank you for volunteering. **If you are unable to attend the meeting for which you have volunteered, please make arrangements with a friend to deliver your contribution.** Please have your offering at the meeting before noon.

*Sharon Miller*

## MARCH PROGRAM

### Critique by Thomas Creed



"I have always been an artist at heart. From a very young age, I have scribbled, drawn, painted and sculpted... instinctively compelled to create something from nothing.

My "formal" training began with my study of art in high school. I went on to complete two years at Missouri Southern State University in

1974 with an art major. While I established a career outside the art field, I was compelled to continue studying art in my spare time,



## E-NEWSLETTER

experimenting with different styles and techniques. In 1986, I committed to an art career by attending the San Francisco Art Institute, which had a positive influence on me as both a person and an artist. But my paintings from that era reflect a painful arsenal of artistic ideas manifested from living in San Francisco and attending the Art Institute.



It was not until I moved to Sonoma County in 1993 that I rediscovered my early love of the natural world. I now explore the beauty and power of landscape painting using the unspoiled Northern California countryside as my primary subject.

What I try to convey through my painting is not just a visual rendering of nature, but an evocation of the mystery and renewal that nature communicates to us. As an earth advocate, I hope to provide a more intimate understanding and appreciation of the natural world through my art.



I choose to work in oil, carrying on—with great respect—the classical tradition

established by the Renaissance masters. My paintings have been referred to as realism, but that term does not capture the most vital aspect of my work. My paintings seek to evoke a deep emotional response from the viewer. Working from detailed notes and sketches, I translate the essence of each scene's mood onto canvas—fog nestled atop an oak-studded valley, morning sunlight fingering across an inland marsh, afternoon shadows lengthening through coastal brush—passing each experience's vital energy on to the viewer. It is this emotional power that motivates my painting".

# APPLE BLOSSOM SHOW

The 2009 Apple Blossom show is rapidly approaching. The dates are April 24, 25 and 26. Our judges will be Wendy Brayton ([www.braytonart.com](http://www.braytonart.com)) and Willard Dixon ([www.willarddixon.com](http://www.willarddixon.com)).

The entry forms are arriving with this edition of the newsletter. For those receiving an E-Newsletter, the form will come as a separate attachment. For those receiving a hard copy the form will be inserted in the newsletter. There will be extra copies at the front desk at the March meeting.

Please take the time to read the complete form before filling it out. It will be returned to you if filled out incorrectly, incompletely or if mailed after the due date. If there isn't time for you to re-do and mail in the form you will not be eligible to show in the 2009 Apple Blossom Festival.

Please make note of which parts are to be sent in, attached to your paintings and saved for your records and for picking up your paintings. Make out your checks payable to AWS. The price is \$15 per entry, \$20 per NFS entry and there will be a 25% commission to AWS on all paintings sold.

**Don't forget to sign up to work at the Apple Blossom show. The March meeting will be your last opportunity, or you can call James Reynolds, AB Chair at 829-3501 or e-mail [jamesreynolds1030@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jamesreynolds1030@sbcglobal.net).**

## MEMBER PROFILE

### *Lenore Carrion*

Our great granddaughter is the 5<sup>th</sup> generation, born in Sonoma County. I graduated from Analy High School in Sebastopol and finished my education at San Jose State, majoring in Interior Decorating with a minor in Art History.



My first love is family, second is art, and third is adventure, here or in far off places. There are eight friends of mine and we all paint "plein air" every Wednesday. There is always an adventure lurking. For instance, Paula Pearce and I almost ended up in a huge open ditch. Paula was driving and went to back up into this field to turn around. As Paula was backing up, I told her to stop. When I got out of the car I saw that the right rear wheel was cantilevered out over this huge

open trench. Luckily a farmer saw our dilemma and pulled us forward with his chain and tractor.

Another time, our whole group was along the edge of a back-road, when an old VW was coming our way. All of a sudden its front wheel flew off and rolled right at us. Fortunately the wheel missed us. The car spun around, spitting sparks and came to an abrupt stop on the other side of the road.

Then one time we were painting along the riverfront in Petaluma and we noticed a man's body half in the river. We called the police. It turned out he wasn't dead after all but just passed out.

This past fall we were at Nick's Cove on Tomales Bay. It was very chilly and to our surprise the lady from the office brought us hot coffee and warm fresh from the oven, chocolate brownies. Yum!

Over the years we've been invited to see the inside of old homes that we were painting. All of us have sold paintings to people that have stopped to see what we were doing. While at Meeks Bay, Latke Tahoe, a couple stopped and bought my painting, and they were on their bicycles!

I've been blessed with a wonderful husband that doesn't mind my going off to paint with top art instructors. My first trip was to China in 1981 with Earl Thollander. Other trips were to Yugoslavia, Cost Rica, Norway, Mexico, New York City, Ghost Ranch in New Mexico, the Mother-Load in California and of course San Francisco. Al always enjoyed his own interest as owner of old cars, boats, planes and his last toy, a Harley Davidson and I got the tattoo!

So in conclusion, I just want to say to those of you who have never made the effort to paint "plein air", that there is more to it than meets the eye.

## FEBRUARY WORKSHOP

### *Life Drawing By Helen Shane*



What a satisfying session it was at the February meeting. Model Nemea Laessig arranged her 5'11" body on the padded tabletop in the middle of the room.

Nemea, a long time professional model, held poses for from 2 to 30 minutes.

She told us she'd been modeling since 1976. Her

experience was evident in her demeanor and eloquent poses, steadily and apparently easily sustained.

About 40 members and guests stayed for the workshop. While many used pencil, charcoal and conte, there were a few with watercolor and oil.



The model's trim, lithe, supple body, her pale hair and fair "English" skin were set off, during the penultimate pose, with a broad-brimmed black hat that cast defining shadows on her face, neck and shoulders.

There was, for the most part, dead silence in the room while Nemea posed - everyone striving to draw the lines and subtle shading that would be their interpretation of

forms revealed in Nemea's poses.

Life drawing, to this landscape artist, is an invaluable tool in practicing "drawing what you see, not what you know".

## VENUES

March 19th to May 21st

**Bank of the West** - 10 paintings

OUT: Lorna Skinner IN: Brenda Ross-McKay

**Tombe Realty** - 8 paintings

OUT: Judy Maize IN: Kathy Root

**Westamerica Bank** - 8 paintings

OUT: Nancy Sanchiotti IN: Gen Zorich

**Sonoma National Bank** - 14 paintings

OUT: Kathy Root IN: Linda Skoko

**Eye Associates** - 13/14 paintings

OUT: Fran Nielsen IN: Arlene Parnay

**Note:** Bank of the West - 9:00am change time. All other venues to be changed after the meeting unless participants make other arrangements. **Arlene Parnay** 829-2660

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WASCO Sponsored Workshops March 16<sup>th</sup> to March 29<sup>th</sup>:**

Watercolor Portraits with Jeannie Vodden. Cost: \$225 Call Grace Cunningham 938-3326 for more information. **May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>:** Color Theory with Nancy Collins \$100 for both days. Call Grace Cunningham 938-3326 for more information. **June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>:** Textures and techniques by Patricia Osborne. Call Grace.

## MONDAY MORNING PAINTERS

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

12:00 - 4:00 pm, critique at 3:30

*See website for more details and any last minute changes.*

**March 9 - Cloverdale River Ranch Park**, 31820 McCray Rd, take last Cloverdale exit "Boonville Hwy 128" but turn right on N. Cloverdale Blvd, right on McCray. River & hill views. Regional park fee applies. Restroom.

**March 16 - Ragle Ranch Regional Park**, Sebastopol From 101 take Hwy 12 towards Sebastopol. Continue through town, turn right on Ragle Rd. to stop sign, 500 Ragle Rd The park features an outstanding grove of oak trees. A nature trail leads to Atascadero Creek, a great site for birdwatching. Park along roadside, or pay \$ 5 regional park fee & drive in, stay left, 3:30 critique at picnic table just north of dog park.

**March 23 - Railroad Square, Santa Rosa** Urban scenery, old train depot, train cars, n' tracks. Critique at Depot, off Wilson and Third.

**March 30 - Lake Sonoma**, North of Healdsburg. Picnic Grounds across from hatchery. Head north on 101 past Healdsburg, take the Canyon Rd exit, turn left, follow Canyon Rd for 2.2 mi, turn right at Dry Creek Rd, go 3.1 mi. Park at Visitors Center on right. Lovely yellow flannel trees across at picnic grounds may be in bloom, drive up hill for a few spots with marina & hill views, i.e. to right of bridge. (The VERY-upper parking lot up at vista overlook not open on Mondays).

**Change to morning schedule (9:00am -1:00pm, critique at 12:30pm) April 6 - Empire Nursery** 3747 Guerneville Rd, Santa Rosa **9 am -1:00 pm, critique at 12:30** at Picnic tables. Bedding plants, bamboo, fuchsias, fruit trees, water plants, Koi fish pond, water fall, large patio w/picnic table.

## AWS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 19, 2009

President, **Katrina Small** called the meeting to order at 10:15 am. Attending members were **Fran Neilsen, Andrea Way, Lorraine Stribling, Susan Moore, Judy Maize, Helen Shane, James Reynolds, Margot Comstock, and Jacque Mielke.**

Minutes for January, 2009 were read by **Jacque**, and approved as read.

### REPORTS

**Vice President - Judy Maize** presented the current list of programs.

March.....a critique by Thomas Creed

April.....an oil painting demo by Brooks Anderson

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

May.....a workshop by Tesia from Golden Acrylics to talk about, show and share products.

June.....paint out

July.....critique to be announced

August.....Elin Pendleton workshop

Sept.....demonstration to be announced

October....critique to be announced

November.....demonstration to be announced

**Treasurer** - the report was given. A budget for 2009 was presented and passed. **Susan** introduced a new procedure for keeping close track of expenditures. There are now printed reimbursement claim forms which are to be used for all transactions.

**Newsletter** - It was decided to keep Sprint for the printing of 40 letters each month.

**Web site** - **Katrina** reported that it would be to the club's advantage to change from "Go Daddy" to "1 and 1.com" as our web site host. The cost will be \$23.74 for 6 months and the domain is free.

**Membership** - **Lorraine** reported that there were 67 paid memberships out of 109 members. After much discussion a motion was made and passed :

**STARTING IN MARCH GUESTS WILL BE ASKED TO PAY \$5:00 PER MEETING ATTENDED. THE MONEY PAID WILL BE APPLIED TO THEIR DUES WHEN THEY JOIN.**

**Apple Blossom Festival** - It was approved to pay \$100 to be included in the Chamber's tabloid advertisement, as was done last year. A motion to raise 2 of the 3 ABF fees was made and passed:

**THE ENTRIES FOR THE APPLE BLOSSOM SHOW WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:**

**\$15:00 PER ENTRY (up from \$1)**

**\$20:00 FOR A NFS ENTRY (unchanged)**

**25% COMMISSION PAID TO AWS FOR EACH SALE (up from 20%).**

The judges for the show are Wendy Brayton and Willard Dixon

### NEW BUSINESS

**Katrina** informed the board that a credit card for the club's use could be obtained, at no cost, from Exchange Bank. It was agreed that we should obtain the service.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm  
Respectfully submitted, **Jacque Mielke**, Rec. sec.

## ROSTER CHANGES

Dolores Delgado email correction - d2artist@comcast.net

### Interested in joining us?

The AWS meets the third Thursday of each month from noon to 3 P.M. in the Sebastopol Veteran's Memorial Building to share art, do business and enjoy a program. Guests are welcome. A light buffet is served at noon, with refreshments and fellowship. The business meeting and program follow. Programs consist of demonstrations of artwork in various media, practical advice, helpful critiques and hands-on workshops. Contact Art Workshops of Western Sonoma County (AWS) membership committee:

**Lorraine Stribling 775-3234    lorrainestribling@comcast.net**

## Art Workshop of Western Sonoma County

P.O. Box 1160, Sebastopol, CA 95473

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

President: **Katrina Small** 620-0128 [katrina@katgrafix.com](mailto:katrina@katgrafix.com)

Vice Pres: **Judy Maize** 838-9049 [artz4me@sonic.net](mailto:artz4me@sonic.net)

Treasurer: **Susan Moore** 857-3703 [simart@comcast.net](mailto:simart@comcast.net)

Recording Sec: **Jacque Mielke** 824-9112 [jadomialke@comcast.net](mailto:jadomialke@comcast.net)

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Membership: **Lorraine Stribling** 775-3234

[lorrainestribling@comcast.net](mailto:lorrainestribling@comcast.net)

Refreshments: **Sharon Miller** 829-0177 [sharonemiller@comcast.net](mailto:sharonemiller@comcast.net)

Art Venues: **Arlene Parnay** 829-2660 [rmaparnay@webtv.net](mailto:rmaparnay@webtv.net)

Hospitality: **Betty Rhoades** 823-9669 [ecrseb@hotmail.com](mailto:ecrseb@hotmail.com)

**AWS thanks our sponsors for their support.**

**rileystreet art supply**
SALE ENDS APRIL 11TH

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HUGE!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ARCHES WATERCOLOR PAPER SALE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHOOSE FROM PACKS OF BRIGHT WHITE, NATURAL WHITE, YELLOW, 140LB., 300LB., COLD PRESS AND HOT PRESS</p> <div style="text-align: center; border: 2px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; width: 80%; margin: 10px auto;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>BELOW WHOLESALE PRICES</b></p> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">IF YOU ARE A WATERCOLORIST, YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS SALE.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>AMPERSAND PAINTING PANELS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>40% OFF</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">CLASSIC, DESIGNER HARDBOARD, ARTIST PANEL, AQUABOND AND PASTELBOARD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOW IN STOCK!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>DANIEL SMITH EXTRA FINE WATERCOLORS</b></p> <div style="text-align: center; border: 2px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; width: 80%; margin: 10px auto;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>44% OFF</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">SEE PRICE</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">YOU CAN'T BUY THEM DIRECT AT PRICES THIS LOW! SANTA ROSA ONLY!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPECIAL SALE!!!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">WINSOR &amp; NEWTON ARTISTS' WATERCOLOR 14ML TUBES</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">PRICES TOO LOW TO ADVERTISE! CALL FOR SALE PRICING INFO.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CLOSEOUT SALE!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">SELECT COLORS OF HOLBEIN ARTIST OILS 70% OFF HOLBEIN AQUA OILS 70% OFF ALL EGG TEMPERA 70% OFF LIMITED TO STOCK ON HAND</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">CHECK OUT OUR GREAT SELECTION OF CLASSES AND DEMOS AT <a href="http://WWW.RILEYSTREET.COM">WWW.RILEYSTREET.COM</a></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SAVE UP TO 55% OFF*</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">ON SELECTED ARTIST BRUSHES, WATERCOLORS, ACRYLICS, OILS, JOURNALS, PAGES, PASTEL CARBONS AND MORE. PRICES VARY BY QUANTITY OFFERED.</p>

SANTA ROSA 707-526-2416
SAN RAFAEL 415-457-2787



## Painting Classes

<p><b>Painters' Studio</b></p> <p><b>Mixed Medias</b></p> <p>Instructor: Janet Moore</p> <p>Tues, Feb 24 - Mar 31, 1 - 4:30pm, \$150 Non-Mem: \$160 for 6week session or Drop-In \$30/non-mem \$35</p>	<p><b>Drawing Nature</b></p> <p>Instructor: Nina Antze</p> <p>Work will stem from natural objects or photographs.</p> <p>4 Tues: 9am-12pm, Apr 7-28</p> <p>Fee: \$84 Non-member: \$89</p>	<p><b>Art with Intention:</b></p> <p><b>The Magic of Abstract</b></p> <p><b>Paintings with Suzanne Edminster</b></p> <p>Free Lecture: Fri, Mar 13, 7-8:30pm. Sat/ Sun, Mar 14 &amp; 15, 9:30am-4pm. 13-up. Fee: \$150/non mem \$155 /mat:\$35</p>
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**6780 Depot St., Sebastopol, CA 95476 707-829-4797 [www.sebarts.org](http://www.sebarts.org)**

## COMPOSITIONAL KEYS

### Robert Genn

Composition is the relative positioning of shapes and forms within a picture plane. "The composition," said pioneer abstractionist Wassily Kandinsky, "is the organized sum of the interior functions of every part of the work."

As a frequent juror, I notice the tendency of my fellow jurors to reject work thought to be poorly composed. Many artists, often photo bound to start with, fail to redesign their reference and take control of compositions. Consequently, in my occasional sorties into workshoping, I sometimes hand out a list of compositional keys. They are not rules—even if they were, they would have to be regularly broken. They are meant to be guidelines. Coincidentally, there are eleven keys on any ordinary keyboard that are useful in understanding them: they are S, O, (, !, L, ?, ^, M, P, H and X.

**S** is the famous old eye-control lead-in where the river meanders, the path winds, the road disappears.

**O** is the circular imperative that keeps the viewer's eyes moving around within the work.

**(** is the inclusion of eye-returning verticals that parenthesize on the left and right.

**!** is the long and the short of linear design. Exclamation brings excitement, finality and visual interest.

**L** is the rectilinear lineup that gives compositional solidity. Objects sit on a secure ground.

**?** is the eternal question "What could be?" as well as "What is it?" and "What isn't it?"

**^** is for softening near the edges. Equal focus bores the eye. Humans don't like to be bored.

**M** is for mystery, paucity and lack of disclosure. A good composition doesn't need to tell the whole story.

**P** is for patches. Patches trump lines. Better compositions are often an assembly of patches.

**H** is for homeostasis. Overly regular, evenly spaced, mechanical interstices need to be scouted out and fixed.

**X** is fraught with danger. While it's great to have a central confluence of interest—"X marks the spot"—it's also important to watch where any of those four legs might point or turn up. Watch the corners of your picture. Shooting the eye out of one of them can be bad news for you and good news for the painting next door.

The main test of composition is engagement. How does it grab and hold you? The answer gives a key as to how it might grab and hold others. "Get the art of controlling the observer—that is composition," said the American teacher Robert Henri. Hint: Pay early attention to what happens in the lower third of your painting. Often called "the foreground," this is generally where the viewer's eye first enters the picture. This is the place on the picture where composition begins.

**"A well-composed painting is half done." (Pierre Bonnard)**  
**"Even in front of nature one must compose." (Edgar Degas)**

## ARTIST PROFILE - MARC BOHNE

### Remember **KISS - Keep it Simple Stupid!**

Marc Bohne is a master of this concept and as a result his paintings show a strong sense of design and create an emotional impact that would be lost in a more complicated composition. See more of his work at [www.marcbohne.com](http://www.marcbohne.com). ed.



Marc Bohne was born 1955 in El Paso Texas. He lived in West Texas until he left for college where he received his BFA in painting in 1977 from Columbia College in Columbia, Missouri.

After being a relatively accomplished and award winning student, Marc's art production thinned after college as other interests crept in and making a living took precedent. From the late seventies until the mid 1990s he changed careers several times from resort administration and wilderness rescue to medicine and finally to design-build carpentry, doing artwork only as a serious pastime.

In 1994 Marc rented studio space in his present studio building in Seattle, Washington, after deciding to be serious with this lifelong interest, and has since been painting professionally. Marc's landscapes are now in collections from Paris to Los Angeles, with some of America's more prominent citizens on his collector list, and he is represented by fine galleries in New Mexico, Wyoming, New York, California, and Washington.

