



# Desert Wash

Nevada Watercolor Society Newsletter

May 2020

May Meeting Cancelled Due to Coronavirus  
Next Board Meeting Date: To Be Determined

## President's Message



As I write this, we are now ending Week 7 of lockdown, and I'm sure we are all going a little nutty! Hopefully, you're getting in some painting as a welcome break from lines at the grocers, empty shelves, endless news, event cancellations, TV reruns, and political posturing. The great hope is that our sacrifices now will pay dividends later, and that keeps us going. We are really looking forward to reuniting in September and would like to find that all of you have made it through safely and remaining healthy.

Speaking of reuniting, we have settled on the theme "**Reunion**" for our Summer Painting Challenge. Read more about the challenge in this issue of the **Desert Wash**. Also covered in this issue is information on upcoming changes to our website, a tribute to former President Jim Champlin, an update on the status of the Spring Show, and the May board officer elections.

In case you missed the email, we have cancelled our May monthly meeting in the interest of protecting the safety of our members and guests. May is traditionally reserved for our annual officer elections and Treasurer's report. This year, we will handle both a little differently. See below to learn how the elections will be conducted. The annual Treasurer's report will be emailed to all active members on the date we would have met (May 13).

See you in September when we will welcome **Tesia Blackburn** from **Golden Artist Colors** who will provide the demonstration and a special goodie bag for each of those in attendance.

*Gail Montoure, President*

## Summer Painting Challenge

The theme for this year's Summer Painting Challenge is "**Reunion**". Reunion can be with people, places, or things. The only limit on the theme is your imagination, as we celebrate seeing each other again *in-person* after a lengthy break. Bring your finished paintings to the **September 9** monthly meeting, preferably matted. Frames are not needed and there are no size restrictions. Winners will be selected by attendee vote.

## The Nominations Are In...

We are grateful to our Nominating Committee **Barrie Cooke-Folsom**, **Grace Kent**, and **Georgia Lawson** for the following list of candidates who are up for election in May. Since our monthly meeting is cancelled, we will proceed with an online vote via email on May 13. If anyone would also like to declare candidacy before that date, please email [gailmontoure@cox.net](mailto:gailmontoure@cox.net).

**Gail Montoure – President**

**Judi Moreo – 1st Vice President/ Programs**

**Molly McClain – 2nd Vice President/ Membership**

**Carmen Egolf – 3rd Vice President / Shows & Exhibits**

**Sue Roach – Treasurer**

**Luz Stoffer – Secretary**

## Coming Soon

Our website is undergoing a facelift. Though the functionality won't change, it was time we gave our site a more modern appearance, with greater appeal to the casual site visitor.

We hope you like it and look forward to your feedback. The changes include:

- A new banner featuring the artwork of member **Gail Brito-Watson**.
- Banner consistent page-to-page.
- Elimination of the vertical menu frees up additional space for Home page information
- Pages accessed via horizontal drop-down menu.
- **News Updates** identifies art-related events outside NVWS of interest to our group.
- Access to the current newsletter via a link in **News Updates**.
- A slide show of award winning paintings, to eventually encompass a full year's winners.
- Poster for upcoming NVWS workshops on the Home page.
- Elimination of the newsletter and show brochure carousels.
- Expanded Upcoming Events section.
- Icons to access membership applications, on-line store, donations, and archives.
- Link to new NVWS Instagram site.
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**Tip:** If you experience issues opening website documents, note our web host does not perform optimally with Internet Explorer. Instead, try using Google Chrome, Safari, Microsoft Edge, or Firefox for browsing.

## In Memoriam



Sadly, our good friend and extraordinary volunteer **James L. "Jim" Champlin** passed away peacefully at his home on April 5, 2020 following recent surgery. Jim served as NVWS President for two years, and later as Hospitality Chair for an additional two years. Jim was also active in City Lights leadership, as a board member, exhibitor, and teacher.

Jim was a retired U.S. Air Force Major. He grew up in Ames, Iowa, and studied mechanical engineering at Iowa State University. He earned his M.S. in aeronautical engineering at Texas A&M in 1961. He retired from his military career with two Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Bronze Star, eleven air medals, and the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross. To further honor those with whom he served, he used his hidden artistic talents to design the National Distinguished Flying Cross Memorial at the March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California in 2010. The installation is now designated by Congress as a National Memorial.

We extend our condolences to Jim's children, grandchildren, great-grandchild, and his companion of the past 10 years, Mary Amick. We will miss you, Jim.



## Featured Artist: Attention Art Teachers

If you are an art teacher and are a member of the NVWS, please consider coordinating a showing of your students' art during our September to May schedule next year. We would love to see their work and perhaps attract new members to our society. Email Nancy Buford at [njbuford@ttlv.net](mailto:njbuford@ttlv.net).

## Member Notes

We continue to grow and are attracting artists who are diverse in age, background, and art experience. We've added twenty-seven new members, including five student members, since May 2019. Many of these new members have already volunteered for committees! Our Society benefits from this influx of new energy and ideas.

### **Put a link to your website in the Member Directory**

It's simple. Login to [www.nevadawatercolorsociety.org](http://www.nevadawatercolorsociety.org) and edit your member profile and insert your link.

If you teach art, and would like your information in the Member Directory, do the same thing! Login to [www.nevadawatercolorsociety.org](http://www.nevadawatercolorsociety.org) and edit your member profile.

Please make sure that your contact information is correct and complete. If you have never logged in or are unable to, please contact Molly McClain, Membership at [mcclainbill@yahoo.com](mailto:mcclainbill@yahoo.com) or call her at 702.769.4852.

## Reminder

Any payment made to the Nevada Watercolor Society using a credit card or Paypal account will show up on your credit card or bank statement as "Paypal Nevadawater" followed by a transaction number. This information is also highlighted on the email payment receipt you are sent. We have no control over how our name appears on your credit card and bank statements, and regret any confusion.

## Upcoming Workshops

Registration is now open for Kristi Grussendorf's workshop in October! Early bird rate of \$315 is available until August 12th. Dates of workshop are October 12th, 13th and 14th.

A copy of the flyer is attached to the email sent with this Newsletter.

## Spring Show Update from Carmen Egolf

The NVWS is working closely with the Springs Preserve, which is temporarily closed to the public due to the coronavirus outbreak. Their staff is working remotely and will reopen as soon as safely possible.

I'll receive an update the first week of May, but I want to go ahead and answer a couple of questions I have been asked by other members as well as restate some other tidbits I've emailed out to show participants.

### ***Will the show still happen?***

Yes. The dates, though, are now fluid. The end date is unmovable because of other bookings, but Springs Preserve has mentioned other venues the show could be moved to if the closure continues to inch closer and closer to the take-down date. We are doing everything we can to identify the best and safest avenue for promoting the works of the NVWS.

### ***Other galleries are moving shows to being virtual. Will NVWS do this for the Spring Show?***

The show will be virtual, and that will be in addition to a physical show. When the show dates are updated, the show images (44 works) will be published to Instagram. So if you haven't done so yet, work on getting the artwork framed.

### ***What if the state-wide non-essential closures continue for months and Springs Preserve finds it cannot accommodate the show?***

Gail and I have discussed this possibility. While not ideal, we came up with a Plan B, which would be to change the Spring Show to the Fall Show 2020, rolling over the selection in the process.

The show will go on. I'll send an update when I know more. In the meantime, keep painting and stay safe!

## Membership Renewals Coming Up!

Associate members received dues renewal notices in mid-April. Signature member dues renewal notices will be sent in mid-May, student member notices in September. Dues payments may be made via credit card/PayPal account from the invoice you receive or from your profile on our website. Payments by check may be sent to:

Nevada Watercolor Society, P.O. Box 27224, Las Vegas, NV 89126.

We understand that some members may be experiencing financial difficulties at this time. Rest assured that our billing system allows associate and signature members a 4-month grace period following the dues renewal date before a member moves into lapsed status (60 day grace period for student members). Any questions regarding dues payments can be addressed to membership chair Molly McClain at [mcclainbill@yahoo.com](mailto:mcclainbill@yahoo.com).

Please call Molly if you have any questions at 702.769.4852. Leave a message because she does not return calls from unfamiliar phone numbers.



## More Photos from the Signature Show



