

NEWSLETTER



December 2025 / January 2026



Nancy Beckley
NAWS Co-President

Presidents' Message

Dear Members,
Greetings to you all for this holiday season 2025!

As I write Thanksgiving is upon us, and you will have celebrated by the time you read our letter. Trusting you all had family and friends around you to share your turkey dinner.

Nancy and I take this moment to reflect on the NAWS 30th year since its founding. Our exhibition at the Sedona City Chamber and Vultee rooms was most successful and viewed by many. A short PowerPoint presentation about the 30 year history of NAWS was shown to the city council members. Nancy Lattanzi, the director the cities arts and culture specialist, was the moderator. We thank Pat Scott and Kathy Chess along with many volunteers for their



Mary Ann Undrill
NAWS Co-President

time in making our memorable exhibit a success.

Denise Tax and Karen Schudson are owed a big thank you for organizing the two exhibits now showing at the VOC library. The small easel size paintings will come down on December 5th. The larger paintings are there until January 23rd. We urge you to visit as both exhibits are truly wonderful.

We now look forward to our next exhibition at the Phippen Museum in Prescott. Pat Scott and Kathy Chess will be reminding you about the dates, the submission deadline, "take in" reception dates, etc. Please take close note of their posted information. Also read carefully the prospectus. All this is on our website under Exhibitions. We encourage you all to enter—not often is an art society featured at a prestigious museum.

Our small entourage of 7 members visited the Phippen Museum to view Gretchen Lopez's paintings. I believe most of us shed a quiet tear as we entered the exhibit. For me (Mary Ann) I was quite overcome by a strong feeling that Gretchen was with us. It also gave us an idea as to how beautiful our exhibition will show in this area of the museum.

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 '25-'26 Meeting Dates
Dec 12 • Jan 23 • Feb 27

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

Now to a serious ask. Nancy and I are needing to hear from many of you as to where you might take on a position on the board or a committee for 2026/27. Our year is August to May. Taking on a volunteer position is a two-year commitment, barring unforeseen circumstances. Do remember you can share a position, as do Nancy and I, now into our second year.

Linda Worland, our amazing newsletter person, has announced her retirement at the end of May 2026. She has also offered to help anyone who volunteers to take this on. I am sure, with all positions, when there's a change of guard, so to speak, the person retiring will be willing to help the new volunteer.

We are looking forward to the remainder of our 2026 year being a continued success along with your help and creative expertise. Be well and enjoy the festivities of the season—ours (NAWS) being a Cookie Exchange on December 12th. See you there!

Mary Ann and Nancy

Mary Ann Undrill & Nancy Beckley
Co-Presidents

IN THIS ISSUE

Presidents' Message	1
Info Bits	2
NAWS Programs	3
NAWS Workshops	3-4
Displays and Exhibitions	5

Welcome New Members!

Mimi C., Flagstaff, AZ
Sarah F., Flagstaff, AZ
Lauren M., Rimrock, AZ
Rachel C., Sedona, AZ
Tim B., Tucson, AZ

Bring your favorite cookies for the COOKIE EXCHANGE at the December 12 meeting!
(See page 3 for more info)

NAWSletter Editor Needed

Linda Worland, NAWSletter Chair

Hi! Calling any past or present graphic artist, or desktop publisher, or any of you familiar with such programs, to volunteer to take over producing the NAWSletter. I will be moving on from newsletter duty after the May newsletter, and NAWS is looking for my replacement.

When I took the job, the board was not fussy, and, as far as I'm concerned, what the newsletter becomes is between you and them. Some notes:

—The newsletter is done every two months at this writing, but I believe you could work out your own schedule.

—It would be best if you are already familiar with your program(s). I use Adobe Indesign and Photoshop, but it could be done with Quark XPress, MS Publisher, Google Docs, or other desktop publishing program that you know, even if just passing well; whatever program must be able to export to PDF. For modifying photos you could use a little free jpg viewer I use called Irfan-View, or MS Paint, or other. Or Photoshop, if you have it.

—I've been asked to write up something of a "guidebook" for the way it is done now, so you won't start out completely in the dark and have to guess (like I did). Still, make it your own and use your own conventions. I will supply the logos/photos used (just a few). If you use Indesign, I can give you my base file.

—I can help you get started with the first newsletter (Aug/Sep 2026), if you want or need direction.

That's it! I know the know-how is in this group, and we need you. Please contact me, **lsworland@sbcglobal.net**, or someone on the board, who would positively love to hear from you! :)

The deadline for the NAWSletter FEB/MAR Issue is Sat, Jan 24, 2026



NAWS WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE MEMBERS WHO WERE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VOC COMMUNITY LIBRARY EXHIBITS. THERE ARE PAINTINGS ON DISPLAY AT THE LIBRARY THROUGH JANUARY 22.

February Beginner Class

Nancy Beckley

FEBRUARY 14

NAWS will be offering their "Beginner Class" again on Feb 14th from 9am to 1pm. I hope we can make this year's classes as big a success as last year's. Let's help get the word out. If interested have them contact Nancy Beckley at **nldvbeckley@gmail.com**.

Email Scam Warning

from Karel Armstrong

Please: DO NOT TRY TO OPEN AN EMAIL WITH THE SUBJECT "I Shared a Project Proposal with You" (OR SIMILAR). Its not from me. Its a hack, a scam.—Karel

NAWS Programs

Upcoming Programs

Marsha Owen, Program Chair

December 12th Program

Cookie Exchange and Free Raffle

Come join your artist friends for Wacky Watercolor Carols accompanied on the piano by Lynne Crowe. We'll have a drawing for some very nice artists' stuff and enjoy an array of cookies.

How The Cookie Exchange Works:

Bring at least one to two dozen of your favorite cookies in a container or tray for our meeting. Set them out in the kitchen. After the meeting, the left-overs are for folks to take home. If need be, bring an extra container or bag to take your goodies home in.



January 23rd Program

Professional Critique by Betty Carr

This is a learning experience for the artists that bring paintings and the rest of us to take notes on. Betty has a gentle, humorous style to pointing out areas where a painting can be tweaked for improvement. FYI: The deadline for entries to the Exhibition is February 14th.

Bring no more than three paintings, matted or not. Place them on the table at the front.



Betty Carr



February 27th Program

Linda Sherman

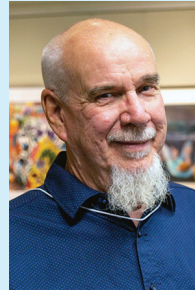
No specific info at this time but always a great program by a master painter.

NAWS Workshops

Upcoming Workshops

Pat Fraleigh, Workshop Chair, fraleighski@gmail.com

2026 Workshops



February 2026

STAN KURTH

The Intuitive Painting Mindset

Feb 17, 18, 19



Winowpane No. 117
by Stan Kurth



Coastal Anxiety
by Stan Kurth

In this workshop, you'll become acquainted with the intuitive painting mindset. 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.

Visit <https://stankurth.com/>

Workshops
are continued
on page 4.

2026 Workshops, cont.

Stephen Quiller will have two separate workshops:



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

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

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.

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

Displays and Exhibitions

From the Exhibition Committee

Pat Scott, Exhibition Chair

Happy Holidays and Happy Painting! Hopefully, the holidays might offer the time to focus on your entries for the NAWS Spring Exhibition. A great goal would be having a piece to be reviewed by Betty Carr at the January meeting!

As you know, submissions open on Monday, December 15, and here is a copy of the timeline again

for your review. And don't forget to check out the Phippen Museum and their current exhibitions at <https://hippenartmuseum.org>.

Currently we are working on "getting the word out regarding our Spring Exhibition." Towards that end, a "Call for Art" has been sent to potentially interested groups and individuals. Some fliers will be available at the December meeting but please feel free to contact me should you need something to distribute to your own networks and vendors.

2026 NAWS Juried Spring Exhibition Timeline

Phippen Museum, Prescott, Arizona

March 22-April 26, 2026

Monday, December 15, 2025 .. Submissions Open
Saturday, Feb 14..... Submission Deadline
Tuesday, March 17..... Take-in for Accepted Works (10am-12pm)
Sunday, March 22..... Exhibit Opens
Saturday, March 28 Demo, Awards Ceremony, Reception
Sunday, April 26 Exhibit Closes
Wednesday, April 29 Take-Down, Art Pick Up (10am-12pm)

Borrowing from the Masters

Linda Worland, NAWSletter Chair

Hi! Finding this little ol' left over space at the end of the newsletter here, allow me avail of it myself to share a couple of watercolor paintings I did for a class I recently took, found very inspiring, and had a ton of fun with.

The idea was to examine the original work and note the "points of visual weight," leading lines, values, color choices, etc. in the composition. Then we imitated the composition, substituting our own still life objects (as well as a little do-as-you-please). I learned a lot, especially in terms of artists' choices, limited palettes, and glazing/darkening, which I needed more experience with. I finished 9 out of 14 paintings, with three more still in various stages. The class is over, but I'm pretty sure I'll finish them!

I'm very sorry that this is not a class I can point you to, as it was within a California community college seniors program that I was allowed to stay in when I moved to Arizona five years ago. It is, however, an excellent idea and motivation to paint if you are a lover of composition—and maybe a little something of a surrealist!

*"War of the Salt Shakers"
~13x10, aka
Liberty
Leading the
People by E.
Delacroix*



*"Knitty
Kitty's
Teahouse"
14x10, aka
A Bar at
the Folie
Bergere, by
E. Manet*

*Class was
led by
Catherine
Tirr.*