



Phoenix Artists Guild

Volume 146

November, 2023



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – November 2023

Upcoming events and information.

November general meeting is the 4th Monday of the month, November 27, 2023.

Hope to see all of you there. We have been having great attendance. Let's keep it up.

THERE WILL BE NO DECEMBER NEWSLETTER. Make sure you read this newsletter for the current information.

HOLIDAY PARTY – This takes the place of our regular meeting. It will be on Wednesday, December 13th, 6-8:30pm.

Additional information is available in this newsletter. This is a perfect opportunity to bring a guest or two, all are welcome.

Big thanks to Nancy Donovan and all who participated in the WHAM exhibition. It was a great display of our talented artist.

Time to start planning for the Ascension Exhibition in January. Entry forms will be available at the November meeting and online.

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Don't forget to take a little time for yourselves.

Hope to see you all at the meeting.

Cindy Chambers
PAG President



Members Activities:



November- Celebrate Gratitude!

Your Challenge: Create what you enjoy. Painting, carving, weaving or sketching. We can't wait to see what you will choose.



January – Combining patterns and ideas.

Your Challenge: Get creative as you combine the following elements in 1 piece of art:

1. Geometric patterns
2. Plants
3. Bird or Birds



Creative Corner

Our Old Bugaboo Backgrounds

by Julie Frye

Backgrounds and foregrounds are probably the two most ignored challenges every artist faces when planning, beginning and completing a painting. This applies to any media!) The appropriate selections of color, value, texture and variation of the background influence the success of the painting. Backgrounds are of course essential to any still life or portrait, that's a given. But even in a landscape, where you select your focal point – (remember the “Golden Mean” we always talk about) work out your composition so that the eye leads to it, you will probably want to “blur out” or cool down anything in the distant reaches of your composition – this could be considered “background” right?

Consider the negative shape of your background as it surrounds your subject – the backdrop so to speak. A common error most beginning painters make, is to make it occupy too much space. Preliminary sketches – (Preach, preach PREACH!) and value sketches help greatly if you take the time to do them. Next, we should consider the COLOR of our background – this can be most challenging! Should it be dark and mysterious? Light and airy? Should it be cool or warm? Rough or smooth? Above all, it MUST not overpower or distract from your subject. In a still life or portrait, it is best if you work both at the same time, softening edges where needed and controlling value differences to help your subject pop in just the right places. (For you acrylic painters, this may be a bit more challenging since the paint dries so quickly that creating soft edges may be tricky – but it can be done!) (Remember Warm against cool, light against dark are both factors here, particularly when you need to direct the eye to your chosen focal point. As the painting progresses, use your piece of red acetate to check that you don't have light or dark “spots” in other areas of the composition to distract from the focal point.

Another excellent tool for determining your background is your color wheel. Find the dominant color in your subject then look not quite opposite but close and choose one or two colors in that area for the background. If your subject is a bright color, choose a more muted tone from the color wheel in that area. The opposite of course can also be effective.

There are many factors that make up a pleasing background, so look at paintings that affect you in a positive way and ask yourself: “What is it about this painting that pleases me?” Many times, the answer will be that the background sets off the subject in a harmonious way.

November Demonstrator – Diane Freeman



Diane was born and raised in Peoria, Illinois. She studied art at the Academy of Our Lady and Illinois Central College.

At the age of 4, she began drawing and learning to express her view of the world in visual format. After her school years, marriage and raising her children kept Diane focused on family responsibilities and her career.

Diane kept her dreams of having more time to devote to artwork, and finally, began a serious study in watercolors. More recently, Diane has been concentrating on experimental watercolor batik, mixed media, contemporary, abstract and non-objective paintings. She hopes to intrigue the viewer with her use of design elements and color that opens the viewer's imagination to seeing reality from a different perspective.

Diane has lived in the Phoenix area for the last 35 years. She is currently a member of WHAM where she is the Gallery Manager. She also teaches various art classes for WHAM and likes to mentor budding artists.

Diane is a juried member of the Vanguard Artist Group and also a member of the National Watercolor Society.

Meeting Agenda

Monday, November 27, 2023
6 – 6:45pm – Critique by Elaine Waters
6:45 – 7:15pm – Business Meeting
7:15 – 7:30pm – Social Time
7:30 – 8:30pm – Demonstration Featuring Diane Freeman



Artist of the Month:

1st Place – Lois Miller

2nd Place – Sheila Bellinger

Remember to only enter 1 piece of artwork each month. Also, once you have won, you can't enter another monthly competition during the current year. You are eligible for Artist of the Year, held at the May general meeting.

Aug. – Dean Grisson, Sept. – Pat Washburn, Oct. – Lois Miller



November Birthdays



Julie Frye



ARIZONA ART ALLIANCE REPORT – Grant Washburn PAG Rep.



Membership forms will be at each of the General meetings and on our website. Annual fees are \$50.00.



Please remember to submit your artwork for Back Page art. Send to Cindy Chambers at: tees2others@gmail.com

Remember also to submit your artwork for Members Monthly Activity and Artist of the Month.



Outreach will be collecting non-perishable foods and supplies for Valley View Food Bank. Old glasses will also be collected.

OFFICERS FOR 2023-2024

President	Cindy Chambers
1 st Vice President (Program)	Julie Frye
2 nd Vice President (Exhibits)	John Mansour
Treasurer	Paula Sandera
Recording Secretary	Jo Allebach
Corresponding Secretary	Sheila Bellinger



Holiday Party Fundraiser. December 13, 2023

Decorate a Pot any way you want. Mosaic work, paint a scene, your favorite animal, acrylic pour, decorate with buttons, recycled articles. So many ways, so little time. These will be donated and will be for sale at the Holiday Party. Please consider doing one or two. Get those creative juices flowing.



Holiday Party - Wednesday, December 13th – 6 to

8:30pm. This will be a potluck dinner. PAG provides the main meat. Members will be asked to sign up for additional food or drinks. We will be selling decorated flowerpots. Cash or checks will be accepted for payment. We will have an optional gift exchange doing the Left/Right Game with an up to \$15.00 maximum spent per individual. If bringing something breakable, make sure it is well wrapped.



For just \$25.00 a year!!!

This includes one additional mid-year image exchange! Then you can change-out again. **Include it in your annual membership dues – how easy is THAT?!**

We are increasing traffic flow and visitors to our site and piquing their interests **WHEN THEY GET THERE!**

Julie Frye is now your webmaster, (Chuck and Alika Kumar assisting) so get **YOUR LINK** on the PAG website and get these advantages **WORKING** for YOU!

Just send the following info. to Julie Frye, juliefrye381@gmail.com, A JPG (**as least 300dpi**) of one of your pieces

- The title of the piece
- unframed sizes, media
- Your name, email address, website link, (remember-link it back to PAG site, to increase traffic)
- organizations to which you belong.


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ART



“Springtime Blooms” Oil By Pat Washburn

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PAG Members Receive 20% Off All Non-Sale Items!
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Phoenix—Tempe—Scottsdale—Sun City—Tucson

Meetings:

4th Monday of Month
AAG Building
18411 N. 7th Avenue, Phoenix

Contacts:

Cindy Chambers - President
Pat Washburn – Membership

Membership \$50.00 per year/May-April