

8214 Covert Lane • Sebastopol CA 95472



AWSOMEART.ORG • JANUARY, 2026

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15th

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

10:30 Board • 11:50 Potluck • 12:25 Meeting • 1:30-2:45 Art Demo (See box below)

January Prompt: THE 60s • February: ALIEN (See all 2026 Prompts on page 5)



JANUARY “OVERSTOCK” SALE!

NEW & USED ART SUPPLIES

Your chance to clear out your studio and closets of no-longer-used art supplies (any/all mediums), books, tools, easels, etc.

(Whatever doesn't get taken, you can take home or it will be donated to Sebastopol Center for the Arts.) Proceeds go to AWS.

Items will be priced affordably (\$1, \$2, \$5) with higher-value items bid in a silent auction.

INTAKE: 11:30-12:00

SHOPPING: 12:00-12:30 & 1:15-1:30

Payment by CASH or CHECK ONLY

JANUARY PRESENTATION:

Gail Mardfin

“THE BUSINESS OF ART”

Tips and topics covered will include Record Keeping, Presentation & Storage, Pricing, Copyright (yours and others), Printed materials, Websites, Social Media, Sales, Commissions, and Galleries.

Gail will provide an introduction to each topic with suggestions and/or places to research. It will be **informational for all**, whether you currently sell your work or are just thinking about it. This will be updated presentation of one she gave in 2023. ***Bring a pen to take notes on the handout!***

seethegood.net



FROM THE PRESIDENT LINDA L. REID

Whew! We made it through the holidays and now onto the New Year! Beginnings are exciting, whether it is a blank canvas that stares back at you, a blank page waiting for a poem, or tackling that new year resolution. "Yes, we can!!"

Here are a couple of idioms to get you started.

***"Let the past be your teacher,
and the future be
your canvas."***

***"Choose progress over perfection
and
joy over fear."***

Kim Winter and I worked on this painting > from February to November! Yes, there was fear! And frustration. Yes, we overcame.



***Let's do a "group-AWS-resolution" to know every member
by sight and name. To greet with smiles and hugs.
We already do a good job with this...AND, we can do even more!***

I'm grateful for all of you and the volunteers that make AWS a success.

The new Board takes the helm in January and I'm so looking forward to another great year. I'm preparing a handout for the January meeting with all the volunteers and their positions.

May all your resolutions survive!

Linda L Reid, President
"You are what you ART."



SEBASTOPOL VENUES

November 20 - January 15

Coffee & Moore

CURRENTLY: Kathy Byrne
JANUARY 15: Pamela Heck

Fandee's Restaurant

CURRENTLY: Rhonda Mertle & Carol Mills
JANUARY 15: Fran Nielsen

Hair Masters

CURRENTLY: Brian Martens
JANUARY 15: **AVAILABLE**

Hole in the Wall Restaurant

CURRENTLY: Carolyn Jarvis
JANUARY 15: Carol Mills

Sonoma Chocolatiers & Tea House

CURRENTLY: Deni Marrone
JANUARY 15: Enid Barnes

Specialty Center

CURRENTLY: Judy Boles & Cheryl Woods
JANUARY 15: Gail Mardfin

Columbia Bank (formerly Umpqua)

CURRENTLY: Gerald Huth
JANUARY 15: Kathy Byrne

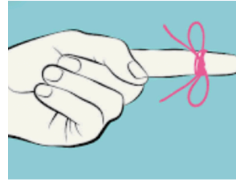
*Be sure to contact Deni Marrone if interested
in showing at any of the Venues*

Venues Coordinator Deni Marrone:

call or text (408) 202-3875

denijomarrone@gmail.com

A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM YOUR HOSPITALITY TEAM:



When you bring food to the potluck, please **PUT YOUR NAME** on **ALL SERVING TRAYS, CONTAINERS & UTENSILS.**
>> Please remember to pick up your items and take your leftovers home. <<

January 15 Refreshments

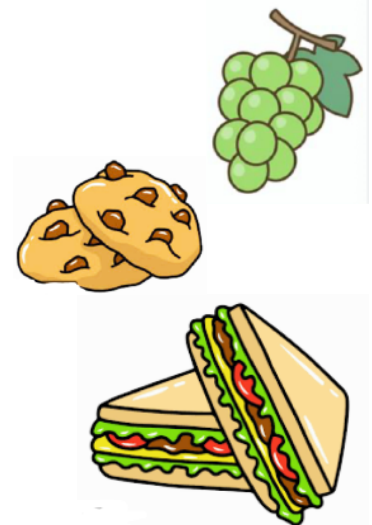
Please have your contribution (enough to serve 12 people) on the table so the potluck can start promptly at 11:50.

SANDWICHES/ FINGER FOOD

Kathleen Andre
Enid Barnes
Susan Barri
Joan Blumenberg
Judy Boles
Susan Bradford
Jackie Braun
Cathy Collins
Hale Darby
Michele deLuca
Linda Donahue
Mel Goldberg
Elizabeth Gomes
Barbara Goodman
Barbara Lawson
Patricia Marina
Brian Martens
Gail Mardfin
Sally Privette
Niki Skelton
Marilyn Sommer
Elizabeth Springs
Joyce Terres
Nancy Tulloh
Patty Westman
Phil Wilkinson

DESSERT/FRUIT

Judith Belfiori
Lori Christani
Katha Engblom
Chris Field
Patti Fiekert
Sue Greer
Pamela Heck
Merrie Krisl
Judy McFarland
Fran Nielsen
Judy Pagnusat
Genie Rhodes
Judith Tischler



Livery Reception & News

THANKS TO DENI MARRONE, our exhibits at the Livery will continue, beginning again in January for 2- and 4-month rotations.

JANUARY, through MARCH or MAY:

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

Save the Date!

ARTISTS' RECEPTION @ THE LIVERY

Friday, February 20 • 5-7pm

VENUE SALES

Congratulations to **Deni Marrone**, who sold a painting from Sonoma Chocolatiers!

OUTGOING VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT • LONNA NECKER

Greetings,

Thank you to all who brought the most amazingly beautiful and delightful little paintings for our December Winter Festival gift exchange. Our celebration was an absolute delight in every way.

Our **January Demonstrator** will be our own **Gail Mardfin**, who will give us tips on "The Business of Art." In 90 minutes, she will do her best to address record keeping, pricing, copyright, printed materials, websites, social media, and galleries! She did a similar presentation in 2023 that was highly praised and extremely useful.

I would like to thank all of you who have been incredibly helpful in suggesting a wide variety of demonstrators, including offering to do demonstrations of your own art skills. That made my job stunningly easy.

I'd also like to thank you for your varied and brilliant prompt suggestions. And to all those who painted the slates for the Luther Burbank Home & Gardens fundraising events, thank you for offering your lauded skills to help keep the home and gardens a delight to visit. Please see the letter from LBH&G to you all...

The New Year brings you a committee of members who will select demonstrators and prompts and report out on them. They are **Sarah Hegarty**, **Nancy Sanchietti**, and **Susan Barri**. They bring a variety of expertise and I know their knowledge and skills will be a great asset to us all. *Learn more on the next page!*

Judy McFarland will be our new Vice President beginning in January.

Thank you all for your support and assistance in the four years I was your VP,

Lonna



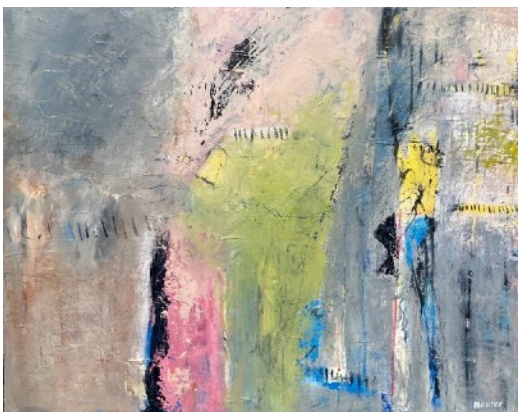
Luther Burbank
Home & Gardens

A Living Link to Santa Rosa's Past

On behalf of LBH&G, [we] would like to thank you for your generous donation of the varied and delightful art paintings on the old slates from the Burbank House. The slates have been remarkably well received by our staff and the public.

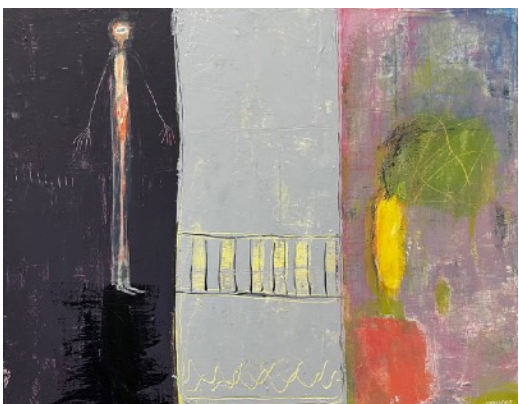
Your gift will help support our ongoing work to preserve the home and gardens and to share the living legacy of Luther Burbank's life, ideals and contributions to the field of horticulture.

Because of the generosity of people like you visitors from around the world will continue to enjoy this Registered National Historic Landmark in our city's center.



Art by Sandi Maurer,
large and small -

AT LEFT
"Adventuring"
and
"Passage"
both
24x30 acrylics
BELOW
"Ms. Happy & Mr. Bun"
stoneware



Sally Privette -
"Spread Light"
2" basket



Your New PROGRAMMING TEAM...

It's a new year and a new way of handling all the jobs our former VP, **Lonna Necker**,* has been doing for the past four years!

Planning for the monthly programs will now be handled by the new **PROGRAMMING TEAM: Sarah Hegarty, Nancy Sanchietti, and Susan Barri.**

Sarah will attend Board meetings and cover the Prompts. Nancy Sanchietti & Susan Barri will plan and schedule visiting artists and demonstrators throughout the year.. **If you have suggestions for demo artists or topics, they welcome your ideas:**

nanandlou@gmail.com
susanbarri45@gmail.com
artbysarahhegarty@gmail.com

* Serving as official AWS Vice President in 2026 will be Judy McFarland.



Outgoing Lonna Necker
& incoming Sarah Hegarty

>> Please note that the **PROMPTS** are **OPTIONAL**, and offered to give you inspiration when you have no idea of what to do next!
Have fun trying something NEW!



The Apple Blossom Show is coming up...and the theme is *"Peace, Love and Blossoms"* . . .

January Prompt: " THE 60s "

Let's get retro! Be inspired by the epicness of the 60s! What comes to mind for you when you hear "the 60s"? The hippies? The civil rights movement? A special memory bathed in avocado green and marigold shag carpet? Maybe a personal reflection on being in your 60s?

2026 PROMPTS

JANUARY - **The 60s**

FEBRUARY - **Alien**

MARCH - **Hope**

APRIL - **Culture**

MAY - **Negative Space**

JUNE Picnic

JULY - **Natural**

AUGUST - **Texture**

SEPTEMBER - **Structure**

OCTOBER - **Okay...but make it Weird**

NOVEMBER - **Reflections**

DECEMBER Party - **Mini Masterpiece**

December Holiday Party!! IT WAS FUN!

Kim Winter sets up the display of minis for all to admire...



Silly holiday headwear abounded, like this one on Brian Kellogg.

Christine Paschal scopes out entries to the mini-masterpiece drawing.



Twelve round tables were packed into the room to seat the nearly 70 holiday revelers. It was a great time to feast and relax with AWS friends, new and old.



A Special Thank You to Gail



Gail Mardfin was duly surprised when called to the podium during the party by President Linda Reid and past President Judy

Goldberg. Along with a written letter from past President Carol Mills, read by Linda, the three leaders, whom Gail has worked side by side with since 2018, honored her for her efforts with AWS. With heartfelt emotion and teasing jabs about her late-night hours, they thanked her for all the behind-the-scenes thinking she does about AWS, keeping everyone in line and on their toes. She was then presented with a houseplant (that happily does not require much tending) as a thank you gift.

Gail thanked the group, recalling when she was 11, she had been called "bossy" by someone, and that AWS was probably now benefitting from that. ;-)

At the request of Prez Linda, Michele deLuca (a "devout atheist") brought the gathering to a close by leading everyone in an *a cappella* rendition of "Silent Night." Peace to all in 2026!



The drawing for the SEASONAL MINI-MASTERPIECES was a lot of fun, with 36 AWS members participating in the exchange. What a variety of entries! The first to draw a number was SUSAN NESTOR, which led to a festive little cow painting by CAROL MILLS. Carol had come in early to set up the decorations but headed home with a bad cough, so standing in for Carol was PAT MITCHELL, a guest of MELINDA HUGHES, seated nearby.



Winter berries by **Linda Reid**



"Carol" won a dove by **Robin Allison**



"Big Foot at the Beach" by **Sarah Hegarty**



A lovely pastel by **Caroline Ellis**



Angel ornament by **Sandi Maurer**



Winter birdies by **Genie Rhodes**



A forest fir by **Nancy Tulloch**



Some mini mistletoe by **Christine Paschal**



A woodsy little watercolor by **Gail Mardfin**



A pretty acrylic pour by **Deni Marrone**



Art with words (& cheese!) by **Kim Winter**



Sally Privette made a little basket, of course!



A star-studded "Merman"
by **Pamela Heck**



Mixed media road to the light
by **Joy Dellas**



A mini abstract by
Allene Donato



Colorful stained glass by
Jennifer Weiss



Mixed media ornaments
by **Judy Leandro**



Glitzy penguins by **Linda Dove-Pierson**



Christmas cactus watercolor
by **Judy Pagnusat**



A blue ornament on a tree
round by **Pam Nachtigall**



Pine trees in the snow by
Julia Hansen



Mixed media winter landscape
by **Patricia Marina**



A seasonal print by
Marilyn Dizikes



Father Christmas pastel
by **Marcella Ford**



Christmas greetings from
Hale Darby



A little winter angel by **Fran Nielsen**



An adorable pinecone critter
by **Niki Skelton**



A "splash" of red by **Diana Jones**



Sweet Christmas kitty
by **Barbara Evans**



Lovely calla lily watercolor
by **Lin Dahl**



Mixed media koi creation
by **Linda Donahue**



A little snowbird by **Susan Nestor**



Classes • Openings • Calls for Entry



**National
Arts
Program**

**23rd Annual National Arts
Program Exhibit at
Finley Community Center
Entry deadline 1/15/26**

Must be a resident of Santa Rosa
Exhibit dates: February 9 - April 24, 2026
For more information & to submit entry: [https://
nationalartsprogram.org/venues/santarosa](https://nationalartsprogram.org/venues/santarosa)

Gerald Huth Collage Workshops

**Available workshops on two Saturdays,
Feb. 7 and March 7, from 10 to 4.**

\$85 includes ALL the materials, including many new papers from Gerald's recent trip to Japan, and a very large selection of beautiful art papers from India, Nepal, Cambodia, etc.

Just bring your lunch and your creativity. Send an email to jazzyfile@gmail.com for payment info.



**SANTA ROSA
JUNIOR COLLEGE**



THREE FREE CLASSES

taught by Amanda Rose Hopkins



Mixed Media Painting

Tuesdays, 9:30 to 12:30
January 13 through May 19
Rohnert Park Senior Center



Painting and Drawing Inspired by the Impressionists

Friday 12:45 to 3:45
January 16 through May 22
Roseland Campus:



Drawing and Composition

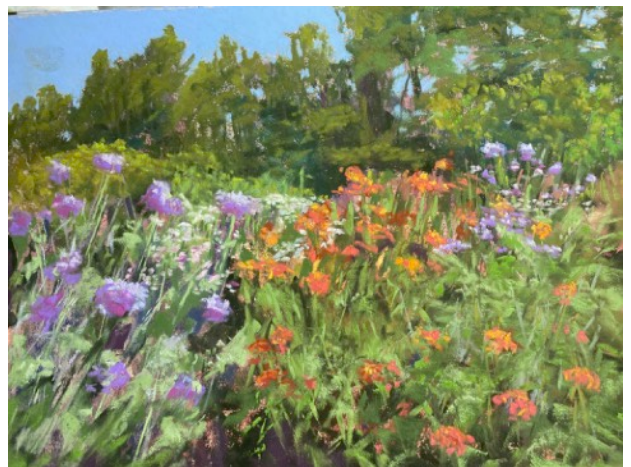
Fridays 9:30 to 12:30
January 16 through May 22
Roseland Campus (see above)

SRJC offers noncredit courses for seniors as part of its goal to provide lifelong learning. For information on joining a class, visit: <https://lifelong.santarosa.edu>

Students may register any time during the semester. Just show up to the class & teacher will enroll you.

CALLS FOR ENTRY / SRAC

The **Santa Rosa Arts Center** is a great organization to support and join, as many AWS members have. A hub in the SoFA art scene in Santa Rosa, it features bi-monthly, themed Small Works shows, as well as other larger, themed shows. You can always check the Calls for Entry at [https://santarosaartscenter.org/
current-shows/](https://santarosaartscenter.org/current-shows/)



Graton Gallery Show for Patty Westman

Patty Westman will be showing several of her most recent pastel paintings at the Graton Gallery, January 8 to February 15, 2026.

Many of the pieces she will show were done *en plein air*.

**Opening reception • Sunday, January 11
1:00 - 4:00 PM.**



Catherine Cruz Show Opening at Hotel E

27 Old Courthouse Sq
Santa Rosa

**Thursday, Jan 15th
5 - 7pm**

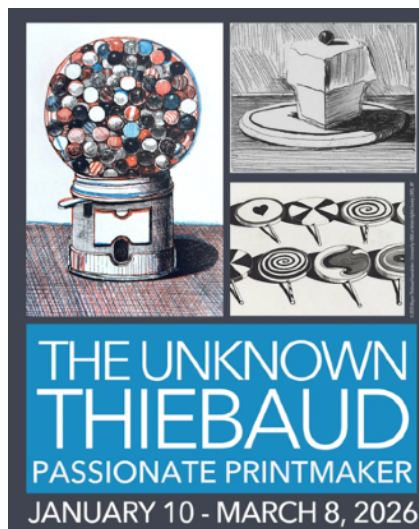
Hors d'oeuvres &
beverages



**ARTIST
ACCELERATOR
PROGRAM**
SPRING 2026

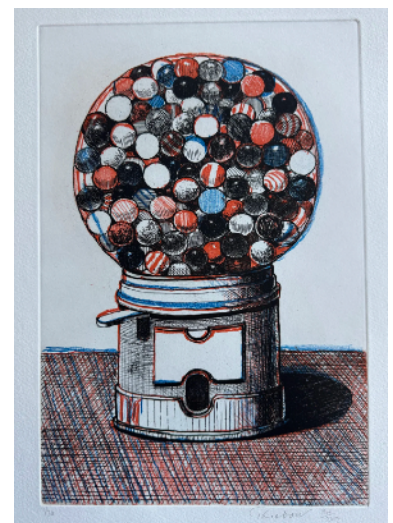
Also known as the
“incubator
program,” it is
designed to
empower and

support talented emerging artists on
their journey to establish themselves
as successful and sustainable artists
by providing professional
development. **DEADLINE TO APPLY
for the FREE April 1 - June 30
cohort is JANUARY 30!** Several AWS
members have participated, like
[CHRIS FIELD](#), who is happy to share
her experience! **[LEARN MORE.](#)**



**Everybody's Bay Area
favorite - but did you know
Thiebaud, the painter, also
loved printmaking!?**

This show is up January 10-
March 8. Admission is free for
SebArts members & on some
free public entrance days.
Lots of special programming,
too! **www.sebarts.org**

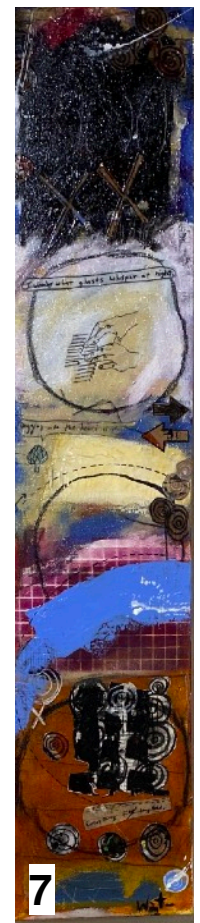
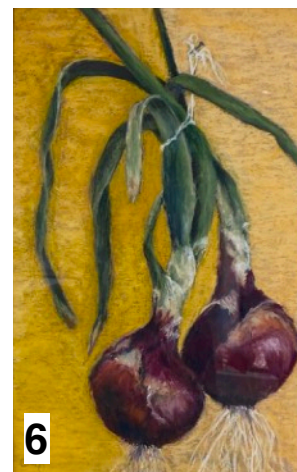
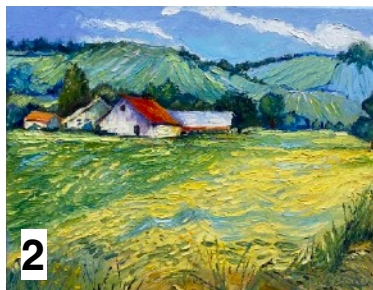


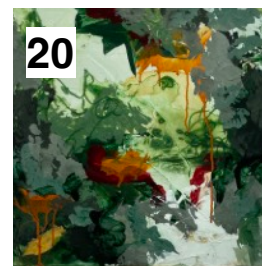
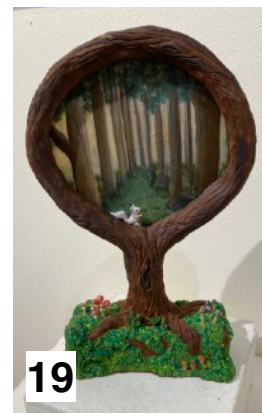
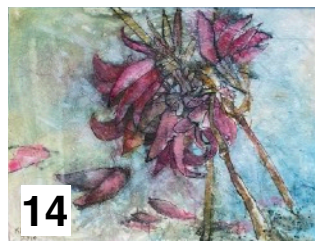
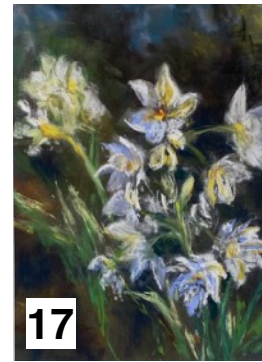
Our own **Linda L. Reid**
will present an informative
and entertaining slide
lecture, **Wayne
Thiebaud: The Whole
Story, on Thursday,
January 29.**
Get more info & tickets
[HERE.](#)
\$15 includes show entry.

The **SEBARTS MEMBER
SHOW** is wonderful! **Last times
to see it are THIS Friday-
Sunday, 10am-4pm (1/2-1/4).**

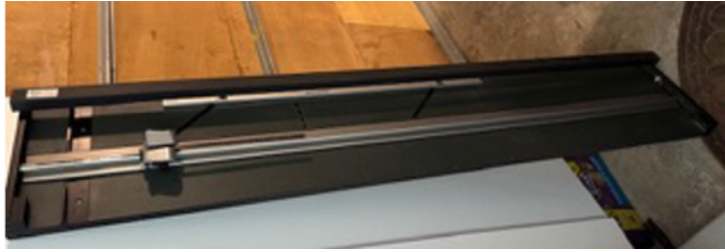
While there, be sure to go to the
**STOP Gallery & hallway -
Elizabeth Springs'** show is
fantabulous.

I counted more than 30 works
by AWS artists on the walls -
reproduced here *unless they
have appeared in prior
newsletters*. Names on next
page. Sorry, no room for titles,
sizes or medium! - GM, Editor





[1] Alyson Dobbert [2] Susan Barri [3] Nancy Tulloh [4] Susan Bradford [5] Michele M. deLuca [6] Caroline Ellis [7] Kim Winter. THIS PAGE: [8] Joyce Terres [9] Barbara Lawson [10] Fran Nielsen - **SOLD!** [11] James Reynolds [12] Gerald Huth [13] Brian Kellogg [14] Karin Lease [15] Katie Sanderson [16] Gary Wilson [17] Elizabeth Gomes [18] Lonna Necker [19] Christine Paschal [20] Elizabeth Springs [21] Sandi Maurer - **SOLD!** [22] Patricia Marina [23] Judy Grigg Goldberg [24] Marilyn Dizikes [25] Brian Martens. OTHER MEMBERS WITH WORK IN THE SHOW WHOSE PIECES HAVE APPEARED IN PRIOR NEWSLETTERS: Robin Allison, Christine Field, Carol Mills, Pamela Nachtigall, Linda Loveland Reid, and Jennifer Weiss.



FREE TO A GOOD HOME!

Professional 5-foot Logan mat cutter

Good working condition.

Contact Maioni Alvero m2alvero@yahoo.com
415-328-2497 directly. (She is a friend of a friend.)

Please wear your NAME BADGE!

YOU NEED A NAME BADGE??
THIS IS PATTY BIRD, THE
PERSON TO SEE!

\$12 Cash or Check to AWS

NEW MEMBERS:

Order your new or replacement
name badge from Patty Bird.

You can pay at the next meeting.

(707) 955-0550 • patty.bird@yahoo.com



NOTES FROM MEMBERS

Now that I've moved, I'm no longer a member, but I love following everyone's news and activities in the newsletter. **I am settled in a nice senior living place in Carmichael, CA, near to my daughter. Keep painting!**

- LINDA GRAINGER

In a previous newsletter, **Linda Reid** mentioned a **free class by Louise Fletcher**. I took the free class, then signed up for her online group "Art Tribe." Louise has scads of lectures about painting, process and includes introspective questions. This has really helped me.

- SANDI MAURER

2026 APPLE BLOSSOM SHOW

SAVE THE DATES!!

Thurs, April 23 - Intake

Fri, April 24 - Free Reception

Sat & Sun, April 25 & 26 - Art Show

AWS members who joined in 2025 and have met the requirements will be eligible to be in the show.

ALL are welcome to volunteer! Sign-up sheets will be available at the Feb. meeting.

RileyStreet

art supply

103 Maxwell Ct, Santa Rosa

(707) 526-6421

www.RileyStreet.com

Mon - Sat
9:30am -
5:30pm
Sun
11:00 - 4pm



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

GOOD NEWS!

Starting in January, the monthly raffle for a RileyStreet gift certificate will be for a **\$20 coupon** (not \$15)!

But price of raffle tickets stays the same!
\$1 each or 6 for \$5!
Be a winner!