

AWSOMEART.ORG · JULY 2025

THURSDAY, JULY 17th

Sebastopol Veteran's Building, 282 South High St, Sebastopol, CA

10:30 Board • 12:00 Potluck • 12:30 Meeting

1:30-2:45 - Program with Linda Reid: Gertrude Stein & Alice B Toklas

July Prompt: "ART IN NATURE" • August Prompt: "SHADOWS"

THE LIVERY ARTISTS RECEPTION FRIDAY, JULY 18 · 5-7PM



6940 Burnett St, Sebastopol





Marilyn Dizikes Marilyn Sommer **Sandi Maurer Becky Brendlin Patricia Marina Gail Mardfin** Pamela Heck **Allene Donato** Aimee Tomczak











GERTRUDE STEIN & ALICE B TOKLAS A slide lecture by Linda Loveland Reid

Gertrude Stein, novelist, poet and avid art collector, "modestly" commented that without her, some of the writers and artists that she promoted might not have emerged as they did to take over the art world - such as Matisse and Picasso. .. With her two brothers and



partner Alice B Toklas, she lived in Paris during the early movement of progressive art, stubbornly acquiring works that the general population found wildly odd. • Come for a fascinating lesson by author/artist/president Linda Reid, who teaches art history classes for Sonoma State and Dominican Universities in their Osher Lifelong Learning (OLLI) programs. lindalovelandreid.com



FROM OUR PRESIDENT LINDA L. REID

June has been a time of gathering. Whether you went to an art gallery opening, marched in the streets, celebrated Father's Day, visited an Open Studio, or joined in the AWS Picnic, it has been

about togetherness. As our political climate intensifies, we need friends, family, and art to keep us sane.

The AWS June Picnic was perfect in every way. To be among the tall trees and so many friends was solace for the soul. Thank you to **Carol Mills**, **Paula Pearce**, **Allene Donato**, and **Gail Mardfin**, who helped to organize. And the potluck offered yummy surprises.

I loved opening my studio for *Art at the Source*. **Kim Winter** and I had a grand time visiting with our guests. *Art Trails* registration is open now for those interested.

We are heading into a hot summer but we have our art to keep us cool! I wrote this poem about my own relationship to art. Enjoy!

Your grateful Prez, Linda

You are what you art

Abstract

I labor love onto that space What does this painting want to be Want of me

What color is Tuesday
Black is the soul - yellow, the music
There is freedom in smearing color
deep maroon and bone of mind

Unheard music vibrates the canvas Color is a thumbprint of emotion Meaning plunges to the bottom, rolls around I breathe in paint

Be Zen with this wild thing, merge into the line, devour the next splash of idea Surge myself to the attack

A palette knife, color dripping with intent Sweeping curve of cerulean sets a circle Splatter energy

When was the last time you did something for the first time

An art of desire sears me into the moment A moment when that gold is Autumn, quietly whispering, *I'm here*

Can I do it - paint these feelings Magic is the color magenta and it comes from Saying "yes"

AWS is forming a WELCOME TEAM to provide an efficient sign-in system for members at our meetings! Please volunteer to help!

If possible, volunteers will commit to a 6-month period of time. One volunteer will be Team Leader and coordinate each month's staffing, rotating among the total 5 volunteers. We will need...

- one volunteer to sit at sign-in table for names A-L
- one volunteer to sit at sign-in table for names M-Z
- one volunteer to sit at Lucky Bags Raffle ticket sales table
- two volunteers-at-large to switch off jobs

Please email <u>LindaLReid100@gmail.com</u> to volunteer now! And we already have THREE volunteers:

Thank you, Joyce Pointe, Elizabeth Gomes, & Paula Pearce!

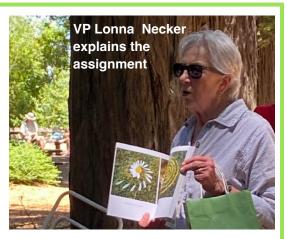


Linda Reid - "Five White Dots" 16x12 acrylic

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT · LONNA NECKER

Greetings,

There was no prompt for June because we were at our annual picnic. And what a crowd! It was wonderful to see so many members, old and brand new, in that lovely setting. It was a delight to send participants off into the park to find fallen leaves and branches, as well as rocks to create simple abstract pieces based on the book, **NATURAL – Simple Land Art.** We referred to the book to create our masterpiece with nature's media and take pictures of them. Please print them at home and remember to bring them in for our art share and **PROMPT** at the July meeting!



Our July demonstrator will be **Linda Reid** (our president) who will give us her lecture on *Gertrude Stein* and *Alice B. Toklas*. Linda has made numerous presentations on and about artists and art collectors over the years and has always enlightened and enchanted us with her storytelling abilities. Linda holds two B.A.

degrees from SSU in History and Art History, graduating cum laude. She was Associate Executive Director of United Way for the North Bay in the 1970s. Later, she founded a family insurance firm in Santa Rosa, specializing in employee benefits for corporations. Now retired, her daughter runs the shop. Linda teaches art history classes for Sonoma State and Dominican Universities in their Osher Lifelong Learning (OLLI) programs. She serves on the Board of Sebastopol Center for the Arts, is an emeritus member of Redwood Writers, and is on the Advisory Board and Curriculum Committee for OLLI/SSU, where she is also chair of the OLLI Art Club - with its 200 members!

Thank you all for your participation, your art, and good cheer. Take care,

Lonna





NEW AWS MEMBERS!

Joan Blumenberg • Petaluma Carol Korzow • Santa Rosa Teri & Bob Sloat • Sebastopol



AWS Member Jan Blake participated in Art at the Source in June - no, not in Santa Rosa, but in Eureka! She was at the home of her brother, a ceramic sculptor whose work is displayed in a big Redwood forest-garden, along with her niece, who makes stained glass jewelry. Congratulations to Jan, who sold a couple of her abstract paintings there.

CORRECTION

The dates of the 2025 **Santa Rosa Open Studios** were reported incorrectly in the June issue. The tour will be over two weekends: Sept. 13 &14 and 20 & 21.

Enid Barnes is planning to participate. *Any other AWS artists?*

CALL FOR ENTRY

Venue: Santa Rosa Arts Center

Submit up to two exhibit-ready entries in person

July 27, 11am-3pm

Title: Patterns & Repetition

Size: Maximum 36" in any direction Exhibition dates: July 31 - September 28

For more info: https://santarosaartscenter.org/

SEBASTOPOL VENUESJuly 17 - September 18

This is a rotation month. The current artist/s should arrange with the next artist a mutually convenient day/time to change.
Use your AWS roster to get contact info.

Coffee & Moore

CURRENTLY: Carol Mills
INCOMING JULY 17: Linda Dove-Pierson
SEPTEMBER 18: Kathleen Andre

Fandee's Restaurant

CURRENTLY: Linda Dove-Pierson INCOMING JULY 17: Carol Mills SEPTEMBER 18: AVAILABLE

Hair Masters

CURRENTLY: Joy Dellas & Barbara Goodman
JULY 17: Gerald Huth
SEPTEMBER 18: AVAILABLE

Hole in the Wall Restaurant

CURRENTLY: Kathleen Andre & Kathy Byrne INCOMING JULY 17: Gerald Huth SEPTEMBER 18: Lorna Ho

Sonoma Chocolatiers & Tea House

CURRENTLY: Susan Barri & Cheryl Woods INCOMING JULY 17: Marilyn Sommer SEPTEMBER 18: Gail Mardfin

Specialty Center

CURRENTLY: Joy Dellas & Barbara Goodman
JULY 17: Pamela Heck
SEPTEMBER 18: Gerald Huth

Umpqua Bank

CURRENTLY: Gail Mardfin
INCOMING JULY 17: AVAILABLE
SEPTEMBER 18: AVAILABLE

The Livery CoWork

CURRENTLY: Becky Brendlin, Marilyn Dizikes, Allene Donato, Pamela Heck, Gail Mardfin, Patricia Marina, Sandi Maurer, Marilyn Sommer, and Aimée Tomczak

Be sure to contact Deni Marrone if interested in showing at the Livery in the future - and come to the reception July 18, 5-7pm!

STOP IN & VISIT OUR VENUES!

How about a future show with a friend?

After visiting the venue, sign up with

Venues Coordinator Deni Marrone

call or text (408) 202-3875

denijomarrone@gmail.com

July 17 Refreshments

Please have your contribution (enough to serve 12 people) on the table so the potluck is ready to start promptly at noon. Thank you.

Remember to record it at the Sign-in table!

SANDWICHES/ FINGER FOOD

Judy Boles Shirley Cheal Lori Christani Connie Cook Lin Dahl Hale Darby Joy Dellas Alyson Dobbert Sunny DuPuis Hedda Gold Judy Goldberg Lorna Ho Diana Jones Merrie Krisl Barb Lawson Brian Martens Denise Monsoor Pamela Nachtigall Judy Pagnusat Sally Privette James Revnolds Pam Simpson Marilyn Sommer Joyce Terres Linda Weber

DESSERT/FRUIT

Robin Allison
Enid Barnes
Judith Belfiori
Kathy Byrne
Bob Cheal
Cathy Collins
Linda Dove-Pierson
Judy Leandro
Patricia Marina
Christine Paschal
Paula Pearce
Genie Rhodes
Elizabeth Springs
Elisabeth Van Nuys



VENUE SALE\$



Kathy Byrne sold two watercolors to happy buyers at Hole in the Wall Restaurant in June, including "Curious Sheep," pictured at left.

Cheryl Woods sold two pieces from the Sonoma Chocolatiers venue. Cheryl adds, "Not only that, I sold my 'Crane Rising' painting that was in the show at the Occidental Center for the Arts. All in the same week! That's new for me

for sure - actually I've only been putting my things out there to sell for a year, so I'm stoked!"

Terrific! Congratulations to you both.



Front L to R: Judy Pagnusat, Gail Mardfin, Linda Reid, Honora Russell, Joy Dellas, Patricia Marina, Pamela Heck. Second: Robin Allison, Cheryl Woods, Shirley Cheal, Joyce Terres, Gail Radice, Linda Donahue, Cathy Collins, Carol Mills, Deni Marrone, Lonna Necker, Connie Cook, Caterina Martinico. Third: Allene Donato, Sally Privette, Patty Westman, Linda Immer, Becky Brendlin, Nancy Tulloh, Susan Nestor, Christine Paschal, Paula Pearce, Elizabeth Gomes, Aimee Tomczak, Julia Hansen, Nancy Sanchietti, Bonnie Smith. Back: Dana Rodney, Mel Goldberg, Judy Goldberg, Joan Blumenberg, Judy Leandro, Bob Cheal, Jennifer Weiss, Avinash Pandey, Patty Bird, Katie Sanderson, Jackie Braun, Jan Blake. MORE PHOTOS ON NEXT PAGE.

A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE PARK - hot in the sun but cool in the shade of the Redwoods! 45 AWS members, old and some brand new, arrived with camp chairs, an array of potluck contributions, and in some cases, a Significant Other. It was such a nice chance to just plain socialize! After lunch, there were a few announcements and then we took a fabulous group photo, thanks to new member Jackie Braun's photographer-husband, Shawn Hamil. People scattered to collect objects to create Nature Art and there were even some ambitious plein air painters. And who forgot their serving utensils, pictured at right?? Contact gmardfin@gmail.com





Circle up and get to know the AWS gang!



Mel Goldberg and **Carol Mills** organize the desserts



Christine Paschal talks to new members **Bob & Shirley Cheal**.



Joy Dellas and Robin Allison share a chair.







Susan Bradford (and pup, Cozy), **Nancy Sanchietti**, and **Avinash Pandey** take a rest before the ladies ventured off for some *plein air* painting. Nancy's gouache is at center and Susan's 9x12 oil, right, was finished at home.



Gail Mardfin chats with new member Jennifer Weiss.



Gail Radice and Becky Brendlin munch a bunch.



First time ever to an AWS gathering! Welcome, **Joan Blumenberg.**



Judy Goldberg works on her natural assemblage.



newest issue of *Mark Makers' Quarterly,* there is an article about Susan St. Thomas

with pictured art by students **Patricia Marina** and **Marilyn Dizikes**. The magazine is sold locally in the Sebastopol Gallery.



Gail Mardfin - "Cheers!" 12x16 collage



Elizabeth Springs "Winemakers Alchemy"
When the hoop on a
barrel makes its own
art. This is a
photograph in my
abstract expressionist
style. My abstract work
crosses over very
easily into my
photography.





AWS Member Profile: Barbara Evans

by Gail Mardfin

Barbara Evans has been authoring recent AWS Member Profiles, and she always impressed me with the succinct headlines she wrote to lead the reader along. She told me she'd learned that skill putting together PowerPoint presentations for corporate clients. What?! I wanted to get the backstory...

Barbara greeted me in her spacious, art-filled home in Petaluma, where she's lived with her husband Terry and two, now-grown, children for 15 years. The oldest of five girls, Barbara grew up in Michigan and attended Alma College, also in Michigan, graduating with a degree in Chemistry and a

minor in Biology.

Her first job after college was as a manufacturing engineer, learning about paint applications and sealants for cars, and no doubt her curiosity about almost every art medium is an extension of that. Working at General Motors, Barbara was exposed to marketing. and she went on to earn an MBA at Northwestern's Kellogg Graduate School of Management in Evanston, IL. On her career path, Barbara became a management consultant for businesses, working with Fortune 500 companies who were developing new products. (And along the way, she had a lot of practice writing and giving

PowerPoint presentations and being parsimonious with words.) Her employment took her from cold Chicago to sunny Los Angeles, which is where she met Terry.

Prior to and parallel with her corporate career, Barbara was always an artist. As an undergrad she managed to take some painting and drawing classes, including an oil painting class which required weekly still life studies in watercolor. She continued taking watercolor classes in Chicago.

But before that, in junior high school, Barbara took an art class that included perspective drawing - and for her, meeting every day, it was heavenly. In addition to playing oboe in a school band and county orchestra, she was a summer camp Art Director.

But let's go back even further: When Barbara was in sixth grade, her mother was taking a tole painting class, and young Barbara loved to trace the Gothic letters her mom had been painting on wood. Her love of typography grew and she sought library books with fonts, bought a calligraphy pen, and as a high school student, she taught an adult education class!

With the birth of their second child, Barbara left her management position to be a full-time mother, encouraging Jennifer and Jonathan's artistic development, visiting science and nature museums, hiking, tide-pooling, and traveling. A photographer with a Nikon and now a Sony camera, Barbara's

gorgeous travel shots fill their dining room. As a family they've taken more than 20 trips, from Costa Rica to Europe to Southeast Asia. And with their son now in the Navy, Terry and Barbara recently traveled to Japan – just in time for cherry blossom season.

Moving northward in California a few times, the family eventually settled in Petaluma and Barbara had the chance to take art classes at Santa Rosa Junior College. In addition to earning an Adobe Specialist certification (Photoshop/ Illustrator/Acrobat/ Dreamweaver), Barbara discovered the art classes! She studied life drawing, painting, color, design and composition, and

art history - 12 semesters at SRJC in total.

Always eager to improve her artistic skills and delve into new media, she's taken free online classes, noting "There's so much on youtube!" She's taken SRJC's lifelong learning classes including watercolor with Barbara Marlin-Coole and Susan St. Thomas, and pastel with Mary Beth Sasso.

Barbara belongs to the West County Plein Air group, members of which travel on the third Wednesday of the month to spots such as Tomales Bay and the Luther Burbank Gardens. Her preference for *plein air* work is water-soluble oils, gouache, or watercolor. She also continues to paint weekly with experienced watercolorists at the Petaluma Senior Center.

(cont. on next page)



Barbara Evans, continued

Barbara "got into art to make gifts for my family" says she, and has taken commissions, but hasn't emphasized art making for the sales potential. She has shown at her health club in Petaluma and was recently in two AWS venues, the Specialty Center and Hair Masters, with AWS member **Elizabeth Gomes**, whom she wishes to thank for her help and encouragement.

Barbara joined AWS in 2023. "Hedda Gold invited me. We paint in the weekly watercolor group in Petaluma. I subscribed to the newsletter, and chose to attend a meeting with a demo that especially appealed to me," adding, "I initially joined for the demos but have since grown to appreciate the friendships and vibrant, supportive community this group makes possible. I am grateful for the

opportunity to interview members for their profile because everyone is so interesting and inspiring.

What is Barbara's favorite medium? It would be hard to name one she doesn't like, and she is always eager to explore more. A favorite event for Barbara is RileyStreet Art Supply on its annual day to create, with many art suppliers and artists offering demos. "Try before you buy," says Barbara, smiling.

So, what's on the horizon after her recent trip to RileyStreet? Perhaps a Gelli Arts printing plate with acrylics? Or botanical printing? Or maybe even a foray into abstraction!

Whatever she approaches, I know Barbara will explore its potential with the curiosity, creativity, and competence that derives from her solid art foundation. And we look forward to her future profiles of our AWS members, as well!

AWS NEWS BITS

Judy Pagnusat created this piece on an old roof slate for the Luther Burbank House & Garden fundraiser. If you're interesting in contributing a slate, contact Lonna Necker



lonna@sonic.net or (707) 291-4740.

Lorna Ho's mixed media painting "Jazz" was chosen for ongoing display in Santa Rosa City Hall, as an extension of the National Arts Program Exhibit at the Finley Center in the spring.
Congratulations, Lorna!





Oops! Judy
Grigg
Goldberg's
ABS Honorable
Mention ribbon
in Watercolor
was missing at
the ABS ribbon
ceremony in
May, so here
she is!

IF YOU WERE AN 2025 ABS RIBBON WINNER and were absent from the May meeting, you can pick up your ribbon at the July meeting. There are still a number of Popular Vote envelopes with comments for artists yet to be picked up, too — Check on the back table at the July meeting!



"If somebody asked me what I've been doing for the last 50 years, I'd say, 'I've been painting color," says **Marilyn Dizikes.**

Her outstanding show at the Art House Hotel & Suites, Santa Rosa, is on display through September 9th.

The June reception provided by the hotel was lovely and led to some extended

conversations on the comfortable couch with Marilyn, AWS artists, and other visitors.



Members of AWS were under the new Peacetown art tent all four Wednesdays in June, beginning with the intrepid **Carol Mills**. Each week the Peacetown artists share within the group what went well and advice for the newcomers - signage, how to accept charge sales, etc. So far, it hasn't been a big moneymaker, but a

good community builder with conversations about art and AWS. **Big thanks to Patricia Marina**, who supports us and publicizes our presence online (along with <u>peacetown.org</u>), her husband Don Stewart, who often delivers the AWS display stands to the exhibiting artists, and Jim Corbett, Peacetown organizer, who announces our presence to the audience.

Be sure to check out the event in July! The concerts in Ives Park all feature rockin' bands and food trucks, from 5-8pm. Free!!! (August artists will be listed next month.)

JULY 2 - Gail Mardfin

JULY 9 - Joy Dellas & Barbara Goodman

JULY 16 - Linda Reid & Kim Winter

JULY 23 - Elizabeth Gomes

JULY 30 - Connie Cook & Lorna Ho



Carol Mills



Gail Mardfin



Sally Privette



Elizabeth Springs

It's a Wrap for the 2025 ABS!



For the third time, Linda Reid hosted a wonderful "wrap party" in her home for all of the Apple Blossom committee chairs who



Linda Reid (right) passes the ABS clipboard to Allene Donato. This year they served as Co-Chairs. In 2026, Allene will be ABS Chair.

Thank you, both!

were able to attend, as well as Board members. After an amazing lunch provided by Linda and Allene, each Chair reported on their slice of the ABS pie and suggestions were made for improvement. • From front: Paula Pearce (Popular Vote), Kathy Byrne & Fran Nielsen (Hanging), Patricia Marina (Publicity), Carol Mills (Donations); Deni Marrone (Board), Lonna Necker (Raffle), Susan Nestor (Wine), Kim Winter (Panels), Allene Donato (ABS Co-chair), Merrie Krisl (Sales), Judy Boles (Board), Judy Goldberg (Hospitality), Gail Mardfin (Posters), Linda Reid (ABS Co-chair), Avinash Pandey (Photographer). Missing: Beverly Bird (Intake) and Lorraine Stribling (Labels).

S E B

SEBASTOPOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

ARTS

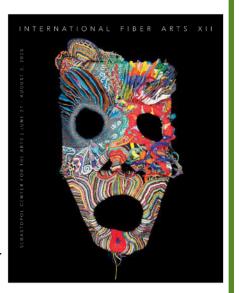


From top: Elizabeth Gomes, Fran Nielsen, Linda Reid, Kim Winter, Barbara Lawson, Katha Engblom.

Please join us on Wednesday, July 2 at 2pm for the guided docent tour...

Learn the fascinating stories about the artists and artwork in the wonderful International Fiber Arts VII Exhibit with a trained docent, then take all the time you need to explore more.

The tour is free for SebArts members, with a reduced rate of \$12 for non-members. (Regular paid admission to this show is \$15.)



Thank you to **Julia Hansen** and **Joyce Terres** for arranging this with SebArts.





Who visited any – or many - artists on this year's Art at the Source? I did!

I visited first-timer **Barbara Lawso**n, with a clean and sharp setup in the garage of Susan Miron, a 2- and 3D artist in Kenwood. Barbara sold some work and enjoyed talking to many of the folks who stopped in.

First timer **Katha Engblom** writes, "I was very fortunate to be a guest artist at Mary Ruggles' fabulous backyard garden and studio. It was a successful first experience selling my paintings in this type of venue. I sold 9 paintings and acquired 5 new collectors! While many of the sold paintings were small, I made enough money to cover my expenses, which was good. It was also good to get feedback and hear comments from those attending. I look forward to doing it again."

Elizabeth Gomes says, "I felt the show was a happy success - lots of wonderful conversations, many new signups for my email list, and quite a few pieces of art moved to new homes!"

Fran Nielsen reports, "It was very slow, but I sold a painting, and several smaller pieces, prints, and cards. And I have a commission for a painting, and possibly another one. I also got to talk to some nice people about my art. That always makes it worth it."

Linda Reid and **Kim Winter** said it was much slower than in years past, but as you can imagine, they made the most of it and had fun throughout the two weekends.

I didn't hear back from James Reynolds or Beverly Bird, but no doubt their efforts were also rewarded in tangible and intangible ways. Next up, Art Trails in October!

- Gail Mardfin, Editor

OPPORTUNITIES & OPENING RECEPTIONS

Imagine Committing One Full Day a Week to Painting!

AWS member, Marilyn Sommer, invites you to paint each Monday at her large studio in **Sebastopol.** There is an opening and all levels are welcome. The group meets from 10am til 3:30 or 4:00pm.

Each week local artist, Michael Coy, presents the work of several artists - classical to contemporary, local and worldwide - for view and discussion, followed by individual critique and encouragement. Each person pays \$25 for the program. (Michael has been a presenter at AWS: covart.com

If interested, please contact Marilyn at 707-303-6792









WATERCOLOR EXHIBIT AT FINLEY

RECEPTION JULY 10 · 4-7pm

Work by 10 artists in Kathryn Henderson's Friday Watercolor Group at RileyStreet including AWS artists Cathy Collins, Linda C Donahue, and Niki Skelton (their paintings pictured above)

> **Finley Community Center** 2060 W College Ave, Santa Rosa July 8 - September 8



OPEN STUDIO Reception Kim Winter Saturday, July 19th 1-4pm

LIVE MUSIC by Bill Rhyne



1200 River Road Fulton



MARCELLA FORD July Art Show J and M Midtown Cafe 1422 4th Street, Santa Rosa Reception Weds, July 2 · 4-6 pm



HOW TO MEET PEOPLE IN AWS

- 1. Join a committee Serving on the Welcome Team will help you get to know faces as they come through the door.
- 2. Volunteer whenever possible! The club is 100% volunteer-run. Step up!
- Go to the receptions and shows of AWS artists - They're announced at meetings and in this newsletter. Like this month's Livery Artists Reception on July 18. 6940 Burnett Street -Wine will be served ;-)
- 4. Plan a *plein air* outing or "field trip" to a museum or gallery with people you chat with during the potluck.

Opportunities are provided, and then...it's up to you!

Elvis Presley Etch-a-Sketched | MARIC @ talk | | Shatel | Screen | | Hound Dog | Jailhouse Rock | | MARIC @ talk | | Shatel | Screen | | Love Me Tender | All Shook Up

REMINDERS TO ALL

If you'd like your announcement to appear in the next newsletter, please send it to awsomeart2023@gmail.com
by the Wednesday following the meeting.

by the Wednesday following the meeting
If possible, include a photo
to help grab attention.

When you finish an artwork, remember to take a photo before framing!

You can send an image of your art (squarely-taken photo), any time - please include title, dimensions (HxW), and medium - send to awsomeart2023@gmail.com

Let's be inspired by others' art!





103 Maxwell Ct, Santa Rosa

(707) 526-6421 · <u>www.RileyStreet.com</u> Mon. - Sat. 9-5:30 | Sun. 11-4

AS AN AWS MEMBER, REMEMBER TO ASK FOR YOUR 10% DISCOUNT ON ALL ITEMS NOT ALREADY DISCOUNTED OR ON SALE.