

NAWSLETTER

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2020 ISSUE

The Northern Arizona Watercolor Society



meets 9 to noon at the Methodist Church
110 Indian Cliffs Road in Sedona, AZ
(Usually the 4th Friday of the month -
for specific dates go to our website)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



What 2020 holds for NAWS

- I wish a kneading, purring cat on my lap helped me write - but she didn't. Penny Blazej has a deadline I must meet, so here goes.

You all helped lay such positive groundwork for NAWS in the last couple of years that we can look

forward to a strong, growing society in 2020. Sandy Beck tells me the Exhibition entries are up from last year - a trend over the last 3 years. Stressing water media and our options for framing helps. Mary Ann Undrill and Jane Brothers adding a challenge category and upping the prize money, doesn't hurt either. Paula Holcomb in Publicity is excellent about getting the word out to the community.

Susan Johnson in Membership has done so much to improve that area with better communications, systems and her personable nature. Even though we lose members, we gain a bit more than we lose.

Workshops Chairs, Marti McNamee and Meg Beauchamp continue to rock with their choices for instructors and their efficiency - 2020/21 looks good for them. New chair Marie Rolf, needs an assistant - where are you? Marie is fun to work with.

People come for the programs. Meeting attendance leads to new members and member retention. Pat Dunham scheduled some great programs. I must admit to helping here as I passed on ideas. We have some interest in the Programs chair opening and will need great ideas from all of us for topics that will draw a crowd. We're all loving the tech improvements to Programs with our video camera set up expertly handled by Lynne Crowe.

Our finances are on solid ground with the management of Linda Slater. She's had her frustrations with reconciling old records and with PayPal but sees smoother sailing ahead.

Our success relies squarely on people, there's only so much we can hire out or do without. I know the talent and concern is out there but we're all torn with how our time is prioritized. I'm hoping you'll choose helping NAWS for some of it. I think we're worth it. Done. Kitty gets her chair back.

Keep Painting,

Marsha Owen

IN THIS ISSUE

1. December NAWS Celebration
2. Review of Sue Archer's Workshop
3. Betty Carr's Critique of our works
4. NAWS Road Trip
5. Your Signature Here
6. New Members
7. 2020 NAWS Watermedia Exhibition
8. Sedona Library Small Picture Show
9. Four C's Critique Group
10. Announcements
11. Tips for the Day
12. Travel Bug
13. New Book
14. Italian Watercolor Presentation
15. Note from the Editor

CALENDAR OVERVIEW

FEBRUARY

- February 3rd through March 2nd NAWS Small Painting Sedona Library Show.
- February 29th NAWS Road Trip (see article for details).

MARCH

- March 6th NAWS 25th Watermedia Exhibition (see article for more information and key dates).
- March 9-12th Barbara Nechis Workshop (still one opening).

DECEMBER NAWS MEETING



Fun was had by all singing wonderful Wacky Watercolor Carols written by our very own Marsha Owen. Here is one of the ten Christmas songs featured:

The Exhibition

(Sung to Deck the Halls)

*“Deck the halls with juried painting Fa La La
This will take some re-arranging Fa La La La
Don we now our gay apparel Fa La La La
Drink some wine and hope for sales Fa La La
If your painting was rejected Fa La La La
Blame the judge that was selected Fa La La
Don't give up you're still a winner Fa La La
Enjoy the show, it's also dinner Fa La La La”*

SUE ACHER JANUARY WORKSHOP

by Penny Blazej pennyblazej@gmail.com

Wow, what a wonderful three day workshop with Sue Archer. It was filled with color theory, composition, layering, values, imprints, lifting, underpainting and some exciting new ways to prepare your watercolor paper with water, gesso and acrylic matte medium. My head is still spinning from all the knowledge that was shared. Sue is clearly a watercolor master and has a no-nonsense style of teaching. Her humor and positive attitude were contagious and made some of the complex techniques easier to understand. She gave every attendee some one-on-one time focusing her input

to the artist's level whether they were beginners or advanced painters.

Marti McNamee, Meg Beauchamp, Lynn Crowe and

Marie Rolf did an outstanding job making this workshop one of our best. Here are some of the evaluation comments:



● *“Exemplary teacher with patience, and so much knowledge.*

Soooooo much material to compliment watercolor. So talented and a great demo of all!”

- *“Outstanding! I learned more about planning a painting, color and hue then in the last 15 years of painting.”*
- *“Excellent! I learned so many techniques that I never even dreamed existed!”*
- *“(Sue Archer) Superior knowledge, positive, fun, great pacing.”*
- *“She's (Sue Archer) a hoot! She was abrupt in nature, but kindly helpful in teaching. Her encouragement to each artist was always evident, as well as her vast knowledge and creativity.”*

Sue Archer has such a wealth of knowledge I vote that she be invited back next year.



BETTY CARR CRITIQUES WORKS AT JANUARY NAWs MEETING

by Penny Blazej pennyblazej@gmail.com



At January's meeting Betty Carr generously devoted time to critique our paintings. She also did a bit of instructing on basic elements of design:

Principles of Design:

CHUGEDABS: Contrast,

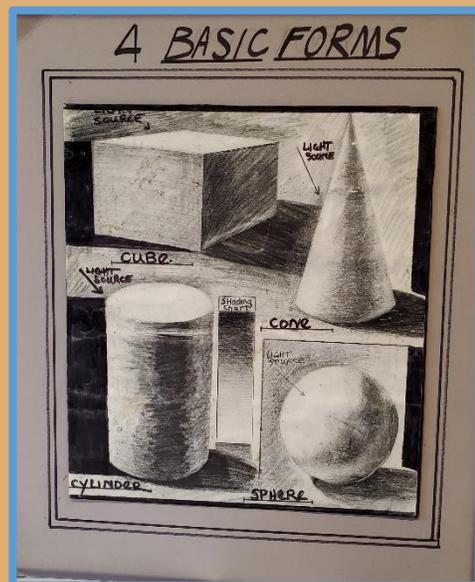
Harmony, Unity, Gradation, Echo, Dominance, Alternation, Balance and Star of the Show (focal point).

Elements of Design: LSSTCVD: Line, Shape, Size, Texture, Color, Value and Direction.

Compositional Plans: Asymmetrical, "S" Format, "L" Format, 3 Spot Format, Triangle Format, Tunnel Format, Pattern Format and the Radiation Format.

Values in Light: LARMS: Light, Accent, Reflective, Midtone and Shadow (form and cast shadow).

Four Basic Forms:



Here are some wonderful words of wisdom from Betty:

- "Outlines will flatten the form."
- "Make sure to soften edges on the shadows."

- "For landscapes you need eight different greens."
- "Make the edges of the mountains 'smile' so the viewer does not fall off the page."
- "You want an odd number of things vs. even."
- "Focal point has the sharpest edges."
- "Make the negative space interesting."



- "How do you want to stage the focal point?"
- "Atmospheric perspective - skies are darker on top and lighter on the bottom."
- "Where is the star of the show?"

NAWS ROAD TRIP

by Marsha Owen h2owencolor@gmail.com

The idea of a bus trip to Phoenix was floated at the January meeting to positive feedback. Let's get a sign-up sheet going!

What it's all about: There's a very cool exhibit of David Hockney's work at the Heard Museum. He's quite the innovator and did huge compositions of his interpretation of Yosemite using an I-pad painting app. Our artists can try out the app in a workroom with a dozen I-pads available with step by step instructions. It's fascinating.

But wait, it gets better: The Phoenix Art Museum is next door for those interested in 1930's/40's abstract art and Hudson River School landscapes. Next, the party bus (we mean education bus) will make a 1 hour stop at our favorite place - an art supply store! Arizona Art Supply is 10 minutes from the museums. Member, Lee Klose works with them and can get us all goody bags! Arizona Art Supply has supported our Exhibition for years - they are good people worthy of our patronage.

Action: Please write to Sharon Dyer: sharonkdyer@yahoo.com • (928) 213-9291 to sign up by Feb. 16th so we can make the deposit. (Continued next page)

Details: We'll need at least 15 people to make this worthwhile. A bulletin will go out Feb. 17th announcing whether the trip is on or canceled. If it's a go, please mail your check by Feb. 22nd for \$25 to NAWS, P.O. box 508, Sedona, AZ 86336 We need this commitment, no-shows are frowned upon.

Date/Time: Saturday, February 29th, 8:30 a.m.

Meet at: Sedona Methodist Church, use upper parking lot

Cost: \$25 for members and friends. Heard Museum group discount entry fee is \$11. Lunch at their cafe is around \$15 or bring your own to join us on the patio.

Schedule: arrive at the museums by 10:30, drop off at Phoenix Art Museum, then to the Heard Museum. Leave for Arizona Art Supply at 2 p.m., depart by 3 p.m. return to Sedona by 5 p.m.

YOUR SIGNATURE HERE

by Marsha Owen h2owencolor@gmail.com

If you're a Juried member and are looking for another challenge, there's now a new level of membership to work towards - Signature level. Most painting societies have a top level for members to achieve and NAWS has joined these ranks with our recent bylaws update. NAWS Signature members will have been accepted in more competitions, have earned an award and have served the membership in some way.

An application and new certificate have been designed. Special Recognition chair, Caroline Carsula has been hard at work tracking exhibition records of those who already qualify and will send letters out soon. We are planning to do the presentation of Signature awards with our Juried awards presentation at the March meeting. A complete description is on our website.

NEW MEMBERS

by Sue Johnson nawsmembership@gmail.com

We have added many new members in the past few months and Membership has dropped the ball on introductions! Apologies! Please welcome members who have joined NAWS with open arms and lots of answers to any questions they may have. You will know them by the stars on their name-tags. They

might need help from those who have been around the block before! Thanks to all and Welcome!!

John Armstrong	Karel Armstrong
Nancy Chesler	Michael Day
Betty Dion	Kat Drayton
Theresa Felzenberg	Ellen Fountain
Stephanie Gibbons	Marianna Gyger
Michelle Haveri	Rebecca Jensen
Yvonne Joyner	Susan Koepnick
Laura Shelton	Barbara Taylor
Linda Tenn	Bonnie Vagen
Shalaka Vaidya	Margo vanVegchel
Cindy Welch	Tanya White
Sandra Wright	Rose Young
Keith Zimmerman	

NEWS FROM THE 2020 EXHIBITION

by Chairpersons, Jane Brothers
rbandjb1@earthlink.net and Mary Ann Undrill
mundrill@suddenlink.net

MARCH 6th ON FIRST FRIDAY IS THE GRAND OPENING of the NAWS 25th WATERMEDIA EXHIBITION at the Sedona Art Center's (SAC) special exhibition gallery.

Normal hours 10 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Open until 8 p.m. for First Friday.

One hundred and twenty eight entries were sent to Barbara Nechis, the juror.

A huge thank you to Sandra Beck who once again received, sorted and got all the entries on a thumb drive and in the mail. All done before leaving on an overseas Plein Air painting trip to Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands.

REMEMBER if your painting or paintings are accepted **THE TAKE IN DAY IS.....**

THURSDAY MARCH 5th between 9:30am and 12 noon.

OPENING DAY MARCH 6th. First Friday.....gallery open 10am to 8pm.

RECEPTION AND AWARDS WEDNESDAY MARCH 11th 5pm to 8pm.

Let's make it another FABULOUS exhibition celebrating the TWENTY FIFTH YEAR.

THE 2019 AWARD WINNERS



SEDONA LIBRARY SMALL PAINTING SHOW

by Penny Blazej pennyblazej@gmail.com



Once again we are overwhelmed with the number of entries for the Sedona Library Small Painting Show which begins February 3rd through March 2nd. As of 10 a.m. February 3rd we had over 36 entries and more coming in. Sue Davis had a wonderful system set up for checking in our paintings. Pickup will be March 2nd. You need to have Sue Davis mark you off her list **before** taking your painting.



The above picture are some of our early bird drop off artists: Scotti Ruhlman, Lorena Willmon, Nancy Beckley, Vada Lovato and Debbie Gallagher, Jane Brothers, Joy Kinney, Melissa Brammer. Spread the word about this show – the prices are certainly right to encourage purchases!



FOUR C'S CRITIQUE GROUP

by Elaine Bomkamp embomk@gmail.com

Here is some information about the newly formed critique group, the Four C's:

Clarkdale, Cottonwood, Camp Verde, and Cornville— (the four C's) comprise the critique group which meets every second Tuesday at the Spirit of Joy Church in Clarkdale.

Sue Davis is the chair of this group. There are many members, and as seems to be common, the number of attendees varies from week to week to show their artwork and to have it critiqued.

The Cornville/Camp Verde group started out meeting at the Verde Santa Fe Clubhouse for many years then moved to Camp Verde because of a dues increase at the clubhouse. The group met at this location for around three years at Idell LeGenre's church. All remained well until members left for various reasons, then membership dwindled. As a result, the group joined the Cottonwood/Clarkdale group. We have the opportunity to meet new people along with their particular art talents. Continuing education is the result of this merger.

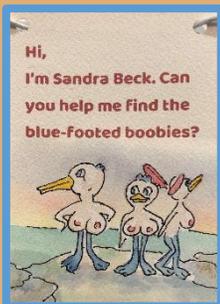
ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A bus trip to Phoenix to visit various museums and go out to lunch is being arranged. There will be a small fee.
- Volunteers are needed for the NAWS, AWA, SAWC 2021 traveling juried show. We are in the very early planning stages.
- We currently have 129 paid members!
- There is one opening for the February Barbara Nechis Workshop.
- Need volunteers for the Program Person and the President.
- Sedona Library used book store has excellent art books and very low prices.
- All are invited to the NAWS Exhibition opening March 6th. Check website for detail.

TIPS FOR THE DAY

This is a place where you can share your tips with other artists. Please send tips to pennyblazej@gmail.com. Lynn Crowe has one: "Having trouble getting those tiny tree branches to look twiggy and natural? Load a rigger, then hold it between thumb and finger, at the tip of the handle. Roll the handle as you move the brush in the branch direction, and the branches will paint themselves!"

WHO HAS THE TRAVEL BUG

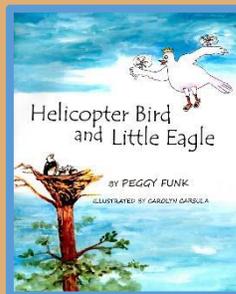


Sandy Beck is going to the Galapagos Islands in January. "After mentioning that I was looking forward to having some photos of the blue-footed boobies, Craig Dixon painted this name tag and gave it to me at the meeting. I have found a plastic cover that fits it perfectly and will wear it on my trip." For

those who have not been to the Galapagos the blue-footed boobies are a famous bird on the islands.

NEW BOOK

Look who illustrated a new children's book: Carolyn-Carsula-Siegfried (carsularrt@gmail.com)!



"You are never too old to try a new creative adventure! If at 97 years of age, my friend, Peggy, could write her first children's book – then I had to illustrate it for her. Peggy's first was my first too! Creating the illustrations for "Helicopter Bird and Little Eagle" was so much

fun. Her book got published in December. She is now 98 & I feel like I'm twelve."

NAWS MEMBER GIVES AN ITALIAN WATERCOLOR PRESENTATION

by Jill Jepson kjjeppson1@yahoo.com

I have been studying Italian for a few years. My instructor gave the class a project.... not just any homework though! She wanted us to give a 10 minute presentation in ITALIAN on something we enjoyed. We were to bring samples and demonstrate to the class. Of course, I chose watercolors. I made up a sample board of different watercolor papers and a sample board of what watercolors look like using salt, alcohol and saran wrap. For the presentation I talked about the various types of papers, paints, brushes, techniques and value sketches. I brought paint, paper and brushes so that the students could try watercolors. I let them experiment using the salt technique. Some were hesitant with the amount of salt used while others just threw a handful on. They were amazed at the outcome. It was fun to see the colors they chose and I thought some colors matched their personalities.

The project was quite a challenge to do in Italian and I was somewhat nervous to say the least! These are

new sentences in English/Italian. They are from the first, middle and last sentences of the presentation.

"I like to paint, bead, play cards and play bocce ball. My favorite of these is painting. I mostly paint with



watercolors but also enjoy acrylics and sometimes experiment in mixed media.

I like to get into the 'art zone' where I make the painting come from my soul. That doesn't always happen, but that is what I strive for.

When I finish a painting that I feel is a success, I am pleased. I always look at it again in a few days and make any adjustments that are needed. An artist, Barbara Nechis has said '*successes are gifts for our patience in putting up with the struggle.*'" (I used her quote because it really resonates with me.)

In closing, the class and instructor enjoyed it very much and I gave each student a bookmark in watercolors I made with an art quote on the back. They were very appreciative of the small gift.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Hello artists! A big thank you to our NAWSletter contributors: Marsha Owen, Sue Johnson, Jane Brothers and Mary Anne Undrill, Elaine Bomkamp, Lynn Crowe, Sandy Beck, Carolyn Carsula-

Siegfried and Jill Jepson. Remember this is your newsletter. It is published every other month – 6 times per year. **Input for next addition is due mid-March.** If you have anything your fellow artist's may be interested in, please forward to me. Have you taken an interesting trip where you did some painting or visited some wonderful museums? Do you have any painting tips you want to share? How

about classes/workshops you took that others might benefit from?

We have decided not to use MailChimp for the NAWS letter due to its limited software functionality. We are now using Microsoft Word. Please bear with me as I master version 14. Let's all thank Tony Blazej and Susan Johnson for proofreading this newsletter.