



From PVA President
Barb Zanoni



This month we are going to take a break from regular classes to give our teachers time to recharge and refresh and get some holiday shopping done. But we are still having fun. We have workshops for your enjoyment and the monthly gathering the third Monday of December, 12/18, where we will enjoy a potluck lunch, the traditional holiday artwork contest, and this year we are having a holiday themed trading card exchange. The information can be found in the art room on the desk as you come in or you can talk to Loretta Hostettler for more details. If you make one, you can take one; if you make two, you can take two! It's all secret, so don't peek! We also have some entertainment planned for you!

Starting in January, we are doing a little something special in the showcase outside our room. We are inviting you to bring a piece of art with a "winter scene" theme, no bigger than 11 X 14 framed, to display for everyone to enjoy. Since there is limited space, hangings will be on a first come, first served basis. The display exchange will occur on Friday, December 29th, between 9 and 12. Donna Berger will be there with her smiling face to help set up the display. In February we will have our regular artist of the month display. So every other month for the year, we will have a new themed showcase display.

Check our calendar for more details on workshops and the gallery exchange, etc. Thanks to those who signed up to help at Discover Sun City and to help Terri with hospitality! And thanks to Jan Cox for volunteering to be our official photographer. We look forward to seeing her photos in upcoming publications!

Thanks to everyone who came to our November gathering. We had a successful vote on officers, rules and regulations, and a fun demo from the manager of Blick Art Materials in Glendale. We will have even more fun in December, so please try to make it! We love to see you there!

A big thank you to Mary Jo Peterson and Kathy Palmer for chairing the festival this year and all those who helped! It was a huge success and there was a lot of positive feedback.

See you in the art room! □



December ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Patricia Hermes



Pat grew up in the small town of Wilmington, Illinois and always loved to draw. She started by designing clothes for paper dolls and copying faces from Draw Me pictures in magazines. In junior high she took lessons from a local artist and did an oil landscape which she later gave to her parents as a Christmas gift. After high school she went on to Illinois State Normal University where she earned a degree in Art Education.

Pat has had several careers over the years, including art teacher in Illinois and Guam, home day-care owner, and administrative assistant, all while being the mother to four children and wife to husband, Larry. She also found time to take art classes and workshops in jewelry making, weaving, pottery, life drawing, painting, and more.

Pat retired in 2002 from her position as Human Resources Administrative Assistant at the Amoco Chemical Company (BP) in Joliet, Illinois. The following year she and her husband moved to Sun City where she began working as a substitute teacher a few years later for the Peoria school district and then as a caregiver through an agency.

Pat loves all art media. Currently she is working with acrylics and her favorite subjects are people (portraits and figures) and enjoys loose watercolor techniques of artists like Charles Reid. At Palo Verde she has taken many classes and workshops, but her favorite activity has always been drawing from live models on Thursday afternoon with the portrait group. She has won many ribbons at the Sun City and Palo Verde Art Shows.

Pat also enjoys traveling, camping, painting rocks, working puzzles, taking walks, playing piano, watching movies, visiting family, and entertaining friends. She and her husband have visited Japan, Puerto Penasco (Rocky Point), Mexico, England, Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain.

Pat's advice to aspiring artists is to take classes in drawing as it is foundational to learning to paint.





BRUSHSTROKES

Lee Hill, Guest Columnist



What's Behind a Face?

John Singer Sargent and **Mary Cassatt**, American artists from the same era, had very different and equally influential impacts on the world of late 19th century portraiture. Both were known for their portraits but followed two very different paths to success and recognition.

Although born abroad of American parents, trained in Europe and not setting foot in the U.S until he was twenty, John Singer Sargent (1856-1925) was the go-to traditional American portrait artist of the era. He captured the industry magnates of the “Gilded Age” and their families, prominent celebrities and cultural icons and had an equally successful career in Europe. His style, while seeming somewhat conventional, showed the influence of the Impressionists in his use of light and loose brush strokes while still maintaining an amazing skill to capture the essence of the personality posing for him. His portrait of Madame X in the Metropolitan Museum of Art was the sensation of its time. Interestingly, on his holidays, he worked almost exclusively in watercolor in very Impressionist techniques that border on abstraction.

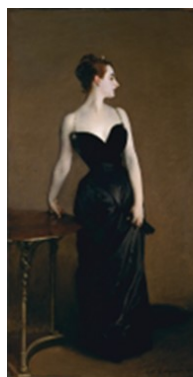
Mary Cassatt (1844-1926) while working in almost the same time frame, is one of the only women Impressionist artists that were recognized at that time. Born in Pennsylvania to a successful stockbroker and land speculator, she lived much of her adult life in France, where she exhibited with the Impressionists and befriended Edgar Degas, who had considerable influence on her work. She became extremely proficient in the use of pastels, eventually creating many of her most important works in this medium. An active feminist, Cassatt often created images of the social and private lives of women, with particular emphasis on the intimate bonds between mothers and children. Perhaps of most importance because of her wealthy status, Cassatt served as an advisor to several major art collectors who purchased and donated to American art museums which helped bring the work of many Impressionists into the country. .



Mary Cassatt,
Young Mother Sewing
oil (1910)



Mary Cassatt
Mother and Child
pastel (1914)



John Singer Sargent
Portrait of Madame X,
oil (1884)



John Singer Sargent,
Girl with Umbrella
watercolor (1910)



NEW NEWS

Meet our new officers for 2024, from left to right

Judy Wright, Vice President—Josh Thompson, Treasurer
Barb Zanoni, President—Kathy Palmer, Secretary



Showcase for 2024 and Gallery Exchange

Starting January 2024 the showcase display will alternate between Artist of the Month and All Member Theme display.

January will be the first “all member” display showcase with the theme WINTER SCENE. Paid members are invited to bring a painting, no larger than 11 x 14, matted and framed, to the art room on December 29, between 9 a.m. and noon. There is a limited amount of space in the showcase so paintings will be accepted on a first come basis.

The following day, December 30, will be the gallery exchange, between 9 and 12 noon. So mark your calendars for the two opportunities for showing your artwork.

Contact Marion at mwishnefski@msn.com with newsletter submissions

For Up-To-Date PVA information visit PaloVerdeArtists.com

PVA December 2023 Calendar

Continuing -> **Red** New Classes-> **Green**

Workshops -> **Blue** Special Events-> **Purple**

				Friday, December 1	Saturday, December 2
Monday, December 4	Tuesday, December 5 OPEN STUDIO 9 a.m. to 12 Noon	Wednesday, December 6	Thursday, December 7 Portraits 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Friday, December 8	Saturday, December 9 Colored Pencil 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth Little
Monday, December 11 Critique 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Ruth Little	Tuesday, December 12 OPEN STUDIO 9 a.m. to 12 Noon Watercolor & Gold Pen 1 to 4 p.m. Nan Gunn	Wednesday, December 13	Thursday, December 14 Portraits 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Friday, December 15	Saturday, December 16 Composition 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ruth Little
Monday, December 18 PVA Holiday Meeting 12 NOON Social Hall Holiday Artwork Contest Theme Trading Card Exchange	Tuesday, December 19 OPEN STUDIO 9 a.m. to 12 Noon	Wednesday, December 20	Thursday, December 21 Portraits 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Friday, December 22	Saturday, December 23
Monday, December 25 	Tuesday, December 26 OPEN STUDIO 9 a.m. to 12 Noon	Wednesday, December 27 Iridescent on Black Paper 9 a.m. to noon Nan Gunn	Thursday, December 28 Portraits 1 to 3 p.m.	Thursday, December 29 Showcase Intake Winter Scene 9 a.m. to noon	Thursday, December 30 Gallery Exchange 9 a.m. to noon