



Coachella Valley
Watercolor Society

Brush Up
October 2026

General Meeting via ZOOM: October 12, 2026

5:30pm Social Time 6:00 pm General Meeting

You will receive a link to this meeting by email a few days before the meeting.

Zoom Step-by-Step Guide (page 13)



**Welcome to the 37th Season
of the
Coachella Valley Watercolor
Society!**

President's Message



Kathy Weyer, President

CVWS 2026 – 2027 Officers

President: Kathy Weyer

Exec. VP: Bob Hannah

1st VP- Programs: Carrie Bova

2nd VP – Shows:

Mary Anne Brower & Ian Cooke

3rd VP – Publicity: Jennifer Winn

Treasurer: Cindy Mason

Recording Secretary:

Connie Zane

Corresponding Secretary -

Newsletter: Jean Grover

2026-2027 Committee Chairs:

DVD Library: Vera Knowles

Grants: Nancy Rizzardi

Membership:

Connie Collins

Painter of the Month/Year:

Diane Schoenrock

Raffle: Sharon Mabrey

Sunshine: Cindy Green

Workshops:

Sue Ober & Traci Davis

October 2026

Welcome back after a brutal summer.

Bob Hannah, thank you for your leadership over the past two years. I have huge shoes to fill.

I am thankful for the support and advice from both experienced board members and the exciting, innovative ideas from new board members. This is a wonderful team, and I look forward to more.

My thanks again to Lance Brechbill, who has been our webmaster over the past decade and has passed the torch on to Philip Daly, who is doing a great job. You'll see some changes taking place and we encourage you to check out our website for news, information, and challenges.

www.cvws.org

Our new Program Manager Carrie Bova has come up with the idea of having well-known artists do demos for us via Zoom. We will project the demos at our in-person meetings just as if they were there in person (thus allowing us to have artists we wouldn't be able to afford; they can Zoom from home). Members will be able to interact and ask questions live. Carrie has also arranged to have a new, updated audio-visual system that will enhance our meetings.

Mandy Main has stepped up to drag us into the twenty-first century; we will have a social media presence that will get us more publicity, more exposure to the community, and more members. Thank you, Mandy!

Superstar Connie Zane has taken on the job of recording secretary (what positions hasn't she filled?). My thanks to our departing recording secretary Alicia Siegler for doing such a wonderful job.

Thanks to the efforts of our show coordinators extraordinaire Mary Anne Brower and Ian Cooke, we have added, in addition to our Annual Show in March, a new Fall Show from October 14-18 at the Desert Art Center. This will be a chance for all members to show and sell an original piece of art. Please check the website for specifics. We are working to have more collaborative connections with other art groups in the valley.

Our first general meeting is October 12 via Zoom. We will review a few things and have our usual Painter of the Month program (now led by Diane Schoenrock), but for board members only (gulp).

Our first in-person meeting is November 9 (always the second Monday of the month). We'll see you at the Zoom meeting on 10/12 – in the meantime, get those masterpieces framed and ready to show and sell at our October show at DAC!

Kat

Summer Challenge

From Diane Schoenrock:

Welcome painters, to our 2026-2027 CVWS season.

Now is the time to showcase your creativity with our Summer Challenge, “Food for Thought”. What has been stewing in your brain to bubble out as a plated expression? How’s that for a food metaphor?

All the entries, and we hope there will be many, will be displayed virtually on our website and presented at our October General Meeting on Zoom at 5:30 pm.

You can post your creations after September 30th using this link: <http://cvws.org/summer-challenge-image-upload/> or by going to our website at www.cvws.org.



Painter of the Month for October

This month, the board members and officers will share their paintings for the Zoom Painter of the Month. ***Please remember to vote online at www.cvws.org by October 10th.***

Also, if you wish to exhibit your art in our Painter of the Month Gallery at our first in-person meeting in **November**, please contact Diane Schoenrock at: dnschoenrock@yahoo.com.

LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER

From our Programs Chair Carrie Bova:

This season's first **in-person demo** for members will take place on **Mon Nov 9th**. Terry Hastings, a local artist who specializes in many art forms, will give members a welcoming, artist-centered introduction to artificial intelligence (AI), demystify it and show how it can help strengthen one's own artistic voice. Not to be missed!!! Full details to come.

CVWS Members Meeting

Joslyn Center
73750 Catalina Way,
Palm Desert, CA 92260

5:30pm - 7:30pm



AI IS THE ARTIST'S FRIEND

AI Is the Artist's Friend is a welcoming, artist-centered introduction to using artificial intelligence as a supportive studio companion. This presentation demystifies AI for watercolorists and traditional artists, showing how it can help with the parts of artmaking that often feel overwhelming — writing statements, organizing ideas, refining class descriptions, brainstorming titles, interpreting numbers, and translating intuitive artistic decisions into clear language.

The session includes a live demonstration with Terry's AI collaborator, followed by guided hands-on exploration. Participants learn how to interact with AI in a way that strengthens their own artistic voice rather than replacing it. The focus is on communication, clarity, and creative support — giving artists practical tools they can use immediately in their studio practice.

This presentation is not about making art with AI. It's about using AI to support the art you already love to make.

with
Terry Hastings

**MON
09
NOV
2026**

Terry Hastings is a 17-year resident of the Coachella Valley and a lifelong artist. From music and theatre to photography, digital art, and clay, Terry has explored nearly every creative avenue available — including, most recently, artificial intelligence.

He has served as vice-president of the Palm Springs Art Museum Artists Council, is a founding board member of the nonprofit Art Is, an annual speaker at Palm Springs Modernism Week, and the Artistic Director of the PSPBH Artist-in-Residence program.



FOR MORE INFORMATION - WWW.CVWS.ORG



Membership

Welcome to New CVWS Members:

- Ron Bova
- Candace Kahn
- Judy and Chuck Taylor

Membership Chair Connie Collins reminds us that it's time to renew our membership for the 2026 - 2027 season, and that current membership is required to be able to enter our October show at the Desert Art Center. Visit www.cvws.org today!

Getting to Know Our CVWS Board Members

Let's start with our new president, Kathy Weyer:

In the business world I began as an Executive Secretary in the early 70s, was an HR Director, the manager of a senior center, a grief and bereavement counselor, and I opened a retail store (never again). I had many satisfying years doing things I loved, and some I didn't.



"Kathy Weyer is an Author, an Advocate and an Artist."

That is the tag line a marketing person gave me for my website. The first two are true to my core, the third I have a little trouble with.

My books are solid (women's fiction if anyone's interested), and my advocacy knows no bounds. I worked at a crisis center, was a CASA for Voices for Children, and helped adults with their reading and comprehension, all as a volunteer. So yes, I'm an advocate. That takes care of the first two.

But I don't consider myself a real artist. I play. Some of my work turns out well, some I burn. But none of it elevates me to the word artist. I'm told otherwise.

But, I argue, real artists have good works in shows, they teach, they sell their art, they are juried into galleries, and they are known. I'm just a little retiree who decided to take on the most difficult of mediums while still pounding the keyboard.

But hold on, I say. I sold a piece at last year's annual show, I'm feeling more and more comfortable with the medium and, unbelievably, people are beginning to ask me for advice. Someone even asked me if they could have one of my paintings. Does that make me an artist?

I spend every day with my paper and paints, watch videos, go to Ian Cooke's class, go to workshops, and everywhere I look I see a watercolor waiting to happen. As I live to write, I am beginning to live to paint.

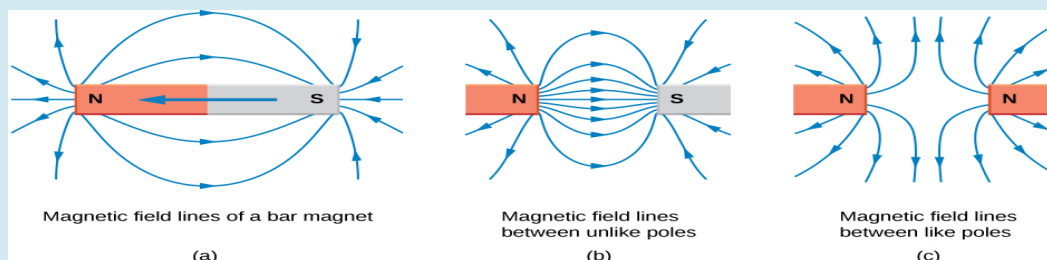
Son of a gun. I am an artist.

Kat

Membership, continued

Member Contribution

Submitted by Connie Zane



Resistance

The following is an excerpt from the newsletter of Oregon artist, Vinita Pappas. She's given her permission to reprint it here.

Vinita is a fabulous painter and teacher, and you might check out her website at vinitapappas.com or her YouTube videos. She writes, "Here's a very random analogy for you, so stick with me. Growing up on a ranch, there were always a couple of cow magnets in my dad's animal-medical kit. I played with them as a kid and no matter how you tried to push the opposing sides together, they just wouldn't go. There was this invisible force field of resistance between them, and I could feel the push against my hands."

(In case you're wondering, cow magnets are a real thing ranchers give to cattle to prevent "hardware disease" from any stray nails or wire they've accidentally eaten.)

That feeling of magnetic resistance came back to me recently when I visited a painter friend who had run into her own creative force field. She'd landed a commission she was excited about. Good client. Good project. Good pay. But after stepping away from it for a few days, she couldn't make herself start again. At first, she stalled and became oddly enthralled with cleaning out her garage. A few more days went by with that commission clock still ticking. So, she came up with a plan. Then, she cut off her escape routes. No TV. No phone scrolling. No popping out to visit a friend. Not as punishment, just an agreement with herself: nothing else until she spent some time painting.

Then she found the smallest possible next thing. Not "finish the background and paint the trees", just the next small step. She said it this way: "I don't have to figure out how to finish the piece, just what the next step is." One easy entry point. And that's what did it. She ended up painting for hours.

Resistance in creative work is much like magnetic resistance. Sometimes all it takes is one small shift before the work starts pulling you back in. (No phone scrolling helps too.)" Such a simple, but effective bit of advice. Thank you, Vinita!

Membership, continued



Member Spotlight: Kyoko Iguchi, 2026

I have been in the United States for forty-one years. I originally moved from Japan to Littleton, Colorado, to marry and live with my husband Sumio.

After four years, we moved to the Coachella Valley. We enjoyed the desert warmth and changing seasons, the wide-open spaces of nature, and the friendly people. Sumio was a chef at the Otano Restaurant, and I worked in restaurants and then in retail.

In retail clothing stores, I learned about fashion and my ability to use color to create beauty. I had always enjoyed painting as a child and continued my love of painting when Mary Minamide invited me into the Coachella Valley Watercolor Society.

That was twenty-seven years ago. Since then, I have participated in watercolor shows. It is encouraging when I receive recognition for my work. I have won demonstrator's choice awards and ribbons in the Indio Date Festival, as well as selling my paintings at shows. Suzanne Greenberg was a longtime mentor and teacher, inspiring my love of color.

For me, painting is meditative and calming and a necessary part of life. I look forward to taking my experiences from the Coachella Valley to my future life in Japan.

Thank you to the Coachella Valley Watercolor Society for the many years of encouragement in my love of painting. I appreciate all of you, my wonderful friends, and the artistic world I was part of.

As a courtesy to our CVWS members, we are publishing the Plein Air schedule of the Desert Plein Air Society: If you plan to attend, contact Diane Moore, desertpleinair@gmail.com

Thursday, September 24th

Coachella Valley History Museum
82-616 Miles Ave.
Indio, CA 92201
Arrive at 7:30 am

Saturday, September 26th

Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens
415 Avenida Granada, San Clemente
Arrive at 9am - this is concurrent with Larry Hemmerich's Exhibition

Saturday, October 3rd...Celebration Day

Coachella Valley History Museum
82-616 Miles Ave.
Indio, CA 92201
Details to follow in a separate email

Monday, October 12th (Columbus Day):

Prescott Preserve (the old Mesquite Golf Course in Palm Springs)
Meet on Farrell Dr. Between Ramon and Mesquite Avenue
I plan to arrive 7:45am.
NO restrooms here, plan accordingly.

Monday, October 26th:

Pioneertown
53688 Pioneertown Rd, Pioneertown, CA 92268 (Pappy and Harriett's address)
I plan to arrive about 8am.

Workshops



Sneak Peek: February 2027 CVWS Workshop!

Take a peek at an exciting Coachella Valley Watercolor Society (CVWS) workshop which is gathering momentum for February 2027!

We are thrilled to welcome renowned watercolor artist **Rehann Vazid** all the way from Melbourne, Australia.

Are you ready to move past hesitation and unlock the glowing, expressive potential of watercolor?

Join us for an immersive, hands-on workshop designed to transform the way you see and paint light. Through gestural brushwork, strong compositions, and unapologetic color, you'll step away from overthinking and learn to trust your creative instincts.

Save the Date:

- **When:** February 9–11, 2027
- **Where:** Palm Desert, California

Visit www.cvws.org for more information and updates.

News

A CVWS Fall Art Show at the Desert Art Center!

Thanks to the efforts of our show chairs, Mary Anne Brower and Ian Cooke, members of CVWS will have an opportunity to display and sell paintings at the Desert Art Center in Palm Springs this October.

Prospectus and Rules:

This show is in addition to our annual spring show and gives our members the opportunity to display and sell their work at this end of the Valley! It will be held in the Terry Masters Gallery at the Desert Art Center, 550 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs from October 14th to 18th.

Application to take part will be digital on our website at www.cvws.org and must be completed by Monday October 5. **All fully paid members of the CVWS** may exhibit one (or two, as space allows) finished paintings in the show. This can be Traditional presentation (with a frame and plexiglass or glass), Open style (on canvas or cradled board), a Miniature or a Plein Air painting.

There will be a \$15 entry fee, and this can be paid online at www.cvws.org.

Although this is an informal show, quality is still of paramount importance and work and frames should be clean, dust and dirt free and presented with a hanging wire to allow immediate wall placement. Work must have been completed within the last FIVE years. Maximum size is 36 inches - longest external measurement. You should also attach a label with your name on the back of the painting. Please include your name, the name of the painting, medium, price and your email.

We will use this information to create a display label. You will be contacted by phone if you sell a painting and you may bring in a replacement if this is before Friday.

Take in will be on Monday 12th October between 10am and noon. The show will be open to the public from Wednesday to Sunday. Sales will be conducted in this gallery by CVWS personnel and 35% will be the commission retained by the CVWS. The balance will go to the artist.

Hosting: We are asking those entering the show to host the show for a three-hour session, either 10am-1pm or 1-4pm. There will be two people on duty each session and there will be a sign-up sheet at intake.

Pick Up will be Sunday 18 October Between 2pm to 3pm.

The CVWS will be responsible for 'patch and paint' and we would value volunteers to help with this. -- Ian



News, continued

DONATIONS



CVWS DONATION PAGE

We value donations which enable us to continue to mount member shows and to invite professional, established artists to give demos, run workshops and judge members' work.

Donations are tax deductible:

◆ Once you submit this form you will be redirected to the donation submission page

\$ You will be able to enter the amount you wish to donate on the next page

☐ Your gift is tax-deductible and you will receive a receipt for the amount of your donation

* indicates required item

☐ You can show my name
☐ Please keep my donation anonymous

I would like to donate in the memory of:

We are very happy and grateful to report that CVWS has received the following donations in the last few months from:

Leah Minamide, \$250 in honor of her grandmother and CVWS founding member Mary Minamide; and

Our 2026 Painter of the Year Judge, Harold Walkup \$50.00.

Kudos



The photo of Painter of the Year winner Ellen Jean Diederich's painting, "Iris Impression" was inadvertently reversed in our June newsletter. Please enjoy the corrected orientation above.

INSTAGRAM



Great news! Mandy Main, our crackerjack social media guru, has opened a new Instagram account and has posted about the October show.

The account name is **THECVWS**.

Read, love, enjoy, add some of your own artwork, and spread the news. We are now in the twenty-first century! Facebook to follow.

Thank you, Mandy!

Welcome aboard to our new webmaster, Phillip Daly!

Odds & Ends

Help Wanted

CVWS Historian needed - if you like making order out of a little bit of chaos, we'd love to have you join the team as our historian. We have many newsletters, documents, and photos to arrange in chronological order and make files or binders that can be accessed easily.

If you are interested, please contact kathy.weyer@att.net.

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DATES

Submissions to the newsletter are due on or before the 15th of the month.



If you hear of someone who needs a bit of cheer or support, please contact our Sunshine Chairman, Cindy Green at (425) 765-9509 or cindynwrs@seanet.com



Editor's Note: If you have a topic or feature that you'd like to see included in the CVWS newsletter, or on the CVWS.org website, please send an email to: cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com

Many CVWS members offer excellent painting instruction and classes. Call for information:

Ian Cooke	760 408 3313
Ellen Jean Diederich	701-799-9505
Bob Hannah	206-409-9786
Karin Harris	808-268-0847
Dave Howell	425-319-5858
Moirra Johannessen	760-322-2523
Diane Morgan	760-902-8855
Alicia Siegler	650-207-0585
Suzy Voss	209-768-7647
Connie Zane	775-846-9719



Instagram:
<https://www.instagram.com/cvwatercolor/>



Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=coachella%20valley%20watercolor%20society>

Instructions for Joining the CVWS Zoom Meeting

5:30 Social Time, 6:00 Meeting Begins

We recommend you log in 10 minutes before the meeting to get yourself set up.

ALSO Watch the YouTube Videos at the end of this page.

1. Zoom works best on a Desktop Computer, an iPad or Tablet or an IOS/Android Phone.
2. Get on your device, open your CVWS email and look for “Meeting ID#...write this number down. Then click on the link in the email that says “Join Zoom Meeting”. This will take you to Zoom. If you want to listen via regular telephone (not smartphone), use any of the teleconferencing phone numbers at the bottom of the email invitation.
3. When Zoom opens, click Join a Meeting.
4. It will ask for the Meeting ID Number and Password, which will be in your email invitation. Enter your name. This identifies you to others in the meeting.
5. Click Join. Then Click Join With Video or Join Without Video, if you don’t want others to see you.
6. Click Join with Computer Audio. If you don’t have a microphone enabled on your device, you can type in your questions during the Q&A using the Chat feature at the bottom of your screen. If using an Android or IOS phone, tap the screen and the controls will appear. **YOU’RE IN!!**
7. When you enter the meeting, you will see the person that is talking on your full screen (“Speaker View”). If you would also like to see the other participants in the meeting in a grid layout, switch to “Gallery View”. The controls for these are: a. Desktop Windows or Mac: On the top right of your screen. b. Ipad: On the top left. c. Android/IOS phone: Swipe left to switch from Active Speaker view to Gallery View. Keep swiping left to see more of the gallery.
8. Your microphone and video on/off are on the bottom left of a desktop. Tap the screen for smartphones and Ipads and the toolbar will come up. You will see icons for the microphone and video with a bar through them if they are not on. During the meeting presentations, your mic will be off unless you’re called on to ask a question, and then the meeting manager will turn on your mic.
9. If you want to leave the meeting, click End, then Leave Meeting. **There are a number of good videos that you can watch to help you use Zoom for the first time. Here are a couple:**

Joining a Zoom Call for the 1st Time – A Fun and Easy Connection: <https://youtu.be/9isp3qPeQ0E>

Joining a Zoom Call for the 1st Time – A Cozy Step by Step Guide: <https://youtu.be/6fIYWnfTc5o>