



AWSOMEART.ORG • DECEMBER, 2022

AWS HOLIDAY PARTY! DECEMBER 15 • 12:00-2:30

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

Masks are not required in the SCA building now. Proceed with or without, at your own comfort level.

No board meeting or demo • JANUARY PROMPT: Excitement! Joy!

HOLIDAY PARTY CHECKLIST

- Your Nametag on your holiday apparel
- Your Dues
(\$40 check to "AWS" if not yet paid)
- Something for the Potluck Table*
- Miniature Masterpiece,
if you've created one, AND/OR...
- Cash for a Raffle Ticket to win a
Miniature Masterpiece (1= \$3 / 2 = \$5)
- A place setting (and bag to carry home the
dishes) if you would like to avoid disposables.

***Note: Although your attendance does count toward your 6-meeting requirement for the ABS, everyone is expected to bring a potluck item and it does not count toward the 3-refreshments requirement.**



Reception
December 16
6-8pm with live
Bluegrass Music!

Invite your friends
& see you there!

Redwood Cafe
presents

"ON THE WALL"

Featuring Nine AWS Artists

& Photographer Robert Caruso

Nov 16, 2022 - Feb 13, 2023

Susan Barri

Kathy Byrne

Linda Grainger

Rhonda K Johnston

Gail Mardfin

Linda Loveland Reid

Marilyn Sommer

Philip Wilkinson

Kim Winter

RECEPTION

Friday, December 16 • 6-8pm

Featuring

The Bloomfield Bluegrass Band

8240 Old Redwood Hwy, Cotati, California

707-795-7868 • RedwoodCafe.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Another year has come to an end - along with my tenure on the AWS board (9 years, 5 as president). I am so grateful to have worked with all the board members over the years that I have served with, especially those that have served with me while I was president. I feel a special bond with them! Some of those members are Bob Hart, Gary Caldwell, Nancy Sanchiotti, MK Fleming, Jerry Fabiano, James Reynolds, and Patricia Marina, along with my current board this year. Thank you to Lonna Necker, Patty Bird, Gail Mardfin, Fran Nielsen, Lorraine Stribling, Deni Marrone, Linda Reid, Merrie Krisl, April Lynch, Kathy Byrne, Kathleen Andre, Susan Barri and Beverly Bird.

With the help of all these people we were able to keep our club up and running during the pandemic (big thank you, Gail and Jerry!) and expand our membership. We were able to update our Constitution - twice! (thanks, Merrie, for the big one!) to reflect what it is we really do. We were able to expand our venues (thank you Deni) to a few new places and put on a one-time AWS Art show at the Finley Center and a Show/Sale at the County Harvest Fair. I hope we continue looking for new opportunities to expand AWS's presence in the art community and the public.

It was bittersweet having to finally let our longtime display panels go, but something needed to be done, and they went to good homes!

This is a special organization and I feel privileged to have been part of its leadership for these past years, and excited that we have energetic new



Carol Mills

members to keep us going strong! My best wishes go to Judy Goldberg as she steps into her role as our new president!

I am not going anywhere and I plan to be an active member and help out where I can. I will continue to do the necessary paperwork to apply for our \$1000 grant from the County each year to help with our one big expenditure, the Apple Blossom Art Show.

Remember your dues are due now, and we have extended the deadline to January 31st! And you can all mark April 27 to 30 on your calendars now for our 2023 Apple Blossom Art Show!

I'm looking forward to our holiday potluck party on December 15th, and being able to spend more time socializing with you all!!

Take care of yourselves and each other,
Love, Carol



No election denying here! At the November meeting, there was a unanimous vote to accept the nominating committee's slate of new officers for 2023, who will be sworn in in January.

Merry Christmas



AWS Board Minutes November 17, 2022

Members Present: Patty Bird, Judy Goldberg, Merrie Krisl, Deni Marrone, Gail Mardfin, Carol Mills, Lonna Necker, Fran Nielsen, Linda L. Reid, and Lorraine Stribling.

Meeting was called to order at 10:41 by President, Carol Mills.

President: Carol reorganized our cart at SCA and labelled as ours. She took the microphones home to replace batteries, etc. Although they worked at her house, they did not in our meeting room, so we have to pursue that problem. Our display panels will be moved to Petaluma and people who have said they wanted them will be able to pick them up on November 19. Carol noted that radio station KJZY was doing great free ads for our Finley show and we should add them to our publicity list. Gail suggested we also add the magazine *Sebastopol Living*. We are still waiting to hear from the county regarding our request for a grant for the Apple Blossom Show. Gail reported on the disposition of canvasses and paintings from the family of Linda Nease.

Carol is organizing the holiday party and the board discussed tableware. Noting that some people are concerned about using paper plates and plastic utensils, Patty moved and Gail seconded the motion that members can bring their own plates and tableware, if they wish. This passed. (Gail noted that this could apply to our regular meetings as well.) It's a potluck, so bring enough for 6-8 people. We won't be able to heat anything. Carol needs to know an approximate number of people coming, so will ask for a show of hands at the member meeting.

Gail will give a talk on the Business of Art at the January meeting. Let her know if you have any ideas. Members can also bring art supplies or equipment they no longer want to this meeting. It's a great way to clean out your art space and the club benefits from the sales.

Presenters: Discussed the history of payments. Linda moved and Patty seconded that we pay \$200 to non-members and \$150 to members. This passed. It was noted that while members receive less money, this reflects that we are an all-volunteer organization and everyone gives to the group. Non-member presenters are often coming from out of the area and incur travel expenses.

Lonna reported that Gail will talk about the business of art in January. In February, Clark Mitchell will give a pastel demo. March is tentatively an art critique. Jean Warren will do an abstract watercolor demo in April and in May, Susan Barri will demonstrate oil palette knife painting.

ABS: Linda reported that the Apple Blossom Fair will be April 29th and 30th. There is no theme yet. There are new people at the Chamber, but Linda Collins will continue to do the fair.

Treasurer: Patty noted the balance in our regular account is \$8050.51 (as of 10/31) and in the awards account \$6467.00. She said that there are several checks outstanding, including our payment to SCA of \$2948 for 11 months of room rent through 9/30/23.

Membership: Lorraine noted we have 85 members now, although she said 66 appear to be active. There was some confusion about dues and qualifying for the ABS. The board agreed to extend the dues deadline and other qualifications for the ABS through January, 2023. **[NOTE: During the membership meeting, it became apparent that there was even more confusion than we'd thought, so the deadline for meeting ALL requirements for the 2023 ABS has been extended to March 2023.]**

Corresponding Secretary: Fran will send cards to Linda Grainger and Georgia Simons.

Newsletter/Website: Gail said people have until December 31 to add or change photos on the website. Every member can have 3 pictures. Label pictures with your name, title, height x width, medium in a jpeg.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:52.

Merrie Krisl, Recording Secretary



HALLELUJAH!!

AWS PANELS GO TO GOOD HOMES!

With huge thanks to Deni's husband **TJ Marrone** and his flatbed truck, one sunny Saturday morning in November, the 41 pegboard panels "made by artists for artists" were loaded onto the truck from where they had been in storage in Freestone for several years and transported to an easier pick-up point in Petaluma.

We have heard our esteemed president Carol try to find takers for these panels for more than two years, but an email from SebARTs and postings on freecycle.org and craigslist.com finally led to five happy recipients. Mission accomplished!



PANEL PUSHERS Eduardo LaCalle (Trula & José's son), Deni Marrone, Gail Mardfin, Kim Winter, TJ Marrone, Gary Wilson and Carol Mills.



One taker was happy to get the bulk of them, to be used in two locations.



SEBASTOPOL VENUES Nov. 17, 2022 - Jan. 19, 2023

STOP IN & VISIT OUR VENUES!
Sign up with a friend for a future show?

Coffee & Moore

CURRENTLY: Gail Mardfin & Charito Shetty

NEXT: Carol Mills

Fandee's Restaurant

CURRENT: Rhonda Myrtle & Kim Winter

NEXT: Linda Grainger

Sonoma Burger

CURRENTLY: Deni Marrone

NEXT: Charito Shetty

Specialty Center

CURRENTLY: Carol Mills

NEXT: Phil Wilkinson

Umpqua Bank

CURRENTLY: Enid Barnes

NEXT: **AVAILABLE**

SIGN UP IN THE VENUE SIGN-UP BOOKS!

Or contact Deni Marrone (408) 202-3875



"Old-timer" **Gail Mardfin** and "newcomer" **Charito Sherry** are sharing the AWS walls in Coffee & Moore during this venue period. The artworks include many watercolors, some mixed media pieces, photographs with text, and giclées on canvas. Stop in and see the show - and imagine YOUR work on the walls in the future!

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our holiday season began with a demonstration from **Paul Kratter** (see Beverly's write-up on page 8). He painted a eucalyptus tree in his delightful style peppered with marvelous and enlightening tips. The lucky winner of his demonstration painting was Kathy Root.

The lineup for next year's demonstrator/presenter program will start with our own **Gail Mardfin** who will give us tips on "The Business of Art" in **January**. Topics covered will be Record Keeping, Pricing, Copyright, Printed materials, Websites, Social Media, and Galleries. She will provide an introduction to each with some suggestions and/or places to research, and then invite discussion. It will be informational for all, whether you currently sell your work or are even thinking about it.

The rest of the lineup for 2023:

February	Clark Mitchell , Pastel Artist
March	Art Critique (<i>just in time for advice on paintings you might want to enter in our Apple Blossom Show</i>)
April	Jean Warren , Abstract Watercolorist
May	Susan Barri , The Art of the Palette Knife
June	Our delightful picnic (no demo)

The Prompts (*suggestions for paintings you can bring to our meetings*) for 2023 are listed at right. Why not print it, clip it out, and save it on your studio bulletin board?

Remember that December will be our "Small Art" pieces with a winter/holiday theme. Bring paintings of whatever you think is festive, maximum size 5"x7" to fit on our miniature easels.

Take care,
Lonna

SAVE!

2023 PROMPTS

January

Excitement/Joy

February

With all my Heart

March

Triptychs, Triangles
& Triads

April

Trees

May

The Beach

June – No prompt, Picnic

July

Home Sweet Home

August

Hats

September

Modes of Transportation

October

Gourds and Pumpkins

November

A Generous Table

December

Holiday Joy miniatures





Bob Hart - "Autumn Still Life"
11x14 graphite pencil
Photographer Bob did this in Gail Mardfin's drawing class.



Charito Shetty - watercolors
"Maple Leaf on Water" 11x10
"Fall Leaf" 11x10

Gail Mardfin -
watercolor leaf
sketch, 5x3

Kathy Byrne -
"Fall Leaves" 10x8 watercolor
"Fall Leaves" 20x16 watercolor



Merrie Krisl - "Autumn Bright"
16x12 acrylic

Judy Grigg Goldberg -
"Look Up, Leaf Peepers"
9x12 watercolor



Paula Pearce -
"Leaves for the This Season"
11x14 watercolor

ABOVE RIGHT & RIGHT;
Carol Mills - watercolors
"Frosted Leaves" 11x15
"Changing Colors" 9x12



MORE AUTUMN LEAVES



With AWS based in Sonoma County, it is no surprise that several entries for November's prompt reflect the vineyards and grape harvest of the area.

How wonderful that similar subject matter can be handled in such a variety of ways!

Charito Shetty -
"Fall Harvest" 12x12 oil
"Ripening Grapes" 18x12 watercolor



Carolyn Jarvis -
CENTER COLUMN TOP:
"Autumn Vines" 9x12 oil
LEFT:
"Sonoma County Vineyard" 11x14 oil

Judy Boles -
"Late Summer Grapes" 12x12 oil
"Ripening Grapes" 14x11 oil



Deni Marrone -
FAR LEFT:
"Grape Expectations" 20x16 watercolor
LEFT:
"Berry Pickin' Time" 16x20 watercolor

SEBASTOPOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Saturday, December 3 • 2-4pm
Opening Reception Members Exhibit

Come one! Come all!

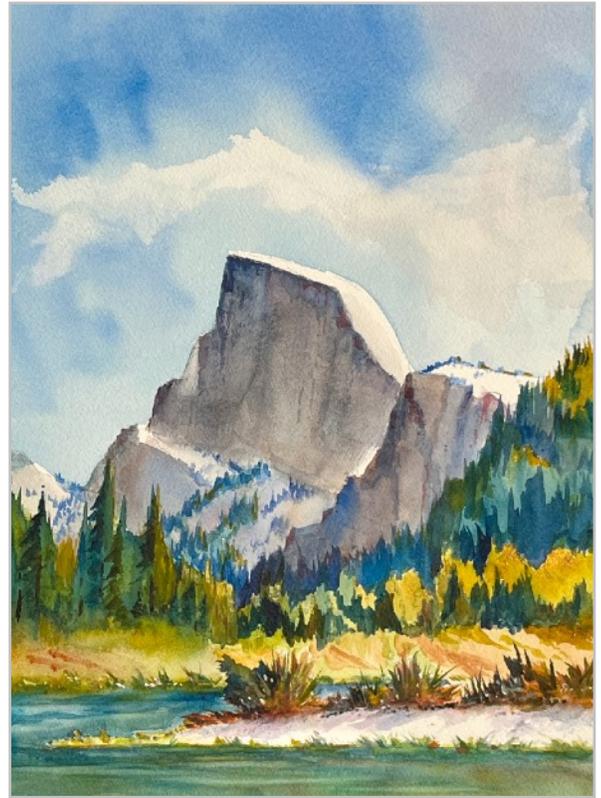
*And while you're there, stop in
to the Auditorium & the Little Hen Room
and do some shopping...*

HOLIDAY MARKET

ONE OF A KIND ARTWORK FOR GIFTING TO
YOUR LOVED ONES

DECEMBER 3 & 4, 2022

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM



Sky Richardson -
"Yosemite in Fall"
24x18 watercolor

OUR FINLEY SHOW WRAP-UP

Everyone agreed the fall show at the Finley Center in Santa Rosa had been among the best AWS shows ever. Thanks to the hanging committee, reception committee, take-down committee, and organizers Carol Mills and Gail Mardfin, and special thanks to Santa Rosa Arts Specialist Jessica Rasmussen for coordinating it all.

Congratulations to the six artists who sold their work:

Kathleen Andre, Gail Radice, Judy Goldberg, Hedda Gold (2 pieces), Susan Barri, and Kathy Byrne!

RIGHT: Hedda Gold meets the buyer of her decorative gourd embellished with a woven sun catcher design, on the show's take-down day.



AND ANOTHER FINLEY SHOW IS COMING UP!

The 20th Annual National Art Program in Santa Rosa will run from January 6 to February 21, 2023.

Registration is open to all Santa Rosa residents and City employees, including all ages and skill levels, and there are cash prizes. There is no fee to enter. This is the show where Gail Mardfin won Best in Show in 2019.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS
JANUARY 6TH AND IS ONLINE ONLY:

[www.nationalartsprogram.org/
santarosa](http://www.nationalartsprogram.org/santarosa)



November Demo: Paul Kratter

by Beverly Bird

Paul Kratter's inspirational demo covered the bases in presenting how he creates his classic landscape paintings. Spouting tips and quips along the way, he finished a painting in the allotted time, generously sharing his knowledge, inspirations and approaches.

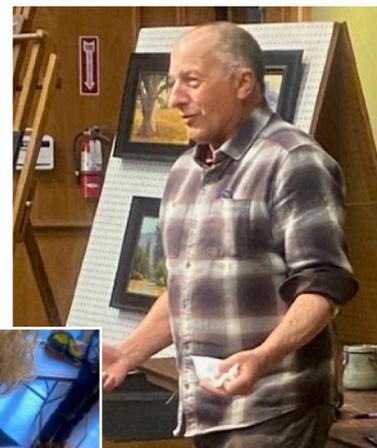
Currently a devoted *plein air* and wildlife painter, Paul has an extensive background in art. He received a degree from Art Center (Pasadena) and embarked on a career in illustration, which included working for NFL properties. His life changed dramatically in 2002 when he discovered his passion for *plein air* at the Sonoma Plein Air festival. Since then, he has participated in and won many awards in *plein air* events. He cited Percy Gray (California landscape artist, 1869-1952) as a source of inspiration.

The value sketch is critical for Paul. He looks for shapes and values and poses the question, Is this worth painting? It is at this point that he does most of his editing. Once he decides on a scene, he keeps the sketch close at hand for reference (he also uses photographs).

The support of the demonstration canvas was light yellow toned. He noted that on a dark tone, one paints too dark. Painting in oils, he sketches the outlines on the support and then proceeds to block in. Using a bright brush for almost the entire time, he blocked, then revised with quick, sure strokes. He noted that his palette is made up of the normal primaries and specified that he likes Indian yellow and sap green. Darks are laid in thinner and lights more thickly.

Paul shared some tricks to painting *en plein air*. If something is fleeting, capture it right away. Step back often to see if the painting is reading right. Be very clear about where the light is coming from. Avoid 50/50 light and dark. Group foliage together in ball shapes. Be cautious about using photo reference as it can be tricky. Remember: the painting must stand on its own. Useful questions for analyzing colors in painting – Is it 1) Lighter or darker, 2) warmer or cooler, 3) more or less intense?

In finalizing the painting, Paul added accents and noted that texture also helps enhance the impact. He used his brush like a mahlstick to add telephone poles and stripes in the road. In what seemed like a flash, a beautiful painting was created. And Kathy Root was the lucky winner who got to take it home.



A humorous and generous demonstrator, Paul shared several books of his sketches that he uses for inspiration.



Above, he sketched in the main outlines of his subject, then began blocking in the shapes.



At left, he demonstrates using a brush to lean on as a "mahlstick" as he adds telephone poles and stripes in the road.



Kathy Root was lucky #17 who won the painting Paul created for AWS.

AWS Artists Are Showing and Selling!

Let us know when you're in a new venue, have a reception, or make a sale, so we can ALL celebrate!

First off, alcohol ink artist **Dena Lash** is happy she sold FIVE of her pieces on display at the Airport Club. She says AWS is her inspiration! Congratulations, Dena.



FACES

Lorna Ho is part of a two-person show called FACES at the Steele Lane Community Center in Santa Rosa (415 Steele La.) from November 21 to February 10.

In addition to "Zen Fantasy" shown above, Lorna has about 20 other mixed media pieces on the walls, which she shares with Linda Dove Pierson.

NOTE: Opening Reception with "tasty treats and refreshments" and both artists is Friday, December 2, from 5-7pm



Carolyn Jarvis is having an art show at Belletto Vineyards & Winery, on **Sunday, December 11** all day, from 11am to 5pm. Address is 5700 Occidental Rd, Santa Rosa.

Deni Marrone has a number of her art works at the Vitality Center, which is next to Screamin' Mimi's in Sebastopol. She has a variety of sizes there, so far the largest is 20x20. In addition, Deni just delivered a bunch of her switch plate covers to Made Local Marketplace in Montgomery Village in Santa Rosa and the Artisan's Co-op in Bodega.





Gail & Phil place Rhonda Johnston's pastel



Phil & Kim arrange the front wall.

Redwood Cafe
presents
"ON THE WALL"
Featuring Nine AWS Artists
& Photographer Robert Caruso
Nov 16, 2022 - Feb 13, 2023

Susan Barri	
Kathy Byrne	
Linda Grainger	
Rhonda K Johnston	
Gail Mardfin	
Linda Loveland Reid	
Marilyn Sommer	
Philip Wilkinson	
Kim Winter	

RECEPTION
Friday, December 16 • 6-8pm
Featuring
The Bloomfield Bluegrass Band
8240 Old Redwood Hwy, Cotati, California
707-795-7868 • RedwoodCafe.com

Redwood Cafe Show is "ON THE WALL"

The Redwood Cafe show featuring 35 paintings - and one violin - by nine AWS artists is up for three months and looking great, thanks to the hanging team of Linda Loveland Reid, Kim Winter, Gail Mardfin and Phil Wilkinson. It includes the main dining area and extends down the back hallway.

We hope many AWS folks and their friends will come out for the mid-point reception on December 16 from 6-8pm. The event will include free tasty noshes and drinks for purchase, plus bluegrass music to dance to! The food there is great, so make it an evening!

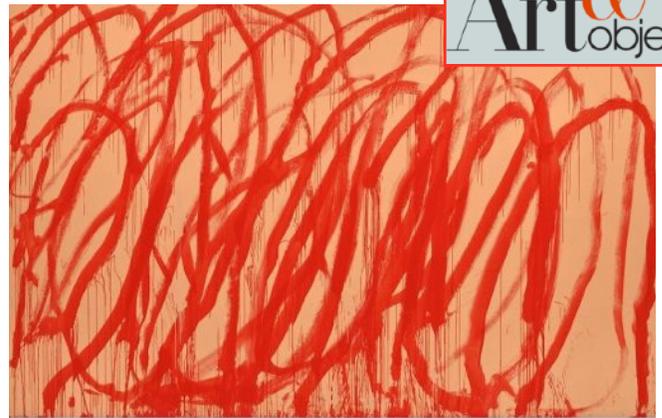
LEFT: Gail, Gallery Curator Eolah Bates, Linda, and Kim



An email went out to all AWS artists about a design contest for FAMILIES BELONG TOGETHER, an organization that works to permanently end family separation and detention.

Paula Pearce entered with this design, with a chance to win \$500 and have her design featured on holiday merchandise to raise money for their work. www.familiesbelongtogether.org

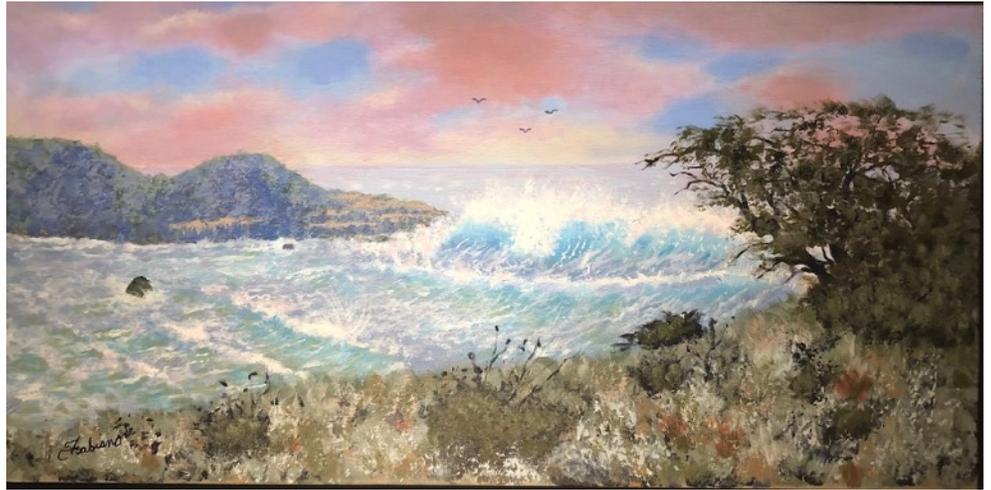
Good luck, Paula!



Phillips' always popular 20th Century Evening Auction made record-breaking sales on November 15th, with bids coming in from nearly thirty countries. Led by Cy Twombly's very large *Untitled*, which sold for \$41.6 million, the auction included works by Marc Chagall, Basquiat and other 20th C artists and emerging contemporary artists, in a range of genres from realism to pop art, surrealism, and abstraction. Originally based in London, Phillips' 14 galleries/auctions are located around the world, including three in the USA.



Marilee Wingert -
"Juggling Rodent" 9x6 watercolor



Jerry Fabiano -
"Big Breakers on Mendo Coast" 15x30 acrylic



Gail Mardfin -
"Sunny Tulips" 24x24 acrylic



Kim Winter -
LEFT: "Words" 8x6 mixed media
ABOVE: "Some Settling May Occur" 6x8 mixed media

Collaborating...

Susan Bradford and I were chatting at a meeting, then she surprised me by sending a painting. So I did one and so on. We've been doing quick palette knife paintings and sharing them with each other. Perhaps others will be inspired to do a sharing experiment with someone.

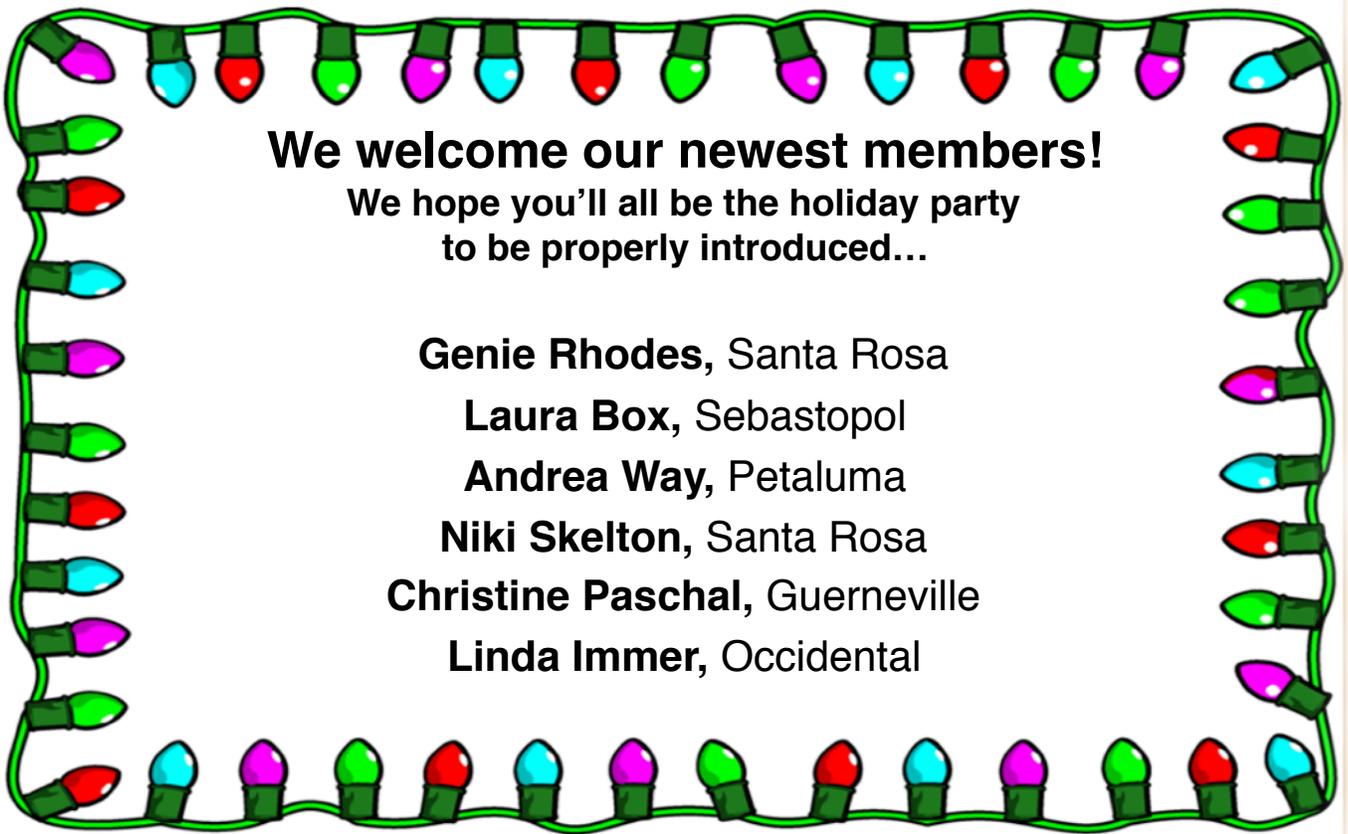
- Linda Loveland Reid



ABOVE: Linda's paintings

BELOW: Susan's paintings





We welcome our newest members!

**We hope you'll all be the holiday party
to be properly introduced...**

**Genie Rhodes, Santa Rosa
Laura Box, Sebastopol
Andrea Way, Petaluma
Niki Skelton, Santa Rosa
Christine Paschal, Guerneville
Linda Immer, Occidental**

TIME TO UPDATE YOUR ARTIST PAGE ON THE AWS WEBSITE!!

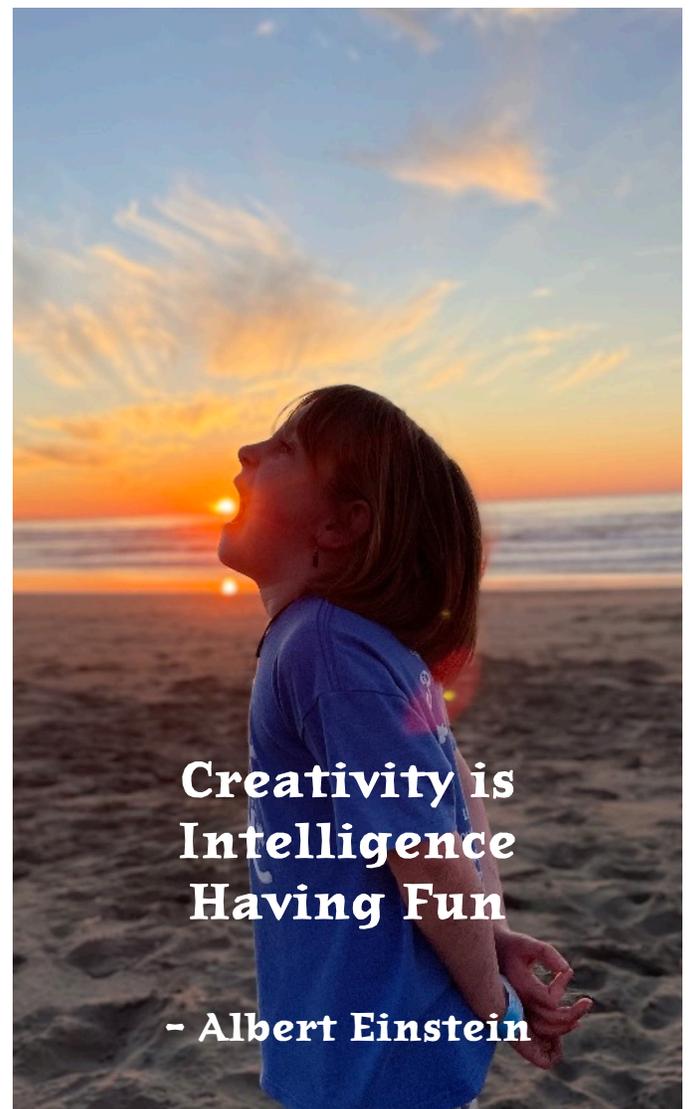
DEADLINE: DEC. 31

Send up to 3 good,
non-skewed images with title, medium,
and dimensions
(of artwork only, not frame,
height x width) to
gail@PLPgraphicdesign.com
with "FOR AWS WEBSITE" in the
subject line.

Include your name as you would like
it to appear and a link to your
website, etc., if you have one.

Click here to see examples:
[https://www.awesomeart.org/members-
artwork](https://www.awesomeart.org/members-artwork)

Next opportunity: June 2023



**Creativity is
Intelligence
Having Fun**

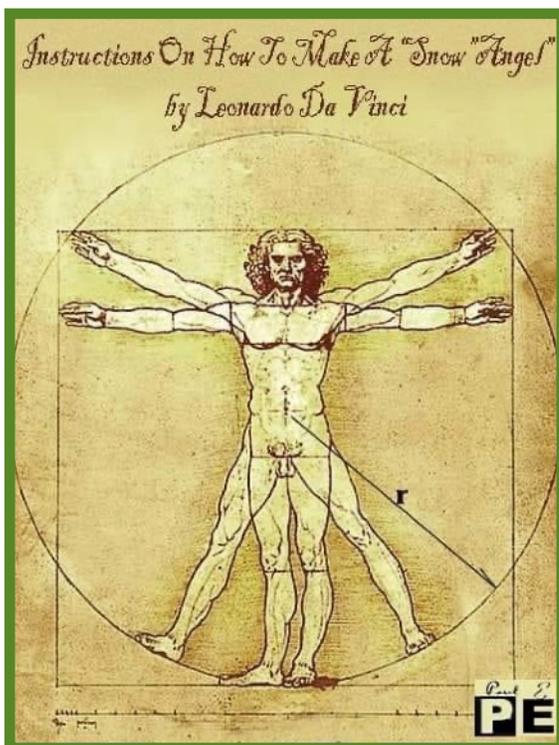
- Albert Einstein

New Year's Sale!

Our annual
**Used & New
Art Supply Sale**
will happen at the
January meeting.

Clean your closets!
Clean your studio!

All proceeds go to
AWS.



Riley Street

art supply

103 Maxwell Ct, Santa Rosa
(707) 526-6421

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

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

Liquitex acrylics & mediums
ON SALE