

Art Workshop of Western Sonoma County
8214 Covert Lane • Sebastopol CA 95472



AWSOMEART.ORG • SEPTEMBER 2026

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th

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

10:30 Board • 11:50 Potluck • 12:25 Meeting • 1:30 Demo (see below)

September Prompt: "STRUCTURE" • October Prompt: "OK...NOW MAKE IT"

SEPTEMBER DEMO: James Reynolds "What Makes a Painting Work?"

Multi-award-winning artist and co-owner of the Sebastopol Gallery, **James Reynolds** plans to engage the group in a conversation on the principals of Composition, rather than deliver a lecture. He will bring his own paintings to open up analysis of what he meant to achieve and to what extent he was successful. We will explore the basic elements of design through the lens of his completed works, to consider what makes a good painting.



"The Misty Veil" by James Reynolds (12x24 oil)

NEWSLETTER POLICY

The AWS Newsletter is delivered to your email box on or around the 1st of every month.

Announcements (art shows, openings, classes, etc.) related to THAT month will appear IN that month's issue. Deadline for submitting them is the Wednesday after the monthly meeting.

If an event falls in the first five days of a month, get it to me a month early and I will include it in the previous month's issue (so people have time to plan).

I will include AWS-member artwork and announcements *related to visual art only*. (For art, send squarely-taken photos and include title, dimensions (HxW) and medium.)

We have a lot of people with information to share! And a lot of emails for me to keep track of, so please be clear.

awsomeart2023@gmail.com

Thanks for understanding! xo gail

FROM THE PRESIDENT LINDA LOVELAND REID

The pink ladies are out in force, gloriously lining the roads with their thin stalks and lovely pink heads. Of course, this heralds the end of summer and the beginning of autumn.

I just returned from Hawaii where things are beautifully green, but I love our change of seasons — when the colors in our world transform from the hot boldness of summer to the soft oranges and yellows of autumn. Kids head back to school, and artists head to the studio.

Recently, I had fun recording a series of short videos documenting my adventure with a five-foot canvas. It captures the fits and starts, and the uncertainty that accompanies our creative endeavors. “Creativity takes courage,” said Henri Matisse - and boy, can I relate!

In the end, I felt satisfied — which is good, because when a piece is not working, it keeps me awake at night.

So here’s to your next adventure into color, canvas, and that fabulous artwork currently sitting in your mind. Like the automatism used by the Abstract Expressionists of the ’50s, let those urges — your unconscious feelings — run along



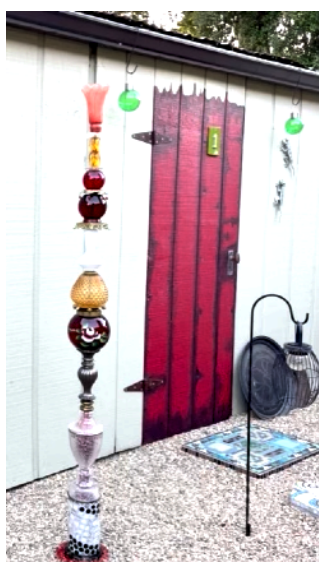
Linda and her “Dreaming Outloud” (36x60 acrylic)

your arm, through your fingers, and alight on the canvas, producing your next marvel. It’s pretty amazing.

Take a walk, observe the colors in our hills, the trees, the leaves — and pick up that brush. And remember, as Twyla Tharp reminds us, “Art is the only way to run away without leaving home.” Pick up that brush!

Remember, you are what you ART!

Linda



IVONNE CHRISTIAN sent in these photos of her garden art works. LEFT: Vintage Glass Totem made of old lamps and globes. 67” tall. *“The barn red door is a trompe l’oeil painting done to disguise the ugly shed that divides us from our neighbors.”* RIGHT: Dia de los Muertos mosaic Totem using ceramic tiles and glass gems. 36” tall.

UPDATE ON THE LIVERY

The Livery CoWork on Burnett Street is one of AWS’ Venues. Kevin is the new gallery liaison, with whom Deni Marrone is working to put up a new show in November (regular rotation time). A RECEPTION will be planned for the week of our November meeting. Yay!

If you are currently in the Livery and want to remain, contact Deni and plan on putting in new work for November.

This is the time for other AWS artists to jump in, too!! CALL Deni ASAP (408) 202-3875 if interested in this opportunity. There are places for smaller and especially larger pieces in the Livery. Remember to check the venue FIRST before signing up with Deni.

AWS BOARD MINUTES

AUGUST 20, 2026



Meeting Called to order 10:30 AM by President Linda L. Reid.

Board Members Present: Linda L. Reid, Judy Boles, Gail Mardfin (via Facetime), Allene Donato, Merrie Krisl, Carol Mills, Judy Pagnusat, Fran Nielsen, Sarah Hegarty, Susan Nestor, Christine Paschal, Lorraine Stribling, and Karin Lease

Board Members Absent: Deni Marrone, Judy McFarland

- **Publicity:** Linda Reid announced that Pam Nachtigall has resigned from the Board. Thank you, Pam, for your work on behalf of AWS. The Board welcomed Karin Lease to the Board as the new Publicity Chair.

- **Apple Blossom Show:** Linda Reid announced that the ABS 2027 would be held in the SebArts Auditorium, where it has been held for many years. Fundraising for a possible alternative venue has been put on hold. The Board is looking for a volunteer to assist Lorraine Stribling with ABS labels and applications. Linda will ask for volunteers at the general meeting. **[UPDATE: Thank you to Enid Barnes & Diana Jones for volunteering to work with Lorraine, learning the ABS application & label job!]**

Allene Donato announced that this will be her last Board meeting, but she will continue to help Christine Paschal, who is replacing Allene as ABS Chair the 2027 show. A big thank you to Allene for the hard work and great job she did on the 2026 ABS.

- **June Picnic:** The Board agreed that the **June Picnic will be alternated each year between Riverfront Regional Park and Ragle Ranch Regional Park**, as the vote taken during the July general meeting was split between the two.
- **Featured Studio Artist:** Sarah Hegarty reported that a few members have shown interest in participating, but there has been no interest in leading or joining the organizing committee. She recommended the project be put on hold. The Board agreed.
- **Peacetown:** Linda Reid reported that Peacetown is going well. After the September AWS meeting, those who participated will meet at 3:00 at Ives Park to review this year and make recommendations for next year.
- **Gravenstein Fair:** Carol Mills reported that all went well at the fair, with all artists participating making sales. Merrie Krisl reported that AWS broke even on the event.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Merrie Krisl reported that we have \$5,907 in our general checking account, \$4,878 in the Mielke Awards checking account and \$215 in petty cash.
- **Finley Center Show:** Gail Mardfin will look into availability. **[UPDATE: Finley is booked through 2027, but we'll try for 2028; also the city of Santa Rosa now charges \$250 for such shows.]**
- **Membership:** Judy Pagnusat reported no change in membership with 9 persons on the waiting list.
- **Programs & Prompts:** Sarah Hegarty reported that the September demonstration will be by James Reynolds and will focus on Composition. This month's prompt is "Texture." The prompt for September is "Structure."
- **Communications:** Gail Mardfin will be updating the "AWS Member Info Sheet" before we have new members in the new year. She reminded everyone that the AWS Newsletter is meant for fine arts related or member information only and that only information relating to the current month will be published due to space constraints.

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AUGUST BOARD MINUTES, CONTINUED

- **Correspondence:** Fran Nielsen sent out two cards this month.
- **Nominating Committee:** Linda L. Reid reported that most of our current officers will continue in 2027. There is an opening for an assistant for Lorraine Stribling. Also, there is an opening for Vice President. The Board is looking for someone to shadow Linda L. Reid this coming year with the intention of becoming President after Linda.

Gail Mardfin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Judy Pagnusat seconded the motion. Motion carried. President Linda L. Reid adjourned the meeting at 11:12 AM.

Minutes submitted by Judy Boles, Recording Secretary



September 17 Refreshments

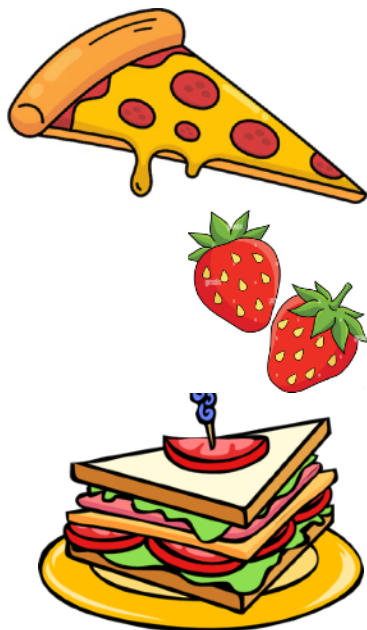
Please have your contribution (**enough to serve 12 people**) on the table so the potluck by 11:50.
Remember to record it at the Sign-in table!

FINGER FOODS/ ENTREES

Kathleen Andre
Jan Blake
Judy Boles
Becky Brendlin
Bob Cheal
Shirley Cheal
Cathy Collins
Deena Collins
Hale Darby
Linda Donahue
Judy Goldberg
Elizabeth Gomes
Stanton Healy
Pamela Heck
Monica Holliday
Bev Kjeldsen
Dena Lash
Barb Lawson
Lonna Necker
Fran Nielsen
Judy Pagnusat
Sally Privette
Gail Radice
Katie Sanderson
Niki Skelton
Marilyn Sommer
Kathy Strachan
Linda Weber
Jennifer Weiss
Phil Wilkinson
Cheryl Woods

DESSERTS/ FRUITS

Robin Allison
Kathy Byrne
Connie Cook
Marilyn Dizzies
Katha Engblom
Chris Field
Hedda Gold
Lorna Ho
Carol Mills
Christine Paschal
Honora Russell
Nancy Tulloh



SEBASTOPOL VENUES

September 17 - November 19

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.

Columbia Bank

CURRENTLY: Michele deLuca
SEPTEMBER 17: Brian Martens
NOVEMBER 19: **AVAILABLE**

Fandee's Restaurant

CURRENTLY: Marilyn Sommer
SEPTEMBER 17: Kathleen Andre & Kathy Byrne
NOVEMBER 19: Judy Boles & Cheryl Woods

HairMasters

CURRENTLY: Deni Marrone
SEPTEMBER 17: Deni Marrone
NOVEMBER 19: **AVAILABLE**

Hole in the Wall Restaurant

CURRENTLY: Pamela Heck
SEPTEMBER 17: Lorna Ho
NOVEMBER 19: Joy Dellas & Barbara Goodman

Sonoma Chocolatiers & Tea House

CURRENTLY: Susan Barri
SEPTEMBER 17: Cheryl Woods
NOVEMBER 19: Deni Marrone

Specialty Center

CURRENTLY: Fran Nielsen
SEPTEMBER 17: Fran Nielsen
NOVEMBER 19: **AVAILABLE**

The Livery CoWork

Becky Brendlin, Marilyn Dizikes, Gail Mardfin,
Patricia Marina, Deni Marrone, Brian Martens, Sandi
Maurer, Gail Radice, Marilyn Sommer

NOTE! Update on the Livery on page 2!!!
Call or text Deni Marrone at (408) 202-3875

PROGRAMS & PROMPTS CORNER from the Program Team

PROGRAMS & PROMPTS CORNER

AUGUST PROGRAM: We want to thank our August presenter, **Lynn Zachreson**, for her great in-depth demo of her watercolor technique and the colors she uses. Lynn is a very knowledgeable watercolor artist. She actually painted examples of how she uses her paint brushes and colors with water to obtain the look she wants in her paintings. Lynn mentioned how meditative painting is for her. I totally agree!! Happy Painting ~ *Susan Barri*

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM: AWS member, **James Reynolds**, who successfully works in many mediums, will engage the group in a conversation on the principals of Composition. He will bring his own paintings to open up analysis of what he meant to achieve and to what extent he was successful. We will explore the basic elements of design through the lens of his completed works, to consider what makes a good painting.

PROMPT: September is STRUCTURE. Structure can be many things in art; you can create an image of a structure, a building, a fence, a totem pole....Who knows. Or maybe build something that is structured like get sculptural with it. Or build up some structured paint on a canvas. How ever you express structure we want to see it. Or don't... bring whatever you are working on. This is just a suggestion if you have artist block. ~ *Sarah Hegarty*

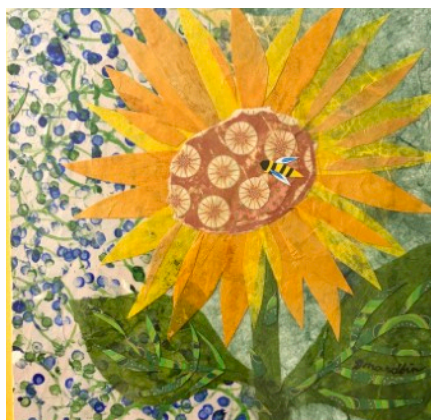
ART BY MEMBERS



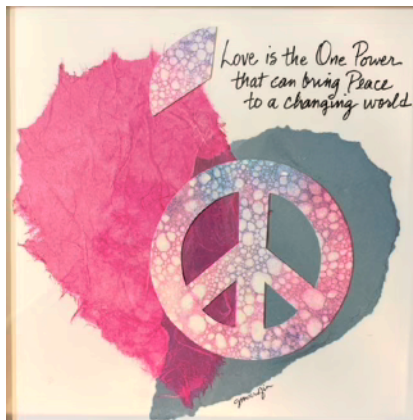
Carol Mills - LEFT: "Pinot" 13x10 watercolor *I've had this black wood frame I inherited from a friend for awhile. It had the cutout in the center so I was looking for something black-and-white to go with the frame. I painted an empty glass, and after I painted it, Gary said, "It needs to have wine in it!"*
RIGHT: "Hiding in the Grass" 14x11 watercolor



Diane Jones - "On My Way" 14x11 watercolor



Gail Mardfin - LEFT: "Bee My Sunshine" 8x8 collage
RIGHT: "Love & Peace" 8x8 collage with watercolored pieces



Nancy Tulloh -
"Copper Black and White" 30x24 acrylic

AWS Artists Are Exhibiting!



**SANTA ROSA
OPEN STUDIOS**

FREE STUDIO TOUR!
OVER 45 AMAZING SANTA
ROSA ARTISTS!

BE A PART OF YOUR
LOCAL ARTS COMMUNITY
& SUPPORT ARTISTS DIRECTLY!

September 12th-13th & 19th-20th
10am-4pm

Riley Street
SANTA ROSA JUDAN ARTS PARTNERSHIP
www.sropenstudios.com

Don't miss the 3rd annual
Santa Rosa Open Studios —
two weekends in September

9/12-13 & 9/19-20 •
10am-4pm

Click to

[DOWNLOAD THE CATALOG](#)
with all the artists & a map.

AWS members participating
are Enid Barnes (#3), Alexis
Wilson, Lorna Ho, Michele
deLuca (#7-Fulton Crossing),
Caterina Martinico (#8), Joy
Dellas (#11), Joyce Terres &
Robin Allison (#14), and Katha
Engblom (\$15).

Salmon Creek Art Walk



September 5, 6 & 7

10:00AM - 4:00PM

FINE ARTS & CRAFTS

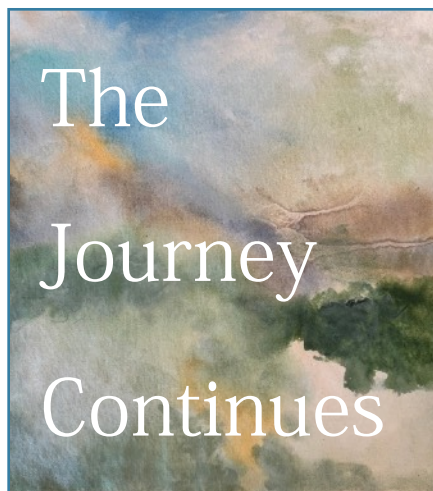
1 MILE NORTH OF BODEGA BAY

www.salmoncreekartwalk.com

CHRISTINE PASCHAL

will be a guest artist.

2915 Alleen Ave, Bodega Bay
In the Salmon Creek neighborhood.



**The Healdsburg Festival of
the Arts is September 26,
10am-6pm**, spreading out
from the center plaza.

ELIZABETH SPRINGS
will be in Booth 28.

Stop by and see her new
work, large and small - along
with 38 other artists
showcasing their work.



25 artists Reception
November 7
4 to 6 pm

**Mark
Making**

Finley
Community Center
2060 West College
Santa Rosa

supported in part by
Riley Street
art supply

9.4.26 to
11.15.26

There's a new show in the Finley
Center curated by AWS members
Joy Dellas and **Barbara Goodman**.

It features work by 25 artists, and 11
of them are AWS members!

Check out the show now, and/or put
the Reception on your calendar:
Saturday, November 7, 4-6pm.



GERALD HUTH

will have one of his large
paintings

("Sidewinder" shown here)
in the exhibit "Makin Marks"

at **The Gallery,**
Belvedere Tiburon Library

1501 Tiburon Blvd
Belvedere Tiburon, CA

The opening is
September 17 from 6 to 8.

AUGUST ART SHARE

Photos by Elizabeth Springs • Captions by Allyson Dobbert



Barb Lawson's *plein air* painting from Goat Rock beach focused on the stick sculpture. She added some darker areas, something she's trying to do more of.



Working with the **Texture** prompt, **Christine Paschal** created this wall piece, a picture of the Redwoods, out of polymer clay.



Gerald Huth shared this piece about Jazz, including papers from Japan, as a part of his music and collage series.



Brian Martens showed an acrylic intuitive painting. "Not finished yet, but it's on its way."



Usually a watercolorist, **Charito Shetty** painted this in acrylic paint on a slate for the Luther Burbank Home & Gardens.



Working mainly in watercolor, **Judy Pagnusat** painted a picture she took of Pajaro Dunes.



Using watercolor and ink, **Deena Collins** created her mandala with delightful butterflies.



Elisabeth Van Nuys made two of these prize-winning paintings. She sold the other but said no to selling this one - the only painting she's been called to keep for herself.



Susan Nestor took an online class with Danny Gregory using tempera paint sticks, which look like markers and work like crayons. Fun!



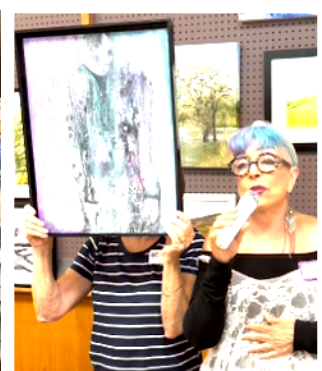
During the pandemic, **Bev Kjeldsen** would paint paintings and put them on her fence. In recent travels with Lonna she painted this French Alps picture. "I love it and need to find a place inside for it."



Marilyn Dizikes included an abstract on paper she created a while ago that was recently returned, and other loose figures, to create this piece in Gerald Huth's collage workshop.



Maureen Pennal's simple abstract was inspired by the ocean, waves, and whales.



Playing around with some acrylic pours, **Michelle DeLuca** saw figures and is excited for this new path of creation.

AUGUST ART SHARE, continued



Monica Holliday's intention was to do something that you can see from across the room. It works!



"Stink," **Sarah Hegarty's** rose by any other name would still smell as sweet.



In keeping with the season, **Pamela Nachtigall** brought her "Apple Pie Time!" done with oil.



Judy Leandro entered baskets she made in a basket weaving class with Sally Privette, into the Sonoma County Fair.



Judy Boles-
"Tlaquepaque Sedona" 11x16 ink



Shirley Pollard Cheal - "Joy"
11x14 mixed media collage



Niki Skelton - "Brush Creek Trellis" 14x11' watercolor
Every leaf on this huge vine is its own watercolor, and currently they're all fading to pale yellow.



Robin Allison - "Please Don't Touch" 10x8 watercolor
In a vintage frame that complements the texture of the turtle's skin.



Elizabeth Gomes -
"Let It Be" 21x21 pastel



Bob Cheal -
"Green Tree" 9x9 watercolor



AUGUST ART DEMO: Lynn Zachreson, Watercolor

by Judy Boles • Photos by Linda Loveland Reid

Lynn Zachreson

demonstrated some of the basics of watercolor painting and showed us the techniques she has developed that give her paintings such luminosity and depth. She showed

us how water, brush, pigment and paper all interact to give expected (and sometimes unexpected) results, which makes watercolor painting so exciting.

We are grateful to **Sarah Hegarty** for figuring out how to use her cell phone as an overhead projector. While Lynn was working on a flat surface, the audience was able to view the demonstration on the wall screen.

Lynn works with an “open palette,” meaning all paint colors are on one tray without any divisions. She works with a warm and cool hue of each primary color: Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Red, Pthalo Blue, Cerulean Blue, Lemon Yellow and Cadmium Yellow. She also adds Permanent Rose and Naples Yellow. Her palette is a butcher’s tray, which has a rim around the edge to contain the liquids. The tray is raised slightly in the center which allows the fluid pigment to flow to the edges of the tray and mix, creating new and beautiful hues.

Lynn uses round brushes, from giant to a small size 6. It is important that the brush be able to carry enough water for washes and also be able to come to a point for drawing. She prefers 140 lb. cold press paper. When the paper gets wet, it buckles a bit, developing troughs that cause the paint to “bloom” on the surface. Some artists don’t like this process, but Lynn likes the way it creates a light and atmospheric look.

Lynn’s demonstration focused on how to make three types of washes: **wet wash**, **gradual wash** and **flat wash**. Using these three washes in layers adds depth to a painting.

Picking up a dried wet wash that she had done the day before, Lynn went on to the next layer which was a **gradual wash**. She used this wash to articulate the petals in the flower. She made a gray shadow color that was inky in thickness. With the tip of her brush, she drew a line between two petals. After deciding which petal was on top and which was underneath, she created a shadow on the bottom petal by using clear water to pull the gray and make a gradual wash on the bottom petal, softening and lightening the gray until it disappeared. She was careful to keep a hard edge next to the top petal. She used a gradual wash to block in the leaf, leaving the vein white. With a

brownish green, she drew a line on each side of the vein and feathered it into the leaf on both sides. She set this aside to dry.

Picking up another painting she had done the day before, Lynn demonstrated a **flat wash** for the background. She mixed large enough puddle on her palette to cover the entire background area. Mixing enough is important because it is difficult to mix the same color if you run out. Lynn filled her brush and, holding it at a 45 degree angle to the paper, began to fill the background with a flat, even wash. She was careful not go back into an area already painted and careful to connect only with areas that were still wet to avoid any hard lines. This meant she had to work pretty quickly! She then set this aside to dry.

With fresh paper, Lynn demonstrated how to use a flat wash to create form. She made a flat wash on the paper in the shape of a tomatillo. She then lifted color in one area to add a highlight. Using a gradual wash, she then added a darker color to the shadow side.



Sarah Hegarty (Program Team) figured out how to project Lynn’s demo so that everyone could see what was happening on a big screen - a real boon for viewing watercolors painting on a flat surface.

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LYNN ZACHRESON, CONTINUED



Lynn then demonstrated another flower, following the same methods outlined previously.

Lynn's tips:

- 1) When washing over a dry wash, don't rub the paper. Be gentle so you don't pull up the wash below.
- 2) Have several pieces going at the same time to allow drying between washes.

- 3) Drying between layers is essential. Don't use a hair dryer, as it causes the pigment to flow in unexpected ways and can also affect color. Air drying is best. A fan can be used to speed the drying time a little, but don't use heat.
- 4) A wash is dry when it feels like the same temperature as the blank paper.
- 5) To get a highly saturated white, leave the paper blank when doing the initial wash. This looks more natural than using masking fluid.
- 6) Be inspired by the painting instead of trying to paint a portrait. If a petal looks like it's turned over, go with it and accentuate it.
- 7) If color is too saturated or you want to highlight, use a rag to pull up some of the pigment. Just push down and pull up, no rubbing.
- 8) Watercolor dries lighter than when first laid down wet.

Thank you, Lynn, for an inspiring and informative demonstration, and for sharing your beautiful paintings with us.

Visit lynnzachresonart.com to learn more about Lynn's work and classes.



Four more pairs of AWS artists added their art sparkle to the Peacetown scene in August, with two more Peacetowns to go!

SEPT 2 - Barbara Lawson & Aimee Tomczak
SEPT 9 - Cindy Gillespie & Sarah Hegarty

The FREE concerts in Ives Park all feature rockin' bands* and food trucks, from 5-8pm.

More info here: peacetown.org

END OF SEASON MEETING FOR ALL PEACETOWN ARTISTS

with Jim Corbett

SEPTEMBER 17 - 3PM
(after our AWS meeting)

Meet at the picnic table
by the stage in Ives Park.



Friends Sally Privette & Judy Leandro shared the tent.



Jennifer Weiss & Pamela Heck had a successful sales event.



Lorna Ho & Elizabeth Springs prepared for the sun and the wind.



Pamela Nachtigall & Judy Pagnusat were the last Peacetown artists in August.

Gravenstein Apple Fair

“Art Fest in the Dust Bowl”

by Gail Mardfin

Do you remember the hot weekend of August 8th and 9th? Five AWS artists certainly do, for they spent it in Ragle Ranch Park, showing and selling their art work at the 53rd annual Gravenstein Apple Fair.

Carol Mills arranged our presence there, as she has for many years, and her watercolors of grinning farm animals were a major attraction to our tent. **Chris Paschal** was our wonderful cashier, who sold meticulously-painted sand dollars and other carefully sculpted creations. The rest of us were newcomers to the event: **Lynda Zimmerman**, **Sarah Hegarty**, and yours truly, **Gail Mardfin**.

Lynda’s framed photographs and cards, taken around the world, were displayed and sold next to **Elizabeth Gomes’** pastels and prints, which Lynda promoted, as Elizabeth was not able to be there after she had committed. *(See box on next page.)*

Sarah sold two of her black-and-brightly-colored paintings, along with many cards. Gail, who was stationed in the direct sunshine under a wide-brimmed hat, sold a lot of reproductions of her paintings, cards, and some unframed watercolors.

Yes, there is a big “schlep factor,” having to set up on Friday for the Saturday-Sunday event, and yes, it is two long days in the heat.

And have I mentioned the DUST? The park floor is trampled by 14,000 fair visitors and the fine dust is EVERYwhere, but a FEATHER DUSTER became an artist’s best friend, helping to keep our displays looking fresh.

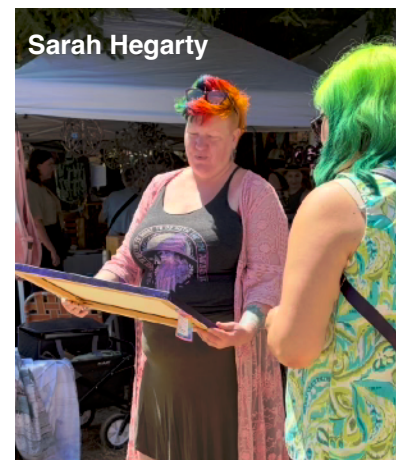
It was also fun to welcome other AWS members who were attending or volunteering in other parts of the Fair. Thanks for stopping by, **Patricia Marina**, **Elizabeth Springs**, **Susan Nestor**, **Cheryl Woods**, **Honora Russell**, and **Connie Cook**!



Hoisting the AWS banner on Friday



Christine Paschal



Sarah Hegarty



Carol Mills



Gail Mardfin



Lynda
Zimmerman

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GRAVENSTEIN FAIR, *continued*

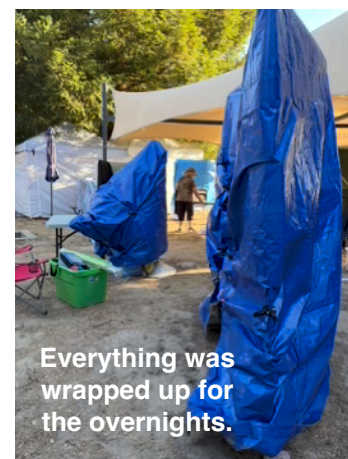
Special thanks to our AWS banner hangers, **Gary Mills** and **Steve Gomes**, and to **Carol Mills**, who spent days afterwards tracking down the misplaced AWS banners and A-frame sign.

Thanks also to AWS Treasurer **Merrie Krisl**, who parsed out the monies – 10% to Farm Trails (the fair's sponsor), 10% to AWS coffers, and each of the participants paid \$50 for their spot. All in all, we broke even for AWS, and the six artists made money, from \$300 to \$1700!

Think about whether you'd like to be a Gravenstein Fair artist NEXT year!

As Lynda Zimmerman, a newbie to the group, said, "It was fun working next to each other and getting to know each a little bit more."

Space is extremely limited, so if more AWS artists want to participate than can reasonably fit, there will be a random drawing to determine the 2027 participants.



Everything was wrapped up for the overnights.



It was dusty AND it was fun!

A shared experience, for sure!

Art-trovert
[noun]
Person who prefers
spending weekends
with paints and paper
rather than people

KRISTINE ART

Elizabeth Gomes' painting, "Cracks in My Heart," was selected for the "99 Voices" show of the Pastel Society of the West Coast. Elizabeth flew down to attend the opening reception in Torrance, California, which fell on the same weekend as the Gravenstein Apple Fair.



Elizabeth writes, "It is part of a series I call 'Stories in Wood'. Inspired by the unique beauty in the posts along a hiking trail, each has told in its own way a story of strength, resilience, and emerging beauty with change. I'm so very honored to have this work selected for this prestigious show!"

SONOMA COUNTY FAIR WINNERS!

As usual, AWS artists garnered a number of ribbons at the county fair in August! Thanks to everyone who sent in their info, and CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!



FIRST ROW: **Lorna Ho** won Best of Division & 1st place, Professional division, for Mixed Media piece.

SECOND ROW: **Charito Shetty** got a pleasant surprise on her first Fair participation, winning awards on the two Watercolors she submitted. "Whispers of Sonoma Coast" won 1st place & Best in Division. "The Crowing King" took a 3rd.

THIRD ROW: **Judy Boles** won 4 ribbons! "Sunflowers" took 2nd in Oil/Still Life; "Antherium" took 1st in Oil/Landscape; "Old Oak Vineyard" took 2nd in Oil/Landscape; "Ragle Ranch Park" took 3rd in Drawing.

BOTTOM ROW: **Pamela Heck** entered three paintings and all won awards. In the Professional division - Acrylic/Portraits, she received 1st place for "Modern Classic" and 2nd for "Mother Goose." "Eye On You" received a 2nd place ribbon for Acrylic/Animals.

BOTTOM ROW, RIGHT: **Patti Feikert's** "Summer Friends" won 1st place for Advanced Amateur/Painting Acrylic/Still Life.

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LEFT: **Valerie Coppola Gardiner** took home two 2nd places and two 1st places plus Best in Division for her Pastels and Acrylics.

Sunflowers seem to be a good subject matter to go with!

RIGHT: And finally, **Melinda Hughes-Berland** took Best of Show for her horse photo. She also sold four large canvases!!



CERAMICS & SUCCULENTS GARDEN ARTS SALE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Proceeds benefit Sebastopol Center for the Arts and
UC Master Gardeners of Sonoma County

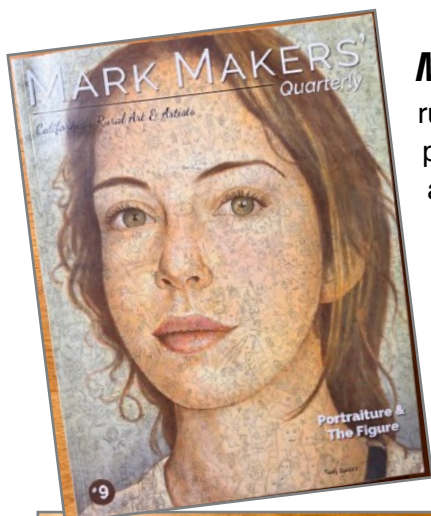
Sebastopol Center for the Arts
282 South High Street, Sebastopol
Cash or Check Only



Mark your calendars!

6 AWS members will be on the tour!

Alyson Dobbert • Chris Field • Susan Greer
Elizabeth Gomes • Gerald Huth • Teri Sloat



Mark Makers' Quarterly, the high-end magazine promoting California's rural artists, is published/edited/designed by Tempra Board. This issue is about portraiture & the figure (with a beautiful huge portrait by Tony Speirs on the cover) and features three AWS artists inside!

Go to MARKMAKERSQUARTERLY.COM to learn more about submissions. The next theme is SKETCHBOOKS, BOOK-MAKING, and PRINTMAKING with a **submission deadline of September 30.**



Gail Mardfin



Enid Barnes

Pamela Nachtigall



PATRICIA MARINA and 149 other artists are participating in this year's annual **Box Show at Gallery Route One (GRO) in Point Reyes Station.** Starting with the same simple pinewood box, the creative boxes are auctioned off to raise money to



Box art by
Patricia Marina

Fellowship for Young Artists (21-40), which provides exhibition opportunities for artists who are just emerging into their careers, and Artists in the Schools program, which places teaching artists from all over the region into rural classrooms. The show is up through September 26 and you can register and bid [HERE.](#)



CHRISTINE FIELD is one of the guest artists at the Graton Gallery through September 13. She reports, "The reception in August was so nice and well-attended. I got to talk with many people and it was a wonderful experience!"



It was *déjà vu* for Membership Chair/VP, Judy McFarland, who almost three years to the day in almost exactly the same place had another fall - occurring in Copenhagen while visiting her son and his family. ("Again not my fault, the stairway was not lighted well, and the stairs were old and worn, and I slipped on an edge that I didn't see, although maybe it really was my fault because I should not have been trying to go down a dark stairway anyway," muses Judy.)

As of this writing, Judy expects to get the OK to finish her vacation (in Greece!) and get back in time for the September AWS meeting. Take care, Judy!

CALLS FOR ENTRY

Santa Rosa Arts Center

Theme: Autumn Harvest

Exhibition dates: October 1 - November 28

- Submit work for entry in person on September 27, 11am to 3pm
- Up to 2 pieces may be submitted, 36" or less in any direction

More info: santarosaartscenter.org/current-shows/

Graton Gallery

Theme: "The Blues" - Juried show 2026

Exhibition dates: September 17 - October 25

- Drop off work to be juried September 10-13, 11am to 4pm
- Up to 2 pieces may be submitted, 36" or less in any direction
- **More info:** http://www.gratongallery.net/pdf/the_blues_2026_print.pdf

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“Autumn is a second spring
when every leaf is a flower.”

- Albert Camus

