



# MEMBERS INFO SHEET

AWS stands for “Art Workshop of Western Sonoma County” and was founded in 1965. Our website is [www.awsomeart.org](http://www.awsomeart.org). Our 2025 **President is Linda Reid: [lindalreid100@gmail.com](mailto:lindalreid100@gmail.com)**

**MEETINGS** - Third Thursday of each month at the Sebastopol Center for the Arts, 282 S High St, Sebastopol, CA. *Exceptions are the June picnic (outdoor location) & December holiday party, which replace the regular meeting.*

- 10:30-11:45 - Board Meeting
- 11:45 - Doors open
- 12:00 to 12:30 - Sign-in, Potluck lunch & mingle
- 12:30 to 1:15 - Members' business meeting, guests/new members welcomed, and Art Share (when time allows)
- 1:30 to 2:45 - Presentation or demo by guest artist or member, critiques, etc.
- Ideas for a topic of demonstrator? Contact **Vice President Lonna Necker: [lonna@sonic.net](mailto:lonna@sonic.net)**

**Welcome Team / Sign-in** – *Remember to sign in each month at the sign-in tables, divided by alphabet.* Note your attendance, if you brought food, and/or art to share, as these tallies go toward **Apple Blossom Show eligibility** (see other side).

- Guest fee: \$5.00. (If membership is available, fee may be applied toward membership on that day.)

**Potluck** - Please deliver your luncheon contribution (for 12 people) by noon. Set-up is by our Hospitality Committee.

- Write your name on bottom of serving container (if not to be discarded). Easy-to-serve items are best. Bring your leftovers home!
- Remember to indicate when you bring food. There is a column for 'Food' on the sign-in clipboards at the Welcome table.
- The sign-up sheet to bring food to the NEXT meeting is on the potluck table.
- If you'd like to bring your own silverware/place setting, you are invited to.
- Please dispose/recycle trash properly! Read signs by the disposal bins.

**“Lucky Bags”** - Get lucky and win a \$15 gift certificate to RileyStreet Art Supply or 2 other fun items each month.

- Give donations for Lucky Bags to **Susan Nestor: [nestor1848@yahoo.com](mailto:nestor1848@yahoo.com)** *No art by members, please.*
- Raffle tickets are sold by a Welcome team member at the door; tickets are \$1 (6 for \$5).

**Art Share** - Due to space constraints, members may bring no more than ONE work of art per meeting to show, whether it is a **Monthly Prompt** (an *optional* suggested theme or subject matter to inspire you) or other recent artwork. As time allows, you may be able to share a bit about the creation of your work. Speaking about your art during Art Share is NOT a requirement for participation in the Apple Blossom Show.

**MEMBERSHIP** – **Membership Chair Judy McFarland: [johnandjudy.mc@gmail.com](mailto:johnandjudy.mc@gmail.com)**

- To join AWS, you must attend a meeting, fill out a form, and give check made out to “AWS” to the Membership Chair. Or mail to: Judy McFarland, PO Box 2524 Santa Rosa CA 95405.
- **The membership cap is 130 members. After that, a Wait List will be maintained by the Membership Chair.** Membership for new members will open on January 10.
- Please wear your **name badge** at each meeting. To order a name badge, give fee (\$12) and order form to **Patty Bird: [patty.bird@yahoo.com](mailto:patty.bird@yahoo.com)**
- New members are invited to share a bit about themselves and show a recent artwork.

**Dues** - \$45, to be paid in November - December for the coming year. **Mailed checks must be postmarked by December 31.** Dues for joining during the year are adjusted as follows: Jan-Mar, dues are: \$45 / April-June: \$35 / July-Sept: \$25 / Oct-Dec: \$15.

**Roster** - A roster of all members with contact information is maintained by the Membership Chair, which is updated and emailed to all, periodically. Contact the Membership Chair for latest roster and to correct/update your contact info.

**Facebook** - Located at the back of the meeting room, this is a helpful tool to learn everyone's name/face and volunteer position. We strive to be a welcoming group of active members.

**AWS BOARD** - The strength and continuity of this organization is 100% dependent on volunteers who serve on the Board and in other appointed positions. Long-time and recent members are sought to serve on it. The Board includes President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity, Communications (Newsletter/Website), Presidents Emeriti,

two Members-at-Large, and other appointed Committee Chairs, including Hospitality, Welcome, and Nominating. Members of the Board are elected in November to serve the following year, and must have been an AWS member for one year.

- Anyone is welcome to attend Board meetings, which start at 10:30am on the third Thursday of the month.
- The **AWS Constitution** is available and linked at bottom of [www.awsomeart.org/board-of-directors](http://www.awsomeart.org/board-of-directors)

#### **APPLE BLOSSOM SHOW – 2026 Chair Allene Donato: [allene@toyboxart.com](mailto:allene@toyboxart.com)**

- This major art show & sale is produced by AWS each year in conjunction with Sebastopol's Apple Blossom Festival, held in April. It takes place in the large rear auditorium of the Sebastopol Center for the Arts.  
Learn more: [www.awsomeart.org/apple-blossom-show](http://www.awsomeart.org/apple-blossom-show) NOTE: *Info sheet linked at bottom of page is updated each year.*
- There is an entry fee per piece and a size limitation (total entries together must fit within a specified amount of space).
- A professional judge selects Best in Show, Founders' Award, and winners in each media category. The cash awards and ribbons are presented at the following AWS meeting, and a Popular Vote winner is announced.
- A 25% sales commission is retained by AWS on any sales.

#### **Members are eligible to enter the next ABS who have paid their dues and have met the requirements below:**

FULL YEAR	6 meetings .... 4 works of art ... food 3 times
JOINED Apr - May - Jun	6 meetings .... 4 works of art ... food 3 times
JOINED Jul - Aug - Sep	4 meetings .... 3 works of art ... food 3 times
JOINED Oct - Nov - Dec	3 meetings .... 2 works of art ... food 2 times

Members who join in Jan – Feb - Mar of the year of the ABS are not eligible to participate that year.

*NOTE: the December holiday party and June picnic do count for attendance, but not for art work or food.*

**For the 2026 ABS, requirements are tallied starting in April 2025 and go through March 2026.** Updated tallies are listed on the right side of the sign-in clipboards each month. Any discrepancies should immediately be brought to the attention of **Chair of ABS Requirements Judy Pagnusat: [Judypag@gmail.com](mailto:Judypag@gmail.com)**

**Participation** in the production of the ABS is also required. Choosing from a range of committees, participants must complete several volunteer hours to make the show happen, and artists are expected to publicize the show. It is a great opportunity to meet other members and/or step into a leadership role as a committee chair.

#### **VENUES PROGRAM – Venues Coordinator Deni Marrone: [denijomarrone@gmail.com](mailto:denijomarrone@gmail.com)**

- This is a benefit for members to show (and sell) their art work in local restaurants and businesses as a part of our community service. Shows hang for two months (can be four months at the Livery). No commission is taken on sales.
- *Members must have attended four meetings within the prior 12-month period to be eligible to show in our venues.*
- Please read the **Venues Info Sheet** completely for details. Info sheet link at bottom of page: [www.awsomeart.org/other-aws-venues](http://www.awsomeart.org/other-aws-venues) *You must visit the venue before signing up* with the Venues Coordinator, who can answer any questions.

#### **GRAVENSTEIN FAIR – 2025 Chair Carol Mills: [carolmills202@gmail.com](mailto:carolmills202@gmail.com)**

- For years, AWS members have displayed and sold their work at the Gravenstein Fair, which takes place in August in Ragle Park, Sebastopol. There is an entry fee and artists must be present during the two-day event. A 20% sales commission is split between AWS and Farm Trails, sponsor of the Fair.

#### **NEWSLETTER – Editor Gail Mardfin: [awsomeart2023@gmail.com](mailto:awsomeart2023@gmail.com)**

- AWS publishes a monthly online newsletter that keeps everyone informed and involved. It is sent via email usually by the first of the month. They can also be found here for highest viewing quality: [www.awsomeart.org/newsletters](http://www.awsomeart.org/newsletters)
- Announcements of upcoming shows/activities and artwork to appear in the next newsletter must be sent to the Editor by *Wednesday of the week following the monthly meeting.*
- When sending your artwork, include a clear, squarely-taken image (jpg) along with your name, title, dimensions (HxW), and medium. You may include a few words of explanation.
- You can submit items at any time, but *Wednesday of the week following the monthly meeting* is the deadline to appear in the *next* newsletter.

#### **WEBSITE – Web designer Gail Mardfin: [awsomeart2023@gmail.com](mailto:awsomeart2023@gmail.com)**

- [awsomeart.org](http://awsomeart.org) is robust with information, artwork, and links to past newsletters.
- A benefit of being a member is having a link to a **Member Artist Page**, displaying three of your art pieces and your website, if applicable. These pages are created/updated twice a year, in June or December. Each artist can change their page once a year, beginning with their initial or most recent page. Date of edit will appear at bottom of artist's page. Visit [www.awsomeart.org/members-artwork](http://www.awsomeart.org/members-artwork)