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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – April 2020

### President's Message

“I wish it need not have happened in my time,” said Frodo. “So, do I” said Gandalf, “and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.”

--JRR Tolkien “The Fellowship of the Ring”

In his classic work, Tolkien captures what I have found to be true in my life, both personal and professional. It is not what happens to you, but your attitude about it that makes all the difference. You do not get a choice as to whether we all experience a pandemic. You do get a choice of what your attitude toward all this

will be. I must admit I do not take well to “STAY AT HOME.” Everything that structures my life has been cancelled – my church activities, going out to eat, PAG activities. I actually looked forward to a recent dental appointment. My new regimen is giving me more time for activities I can participate in at home – like reading a great book I recently bought and getting into the online services my church is offering.

I hope you and your family are able to stay home and stay safe. I hope you are continuing to make art. On the other side of all this, it will be so good to see you and the fruit of your labors.

**As I write this on April 1 it looks like we will not be able to meet for our regularly scheduled PAG meeting on April 27.** The Federal guidelines for Social Distancing have been extended through the end of April. The Board and I will be determining what to do regarding the May 18 meeting as that date gets closer. So, stay at home, practice social distancing, and keep yourself clean. Make like a house cat!

Grant



## Creative Corner

### PAINTING FLOWERS

By Elaine Waters

Almost every artist that I know has done floral paintings. Some are wonderful, but many are not.

People paint flowers in bouquets, in arrangements, on bushes and plants, singleton flowers, or masses of flowers. Let's talk first about why some floral paintings DON'T work.

Artists don't really know what the flower looks like or what the foliage for that flower looks like. They paint all the flowers alike, or even all facing the same direction. They place singleton flowers all separated from any other flower so that each flower looks like a spot of color surrounded by green foliage. They don't get the light and shadow correct on the flower. Because they don't have a good photo resource (or real flowers with the proper foliage), the foliage becomes generic green leaves. There are many other factors which can weaken your flower paintings. So, now let's talk about how to do BETTER floral paintings.

Please do not paint flowers from your imagination. Use really good photo resources. If you use fresh flowers, be sure to take some good photos of your set up because they will probably wilt before you finish your painting. Look for shadows and light on the flowers. Notice how some flowers are right out in the open, and some are peeking out from behind other blooms. Not all flowers are the same color, size, or it the same stage of development even on the same bush. Notice that the colors (I always use at least 4 colors and values of red for red or pink flowers) are influenced by the light, and the places where the light does not hit. For this reason, you must also deal with warm and cool colors in your flowers. Generally, there are masses or clumps of flowers as well as a few singleton flowers. There will always be shadowed flowers appearing in the massed flowers. If you are painting a flowering bush, there will almost always appear to be more flowers near the "crown" of the bush than when you are looking straight on to the bush. If you are painting a large flower... try to keep the petals translucent and delicate.

There, Now, you can all check your own floral paintings. If you feel the urge, paint them again, but DON'T use the old painting as your resource. Have fun!

### *Meeting Agenda*

**April 27, 2020 General Meeting has been canceled.**

## • April Demonstrator - You, Yourself and I

- You're looking at a blank sketchbook page, again. Whether you need a creative break in the day, a weekend project, or more drawing prompts to fill the pages, it can be challenging to keep generating cool drawing ideas.
- Here's a list of ideas, tips, and resources to jumpstart your creative juices no matter your drawing expertise – now grab your tools and get going.
- Draw a caricature of yourself.
- Draw self-portraits from different perspectives. Try positioning a mirror from different angles.
- Sketch your hands in different positions. Draw your feet.
- Draw a close up of the eye
- Draw a self-portrait from your reflection in a spoon.
- Draw yourself double your age.
- Draw the view out of a window.
- Draw the clouds.
- Divide a paper into 6 sections and create a different pattern in each one.
- Draw a towel in different positions: crumpled, hanging, strewn on the ground.
- Get a handful of utensils and toss them on the table. Draw them as they land.
- Draw a still life of items from your fridge or pantry.
- Draw the ingredients of your next meal before you prepare it.
- Draw an old pair of shoes.
- Draw a pile of unfolded laundry.
- Draw a fruit or vegetable sliced open.
- Draw the inside of your closet.
- Draw your room before it's cleaned.
- Draw the same still life 3 times, zooming farther in each time.



*Artist of the Month-March*

*With no meeting, no winner.*



Through Constant Contact the Alliance reports need for donations to help support the Buffalo Soldiers AZ Territory, Mesa, Arizona; 3 bronze sculptures crafted by Hal Stewart will be placed in Wesley Bolin Memorial Park. More information can be found through [info@azartalliance.com](mailto:info@azartalliance.com).

The Art Alliance continues in transition subsequent to its separation from the Phoenix Center of the Arts.

Dr. Carl, PAG Rep

### OFFICERS FOR 2020-2021

President	Grant Washburn
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President (Program)	Pat Washburn
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Show Chair)	Jullie Frye
Treasurer	Paula Sandera
Recording Secretary	Jo Allebach
Corresponding Secretary	Cindy Berg



### BIRTHDAYS – April

Jaxine Cummins

Pat Washburn

Elaine Waters

Ann Higgins

Mary Hightower



May Collection – non-perishable canned or boxed (no glass) food.  
Ongoing – Used eyeglasses for the Lions Club

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## Artist on Display

**Jo Allebach** – Jo Allebach is a Gallery Artist at the Herberger Gallery at the Arizona Center



Members are asked for May to bring in art works with a “Rural” theme.

**Ways and Means: Check out the table. If you have cleaned out your art closet and want to donate to PAG this is the place. We are always looking for items**



**to sell.  
buy your raffle tickets.**

**50/50 raffle will be done in May. So there is time to**



**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](mailto:juliefrye381@gmail.com), or me- ([chuckc1@cox.newt](mailto:chuckc1@cox.newt))

- 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

## **CHUCK'S COMPUTER CORNER "TIPS":**

### **Simple Password Security Reminder**

When you use the same password on multiple accounts, you're making it too easy for the bad guys to compromise you.

The primary suggestion for avoiding this mistake is to use a management tool, of which there are many free options such as <https://www.lastpass.com> or <https://www.roboform.com>

You can create a generic file that doesn't have any reference to the word 'password' that contains all of your usernames and passwords.

As an extra layer of protection, create your own secret code, like 4 characters that mean nothing in front of the actual password, so if anyone finds the file, they still won't figure out what your password without breaking your secret code.

Personally, I just created a simple Excel spreadsheet/table, including entries for each customer, contact, shop, store, etc. Account; User Name, Email address, add'l. logon-identity references; ints (Pets name, spouse's name, etc. Then periodically (monthly, 6weeks, quarterly,?) go thru and change them (all at once, or a few every weekly, etc.) try to use at least 8 characters, including upper-case, lower-case, number, and special characters(@#\$%&, etc.).

Good luck, Chuck Cummins ([chuckc1@cox.net](mailto:chuckc1@cox.net))

BACK

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ART



“Free Spirits” by Marilyn Miller



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Meetings:

4<sup>th</sup> Monday of Month  
AAG Building  
18411 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix

Contacts:

Grant Washburn - President  
Alika Kumar – Membership

Membership \$40.00 per year/May-April