

SIERRA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY  
General Meeting Minutes  
August 14, 2021, 10:30 a.m.  
Temple Sinai, Reno

**Call to Order:** Diane Sewell, President called to order at 10:40 a.m.

**Members in Attendance: 21**

Board Members Absent: Ronnie Rector; Past President/Advisor.

**Introduction of new members, guests:**

No new members or guests.

**Approval of Minutes from the March 20 and May 8 General Meetings:** Vickie Behrens, Secretary  
Minutes emailed with the agenda.

No additions or corrections. Motion to Approve: Linda Halicki; Seconded by: Jenny Amrhein. All in favor of approving the minutes as emailed; none opposed. Minutes of the March 20, 2021 and May 8, 2021 General Meeting minutes are approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Anette Rink

Treasurer reports were approved at the August 7, 2021 Board Meeting. Anette reported that workshop fees are now over the break-even point. Current ending bank balance is \$25,515.

1. May, 2021
2. June, 2021
3. July, 2021

**Vacating Board and Chair Positions,** Linda Halicki, Vice President

There are two more general meetings prior to the beginning of the new terms. Job Descriptions were available at this meeting.

**Recently filled positions:** Library Assistant, Sandy Retter; Challenge Assistant, Vicki Curwen; Archivist, Vickie Behrens

**Currently Open: Biographer**

Discussion/Announcement regarding this vacancy:

- This position is a simple and easy way to start your SWS volunteer involvement.

**Vacant in 2022:**

**Vice President/Workshop Coordinator**

Discussion/Announcement regarding this vacancy:

- Linda Halicki is available to advise the new volunteer to get started.
- This position is a voting Board position, which can be divided into a Workshop Committee-type platform as determined by the VP/Workshop Coordinator – similar to Exhibits Coordinator, i.e., Workshop *Artist* Chair; Workshop *Registrant* Chair.
  - There was a question from Anita Watson about the possibility of sharing this position. Diane Sewell indicated that yes, that can be accommodated.
- In recognition of the large scope of duties and responsibilities associated with the Vice President/Workshop Coordinator's position, at the August 7 Board Meeting, the Board approved to provide one free workshop during the volunteer's two-year term of office.
  - A member asked if the free workshop would be available to all who volunteer to share this position or just one person. Diane Sewell responded that this is a possibility.
  - Member Joan Garrett, Member/Past President, expressed her concerns about SWS's non-profit status/charter allowing this type of incentive and whether it would be considered a "gift bestowed on one and not all". She relayed some history regarding similar discussions in the past.

- In response, Anette Rink, Treasurer, indicated that SWS has made similar exceptions to keep SWS running, such as the paid positions of Bookkeeper and Website Coordinator. As with these positions, Vice-President/Workshop Coordinator is essential and vital to keep our organization going, and this incentive can be justified.
- Diane Sewell, President will put this item on the September 11 Board Meeting Agenda for further discussion. Members should email any concerns to her prior to the Board Meeting.

#### Newsletter Chair

Discussion/Announcements regarding this vacancy:

- The newsletter can be prepared using a simple format with any software program that the volunteer is familiar with.
- Lisa Jefferson is available to advise the new volunteer as (s)he gets started.

#### Exhibit Coordinator

Discussion/Announcements regarding this vacancy:

- We have two exhibits scheduled at the May Museum for the Sierra Watercolor Society. Diane Sewell has volunteered to be the Exhibit Chair for the Winter Exhibit, however without a permanent Exhibit Coordinator, future exhibits won't happen, such as the Artown Exhibit in July, 2022.
- Exhibit Chairs usually come up with the title of the exhibit and sets the 'tone' of the show. You'll have help, as we do have a group of members who enjoy helping with hanging and other miscellaneous tasks.
- The Exhibit Coordinator will not have to do the website exhibit duties, as Annette Rink has graciously volunteered to continue, as she is very familiar with Constant Contact.

Scholarship Chair: This position is currently on hold until further discussions regarding future SWS scholarships.

**Workshops and Demonstrations**: Linda Halicki, Vice President

#### **2021 Workshop Artists**

- Ronnie Rector Member Artist Workshop June 25-27. There were 21 students. Many of the participants were from out-of-town. The evaluations for this workshop were stellar.
- Lauren McCracken Workshop: Cancelled -- not enough sign-ups.  
TODAY'S DEMO: Colleen Reynolds, Member Artist. Colleen will paint "Jerry the Bullfrog."  
Linda introduced Colleen Reynolds and led the group in a fun sign-along to "Joy to the World."
- Carl Purcell Workshop October 13-15, demo October 16th at 1:00 p.m. - registration opened July 1st and is full with 24 sign-ups. There is now a waiting list.

#### **2022 Workshop Artists:**

- Lori Bishop, Member Artist Demo The subject of this Demo on January 15 will be the "Human Eye"
- Don Andrews, March 9-11, Demo March 12. Linda suggested that members check out his monthly Zoom sessions.
- Soon Warren, May 10-13, Demo May 14. This is a workshop that was rescheduled due to last year's Covid restrictions.
- Lori Bishop, Member Artist Workshop, June 24-26. This workshop subject will be "Portrait Painting".

- Keiko Tanabe, August 17-19, Demo August 20. This artist is known for her plein Air painting. A member asked if this workshop will be done as plein air. This might be a possibility; more information will be provided closer to the workshop.
- Frank Eber, October 18-21, Demo October 22

**Art Angels, Community Outreach and Publicity:** Nancy Podewils-Baba

**Art Angels:**

Nancy reported on the Friday, July 9, Artown "Discover the Arts" workshops at the May Museum. The sign-ups were slow in the beginning, then with a deluge of calls in the last 2 days, the workshop ended up with 21 children in the morning with 5 on the waiting list, who were unable to be accommodated. Thirteen children participated in the afternoon. The three instructors in the morning were: Alicia Cobb, Marilyn Kuenzli-Howell and Nancy. Two instructors in the afternoon were Anette Rink and Nancy. Volunteers were Kathy Martin, George Baba, Vickie Behrens, Nancy LeSage and Gail Kramer. The response was positive as reflected in the workshop evaluations.

Nancy contacted everyone who completed the July 9th workshop evaluations and all the people who were on the waiting list, to notify them of the next workshop and, as a result, we have 19 children registered for the Saturday, November 27 workshop at May Museum, 9:30-11:30 a.m. She passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help with this workshop.

She has also contacted the teacher from Spanish Springs Elementary School who had originally scheduled Art Angels in the past and reported that they are considering scheduling Art Angels in either January or April/May 2022.

Nancy reported that a mother from the July 9th workshop put her in contact with the principal of the new elementary school in South Reno, she is waiting to hear from him to schedule a workshop at the new school.

Art Angels Raffle and Silent Auction on November 27 - December 4. Nancy requested donations of small paintings for the Silent Auction and passed around a sign-up sheet for people to oversee the auction and raffle and sell raffle tickets.

**Publicity:**

Nancy sent the Colleen Reynolds Demo flyer to Reno Art Consortium participants and posted the information on several on-line sites as well as Double Scoop and Art Spot Reno. She contacted the Newcomers and Neighbors Club of Northern Nevada about possibly being included on their calendar and will attend their informational coffee.

**Scholarship:** Kathryn Dudley, Scholarship Chair (absent)

Discussion/Announcement:

- Awarding the SWS scholarship funds to teachers vs. students. The \$1500 fund could be distributed to local teachers and used for art supplies, gift certificates or teacher workshops. This item will be discussed further.

**Exhibits:** Marjee Smith, 2021 Exhibits Coordinator (absent)

Upcoming Exhibits:

- Winter Exhibit at May Museum, Theme to be determined. Chair: Diane Sewell, November 3 - December 5. Take-in November 2 and Take-down December 8

**Video Library:** Bess Inouye

Bess thanked Sandy Retter who has kindly volunteered to be the new Library Assistant. She thanked the members who have utilized the DVD Library and returned the DVDs and books in a timely manner. She reminded members, that we can only make our Library benefit everyone's learning process though joint cooperation.

Unfortunately, one of Paul Jackson's newly acquired DVDs, The Color of Sunset, turned out to be defective and also now out of stock. However, if members go on-line there is a short live stream tutorial by Creative Catalyst. Hopefully, Paul Jackson will be able to restock at a later date. There are two other Paul Jackson DVD's available in our Library collection.

**Membership:** Sally Dupre

There are 111 members to date. Beginning November, on-line membership sign-ups will be available for the 2022 membership year.

**Website:** Julene Hunter (absent)

**Challenges:** Judy Berland

**Today's General Meeting August Challenge: "Lake Tahoe"**

Nancy Podewils-Baba assisted with the challenge display and count. There were 8 paintings submitted, the winners were announced prior to the demo. The winners were 1st Place: Carolyn Runnells; 2nd Place: Anita Watson; and 3rd Place: Judy Berland.

**October Challenge for October 16 General Meeting: "Celebration"**

Judy announced the theme for the next meeting's challenge is "Celebration". Based on the idea that it is now time to have something to celebrate. She discussed several ideas that would make great painting subjects, such as: Festivals and celebrations around the world; State Fairs, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Eve fireworks; the Rose Parade, past birthdays, weddings, or anniversaries.

**Board Meeting Calendar, 2021:** Location: Reno Artist Co-op, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Dates for the SWS Board Meetings are: September 11; November 13.

**General Meeting Calendar, 2021:** Location: Temple Sinai 10:30 a.m. Dates for the SWS General Meetings are October 16; December 4 – Holiday Pot-Luck at the May Museum.

**Member and Guest Announcements:**

- Kay Tietz announced Reno Open Studios is having an open studios event on August 21 and 22. She, along with other SWS members, Vickie Curwen, Eileen Fuller, Kathleen Dudley, Tricia Poulos Leonard will be participating. Reno Open Studios Brochures were available at the meeting.
- Kay reminded members of the art supplies gifted by the husband of our late former President, Nancy Gunderson, are available for a donation to Art Angels.
- Diane Sewell pointed out that there are a large number of watercolor magazines available at the meeting that are free to members.
- Colleen Reynolds announced the upcoming plein air painting days in the Carson City area on September 7-9 and the auction and awards reception at the Governor's Mansion on September 10.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Diane Sewell made a motion to adjourn the General Meeting at 11:27 a.m. seconded by Nancy Podewils-Baba which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Vickie Behrens, Secretary

Draft Submitted: August 21, 2021

Approved: October 16, 2021