



Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

## WASH Newsletter

September/October 2020

### WASH Board Members

#### Elected Positions

**President** Ralph F. Wilson

**Secretary** Rhonda Canby

**Treasurer** Edward Bostley

**Program Chair** Thomas Adams

**Show Chairman** AlysLynn Lemke

**Membership Chair** Sally Bostley

**Liaison with SacArts** Nancy Wedick

**Newsletter Editor** Sandie Mele

#### Appointed Positions

**Scholarship** Kaye Lochridge

**Scholarship** Jan Curry

**Webmaster** Gary Mele

**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

### Escaping the Clutches of Painter's Block

By Ralph F. Wilson, WASH President

Sometimes we are just uninspired. We know we ought to paint something, but we're stuck. If we were writers, it would be called "writer's block." If this describes you, here's a list of painting ideas, one of which may spark your interest and break you out of the inertia of painter's block.

**1. Trips.** Paint scenes from a trip you took – either years ago, or a day trip just last week. Go through your photos again to see what inspires you. Then tackle it. Paint a landscape, a seascape, something that you can escape in and re-imagine the feeling as you paint.

**2. Your surroundings.** English watercolorist Lucy Willis paints the light filtering into her garden, cottages in her community, flowers, beaches. San Diego watercolorist Belinda DelPesco often paints still-lives on her kitchen counter or window sill. Urban painters are attracted to scenes of city life.

**3. People or pets.** Grandchildren are a natural. Last week my granddaughters were climbing a rock outcropping. I took some great action shots that I'll turn into a painting. Portraits are challenging, but the painting is an act of love, and you'll end up with a piece that will remind you of loved ones – either people or pets.

**4. A deliberate gift.** Our paintings often end up as gifts to friends and relatives. But what if you painted something specifically designed for your cousin or aunt? What would that look like?





Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

## WASH Newsletter

September/October 2020

**5. For a specific room location.** Do you have a room of your house – or a friend's home – that needs a painting to accent it? Why don't you create a painting to fit that particular space, with size and color scheme designed to be just right?

**6. New styles or challenges.** There's that forever quest to paint "looser." Perhaps you want to mimic a Cubist style. Or paint like a watercolorist you really admire. Changing your painting style is difficult. But if you give yourself permission to attempt a half-dozen paintings in a style you want to emulate -- without judging your early attempts and giving up too soon -- you can make some real progress as an artist. Do you want to learn how to paint a pleasing non-representational or abstract piece? It's hard, but go for it!

**7. Joy-givers.** What makes you happy to think about? Paint it! So what if it's difficult; give it a try. That painting can help you get into your "happy place" as you paint it, and as you view it in days to come.

**8. Express your thoughts and moods.** How are you feeling right now? Sad, depressed, grieving? I have a friend who began painting in order to ease the ragged pain of her adult son's sudden death. The resulting series expresses some of the darkness, as well as the hope. Sure, it's hard to put yourself out there. Life is sometimes harsh. So try expressing it in your painting.

**9. A new perspective on the familiar.** If you can just find a new perspective or a completely different color scheme, it can open huge painting vistas for you. Birgit O'Conner and

Georgia O'Keefe built careers painting large flowers that fill the whole frame. Charles Reid liked vases filled with a variety of colored flowers, positioned with cups and boxes and other items he had around -- a floral still life. How can you paint what you enjoy in a new way for you? Get creative!

**10. Historical subject.** What holiday is coming up? How about a painting with a Thanksgiving or Christmas theme, Easter or Fourth of July? I have ancestors who served in the American Revolution, so I painted them in uniform, using a relative's photo for the face. He got a kick out of it. One year I painted a bald eagle against an American flag. This fall I'm thinking of painting the pilgrim figurines my mother-in-law puts on the dinner table at Thanksgiving. You get the idea.

This list of idea-starters just scratches the surface. Why don't you sit down this afternoon and make a written list of painting ideas you'd like to tackle sometime? Then when your well seems dry, go back to that list – or to your cache of old photos – and get back in the game. Don't let painter's block immobilize you any longer!





Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

## **WASH Newsletter**

**September/October 2020**

### **NEW MEMBERS**

Sally Bostley, Membership Chair, is happy to report we have 128 members. We would like to welcome our newest members: Please say hello to them at our next meeting, September 14 at 1:30.

Richard Hill, Fair Oaks, CA  
Gina Lijoi, Reno Nevada  
Christopher Reeves, Antelope, CA

### **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 September and October**

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 September and October, 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: September 14 and October 12 at 1:30 pm.

### *Go with the Flow*

#### **WASH International Juried Watercolor Online Exhibition**

**August 25 – October 25**

The exhibit will be online on the WASH  
Website: [Go with the Flow](#)

#### **Best in Show 2019**



***The Playground***  
**by Lori Rase Hall**

The Best of Show winner will receive a lifetime  
membership worth \$1000!

**A R T W O R K  
A R C H I V E**

Art Inventory and Business Management  
Tools for the Artist  
[www.artworkarchive.com](http://www.artworkarchive.com)

WASH Members receive 20% off their first year's  
subscription! Go to:  
<https://www.artworkarchive.com/wash>





Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

**WASH Newsletter**

**September/October 2020**

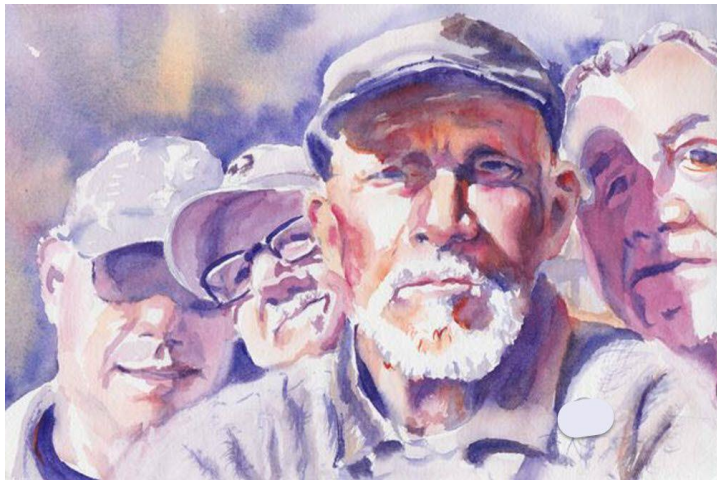
## PAINTING OF THE MONTH

### July Painting of the Month

Our online painting of the month contests has been a smashing success breaking all records for participation. In the July contest, we had twenty-three pieces so we were able to award 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The awards are given as follows: Up to 10 entered – 1<sup>st</sup> place only, 11 or more – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place, 20 or more – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Congratulations to the July winners, Colleen Reynolds, Diane Pargament and David Peterson.

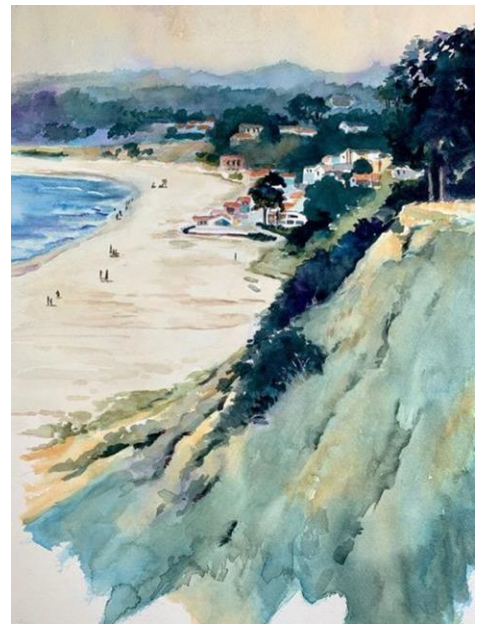
#### First Place

*Serious Golfing Buddies*  
By Diane Pargament



#### Second Place

*View from the Cliff*  
By Coleen Reynolds



#### Third Place

*Freedom Angels*  
By David Peterson





Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

## **WASH Newsletter**

**September/October 2020**

### **August Painting of the Month**

Congratulations to our winners of the August Painting of the Month, Susy Soulies and Colleen Reynolds! Susy won 1st with her realistic crystal and flower still life "Iced Pears" and Colleen won with her well executed landscape "Birds on a Wire" that perfectly demonstrated the concepts talked about by Ian Roberts, our demonstration artist for August. There were 18 very worthy paintings and it was a close contest, please visit our website to see them all.

We should be very proud of our members who take the plunge and enter our online PoM, attend the Zoom meeting and talk about their piece. Our members are very active and the excitement is contagious - in a good way. Please encourage all of your watercolor friends to enter. Non-members get one free entry so they can see how much fun we have. Members can enter a painting every month and the paintings are still eligible to enter our Open or Membership Shows.

Please visit our website to see all the work Gary Mele has done organizing the paintings of the month under the "Meetings" tab. It looks great! Thank you, Gary! The contest is free and for fun. Non-members and members not current with their dues may enter one time but you will be invited to join or re-join so that you may enter again or receive an honor. So far a total of four new members have joined this summer from entering the Painting of the Month! Anyone may vote.

<https://www.sacramentowatercolor.org/painting-of-the-month-contest/>

Paintings entered in the PoM are still eligible to be entered in SFAC gallery shows. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

#### **First Place**

*Iced Pears*

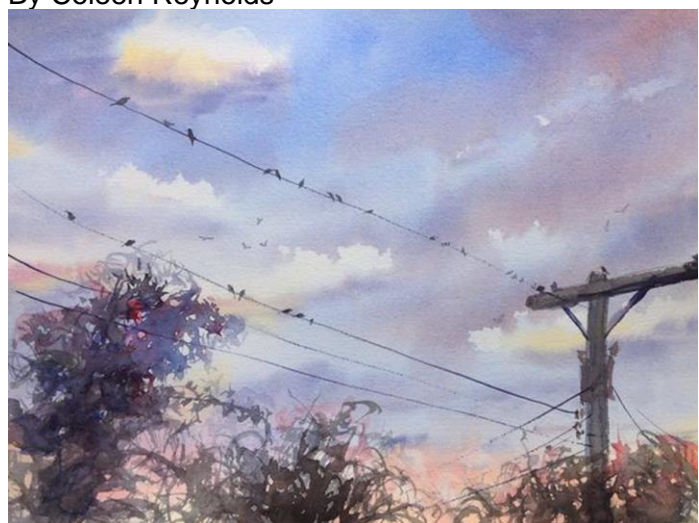
By Susy Soulies



#### **Second Place**

*Birds on a Wire*

By Colleen Reynolds







Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

**WASH Newsletter**

**September/October 2020**

## AUGUST MEETING DEMONSTRATION

Our August 10th meeting featured the talented landscape painter, Ian Roberts. Ian discussed strengthening composition using examples of his work relating to the principles of design.



Ian demonstrated he plans a painting in terms of it being design-driven rather than subject-driven. The painting obviously has a subject, we see trees, and hills, and so on, but they are in service of the design.

“Plan big masses when you paint. Before you begin to paint, make sure you have several dramatic value masses clearly in mind. Then, as you paint, stand back often. Make sure they continue to hold your attention and don’t fill up with detracting details.”

“Like composition in writing or music, in painting it forms the structure, or armature, underlying the image.”

To see more of his work, visit his website:  
<https://www.ianroberts.com/>



Plan big masses when you paint!



Use a sketch to identify dramatic value masses.

“When you’re feeling satisfied with how your eye responds to the major shapes and their relationships, start to make refinements.”



*Laura's Carpet*  
by Ian Roberts



Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

**WASH Newsletter**

**September/October 2020**

## SEPTEMBER MEETING DEMONSTRATION

Our September 14 meeting will feature Linda Akers. "All things nostalgic, sentimental, and a little bit quirky, are the things I like to capture on canvas or paper."

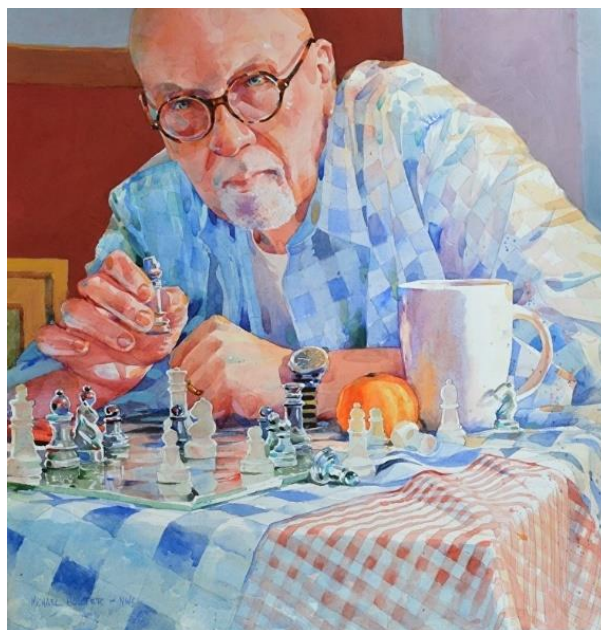
Linda has studied art and painting through all phases of her life... as a student in school, a military wife in Holland admiring the Masters, and living in the Intermountain area of Northern California under the direction of Canadian born artist, Patricia Carlson, through Shasta college.

Linda has been teaching in the Sacramento area for about twenty years and currently in Fair Oaks Village in her shop and gallery, "The Feathered Nest."

**See more paintings by Linda on page 9**



## OCTOBER MEETING DEMONSTRATION



Our October 12 meeting will feature award winning American Impressionist artist **Michael Holter**. Texas artist, Michael Holter works in both watercolor and oil. Michael's work has received numerous awards and recognition and can be found in private and corporate collections in the US and several foreign countries. His current work in two categories: watercolor figurative and oil landscapes (both plein air and studio). Although Michael has been painting most of his life, his work experience spans a wide range of creative endeavors, from art teacher, creative director and businessman in fine art and commercial art. Michael has owned and operated two galleries. Michael holds a Bachelor's Degree in Art Education and an MA in Visual Communication.





Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

**WASH Newsletter**

**September/October 2020**



Michael is a signature member of The National Watercolor Society, The Transparent Watercolor Society of America, The Outdoor Painter Society, the Southwestern Watercolor Society and The Society of Watercolor Artists. He is also a member of the American Watercolor Society, the Portrait Society of America and the American Impressionist Society.



<http://michaelholter.com/collections/72249>

## How to Fill Out your Directory Entry at SFAC / WASH

By Sally Bostley

Go to <https://www.sacfinearts.org/> and look in the White Banner near the top and find the **Member LOGIN** button. Click on it. The first time you log in you have to click the little round button at the bottom where it says: "Request Password" and they will email you a password. When you get your password, log in with it and you will arrive at the Member Log In page where it will remind you to change your password to something you can remember.

Now that you are logged in, you can check the information on the page and make sure it is correct. Be sure to check your email address and phone number so you get all the SFAC and WASH notices. You can also list your own web site if you like. Below that is "Member" "WASH" and it tells you when you need to renew your membership. Below that is a button to renew, upgrade if you want to join any other clubs or change billing information. After all that is satisfactory, click on the bottom button "Save & Continue" or if you've already done this, just click on the "Skip" button and continue.

This brings you to your "Profile Page." You may choose to be unlisted from the directory and default is to not show your street address in your profile and you may change to have it shown if you prefer. Next is a "Business Card" where you can put a copy of your business card or create a virtual one. If you're not sure what to do here, there is a blue circle with a question mark in it. Click on "Learn More" for a short





Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

## WASH Newsletter

September/October 2020

video explanation on setting up your business card. This is what people will see when they access the Directory.

Below this is an “Artist Statement” with another “Learn More” button you can use. If you already have an Artist Statement prepared, just copy and paste it into this space. Following this is your “Profile Gallery” with another “Learn More” button with another short video showing you how to add photos of your art work. Next you can list URLs for your “Social Links” like LinkedIn, Facebook, and many other networking sites. After this is “Volunteer Categories” and you can check fields where you would be able to contribute as a volunteer for either WASH or SFAC. Last, is the “Volunteer” window asking you to explain any special talents or training you may have. Don’t be shy. These don’t have to be artistic talents; any special training or ability will show up at some point and it’s nice to know someone who has some experience.

### Paintings by Linda Akers

#### Featured at the September Member Meeting



#### Message from the Editor

September and October meetings will be on Zoom. Look for an email from Ralph, our president, with an invitation and a link to the meeting. The announcement can also be found on the WASH Facebook page. Members and guests are welcome. Be sure to check our WASH website (<https://www.sacramentowatercolor.org/>), 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](mailto:nelson.sandie@comcast.net)**

