

# ARIZONA WATERCOLOR ASSOCIATION

## NOVEMBER 2019

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ARIZONA  
WATERCOLOR  
ASSOCIATION



### John Erwin

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2019 | MEMBER WORKSHOP

#### "FUN with Collage, Texture & Charcoal In Watermedia"

This November, the AWA welcomes back John Erwin for a one-day workshop exploring the use of a charcoal throw, collage and textural elements in watermedia.

For those who may not know John, he is a natural at teaching. John taught in the Paradise Valley Unified School District for 40 years, and has painted in watercolor for over 30 years. John studied watercolor locally with Diane Maxey and Dick Phillips and later worked with Robert Wood in California and Milford Zornes in Ireland. He has been offering instruction in watercolor for over 7 years and currently teaches watercolor, printmaking, sketching and "Wine and Watercolor" regularly at the Shemer Art Center.



John says he gets energized and excited by all the new materials, techniques, and styles that are available to us as painters. His desire to explore new mediums and techniques presents a fun challenge on how to apply these new materials to his style of painting. The real excitement comes in watching the magic happen as you pour, scrape, and splatter paint.

In the November workshop, participants will be working in a two-part class involving charcoal and paper collage. This class will challenge you to stretch your imagination in a fun-filled atmosphere.

In the first part, John will ask students to prepare different types of tissue and rice paper to be applied over watercolor paintings. Then you will

"rework" the painting with inks, watercolors, or acrylics to give it a new dimension in texture and color.

The second part of the workshop will begin with a "charcoal throw". This process involves sprinkling charcoal onto watercolor paper and then splashing it with water. Once dry, we will look at the forms, images and textures that have been created. Using this as our motivation, we will then paint over it/on it to create our finished painting.

Currently, the November workshop with John Erwin is full. However, don't despair! Get your name on the waitlist! Interested persons should contact Sally Gonzalez at [sally.r.gonzalez@outlook.com](mailto:sally.r.gonzalez@outlook.com) for more information.

*—submitted by Mary Valesano, Chair, Member Workshops*

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## AWA Fall Show and Reception

We had a great turn out at the reception and the team at the venue did an amazing job installing the show, setting up the food and making the entire night a very classy event. Thank you to Peter, Janet, Lilly and Caroline and Rubin the bartender! We had a nice visit by a Representative of the Chandler Chamber of Commerce, Sam Huang, who said he really loved watercolor and loved the show.

I also want to say a big THANK YOU to all of the people who helped us setting up the show. Tanya Lemma acquired a fantastic amount of merchant awards and did an amazing job presenting them at the reception. Christine Oliver designed and printed the certificates for all of the artists. Jane Underhill helped to inspect and check in the artwork. Melanie Harman who wrote the awards checks and helped us to organize them, and of course Sheila who entertained our juror Antonio Masi and set up the workshops.

### THE AWARD WINNERS WERE:

**Best of Show** – Annette Smith for “Cecil”

**Oman Award** – Tom Herbert for “Where or When”

**Award of Distinction** – Mary Valesano for “Joyful Reunion”

**President’s Choice Award** – Marion Droge for “Going Postal”

**Award of Merit** – Margy West for “Deep in Thought”

### MERCHANT AWARDS WENT TO:

Bruce Sink for “Conche” – *Dick Blick gift basket*

Grace Haverty for “Peonies” – *Jack Richeson & Company gift certificate*

Kimberly Harris for “Road to Bell Rock” – *Jack Richeson & Company gift certificate*

George Poltis for “Symphonie” – *Jack Richeson and Company gift certificate*

Hillary Fiscus for “Date Palm” - *Arizona Art Supply gift certificate and two Phoenix Art Museum passes*

Renee Hawk for “Mad About Mangos” – *Benicci brush set, Stratford Paper, and Holbein watercolors*

Sandi Lunsford for “Red rock Rapids” – *Creative Catalyst Video, Color Craft paints, & International Artists Magazine subscription*

–submitted by Betsy Aguirre and Carol Baker, Exhibitions



Congratulations to all of the winners of the Chandler Center for the Arts exhibition!

Make sure you stop by and view the exhibition through November 15th.





## “Thank You” Antonio Masi!

AWA is very fortunate to have had Mr. Antonio Masi, President of the American Watercolor Society as our fall juror and workshop instructor.

Mr. Masi develops his paintings with at times 30 or more glazes to create the rich, in-depth paintings for which he is famous. As a self-declared “value painter” he says, “All great art is based upon control of values.”

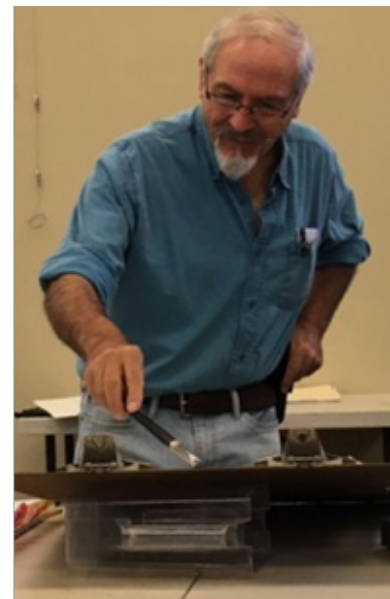
Antonio is an amazing instructor and made our classes very special. Morning demos included a bridge, a windmill, a Ching Tao landscape, and a tractor. Afternoons provided ample time for quality, one-on-one instruction.

### Here are just a few of the very important concepts he stressed:

- Do multiple sketches (including a 3-part value sketch) of your subject so you know it well.
- Always keep your palette wet. Four to five drops of gum Arabic in your water bottle slows evaporation.
- Every brush has a voice. Know your brushes well and what they can do.
- For richer colors, use a minimum of two colors mixed.
- If the value is right, the color will work. For rich paintings, change your colors but keep your values.
- Paint above, beyond, or short of your sketch to avoid the paint-by-number look.
- Paint with authority, directness, and no hesitation.
- To help with the final analysis of your painting, take a photo, or use a mirror or view finder for a different perspective.

**Thank you again, Mr. Antonio Masi for being our juror and workshop instructor.**

*–submitted by Mary Valesano, Chair, Member Workshops*



## AZ Art Alliance – Enriching Life Through Art

### UPCOMING EXHIBITS:

**“Partnership”** – this juried fine art exhibit & sale at Holland Gallery (34250 N. 60th Street, Bldg. B, Scottsdale 85266) continues through Oct. 24, 2019. AWA Artists participating in this exhibit are as follows:

Lynda Burruss	Judy Delmonico-Roll	John Erwin	Melanie Harman
Tanya Lemma	Jean Rossman	Carolyn Tolliver	Jane Underhill

The reception was held on Saturday, October 12, and was very well attended. Jean Rossman was awarded 1st Place for “Cloudville Hi-Rise For Sale or Rent”. Melanie Harman received Honorable Mention for “Old Friend”. Congratulations to both!

### Free Art Classes for Veterans:

Classes provide a friendly atmosphere, attest to the therapeutic benefits of creating art, and are taught at various locations. For more specific information about class locations, dates, times, how to contact the program coordinator, etc., please check these websites: (azartalliance.com) or (azveteranartprogram.com).

*–submitted by Judy Delmonico-Roll, AZ Art Alliance Rep*

# President's Message

Hello AWA Members!

Our fall show is open at the Chandler Arts Center and is a wonderful show. Antonio Masi selected a very beautiful collection of watercolors, from a large group of amazing paintings. It was very difficult to not select them all. Thanks to all the magnificent artists who entered the show. Looking forward to seeing more in the spring.

Our Juror workshop was very fun and a great deal of aspiration and excitement from Antonio Masi.

## We have several Juror's planned for the future shows:

- Spring 2020 – Crystal Beshara, Canada; [crystalbeshara.com](http://crystalbeshara.com)
- Fall 2020 (*we are still working on and will announce later*)
- Spring 2021 – Tom Lynch, Illinois; [tomlynch.com](http://tomlynch.com)
- Fall 2021 – David Smith, Minnesota; [dsmithfineart.com](http://dsmithfineart.com)
- Spring 2022 – Ron Stocke, Washington; [ronstocke.com](http://ronstocke.com)
- Fall 2022 – Michael Holter, Virginia; [michaelholter.com](http://michaelholter.com)

## Our Member workshops start:

- November 16, 2019 – John Erwin “Fun with Collage, Texture and Charcoal in Watermedia”
- January 11, 2020 – Kim Johnson-Nechtman “Portrait Studies with Emphasis on Features”
- February 15, 2020 – Jane Underhill “Creative Pours with Pure Pigments”
- March 14, 2020 – Stan Kurth “Intuitive Studies in Watercolor, Ink & Gouache”

Sign up early to reserve a spot in these amazing workshops.

We need volunteers in three primary areas; two people are needed to lead the exhibition function. This is an extremely important role that is needed if we want to continue to have a Spring show. Please consider helping us make this happen. We also need someone to be responsible for setting up the meeting snacks. Joyce Parmley is retiring after countless years of setting up our meetings. Thank you for your years of service, Joyce! Please contact me to help out, this is your AWA, thanks for supporting us be successful!

Keep your brushes wet and be inspired!

**Download the Member Workshop application at [azwatercolor.com/awa-workshops](http://azwatercolor.com/awa-workshops)**



Bruce Sink, AWA President



## MY LATE FRIEND, NORBERT BAIRD

I met Norbert while taking a watercolor class at ASU. We were in an advanced class taught by Professor Ellen Murray Meissinger. Norbert quickly became the “teacher’s pet.” Ms. Meissinger was partial to Norbert because he was so helpful. He was also one of the best watercolor artists in the class.

While taking a class from Dick Phillips we came up with the idea of starting a critique group. In 1998, Beth Drathman, JoEllen Layton, Norbert and I decided to get together once a month for a critique. That meant we had to paint something for critique every month. We named the group, “First Thursday Art Critique Group.” Our critique group saw many artists come and go. Norbert’s artistic skills increased dramatically. He found his passion painting mechanical equipment. He

made even the most humble pile of junk look beautiful. His sense of design and his use of color made each painting sing! Norbert was always involved in the art community and belonged to numerous groups such as AWA and CWA. He thoroughly enjoyed the friendship and fellowship that he found in the AZ art world. He served on many committees and volunteered where needed. He often came early to meetings to ensure that the mirror was in place or that chairs were arranged properly. He helped hang many art shows and was a trouble shooter when problems arose.

It is one of the greatest privileges in my life to count Norbert as my friend. I will miss him. We all will miss him.

*Written by Chereen Tanner; Adapted for newsletter by Liz Ramsey*

## "A Taste of Watercolor"

### *AWA's Community Outreach – Giving to the Community by Reaching Out to Teachers*

AWA Community Outreach to Arizona teachers of art, grades K–12 is moving ahead. The program is being refined to make it even more meaningful and helpful to teachers. Last years' programs were great and enthusiastically received. They were learning experiences for all, presenters of the programs and the teachers who partook in the workshops. As with any program presented there is always going to be growth and refinement in the program. Growth and refinement are a part of learning and success. "A Taste of Watercolor" is a viable and vibrant outreach.

Moving forward, a training and informational presentation to all the AWA Community Outreach volunteers is being developed. It will be presented hopefully in early January, date to be announced. Tentatively presentations to four school districts will take place before the end of the AWA program year.

All materials used in the in-service presentations are provided by AWA. This year we are raising funds three ways: 1) taking donations; 2) raffling off a juror's workshop valued at \$200; and 3) holding a silent auction for members' paintings at each general meeting.

Donations of any amount are accepted. The juror's workshop is a two day workshop given by one of the jurors of the

two membership exhibitions to be held in 2020 and 2021. Members who wish to donate paintings for the silent auction are asked to contact Sherry Kimmel to make arrangements and set the minimum amount for a bid on their painting.

Please join us in this exciting year of AWA Community Outreach to Arizona teachers of art, "A Taste of Watercolor." All comments, questions and ideas are welcomed.

Now a moment to say: Many thanks go to Dolly Maitzen and Gayla Bonnell for planting the seed and beginning the outreach last year; to Candace Wilkinson and Karen Gray for their support at the presentation to Peoria Unified School District; to Sherry Kimmel, co-chair of the Outreach Committee for her advice and being financial overseer; to Glenda Folk for her wonderful input in explaining and sharing instruction and ideas in developing the outreach; to all the members who have signed up to be a part of this vital program; and to Ruth Philliben, past AWA president, Bruce Sink, present AWA president and to all the Board members who have and are supporting this endeavor; and a BIG thanks to all the members who have supported the outreach by their monetary donations, taking part in the raffle and verbally with encouragements, ideas and comments.

*–submitted by Diane Parnitzke, Chair, AWA Community Outreach*

## **AWA - Del Decil Scholarship** – By Dyanne Locati, AWA Chairman

There are many ways you can participate in making the Scholarship fund successful. One way is giving a monetary donation. With a \$20 donation to the Scholarship fund you will receive an AWA tax credit. Your contribution helps our organization continue to meet our mission of promoting watercolor awareness and interest through education, exhibitions and other events.

Another way you can be a part of our scholarship fund is by donating unwanted, but usable items for the raffle table at meetings. Please donate items that our artists are interested

in purchasing such as: books, paints, brushes, paper, pencils, DVD videos, or gift certificates.

In 2019 we gave \$3,000. To three appreciative students to help further their education. Your continued support with donations is appreciated.

Thank you,  
Dyanne Locati, *Scholarship Chairman*  
Carole Matthews, *Scholarship, Raffle*

## **November AWA Member News...**

- Grace Haverty – obtained her Signature status at AWS American Watercolor Society
- Betsy Aguirre – Art Exhibit, *Beatitudes Church*
- Pam Root – Herberger Theater Art Exhibit; Shomer Art Exhibit; CWA Art Exhibit, Desert Foothills Library, *Cave Creek*
- Melanie Harman – AAA Show
- Tanya Lemma – AAA Show; WHAM Color Art Show (3 paintings); AAA Interpretations; AAA Heat Is On, Third place; AAA Website Winners Circle; Vanguard Artist; Birt's Bistro Show



## Kim Johnson-Nechtman

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2020 | MEMBER WORKSHOP

### "Portrait Studies – Emphasis on Features"

Kim is a true master at painting colorful portraits! This subject matter can be intimidating, but Kim will show you how to let go of that fear! Throw out those old, outdated rules for painting portraits in watercolor! Kim's ease as an instructor will encourage students to experiment and take on new challenges, especially in facial composition.

In the January workshop, attending artists will begin with an in depth study of the facial elements – eyes, nose, and mouth – to learn and understand how the shape of each element combines to form the face as a whole. At this point, artists will revisit their contour drawing to judge its quality in preparation for painting. Time will be allowed to make any necessary adjustments to their drawing before painting begins.



Kim is a signature member of The American Watercolor Society, The National Watercolor Society, Watercolor West, The San Diego Watercolor Society, The Transparent Watercolor Society of America, The Western Federation of Watercolor Societies, and the Arizona Watercolor Association.

Her award winning work is enjoyed by both corporate offices and private collectors. For more about Kim and her art, visit [kj-art.com](http://kj-art.com).

Currently, Kim's workshop is full. However, we can potentially 'turn that frown upside down' and put your name on the waitlist. Interested artists should contact Sally Gonzalez at [sally.r.gonzalez@outlook.com](mailto:sally.r.gonzalez@outlook.com).

*-submitted by Mary Valesano, Chair, Member Workshops*



## Jane Underhill

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2020 | MEMBER WORKSHOP

### "Creative Pours with Pure Pigments"

Come and Play, Saturday, February 15, 2020, with Jane Underhill who will teach a one day workshop featuring Createx Pure Pigments. For those unfamiliar with Pure Pigments, they are highly concentrated liquid pigments that can be added to various mediums (acrylic, multi-surface, soft gel, gloss, matte, impasto gel, etc.) to create a full range of color intensity, opacity thickness and flow. They are non-toxic, permanent, lightfast and fun!

In this workshop (aka "playshop"), Jane will guide artists as they explore the use of pure pigment pouring to create beautiful transparent washes for unique works of art. Participants will also experiment with "reverse negative" techniques used to pull out fascinating images from face-down pours. Additional enhancement techniques will also be demonstrated. Don't have Pure Pigments? No Worries! Jane to the rescue! A small additional supply fee will provide you with a take home kit of three 8 ounce squeeze bottles of premixed primary colors and two types of paper to use during the "playshop"!

In 2006 Jane was selected as the "official artist" for the United States Golf Association's National Amateur Golf Championship which was held at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Minneapolis. Jane's painting commemorated that event and was featured in prints and souvenir cards available to participants and patrons of the tournament. Soon after, Jane became a featured artist for the annual national greeting card competition of the Courage Center, a Minnesota-based non-profit rehabilitation and resource center for the disabled.

Now Jane's works hang in both private and public collections around the country. She considers her art a work in progress. Being a life-long learner has equipped her to always strive to improve her skills and learn new techniques in the exciting art of water media. Jane reflects on her passion for watercolor in these words: "Painting has provided me with a wonderful vehicle to express my creativity and has given me a joy and fulfillment I had never imagined."

Don't delay! Send in your completed member workshop registration form and join Jane for a fun "Playshop!"

*-submitted by Mary Valesano, Chair, Member Workshops*



## AWA MEMBERSHIP

What a wonderful time to get involved with AWA! If you would like to join us, it's easy! Membership is only \$45.00. Our membership year runs from June through May. Look at what membership provides:

- **EXHIBITIONS:** Eligibility to enter your work in our shows.
- **WORKSHOPS:** Member discount and priority non-members for registration in our workshops.
- **MEETINGS:** Free demonstrations from our workshop presenters at each meeting.
- **NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES:** Want some feedback? Share ideas and techniques with your colleagues.
- **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:** A chance to make a difference. What skills do you have that you can share with your colleagues? It takes a team to run the organization and we need everyone to help out! Whether it's serving on the board, helping with meeting set up or hanging a show, we need your help. Please let us know how you can help.
- **SIGNATURE STATUS:** Once you have obtained AWA Signature status, if you let your membership lapse, your status will not be continued.

### It's easy to join!

- Fill out the application form (available on the website) and send it along with a check to our PO Box (listed on the form).
- You can also fill out the form and pay at a meeting. We accept checks, cash, and credit cards at the meeting! We will have the ability to accept credit cards through our website in the near future!

If you are one of the members who has not yet renewed, the good news is that we have eliminated the \$15 late fee. If you're not sure whether you paid your dues for this fiscal year, you can email me at [azwatercolormembership@gmail.com](mailto:azwatercolormembership@gmail.com). I'll be glad to check your status and get back with you.

– Ruth Philliben, *Membership Chair*

## Congratulations to Stan Kirth!

Stan has an excellent nine page article in the latest, "Watercolor Artist" magazine. The article demonstrates his achievements and gives a synopsis of his journey in the art world and his present success in workshops throughout the United States. It even outlines a two page demo. He is quoted, "I begin a painting with the confidence that my collective thoughts and feelings will predicate the necessary moves." This is a statement that is all encompassing of Stan's approach to art. Anyone who knows Stan or who reads this article will be interested in taking a workshop from him. AWA congratulates Stan, not only for his tremendous body of work but for his accolades in the art world.

– submitted by Liz Ramsey

### Welcome New Members!

Katie Bechtel  
Linda Smith  
Theresa Thraen

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Scholarship raffle table: .....	Opportunity
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David Amsellem .....	480-216-3938

**Newsletter Submissions:** Send articles or member news updates to: Liz Ramsey at [lizramsey@cox.net](mailto:lizramsey@cox.net). News for the following month's newsletter will be due by the 3rd Thursday and the newsletter will go out the 4th Thursday of the month for the following month.

ARIZONA  
WATERCOLOR  
ASSOCIATION



PO Box 30693  
Phoenix, AZ 85046

## GENERAL MEETINGS

AAG Art Center

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7:00pm • Fun Table

7:30-9:30pm • Meeting

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## Calendar Overview

**Thursday, November 14 | AWA Meeting**

5:15 – 7:00pm Board Meeting

7:00 – 8:00pm Social Time & General Meeting

8:00 – 9:00pm Demonstration

**Saturday, November 16 | AWA One Day Workshop**

9:00am – 4:00pm with John Erwin

FUN with Collage, Texture & Charcoal in Watermedia!

**Thursday, January 9, 2020 | AWA Meeting**

5:15 – 7:00pm Board Meeting

7:00 – 8:00pm Social Time & General Meeting

8:00 – 9:00pm Demonstration

**Saturday, January 11 | AWA One Day Workshop**

9:00am – 4:00pm with Kim Johnson-Nectman

"Portrait Studies - Emphasis on Features"

**Thursday, February 13 | AWA Meeting**

5:15 – 7:00pm Board Meeting

7:00 – 8:00pm Social Time & General Meeting

8:00 – 9:00pm Demonstration

**Saturday, February 15 | AWA One Day Workshop**

9:00am – 4:00pm with Jane Underhill

"Creative Pours With Pure Pigments"