

**SIERRA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

January 20, 2024, 11:00 a.m.
Maker's Paradise, 299 E. Plumb, Ste., 155, Reno

Call to Order: Ronnie Rector, President at 11:05 a.m.

Members in Attendance: 28

Installation of 2024 Officers, Kay Tietz, Nomination Committee and past President

Installation of 2024 Officers and recognition of outgoing chairs and returning and new committee chairs:

- Ronnie Rector, President
- Diane Sewell, Past President/Advisor (absent)
- Cheryl Keaveney, Vice-President
- Anette Rink, Treasurer
- Vickie Behrens, Secretary

Outgoing Officers:

- Anita Watson, Co-Vice President (absent)
- Jennifer Amrhein, Co-Vice President

Outgoing Chairs:

- Sherry Klingensmith Holiday Party Chair

Returning and New Committee Chairs:

- Nancy Podewils-Baba, Art Angels, Publicity and Outreach
- Linda James, Art Angels Assistant (absent)
- Graciela Mancini, Challenges
- Dianna Cordova, Challenges Assistant
- Bess Inouye, Librarian
- Sandy Retter, Library Assistant (absent)
- Sally DuPre, Membership
- Lynn Schmidt, Membership Assistant
- Linda Halicki, Newsletter Chair
- Vickie Behrens, Archivist

Open Chair Positions:

- Biographer

Minutes from the October 7, 2023, Board Meeting: Vickie Behrens, Secretary

General Meeting Minutes emailed with the agenda. Kathryn Dudley made a motion to approve; seconded by Eileen Fuller, none opposed.

Treasurer's Reports: Anette Rink, Treasurer

The October, November and December Treasurer's Reports were emailed with the agenda for the member's information. These were reviewed and approved at this morning's Board meeting.

Anette reported that we have been having a marginal downward trend since Covid due to fewer workshops and attendees. This is an important source of income and watercolor societies run on the money that is generated from the attendance of workshops. This year the board will review: the workshop price structure; slightly increasing membership fees; and adding exhibit fees based on the number of paintings submitted. In accordance with our nonprofit charter, we cannot abandon or charge a fee for certain things such as Demos and Art Angels.

Meeting and Workshop Locations, Ronnie Rector, President

- Based on the outcome of a poll that was taken at the December Annual Holiday Party, meetings and workshops will continue at our current location for 2024.
- Ronnie Rector, Anita Watson and Nancy Podewils-Baba attended a ZOOM meeting on December 11, 2023, with Maker's Paradise representatives, Larry and Tom. The following was discussed:
 - The meeting room will no longer be a "makerspace," but better utilized as a classroom/workshop area, so a lot of the random stuff will be removed.
 - They bought more and larger tables from Costco.
 - They received a grant and are purchasing a big screen TV, 2 cameras and a projector we will be able to use. If this works out, the mirror will no longer be needed.
 - The space under the stairs was supposed to become lockable storage, but the Fire Department requires sprinklers installed if that were to happen. Sprinkler systems are hugely expensive to install, so they don't see that happening any time soon, if ever.
 - We have the option to rent one of the 9x9 spaces upstairs for \$200/month to store our stuff. We have no budget for that. To save space, some of the SWS items stored can be organized, donated or disposed of.

Workshops and Demonstrations: Cheryl Keaveney, Vice President

2024

- Donna Jeanne Koepp, White Wolf Studio, Gouache. Demo today at 1 p.m.
- Iain Stewart, March 6 – 8, Demo: March 9, Registration is now open. • Jeannie Vodden, May 8 – 10, Demo: May 11
- Lisa Jefferson, Member Artist, June 20 – 22.
- Brenda Swenson, August 14 – 16, Demo August 17. There is a lot of interest in this workshop. There have been 15 inquiries, so registration will be open to SWS members one week before opening to the public.
- David R. Smith, October 16 – 18, Demo: October 19

2025

Cheryl is starting to work on bookings. Keiko Tanabe and Dongfeng Li are interested. Send suggestions for Artists to Cheryl.

By-Law Changes, Ronnie Rector

The vote was done on-line, fifty SWS members voted, and the majority approve the two by-law changes:

- Article III, Section 3, Membership, Student Rate Membership Fee
- Article V, Section 2, Elected Officers, Board Member Term of Office Updated Bylaws were emailed to all members on December 15, 2023

Library: Bess Inouye, Librarian Everything is running smoothly. Thanks to the members for their cooperation.

Biographer: Vacant

Membership: Sally DuPre So far in 2024, 65 members and 3 student members are registered. Registration for 2024 is now through March 1.

Newsletter: Linda Halicki

Linda asked members to submit ideas for feature articles as well as report any member activities.

Art Angels: Nancy Podewils-Baba

- Community Perspectives

Nancy reported that she was notified that SWS was granted \$6,930 of the \$7,000 grant request. On October 23, approximately 40 people attended the Encore of the “Let’s Hope” music at the Reno Little Theater where SWS paintings from the Community Perspectives Exhibit were displayed. SWS was given a letter of commendation from Senator Rosen for our work in the community which will be posted at future exhibits.

- Children’s Community Workshop

The Winter workshop was on December 9 at Wilbur May Museum. Thirty-one children participated; several were from the Northern Nevada International Center. Thanks to instructors and helpers.

The Spring Workshop will be at the South Valley Library on May 5, 1 – 3 p.m. Volunteers are needed. The Artown “Discover Watercolor” workshops are scheduled for July 19th, morning and afternoon sessions at Wilbur D. May Museum. Volunteers are needed.

- Silent Auction

The Art Angels Silent Auction was on December 2 – 9 at the Wilbur May Museum. Twenty-five paintings were donated by 20 SWS artists. Four paintings were donated by 2023 SWS guest workshop artists Soon Warren, Lisa Jefferson, Julie Cohn and Sterling Edwards. Art Angels raised: \$780 silent auction, \$620 in raffle sales and \$213 for Judy Berland’s artwork. Thanks to all the artists that participated and the volunteers who assisted. Guest artists’ paintings were won by Daria Vogt (Lisa Jefferson’s painting); Elizabeth Jones (Soon Warren); Ronnie Rector (Sterling Edwards); and George Baba (Julie Cohn).

- Classroom Visits

Art Angels attended four classrooms this fall and served 99 children, all were fifth graders at Poulakidas Elementary. Eight classes are scheduled at 5 different schools this Spring. Volunteers are needed.

Publicity: Nancy Podewils-Baba

Nancy reported that she continues to announce SWS events at the Reno Arts Consortium each month, and send notices to KUNR, Reno News & Review, Double Scoop, and Reno Art News. Nancy will post the Artown Exhibit and the “Discover Watercolor” workshops in both the Artown “Little Book” and on the Artown website.

Social Media Publicity: Carolyn Runnels (absent)

No report

Exhibits: Sharon Reed (absent)

Ongoing and Future Exhibits:

Location	Duration	Title/Theme	Reg. Deadline	Take-In	Pick up	Reception	Chair(s)
Wilbur May	Nov. 22 - Jan. 20	<i>Art to Light up Your Life</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	January 20/21	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reid and Diane Sewell Marjee Smith
McKinley East	Feb. 26 through April 12	Spring Reimagined	Feb. 19	February 19 th - 23 rd 9am- 4pm.	April 16 9 am – 3 pm	March 7 5 to 7 pm	Ronnie Rector Anette Rink
Downtown Reno Public Library, Reno 301 South Center Street	May 6 - June 21	TBD	April 28	Sunday May 5 11 - 1	Sunday June 23	May 19	Virginia McLaughlin
Reno Public Market - ARTOWN	July 1 - July 31	“Northern Nevada:	June 23	Sunday June 30	August 1	July 20 2 – 5 pm	Nancy Podewils-Baba

Location	Duration	Title/Theme	Reg. Deadline	Take-In	Pick up	Reception	Chair(s)
		Impressions in Watercolor”					
Carson City Initiative Carson Community Center	Month of July to hang after July 4	“We are the Champions” Featuring Award winning SWS artwork	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Ronnie Rector
Wilbur May FALL EXHIBIT	Tentative Sept. 1 -29	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Chairperson Needed
Wilbur May WINTER EXHIBIT	Tentative Dec. 2024 – Jan. 2025	TBD Judged Exhibit	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Chairperson Needed

Challenges: Graciela Mancini

Today’s Challenge: “The Value of Value Studies”. Three paintings entered; today’s raffle winner was Laurel Sweigart.

March 20 General Meeting Challenge. The March theme is “Considering Positive and Negative spaces the Painting”.

For this exercise, choose one or more colors, but be sure that the shapes painted in light colors in one sketch, are painted with dark colors on the other sketch, using the same shapes in both sketches. Compare and observe how the painting changes the mood, temperature, feeling and perception of the space when those shapes are depicted as positive and negative spaces.

Reminder that each participant has a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate to Nevada Fine Arts.

Graciela announced that new member, Dianna Cordova volunteered to assist with the challenges.

Meeting Calendar, 2024:

March 9, May 11, August 17, October 19, December 7 will be the annual Holiday party.

Announcements:

- Today’s Door Prize winner is Anette Rink.
- Donna Jeanne Koeppe Demo will begin at 1 p.m. today
- 4th Annual Watercolor Carson City
Colleen Reynolds announced that she is expanding the dates to avoid conflict with the SWS Brenda Swenson Workshop and Demo. This year’s 4th Annual Watercolor Carson City will be a plein air event August 14 - 18, 2024. The painting dates will be August 12-17 and the Fundraiser Auction & Artists Reception is on Sunday, August 18th. Watercolor Artists who wish to participate may submit up to three plein air entries. Entry deadline is May 15, 2024.
- Nancy Podewils-Baba announced that she will be in two plays at Reno Little Theater next week as well as a play at the Bruka today.

- Jennifer Amrhein announced that she will be moving out of the area to the Nashville Tennessee area, she will continue to be an SWS member.
- Eileen Fuller – Artist Co-op/Latimer Club
 - January 2 – 31, Artist Co-op Gallery, “Emerging Artists 2024”
 - February 1 – 29, Artist Co-op Gallery, “A Retrospective by Jean Hare” 26 years as a watercolor artist and 18 years as a member of the Co-op.
 - February Guest Artist – Bill Burrows – new president of Latimer
 - February 10 Latimer Club Meeting – Member Annual Miniature Exchange
- Cheryl Keaveney announced that Ian Stewart registration is open with 10 people registered to date.
- Ronnie Rector has a solo show at BVW Jewelers in the South Creek Retail Center through April 28; 35 Foothill Road #3, off South Virginia Street.
- Kay Tiez also has a solo show, 6 paintings at Orchid Medical Massage, 3645 Warren Way, Reno
- Graciela reported that the Library is donating extra books for door prizes, be sure to sign in.

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 11.58 a.m. by Nancy Podewils-Baba, seconded by Marilyn Howell.

Approved: March 9, 2023, General Meeting