



E-NEWSLETTER

ART WORKSHOP OF WESTERN SONOMA COUNTY

P.O. Box 1160 Sebastopol, CA 95473

www.awsomeart.org

AWesomeART NEWSLETTER

Meeting: Thursday, August 19, 2010 Sebastopol Veteran's Memorial Bldg.

PERSPECTIVE WORKSHOP Luncheon: 12 Noon

Business meeting and demonstration following lunch. Board meeting at 10:30 in the main room.

REFRESHMENTS

Sandwiches/Finger Food:

Norm Strickland
Perry Cordill
Avinash Pandey
Melody Anderson
Andrea Way
Valerie Gardiner
Kathy Root
Joan Chandler

Desserts/Fruit:

Marilyn Sommer
Ruthie Bitton
Nancy Sanchiotti
Gen Zorich
Annie Murphy Springer
Muriel Goodfield
Linda Sims
Alice Larsen

Please call or e-mail me if you have any questions.

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

AUGUST PROGRAM - PERSPECTIVE

The August program will be a hands-on workshop/demonstration on perspective presented by Jacque Mielke. If you wish to participate please bring a large newsprint pad, pencils and either a T-square or 18" straightedge or a clear triangle. These "tools" will allow you to get a feel for laying out one, two and multiple point perspective drawings. Look through magazines and bring photos that have "perspective situations" and we will attempt to find horizon lines and vanishing points.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi everyone. We had a great model last month for our life drawing, and a lot of people stayed to draw. I think we like our live model workshops! Let me or Linda Sims know if you have any ideas for future workshops you'd like to see presented.

Ragle Ranch show is on the horizon. We are grateful that Nancy Sanchiotti has volunteered to take the helm on this and that Susie Moore will be in charge of the money. (Thanks Nancy and Susie.) To everyone participating, good luck and have fun! Everyone else, try to make it out to see the show, it promises to be fun. (Details are in this newsletter.)

On a sad note, a fellow member, Bitte Bertilson Miller has passed away. We will miss her. (Details are in this newsletter.)

Katrina Small



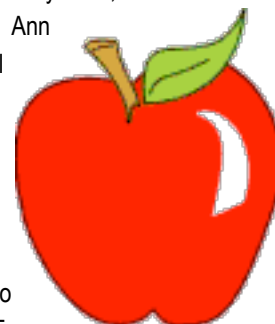
JULY FIGURE WORKSHOP

Model Chris Witkowski got us warmed up with some quick sketches and then went into some longer poses. Everyone was working in the medium of their choice and as you can see from the photos, we worked very hard. I hope we will see some examples of our endeavors at the next meeting.



ATTENTION RAGLE SHOW PARTICIPANTS

Hi all, persons signed up and paid to participate in the Gravenstein Apple Fair show are: Paula Pearce, Dolores Delgado, Fran Nielsen, Melinda Frances, Patricia Bird, Lorna Skinner, Anne Bradley, Norman Stricklin, Arlene Parnay, Lenore Carrion, Kathy Root, Johanna Monroe, Carolyn Wilson, Ruth Bitton, Ann Nichols, Linda Sims, Susie Moore, Angel Fabela, Nancy Wilkins, Nancy Sanchietti, James Reynolds, and Joyce Point.



Please come to Ragle Park, Ragle Rd. Sebastopol through the main entrance to the parking area IN FRONT, ON RIGHT on Friday, Aug. 13th at 9:30am with you're A-FRAMES (2 PER PERSON ONLY) plus a bin for unframed work if you wish, a chair, TV tray or SMALL table. Bring your art materials if you volunteered to draw or paint during the show. Demo's are wonderful ways to draw patrons! BRING YOUR ARTWORK AND WE WILL COMPLETELY SET UP FOR THE SHOW. (We will be crowded!) BRING TARPS TO COVER YOUR ARTWORK. THERE WILL BE 24 HR. SECURITY GUARDS FROM THURSDAY thru SUNDAY EVENING AT THE PARK. The Show opens Saturday the 14th at 10am and we need to be there by 9:30 to take tarps down and be ready to greet the patrons with a smile! Please wear your AWS name tags. I will be giving out two gate passes per participant (one for each day) and a parking pass on Friday am. Make sure you put your parking pass in the window or your car. Show hrs. Saturday 10-6. Sunday 10-5pm. Take down immediately following the close Sunday @5pm Any questions call **Nancy Sanchietti @ 823-6539 IT SHOULD BE FUN!!!**

BITTE BERTILSON

Bitte Bertilson passed away on July 2, 2010 in Healdsburg at the age of 75. Bitte was born February 3, 1935 in Malmo, Sweden. Bitte moved to the United States in 1959 where she studied as a lab technician at the Medical University of Portland, OR. In 1965, she moved to California where she directed the Pulmonary Lab at Stanford University while living in Palo Alto. In 1968, she met her husband J.S. Miller from Healdsburg and they married in



1969. They were married for 20 years. Bitte continued to live in the Healdsburg area for the rest of her life. Bitte loved art and was a very talented artist within many mediums. She loved painting in nature's beauty, in the vineyards amongst the local hills and wildflowers. She was an accomplished ceramic artist, weaver and musician. Bitte is survived by her only son J. Miller, his wife K. Warnelius-Miller and their two children. A private memorial will be held for family and friends. In lieu of flowers a donation may be made to the Arts Council of Sonoma County.

From the Press Democrat

MEMBER PROFILE - MELINDA FRANCES



Q: Melinda, Where were you born and raised?

M: I was born in Nacogdoches, Texas and spent my first four years on our family farm.

Q: Where did you move next?

M: We moved to Moraga, then Berkeley and finally to Sebastopol when I was 14.

Q: As a Child were you interested in art?

M: I was born to paint!! I was always drawing or painting my entire life. If I wasn't painting on a

surface, I was painting in my mind. My whole life has been one of study, not only book study, but really looking at nature.

Q: As a child, what other interests did you pursue?

M: In third grade I picked up the violin and fell in love. I love the feeling of creating art or music.

Q: In school did you major in art?

M: I started SRJC as a business major. In that first semester I took a design class from James Rosen. It was in that class that made me realize art was for me, not numbers. I changed my major the next semester. I completed my AA in art at SRJC, attended San Francisco School of Art, and spent some time at Vermont Studio Center.

Q: Did you make art your living?

M: No, I was self-employed and my business specialized in organizational bookkeeping and financial accounting.

Q: Did you consider yourself an artist?

M: No, I was a Sunday painter. I recently became free of the responsibility of maintaining home and property which now finally allows me the time and energy to paint. This is so exciting to experience what appears on my canvas after all my looking and learning. My light now shines. The new chapter has begun. My two dogs, Peer Gynt and Buckle approach this passion with me together. You may see us out in the countryside painting away.

Q: When did you join AWS?

M: I originally joined in November 1999 with the support of Betsy Shimmel. I became President in January 2000 through 2002. I was appointed by President Denise Champion and AWS Board as AWS Emeritus in January 2003. I have rejoined AWS and am looking forward to the mutual support and friendship of our group.

Conclusion by Paula:

Today I was honored to be in the home and studio of Melinda here in Sebastopol. It gives me great joy to see her surrounded by not only her two loving pets, but all her beloved art supplies, paints, easels, canvas and classical music. I hope my photo and this interview captures Melinda's artistic spirit and genuine love of creating.

AWS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

President Katrina Small called the meeting to order at 10:40 am.

Attending members were Susan Moore, Fran Nielsen, Linda Sims, Andrea Way, Nancy Sanchietti and Jacque Mielke. Minutes for May 2010 were read and approved.

BOARD REPORTS

President - Katrina had sent 122 members an E-blast meeting reminder through "Vertical Response" and asked if we thought it would be a worthwhile procedure for the club to buy into. It looks to average \$1.80 per "Blast" which would be around \$24.00 per year on a once a month basis. The board was unanimous in the decision to employ the service.

Katrina, Andrea Way and Susie Moore are on the committee to get the proper papers filled out to secure the tax exempt status for the club. Andrea gave a report as to the progress: she has a 30 page document which when approved hopefully will satisfy the requirements.

Vice President - Linda requested that we come up with a concrete figure to pay to the models. After discussion...**Linda made a motion that we increase from \$40.00 to \$70.00 per 1 1/2 hour session.** It was approved.

Programs for the remainder of the year are as follows:

August... Jacque Mielke will give a demonstration of perspective with a hands on workshop following.

September... Alfredo Tofanelli will give a portrait demonstration in oils.

October... Sterling Hoffman will give an oil painting workshop with Charlotte from Sennelier paints.

November...a possible watercolor demonstration

Treasurer - The treasurer's report was read and approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ragle Ranch Show - Nancy Sanchietti reported that 24 people had signed up but only 22 paid and so there is a deficit of \$49.02 owing the club, as the two space fee had been paid in May. Apparently it was not made clear that the individual fee would be a pro rata based on signups. The club will pay this time but not in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

It was agreed that a clip-on microphone be purchased for presenters to use.

It was agreed to keep the board meetings starting at 10:30.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jacque Mielke, recording secretary

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ROSTER CHANGES

New Member: Ruthie Bitton 217 W. 6th St. Santa Rosa 95401 528-2619 ruthie_bitton@att.net

Address Change: Clair Fleming 140 Golf Course Dr. #131 Rohnert Park 94928 206-0214 cfs@svn.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marjorie Murray-Cortez will have her paintings in the Tamberlane Store at its new location, 101 South Main St. Sebastopol

Art Workshop of Western Sonoma County

P.O. Box 1160, Sebastopol, CA 95473

www.awsomeart.org

President: **Katrina Small** 620-0128 katrina@katgrafix.com

Vice Pres: **Linda Sims** 578-2269 dreamgarden2@comcast.net

Treasurer: **Susan Moore** 857-3703 sjmart@comcast.net

Recording Sec: **Jacque Mielke** 824-9112 jadomielke@comcast.net

Corresp. Secretary: **Fran Nielsen** 823-3542 jwfnpw@sbcglobal.net

Publicity: **Helen Shane** 823-3744 shane5@sonic.net

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

Refreshments: **Sharon Miller** 829-0177 sharonemiller@comcast.net

Art Venues: **Arlene Parnay** 829-2660 maparnay@webtv.net

Name Tags: **Cher Church** 531-0130 dearsnhubs@sbcglobal.net

Website: **Gen Zorich** 824-0435 jazzori@aol.com

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

MONDAY MORNING PAINTERS

www.mondaymorningpainters.com

9:00 am - 1:00 pm; critique at 12:30 unless

otherwise noted.

See website for more details and any last minute changes.

August 2 **Sausal Winery** 7370 Hwy. 128, Healdsburg

A small family winery with shaded patio, near Jimtown. From North bound 101 take the Central Healdsburg Exit and go straight on Healdsburg Ave. Follow Healdsburg Ave all the way through town and take a right onto Alexander Valley Road. Follow Alexander Valley Road about 7 miles and just past the big curve to the right, you will find Sausal Winery on the left. Critique on patio under the arbor.

August 9 **Winn Residence** 11024 Green Valley Road, Sebastopol

Gorgeous vistas in several directions, great gardens. Take HWY 116 North. Then take Green Valley Road toward Occidental. Drive about 2 miles. Pass El Molino Lane on your left. Turn right on the next, unpaved road, Apple Lane and Dabel Road (2 names, 1 road). Note post box address on left is 11024. Follow the road, turn left at the fork and follow signs for 11024. This is the red-tiled roof at the top of the hill.

August 16 **St. Francis Winery** 100 Pythian Road, Santa Rosa (near Kenwood)

Vineyard and hill views, mission-style building with bell tower. Possibly lavender still blooming at edge of vineyards. From Hwy 101, take Hwy 12 East/4th St., heading toward Sonoma, passing Montgomery Village. Follow signs and continue right to follow Hwy 12-(Sonoma Hwy). Go 6.95 miles to Pythian Road and turn left. Note: Gates do not open until 9am. Please do NOT paint on the long patio attached to the tasting room (reserved for guest wine-tasting). Critique on shaded outdoor hallway to right and in back of tasting room.

August 23 **Pedroncelli Winery** 1220 Canyon Rd., Geyserville

Beautiful vineyard vistas, with even more to see if you take Walling Road behind the winery. Critique at the bocce ball court. From Santa Rosa, take US-101 North. Take the Canyon Road exit. Turn left onto Canyon Road. Turn right on Walling into the winery. NOTE: Please avoid parking in the tasting room parking lot, and park across the street from the parking lot (on Walling).

August 30

Marshall Boat Works

19225 Hwy. 1, Marshall, CA

Working docks, restaurant, boats, bay and hill views. West Marin County on Hwy 1, 11 miles west of Petaluma on Marshall-Petaluma Rd. Park out of the way of the boat business. Critique near parking lot.

ROBERT GENN ON "FINDING YOUR VOICE"

This is one of those sticky head-scratchers that can cause the loss of sleep. First off, and contrary to what I've said before, plans can actually derail the voice-finding process. Further, you have to know what you mean by "voice." Voice in style is different than voice in cause. Ideally, style develops over time. Cause is based on attitude and issue. With growth and development, causes change. A predetermined voice shackles creativity. To find your very own voice, I think you need to have a few things going for you:

You need to make stuff. Artists who put in regular working hours find their voice. Work itself generates clarity and direction. It's like invention—one thing leads to another. One must only lurk for voice. Unfortunately, along the way, most drop the ball. Like the dilettante inventor of the soft drink "6-up," they just don't stick around long enough.

You need hunger. It can be the hunger for knowledge or for self-knowledge. It can be the desire to find an antidote for some injustice or human miscalculation. Perhaps you need some inexplicable, deep-seated compulsion to keep moving forward.

You need curiosity. Wondering how things will turn out is more powerful than having a pretty good idea beforehand. Wondering if you can do it gives you reason to try. Curiosity is the main juice of "ego-force" that keeps you keeping on.

You need joy. You need to feel joy in yourself and you need to feel you're giving it to others. As Winston Churchill said, "You may do as you like, but you also have to like what you do." A disliked job is soon abandoned.

I'm writing you from a remote anchorage off Grenville Channel on the West Coast of British Columbia. I'm thinking human nature is a mighty puzzle. Every time I go onto one of these islands looking for something to paint, I ask myself the old "What's my voice?" question. One thing for sure, if I go ashore knowing what my voice is, it will be a weak squawk when I get to the spot.

Esoterica: "What's my voice?" has to be asked by each individual artist. Committee-free, the artist needs to develop her voice as if on an island. To be a voice is to be a different voice, set apart, unique. How