

VALLEY WATERCOLOR SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

THE PURPOSE OF THE VALLEY WATERCOLOR SOCIETY IS TO PROMOTE INTEREST, KNOWLEDGE AND APPRECIATION OF WATERMEDIA THROUGH MEETINGS, EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES.

February 2026

CALENDAR

**GENERAL MEETING AND DEMO WITH
ROBERT SHERILL AND SOCIETY
SHOW**

**THURSDAY, February 12, 2026,
7PM(Pacific Time)**

**On-line via ZOOM
Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87909385619?pwd=KuRkBPtRhTJfoZgm3afmCNB9EUIEM5U.1>

**Meeting ID: 879 0938 5619
Passcode: 721564**

SOCIETY SHOW ENTRY :

**Please email your painting image to
selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM,
Wednesday, February 11, 2026**

FEBRUARY WORKSHOP (ON ZOOM)

Robert Sherill: Sat- Sun Feb 21 & 22, 2026,
9AM-1PM, 2 days

[\[Register\]](#)

ZOOM: \$140 for members, \$180 for non-members

For 2026 Meetings & Workshops

<https://valleywatercolorsv.org/events/#!event-list>

February 2026 Demo Artist: Robert Sherill



As a southern California artist, Robert Sherrill portrays the majestic beauty of the natural world around him. Whether it's watercolor or oil, he captures the effects of light, shape, and color in his exhilarating paintings.

Raised in Southern California as a child, Robert lost himself in nature, art, and science. He spent his childhood hiking, camping, exploring, and raising animals with his family. It's these experiences that are reflected in his artwork today. As a child, he was constantly drawing, painting, and journaling daily. He always knew that studying nature and the world around him would be a part of his life.

His studies began at a young age when his mom would take him to museums and continued through high school. He took his studies more seriously at Riverside Community College when he accepted a position as a draftsman and artist at an architecture firm, then decided to further his knowledge at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, Ca. in 1987. Upon graduating from Art Center in 1990, he worked as an Illustrator, backdrop artist, and art director. He has shown in group and solo exhibitions in Southern California, participated in regional shows for three decades, winning numerous awards, and publishing two books.

Today Robert spends much of his time painting, teaching figure, and Plein air painting at local colleges as well as workshops, giving lectures and jurying shows in his community.



President's Message



Greetings Everyone,

There is no place like SoCal! The weather has been great. I hope you have been taking advantage of it and of course, creating some great art work also.

Our artist for February is Robert Sherill, a talented artist who excels in capturing the beauty of nature in watercolor and oil. You will enjoy his demo and workshop. Alanna Chandler, workshop chair, has lined up many great artists for future meetings and workshops. Please check them out on the VWS website.

By the time you see this post, entries to 2026 Annual Juried Exhibit has just closed. The result of the jury selections will be announced by Feb 13. We are looking for volunteers! Please contact Exhibit Chair Sylvia Crosby if you can help.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the February 12 meeting on ZOOM.

Best,
John Chapin, President



Valley Watercolor Society 2026 Annual Juried Exhibit

2025 Top Honor Winners

2nd Place



Karen Holly
"Old Glory"

1st Place



Fateme Kian
"White Dream"

3rd Place



Meggie Chen
"2nd Street"

Reception: Sunday, March 8, 3-6 PM

Exhibit Dates: March 3 - 27, 2026

Thousand Oaks Community Gallery

2331 Borchard Rd, Newbury Park CA 91320

Contact Sylvia Crosby, Exhibit Chair, at sylvia_crosbie@bluetiehome.com if you have questions.

January 2026 Society Show Winners



1st
Gary Friedman



2nd
Debra Reynolds



3rd
Selina Cheng



HM
Jim Huppenthal



HM
Pamela Robertson

To enter the upcoming **February 12 Society Show**, please submit an image of your painting to **Selina Cheng**: selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM on **Wednesday February 11**.

The demo artist will select awards: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and two Honorable Mentions.

See all the entries from previous Society Shows here: <https://valleywatercolorsociety.org/society-show/>

Classes taught by VWS Members

There is a [Teachers page](#) on the VWS website for VWS members who conduct classes, hold workshops, or teach private lessons. If you'd like to be listed, just send an email to Newsletter@valleywatercolorsociety.org with your details. Please see our complete list of teachers online at <https://valleywatercolorsociety.org/teachers/>

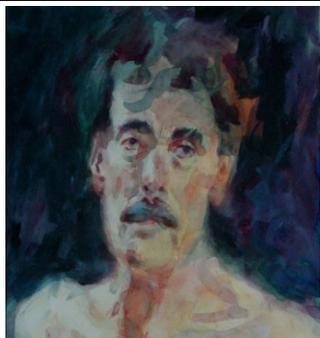
Welcome New Members

Welcome to our new members and our returning members.
I look forward to your participation. Thank you for your support.

New members: Patricia Cavanaugh (Santa Monica), Ajay Chen (Los Angeles)
Returning member: Mary Lawrence (Sherman Oaks)

Edina Russak
Membership Chair

2026 VWS WORKSHOP



Robert Sherrill
February 2026



Joseph Stoddard
March 2026



Ron Stocke
April 2026



Liz Walker
May 2026



Frank Eber
June 2026

Robert Sherrill - Online Sat-Sun, Feb 21 & 22, 2026, 9am - 1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

Joseph Stoddard -In-Person Sat, Mar 21, 2026 10AM-3PM, 1-Day [\[Register\]](#) \$90 for VWS members, \$125 for non-members

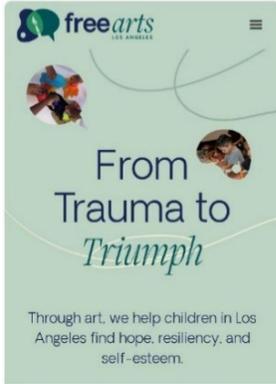
Ron Stocke -Online Sat -Sun, Apr 18 & 19, 2026, 10am - 1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

Liz Walker -Online Sat -Sun May 23 & 24, 2026, 9am - 1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

Frank Eber -Online Sat-Sun, June 27 & 28, 2026, 9am - 1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

workshop Policy: The workshop fee includes a 10% non-refundable cancellation fee if a cancellation is made more than 30 days prior to the workshop. A 50% non-refundable fee if cancellation is made between 30 or 7 days. No refund will be made for a NO SHOW or a cancellation with less than 7 days of notice prior to the workshop. The workshop may be cancelled at the discretion of the Workshop Chair and the President if any of the following occur: there are less than 10 participants, the workshop is not at a financial breakeven point, or the demonstrator or location cancels. In this case, FULL refunds will be given. If for any reason your check or credit card payment is rejected by your bank, VWS will ask you for a reimbursement of any fine or charge assessed by your bank to VWS. After two incidents, membership will be revoked. Enroll in workshops online at <http://valleywatercolorsociety.org/events>. Just select the desired workshop and scroll down to the "Register Now" button

Member Art News



Free Arts for Children

Please help us support Free Arts for Children again this year. We will extend the collection till April 30th. This nonprofit is a very worthy cause and VWS will match donations collected up to \$500. Your donation is tax deductible.

www.freearts.org

Please make your check out to VWS and mail to **Debbi Saunders 3333 Alana Drive, Sherman Oaks CA 91403** or, send online by Zelle to ywsociety.

Sylvia Hamilton Goulden

Congratulations!

Sylvia sold her watercolor “Jump Jive” which is exhibiting at the Colony Theater in Burbank.



Sylvia received an Honorable Mention for her collage “All Knowledge is Within You” at the Women Painters West show at the Twentynine Palms Gallery,



ART NEWS AND EVENTS AROUND TOWN



Call for Your Masterpieces!

Enter the 2026 NWS MEMBER EXHIBIT now!

This ONLINE Exhibition is open to ALL NWS Members

Exhibition Dates May 1 - June 30, 2026

***The deadline for entry is Friday, February 20, 2026
(4PM Pacific Time)***

Direct link to [CaFE'](#)

PLEINAIR SALON MONTHLY COMPETITIONS

<https://pleinairsalon.com/monthly-winners/> and go here for the rules:
<https://pleinairsalon.com/competition-rules/> This is run by Plein-air Magazine.

Other Calls for Entry

Online Juried Shows www.onlinejuriedshows.com
CaFÉ www.callforentry.org

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

The name of the VWS page is: **Valley Watercolor Society Community Service.**
Enter the name in the **SEARCH** field of your FB page, then click on the name. Once it opens, click on the **LIKE** tab. Click link (**ctrl+enter**) below for direct access:



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

You can then follow, comment, add your paintings or interesting exhibits you know of or participate in!
We are always looking to grow our community . We need your help to do better!

Please contact Sandra McDuffie (sanellen1946@yahoo.com) if you have questions or need assistance.

Thanks, Sandra

REQUEST TO ALL MEMBERS

We request all members to actively invite fellow watercolor artists to become part of the Valley Watercolor Society. Together, let's expand our community and foster the growth of art in our localities.

Call for Submission for VWS March 2026 Newsletter

This is a call for your submissions for the March 2026 newsletter: Due on the 25th of February:

Did you get into an exhibit? Do you have a show coming up?

Are you teaching a workshop, giving a demo, or have you published a book?

What have you been painting during our at home time?

Or maybe you just want your website to appear in the newsletter.

If you have any news to share, send to: newsletter@valleywatercolorsociety.org.

NEW MEMBERS PLEASE SEND A SELFIE HEADSHOT!

We will post your picture under our New Member section to welcome you to the organization!

Especially now, since we are not meeting in person, nice to see a new face!

SUBMIT ART MATERIALS FOR SALE...!

Cleaning out your studio? Got an extra easel? Extra brushes, paints, paper? Post in our newsletter!

SUBMIT YOUR WATERCOLOR ART QUESTIONS & TIPS...!

If you have a watercolor discovery you want to share, or a burning question for our members...we want to know!

SUBMIT OPPORTUNITIES AND EXHIBIT VENUES, AND SHOWS YOU KNOW OF!

Where do you go to pique your artist inspiration? Websites? museums? galleries? And what opportunities have you seen for submitting for exhibitions? In galleries, online, don't keep it a secret, tell us!

Those of you who regularly send newsletter items, please send them along:

- Photos and any accompanying comments for recent VWS paint-outs
- Society Show photos & winners
- General Meeting Demo photos
- New members photos & names
- President's Message

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- Submissions received by the 20th will be included in the following month's newsletter.
- Submissions received after the 20th will be included in the issue after the following month.

Photographs (send a pic of your painting for your member news!):

- Photographs should be high-resolution images of at least 600 pixels across.
- You may submit photographs as email attachments, in a *.zip file (or via [WeTransfer](#)).
- Photographs sent directly by email **must be submitted as attachments**.
- **Please do not send photos within the body of the email.**
- On a Mac and unsure how? [Check out this link](#).

DVD Library

VWS maintains a lending library for members consisting of professional instructional videos from various watercolor and water media artists and recordings of previous VWS guest artist demonstrations.

See the updated list on our website.

VWS DVD library is available to all current VWS members via mail. VWS will pay mailing fees to send DVDs to members in a reusable envelope; renter pays return postage using the reusable envelope, return address label will be provided. DVDs are loaned for one month; the maximum is 2 DVDs per month.

Contact Susie Tse: sytse210@gmail.com to order. Links to lists of DVDs is available on our Web site: <https://valleywatercolorsociety.org/dvd-library/>

Member Websites (to access website, press CONTROL then Click link)

Rosemary Altshuler—RosemaryAltshulerwatercolors.com

Liz Blum — lizblum.com

Selina Cheng — selinachengart.com

Sue Cohen — suecohenfineart.com

Sylvia Crosbie — SylviaKCrosbie.com

Julie Crouch — juliecrouchart.com

Gary Friedman — garyfriedmanart.com

Caren J. Gafni — artistcarenjgafni.com

Mardilan Lee Georgio — mardilanleegeorgio.com

Dafna Gilboa — dafnasart.com

Jan Godachy — jangodachy.com

Jim Huppenthal—jimhuppenthal.com

Mary Zangerle — maryzangerleart.com

Judy Heimlich — judysartstudio.com

Fatemeh Kian-- 14kian.com

Michelene Laski — michreedlaski.artspan.com

Sandra McDuffie — sandramcduffie.net

Susan L. Meisel — slm-designs.com

Shirley Peppers — ShirleyPeppersArt.com

Iuliia Pozdina — iuliapozdina.com

Midge Reisman — midgereismanart.wixsite.com

Debra Reynolds — debraadamsreynolds.com

Deborah Swan-McDonald — deborahswan-mcdonald.com

Brenda Swenson — swensonsart.net

***To list your website, please email:
newsletter@valleywatercolorsociety.org***

Newsletter

Visit the [Valley Watercolor Society](http://www.valleywatercolorsociety.org) website (www.valleywatercolorsociety.org). Here you can see the latest announcements, renew your membership, or register for workshops online. Check out our new membership area. Catch up on previous communications here: [Newsletter Archive](#)

2025-2026VWS Board of Directors

Officers

President — John Chapin
1st VP Programs — Debi McDonald
2nd VP Membership — Edina Russak
3rd VP Exhibits — Sylvia Crosbie
Secretary — Barbara Leitzel
Treasurer — Debbi Saunders

Directors

Workshops — Alanna Chandler
Newsletter — Selina Cheng
Parliamentarian — Barbara Leitzel
Hospitality — TBD
Student Awards — Dorothy Lee

Committee Chairs

Website — Sharon Reaves/Selina Cheng
Facebook -- Sandra McDuffie
DVD Library Coordinator — Susie Tse
Paint-Outs — Don Ferre
Society Show — Selina Cheng
Photographer — Veronica Stensby
Nominating — TBD
Lifetime/Honorary Memberships — Marie Burdick

Email any VWS board member at
Admin@valleywatercolorsociety.org

WWW.VALLEYWATERCOLORSOCIETY.ORG

You are receiving VWS Newsblasts as a member of Valley Watercolor Society.

Our mailing address is:

Valley Watercolor Society
San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center PO
Box 17192, Encino, California 91416

Copyright © 2023 Valley Watercolor Society, All Rights Reserved.