



Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

WASH Newsletter

July/August 2020

WASH Board Members

Elected Positions

President Ralph F. Wilson

Secretary Rhonda Canby

Treasurer Ed Bostley

Program Chair Thomas Adams

Show Chairman AlysLynn Lemke

Workshop Chair Joanie Tarver

Membership Chair Sally Bostley

Liaison with SacArts Nancy Wedick

Newsletter Editor Sandie Mele

Appointed Positions

Scholarship Kaye Lochridge

Scholarship Jan Curry

Webmaster Gary Mele

Painting of the Month Peter Rodgers

Hospitality Barbara Little

Hospitality Cyndy Spita

Social Media Helen Plenert

Video Library Charlotte Richmond

WASH Website:

<https://www.sacramentowatercolor.org>

SacArts Center Website:

<https://www.sacfinearts.org>

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Stretch Your Art!

by Ralph F. Wilson, WASH President

If I could get over my “masterpiece complex” I’d be a better watercolorist. You know what I mean! I want the painting I’m working on to be really great, and so I don’t take any chances. I’ve been painting nearly eight years and now have confidence that I can paint an okay painting. I just do the things I’ve done for eight years and it will be okay. And most of the time it *is* okay – if you don’t count the really bad ones. But if I keep doing everything the way I’ve always done it; I’ll never get much better than okay.

Change

My dad was a high school art teacher. Every few summers he would spend several weeks away studying at a summer art course. One summer he took a class on painting oils with a palette knife, producing a series of canvases with bright saturated colors, exaggerated geometric shapes, and heavy impasto paint. My older brother insists to this day that his summer art instructor ruined him as a painter. But I don’t agree. These bold, in-your-face paintings are a lot more memorable and interesting than his former work – even his watercolors. (If you quote me, I’ll deny I ever said that!) When you study Picasso, you find that his early paintings show great technical skill, something you’d never guess by looking at his later works. But his controlled, skillful renderings aren’t what made him rich and famous. Van Gogh’s earlier works bear little resemblance to his later masterpieces. And I could go on.



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WASH Newsletter

July/August 2020

Stretching Ourselves

How can we stretch ourselves? When I was at the Metropolitan Museum of Art last November, I saw painters with easels copying old masters. By copying someone else's style, they stretched their own. They forced themselves to learn to paint another way by copying. The resulting painting wouldn't win any awards, but the lessons learned by getting out of their own painting ruts made them better artists ever after. You could do this. You could try to emulate a watercolor you really admire. You could take a class this summer online. One thing that has helped me be willing to experiment, rather than doing the same-old, same-old, is to do a painting each day for the 31 days of July. The goal now becomes to produce a painting, not to produce a masterpiece. It's freeing! In my mind's eye, I can see a lovely loose painting of camellias that Rebecca Jaggars did several years ago. I'd love to learn to paint that way, but I would probably botch it up! I could never do that! Or could I? Last night I calculated that a quarter sheet of Arches paper cost me a bit over \$1.50. What the heck! It's only a piece of paper! Perhaps the only way I'll really produce a masterpiece is to stop painting only what I know will be okay, and try new things. Push myself beyond my comfort zone. Stretch my art. How about you?



JOIN US!

Whether you're starting out exploring with watercolors, or have used the media for many years, we have workshops, demonstrations and watercolor shows for you!

To become a member of WASH, join Sacramento Fine Arts Center (SFAC, also known as Sac Arts) and select WASH as an optional club membership. See <https://www.sacfinearts.org>.

WASH Will Hold Monthly Zoom Meetings in July and August

At our most recent WASH Board meeting, we decided unanimously to break tradition and not take off the summer as we usually do. Few people are going away for vacation this year. So, we'll hold WASH Member Meetings via Zoom in both July and August, each second Monday at 1:30 pm. Our Program Chair, Tom Adams, is out scouting some great artists to demo for us. So, put it on your calendar: July 13 and August 10 at 1:30 pm.

NEW MEMBERS

Sally Bostley, Membership Chair, is happy to report we have 122 members. We would like to welcome our newest members, **Nini Redway from Sacramento and Collen Reynolds from Carson City, NV.** Please say hello to them at our next meeting, July 13 at 1:30.



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WASH Newsletter

July/August 2020

WASH SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE ARTS 2020 by Kaye Lockridge

The 2020 WASH Scholarship for the Arts winner is Shania Li Zhou. Shania was selected based on her ability in the medium of watercolor, service to the art community and academic achievement in art classes. Shania is a graduate of Folsom High School in Folsom. While attending Folsom High she worked at the Creative Arts and Music Center in Granite Bay near Folsom. Using her own art lesson plans Shania instructed children ages 5 and up. During that same span of time she volunteered with various elementary schools. While her artistic talent spans across other mediums, Shania says: "Watercolor is a medium that will always be with me." Shania will attend Ringling School of Art & Design College in Florida to study art and design. When you see her portfolio, you can judge for yourself, she demonstrates a fine ability, talent, and imagination for watercolor. I think this girl is going places!



The Roads We Take, by Shania Li Zhou



The Truth by Shania Li Zhou



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WASH Newsletter

July/August 2020

PAINTING OF THE MONTH

May painting of the Month

The winner of the May 2020 Painting of the Month was our newest member, Colleen Reynolds for her painting, "Jonesy Boy." Congratulations, Colleen! She was the recipient of the Olive I. Schmid award in our 2019 Open Show for the painting of the little girl called "Curiosity" and shared the PoM win in April with Susan Davis.



Jonesy Boy, by Colleen Reynolds

The online painting of the month contest has been very successful. With the technical knowledge of Gary, our Webmaster, we have been able to switch from in-person contest to online easily. AlysLynn gathers the painting images that are sent in to her email address (alyslynn@att.net), prepares them and Gary puts them up on our webpage and takes care of the voting. Peter Rodgers presents the paintings during the general meeting and the results of the voting are revealed. The first month, March, had 17 entries, May had 11 and June had a total of 17, so already it's been easier for people to enter. If you need help entering, there are instructions on our Facebook page or contact AlysLynn and she will help you.

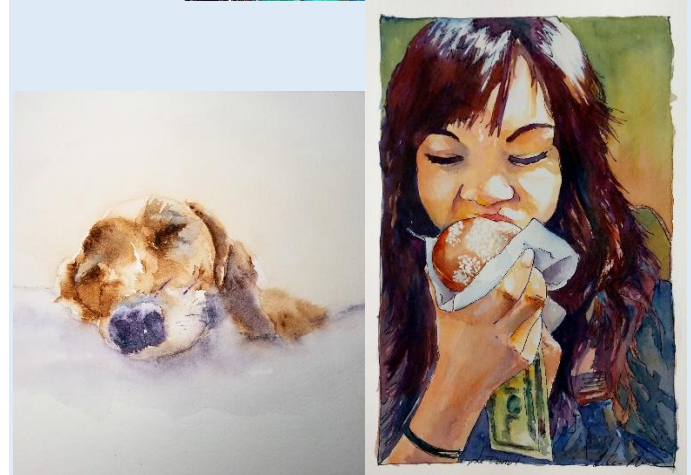
We would like to announce that should we have more than 10 or more entries there will be a second place award.

See all of the paintings on our website.

June painting of the Month

There were 17 entries for the June Painting of the Month. The first place winner was "Rosey Glow" by Susy Soulies. There was a tie for second place: "The Doughnut" by Helen Plenert and "Mogey, a Gentle Soul" by Linda Downs.

Congratulations to the winners!





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WASH Newsletter

July/August 2020

WASH MEMBER SHOW 2020

Update on the WASH Membership Show - the gallery remains closed to the public and the opening hasn't been announced. Our show is up and we can keep it up until the next show that is scheduled to be hung. If you need your painting back, you may contact Angelia and schedule a time that she will be in the gallery to pick it up, but we would prefer for the whole show to remain together so that the public gets a chance to see it. Your paintings are safe and you can see them in our virtual walk-through video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BksQ03eGsFw>. This is happening all over the country, paintings are stuck in galleries waiting to open, so we are not alone. Thank you to everyone for being so patient! Our winners will receive their awards at the show take-down, date to be announced.

Award of Excellence



Canadian Bay, by Susan Davis

Award of Excellence



Tallac Knoll, by Lucinda Johnson

Award of Merit



Flamingos at Lake Nakuru, Kenya, by Ralph Wilson



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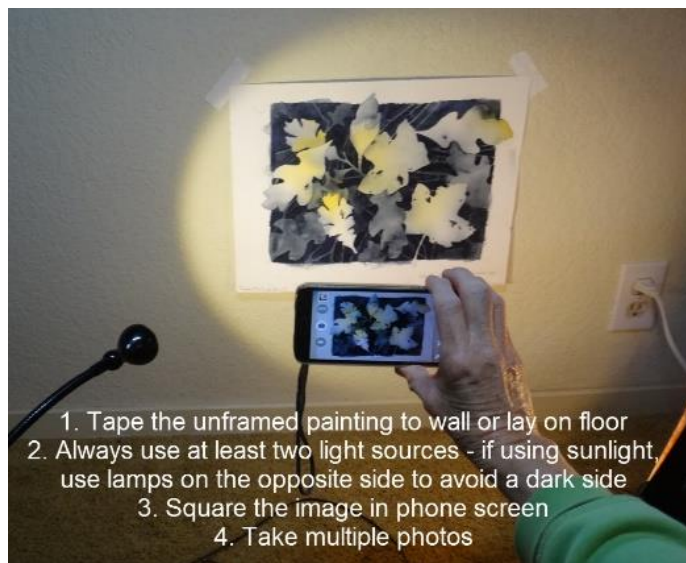
2020 OPEN SHOW UPDATE

Believe it or not, the deadline for our annual open show is coming up July 10th. All entries are done online through Smarter Entry. Go to: www.SmarterEntry.com/CallsForEntry and look for our name, "WASH - Watercolor Artists of Sacramento Horizons" and follow the links. If you need help, please call me or get one of your internet savvy friends to help. You may enter up to three paintings and our judge will be the wonderful landscape artist, Dale Laitinen. Entering our painting of the month contests should have given you lots of practice. If you haven't tried putting your painting in PoM yet, please do! Below is one way to photograph your work. Do not include the mat or frame in the shot and send it to me original size.

WORKSHOPS



Due to Covid-19, the **Ted Nuttall** workshop has been rescheduled. Students in the original class and on the wait-list will have priority in signing up for the new class. The new class will be a five-day workshop. **Ted Nuttall, "Painting Portraits from Photographs"** February 3-7, 2021 (Wednesday – Sunday) 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Members: \$550 Nonmembers \$600



Good luck and happy painting!



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WASH Newsletter

July/August 2020

JUNE MEETING DEMONSTRATION



We were fortunate to have an online demonstration by Michael Mikolon at our June member meeting. Michael J. Mikolon was born and raised in Detroit. Michael earned a BFA at the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit. His love of nature and the great outdoors led him to northern California where he works as an artist and art teacher. Michael paints primarily landscapes and figures, as well as very creative and humorous illustrations and comics. Michael works in watercolor, oil and also digital media. Visit his website at:

<http://www.artistmichael.com/>



Jenkinson Lake, Sly Park Recreation Area
Demonstration painting by Michael Mikolon



Wrapped, by Michael Mikolon



Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

WASH Newsletter

July/August 2020

JULY MEETING DEMONSTRATION

Our demonstrator for the July 13 meeting will be Patris Miller on Zoom, she will provide tips on painting flowers, using the California poppy as an example. Although a lot of her work is in oils, she will be using water-based media for this demo.

Growing up in the Northwest corner of Montana, Patris was surrounded by the natural beauty of the great Creator's handiwork. She expresses this admiration for the landscape as well as her love of the urban landscape in her artwork. She enjoys painting on location (en plein aire), following in the tradition of the Barbizon School and the Impressionists. Her work is described as "peaceful and positive" - qualities she attributes to a connection she feels with the Creator and the natural world she observes in front of her easel.

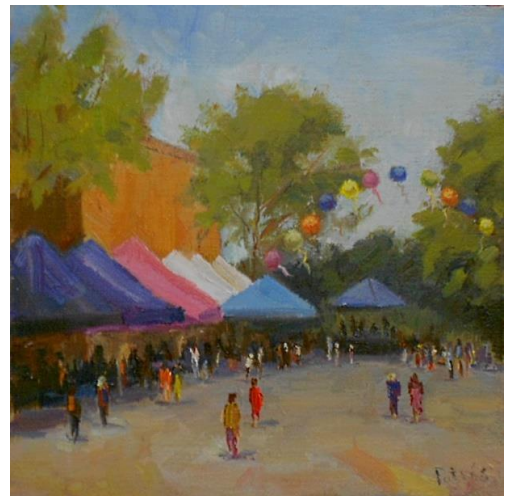
"Patris sees with her eyes, but paints with her heart."



Agony and the Ecstasy by Patris Miller



Cupcake #3 by Patris Miller



Painters Paradise 1 by Patris Miller



Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

WASH Newsletter

July/August 2020

AUGUST MEETING DEMONSTRATION

Our August 10 meeting will feature a talented landscape painter, Ian Roberts. His home is in Los Angeles. As a teacher he does workshops and videos. He is the author of two books, *Mastering Composition* (which sold 45,000 copies) and *Creative Authenticity*. Ian will discuss and provide examples of his work relating to principles of composition. More information can be found at his website: ianroberts.com



Road to Caromb, by Ian Roberts



Light on the Bay, by Ian Roberts

Plague Painting or Painting in Times of Virus, by Sally Bostley

I hope you are all well and doing a lot of painting. This might be a good time to look through old travel photos or even look at things around the house and yard that might be fun to paint. If you've never tried a portrait, set up in front of a mirror and try to do a self-portrait. If you've always painted loose, try a very detailed painting. If you're a detail painter, try something very loose. If you can't think of anything to paint, try an abstract and jump start by just splashing paint on the paper and seeing where it takes you. This is a good time to experiment . . . or just mess around and have fun doing things you've never done before.



Message from the Editor

Our June WASH member meeting was held on Zoom and the July and August meetings will also be on Zoom. Look for an email from Ralph, our president, with an announcement in July for an invitation and a link to the meeting. Members and guests are welcome. Be sure to check our WASH website (sacfinearts.org), email or the WASH Facebook group for more information. Wondering who to contact for information about workshops, shows, meetings, etc., or how to post announcements on Facebook, the WASH Newsletter or the WASH website? **Send a note to my email:** nelson.sandie@comcast.net