

# NEWSLETTER

August / September 2025



Nancy Beckley  
NAWS Co-President

## Presidents' Message

Dear members,

As our summer break comes to an end Mary Ann and I want to welcome everyone back! We are looking forward to seeing you all as we begin another creative year together.

### Save the Date!

Our annual Garage Sale is Friday, August 22. This is a great opportunity to clean out your studio, make a little extra cash, and give new life to supplies you no longer need. If you're not selling, come shop—you might find something perfect for your next project! Let's make this another successful event.

### First General Meeting: September 26!

We hope to see everyone there.

Our board members have been hard at work preparing for the year ahead and excited to share what's in store. In addition to a demo by Debbie Friis on using technology and composition, we'll have an open critique session to share your summer paintings. These critiques are a wonderful opportunity for growth and inspiration, and everyone enjoys seeing the variety of work our members produce.

### Help NAWS Grow

Mary Ann and I encourage all of you to help NAWS thrive—by volunteering on committees and inviting your friends and neighbors to join us. Many people believe watercolor to be difficult, but it's through workshops with nationally recognized artists or participating in critique groups that we all grow through sharing and encouragement. NAWS depends on everyone's involvement to flourish—so let's pitch in and help where we can.

### Community News

We're happy to share two new resources in our community:

## The Northern Arizona Watercolor Society (NAWS)

meets 9:00 am to noon  
(usually the 4th Friday of the month)

at

**Village Park Baptist Church**  
**55 Canyon Diablo Rd, Sedona 86351**

Please park in the side parking lot.

### Next Meeting Date

**August 22, 2025**

<https://www.naws-az.org>

1. **Fine Art Museum of Sedona (FAMoS)**, 2081 W. SR 89A, Suite 4 (in the Harkins Theater shopping Center).

FAMoS hosts temporary exhibits supporting a wide range of art forms in Sedona. In June and July, they featured an exhibit called "ART OF THE DANCE," highlighting the Ballet Company's visit to Sedona. I was honored to have one of my paintings, "Waiting in the Wings," accepted, on display through July 27th. I've spoken with co-director Mary Byrd, and she's eager to collaborate with NAWS. We hope this will develop into something meaningful for all of us.

2. **Art Paint Draw**, 830 S. Main St., Cottonwood, AZ

This new art supply store, owned by Amy Boer, offers an impressive selection of materials for artist of all kinds, along with a variety of classes. Visit [www.artpaintdraw.com](http://www.artpaintdraw.com) to sign up for their newsletter to see what's happening each month. Amy is generously offering 10% off for NAWS members. Additionally, our own Nita Marlette is teaching a beginner class on the first Wednesday of each month and a sketchbook class on the 3rd Wednesday.

*Continued on page 2*

## IN THIS ISSUE

Presidents' Message .....	1
Info Bits .....	2
NAWS Programs .....	3
NAWS Workshops .....	3-5
Displays and Exhibitions .....	6

## 2025-2026 Meeting Dates

August 22, 2025  
 September 26, 2025  
 October 24, 2025  
 No meeting in November  
 December 12, 2025  
 January 23, 2026  
 February 27, 2026  
 March 27, 2026  
 April 24, 2026  
 May 15, 2026  
 No meetings in June or July  
 August 28, 2026

*Mark your calendars!*



### PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

*Continued from page 1*

I think FAMoS & Art Paint Draw are great additions to the art community. I hope we can help support both.

We're looking forward to launching another exciting NAWS season! Happy painting,

*Nancy and Mary Ann*  
 Nancy Beckley & Mary Ann Undrill  
 Co-Presidents



*Nancy Beckley and Amy Boer, the owner of the new art supply store in Cottonwood called Art Paint Draw.*

## NAWS 2025-2026 Board and Committees

**Mary Ann Undrill, Co-President**

### THE BOARD

CO-PRESIDENTS Nancy Beckley and Mary Ann Undrill  
 TREASURER Jane Brothers  
 CO SECRETARIES Tammy Lavigne and Melissa Andrea  
 MEMBERSHIP Shara Brown  
 EXHIBITIONS Pat Scott  
 WORKSHOPS Pat Fraleigh and Cathy Schneider  
 PROGRAMS Marsha Owen and Rosemary Keiser  
 DIRECTOR at LARGE Karel Armstrong

### THE COMMITTEE CHAIR MEMBERS

NEWSLETTER Linda Worland  
 PUBLICITY Chris Sommerfelt  
 DVD's John Armstrong  
 LIBRARY EXHIBITS Denise Tax and Karen Schudson  
 CRITIQUE GROUPS Carol Reiman  
 SOCIAL MEDIA Mike Trulson  
 VIDEOGRAPHER Lynne Crowe (Dan Holcomb and Denise Tax in training)  
 SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS Carolyn Casula



*Waiting in the Wings by Nancy Beckley was displayed at the "Art of the Dance" exhibit at FAMoS.*

## NAWS Programs

### Upcoming Programs

Marsha Owen, Program Chair

#### August 22nd Program

### Art Materials Garage Sale

Lots of new and slightly used art supplies of all sorts appear at this event. Bring what you would like to sell and set up your own table. There will be a special area for Free items. Come and find materials at give-away prices. All leftover supplies will go to a local charity. This event is advertised to the public.



upklyak at www.freepik.com

#### September 26th Program

### Modern Tools for Better Painting by Debbie Friis Pettitt

This was a highly anticipated program from last year that had to be canceled. We're so happy to have Debbie back at NAWS for her tech demo. She has found certain computer programs that helped her in the design process of paintings. She has become so proficient that she teaches workshops to artists just like us. Artists who fear technology soon have their skills and confidence boosted with her help.

Debbie will be bringing a cell phone, a laptop, and a tablet to demo how any of these can be used to help the artist. She points out that 15th century masters used what new inventions they had and so can you. This will be an eye-opening program.

Check out her website at [dfriispettitt@gmail.com](mailto:dfriispettitt@gmail.com)

#### October 24th Program

### Cathy Stedman Demo

As of this writing, I don't know what Cathy has in store for us but whatever it is, she will draw a crowd (maybe she'll really draw a crowd!) Cathy is a long-time member and busy teacher who loves to experiment. More information on this one will be on the website later.

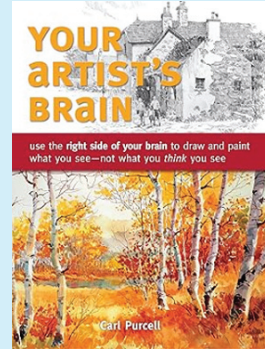


## NAWS Workshops

### Upcoming Workshops

Pat Fraleigh, Workshop Chair, [fraleighski@gmail.com](mailto:fraleighski@gmail.com)

October 2025  
**CARL PURCELL**  
Oct 14, 15, 16



Visit  
<https://carlpurcell.com/>

Carl's book is entitled *Your Artist's Brain*. He says, "Use the right side of your brain to draw and paint what you see—not what you think you see."

**This workshop is full and we have a wait list.**



*The Old Homestead*  
by Carl Purcell

## 2026 Workshops

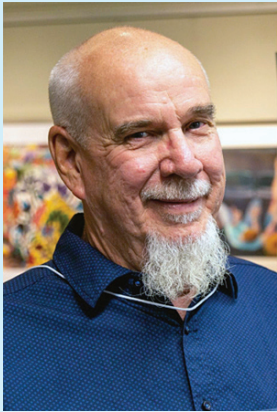
Registration for the 2026 Workshops will be open for members at our first formal meeting on Sept. 26, 2025.

**Workshops are continued on page 4.**

Find more Workshop information including course descriptions, supply lists, samples of the artists' work and more on the NAWS website at

<https://www.naws-az.org/workshops/>  
Workshop Questions?: [fraleighski@gmail.com](mailto:fraleighski@gmail.com)

# 2026 Workshops



**February 2026**

**STAN KURTH**

**The Intuitive  
Painting Mindset**

**Feb 17, 18, 19**

Cost: \$350 members

\$400 non-members

Visit <https://stankurth.com/>

In this workshop, you'll become acquainted with the intuitive painting mindset. In her book *Mindset*, Stanford psychologist Carol Dweck proposes that human qualities are not fixed—they can be cultivated. People can grow and improve in any area, including sports, art, music, business, parenting, or relationships. This growth also applies to intellectual skills.

With this in mind, you'll begin to shift from a fixed mindset that separates traditional representational painting from abstraction. It is entirely possible to understand and incorporate both approaches in your work. Using various mark-making tools, watercolor, and gouache, lessons will begin without reference or preconceived ideas. You'll create paintings from arbitrary design elements and bring them to completion using principles of design. The goal is to develop a painting that aligns with your personal aesthetic—whether representational or non-objective. The only criteria: no reference, and a willingness to let the process guide the outcome. All three days will vary slightly in process.

Artist and workshop instructor Stan Kurth ([stankurth.com](https://stankurth.com)) embraces a fear-not attitude that permeates his life and his work. Stan has drawn and painted most of his life starting with a small oil painting he did when he was four years old. Now he adeptly straddles the line between abstraction and representation in his works featuring emotion-laden compositions, color, and edges. He has a Bachelor's degree from Northern Arizona University and enjoys Signature status in a number of organizations, and Master Signature distinction in the National Watercolor Society and the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies.



*Winowpane No. 117 by Stan Kurth*



*Coastal Anxiety by Stan Kurth*

## GOOD ADVICE

*"If there is a certain artist whose work you admire, study what they do. If they teach, see if you can take a class. Take risks. Experiment. Learn and understand how the elements and principles of design work together."*

## 2026 Workshops

Stephen Quiller will have two separate workshops:



**March 2026**  
**STEPHEN QUILLER**  
**Watercolor: Color Theory, Color Relationships and Color Mixing**  
**March 30, 31**

Cost: \$300 members  
\$350 non-members

Visit <https://www.quillergallery.com/>

This two day workshop will be devoted to color theory, color relationships, and color mixing as it relates to various subject matter. Each morning will be devoted to various color studies and in the afternoon a more finished demonstration.



By Stephen Quiller



*Late Afternoon, Light, Fox, and Raven Series*  
by Stephen Quiller

**April 2026**  
**STEPHEN QUILLER**  
**Experimental Water Media—Acrylic**  
**April 1, 2**

Cost: \$300 members  
\$350 non-members

The focus of this workshop will be to expand the possibilities and vocabulary of the watercolor painter. Although the handling of this medium is similar to watercolor painting, the possibility for expression is greatly enhanced working with visual qualities, transparent, translucent, and opaque. The workshop participant will explore the various visual qualities and handling characteristics of this medium. Color and composition will also be a part of this workshop. Stephen Quiller's two books, *Painter's Guide to Color* and *Acrylic Painting Techniques* will be used for reference.

Visit <https://www.quillergallery.com/>

### From the Exhibition Committee

Report from Pat Scott, Exhibition Chair

On Tuesday, July 8, Paula Holcomb, Mary Ann Undrill and myself had the pleasure of joining Nancy Lattanzi, Sedona Arts & Culture Specialist, to attend the “Moment of Art” at the Sedona City Council meeting. We were representing NAWS and the NAWS 2025 Spring Exhibition “Celebrating 30 Years of Creativity”. The monthly ten-minute Moment of Art was initiated in 2015 to present and promote local artists and their craft to the City Council and the community.

Thanks to the creative powers and efficiency of Larry Gallagher, Marsha Owen and Paula Holcomb, the newly-created PowerPoint representing the 30-year history of NAWS was professionally presented and well received. The presentation was introduced by very positive comments from Nancy Lattanzi, regarding the popularity and success of both the Spring Exhibition and the importance of NAWS to its members and to the local art community.

#### Our 2025 Juried Spring Exhibition Show continues to AUGUST 27, 2025, Sedona City Hall

Just a reminder that the Spring Exhibition take-down will be on Thursday, August 28 from 8am to 10am. All artwork will be available for pickup in the Sedona Council Chambers Room (including art hung in the Vultee Room). The back ramp is available for ease in removing your art. Another reminder will be sent out next month.

Plans are underway for the 2026 NAWS Spring Exhibition scheduled to take place from March 22–April 26 at the Phippen Museum in Prescott, Arizona ( <https://phippenartmuseum.org/> ). Cathy Chess and I will be co-chairing the Exhibition Committee and we look forward to another exciting and successful event. More details to come in the fall.

### Open Studios Art Tour, Flagstaff

AUGUST 23-24, 10:00am–5:00pm

Marsha Owen

This is a self-guided annual opportunity to visit artist’s studios in this area. Glass blowing, sculpture and all medium of artists participate, including me! If you want to come this way, I’ll have new paintings up in the dining room turned gallery along with the amazing woodwork creations of Steven Halgrimson. Both of us will have demos going.



### Oct/Nov NAWSletter Deadline

Linda Worland

Please submit all watercolor business—including paintings, personal awards, news, information, announcements, committee summaries, or any news from the art community—to [lsworland@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lsworland@sbcglobal.net) .

**The deadline for the Oct/Nov NAWSletter is September 27, 2025**

### Karel Armstrong Teaching at Visible Difference

NAWS member Karel Armstrong has been teaching drawing and watercolor in Flagstaff at the Visible Difference during July and early August. Karel goes into values and shading using various graphite pencils in drawing pieces of driftwood and timber knots. She discusses the difference between B pencils, H pencils and manufacturer variations, and designs florals on different papers using varying shades from the H pencil to 8 B. Karel is also teaching beginning and intermediate watercolor with variations on paper, techniques, and finishing with water soluble colored pencils. Classes are Friday mornings from 10 to 2 pm, with a short lunch break, but her class is full at this time. Talk to Karel if you have interest in her future endeavors.