

## *Letter from the President of Scottsdale Artists League*

Greetings,

In writing this month's article, I had difficulty because I had a huge number of ideas fluttering around my brain like Monarch butterflies flying to Mexico. So, I went to the dictionary and looked up focus only to find no focus. Out of all the definitions there was finally one to direct me to my point..." a state or condition permitting clear perception or understanding". When we draw, paint or create, we are in that state of mind and we turn off the bombardment of noise and clatter of the world. To seek peace and truth, I suggest you draw, paint, sculpt, or whatever gets you to focus. Camille Pissarro is one of my favorite Impressionistic artists and his quote is so fitting,

***"Blessed are they who see beautiful things in humble places where other people see nothing".***  
Go and focus to find peace, truth and beautiful things in humble places.



*Happy creating,*

***Marsha Lazar-Klinger***

## ***-General Meeting-***

### **Marsha Lazar Klinger -President:**

*Marsha opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of April being womens' month.*



### **Donna Lewis-Treasurer:**

*Donna reported that membership dues are down this year due to Covid and fewer members renewing.*

*However, Donna has been able to pay SAL bills. Donna is pleased to announce checks were paid to Cara Huish for 2 paintings sold at Westminster and one sold at Sweetwaters Coffee shop.*

*Congratulations to Cara!*

*Donna also wanted to remind members that, if they sell artwork due to on-line connections from the SAL web site, please donate 10% to SAL, as is customary with any SAL venue.*



## **Shows**

### **Marsha Lazar Klinger -President:**

*Marsha reported that \$240.00 was raised from entry fees at the Sweetwater location. The Sweetwaters venue is promising and creating interest, they are very accommodating and want SAL to be a success there. Two people have approached Gary Bender regarding his artwork as well, however, those sales did not take place as yet. Desert Botanical Garden is still a "no" at this time and, Marsha has not received an answer yet from the Casa de Artists.*



# 60th Anniversary Auction

## Barbarann Mainzer:

*Barbarann presented information that she has prepared for her raffle idea and has designed tickets.*

*We need to get started with this if it is going to work. There will be 600 tickets printed at a cost of \$300.00, tickets will be for sale at \$10.00 each, for six months, that means each member should sell 10 tickets, if possible. There will be a slide show of donated art for people to see on the SAL Website.*

*She is asking for 20 paintings to be donated, with no size limit.*

*All art needs to be original, not a print.*

***Please e-mail a picture of your donation to be reviewed to Marsha.***



## New Business

### Marsha Lazar Klinger-President:

*Marsha informed that things are beginning to open up and we are hopeful that there will soon be more opportunities to have shows.*

*She is working with the City of Scottsdale to have a show in the Scottsdale Artists School parking lot.*

*She reported also that Marti Thorson has contacted Michael Fox at the Museum of the West in Scottsdale about a possible show there.*



### John Fontana:

*John Fontana is working with an interior decorating firm in Scottsdale to market SAL artwork commercially to businesses, hospitals, etc. The idea would be to have popular artwork reproduced and the decorating firm to receive reproduction rights. John is working to establish a relationship with them.*



## Reports

### **Membership Chair - Shannon O'Donnell:**

*There are currently 101 members.*

*Nineteen members and two guests attended the meeting.*



## Newsletter - Franco Valentini:

*Franco has had responses to his ideas to improve the newsletter and will begin to include items that members would like to sell. Also, Franco will be out of town for next month's newsletter and would like someone to volunteer to take photos of next month's presenter. Donna said she will do that.*



## Announcements

**Shannon O'Donnell** announced that she has obtained a venue in Scottsdale for a three-day show in October. There will be more information to come.



**Jim Garrison** sold four portraits to a dentist at \$400 each!  
*Congratulations Jim!*



**Barbarann Mainzer** also announced sales of 8 paintings and received two commissions at a recent studio tour she participated in.  
*Congratulations Barbarann!*



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# **Significant Benefits of Participating in Art Fairs**

## **Art Galleries – The Best Ways to Showcase Artworks**

Many young artists underrate art fairs as they fail to realize their importance for their careers. Painters overlook them when they are unaware of the numerous benefits that it offers. Besides giving you multiple opportunities to showcase your artworks, visiting art exhibitions can be a lot more fun than you can imagine. You can establish yourself as an independent painter or landscape photographer by participating in such shows. Art galleries allow you to present your original work for sale and reach sellers who want your work.

Adding up to the food and drinks that are available for the guests and painters, art galleries bring together art collectors, aspiring artists, curators, contemporary art critics, and art historians. When these professionals assemble in one place, young artists get the opportunity to build networks and learn about significant aspects of curation. You can even discover various tips and tricks to showcase your artwork for sale.

Aspiring artists must participate in various art exhibitions and take them seriously. Gradually, you will learn to conduct yourself as an independent artist who is a crucial factor that can help you achieve success in your chosen career. Moreover, make sure that you dress up appropriately when you visit such an exhibition. Remember that your first impression matters, and these art fairs are significant social events of your career.

Newcomers can consider art exhibition as a business event and should utilize the exposure to present themselves as professional artists. You should be ready to interact with new people and socialize well so that they remember you whenever they require your beautiful artworks. When a lot of artists gather at the same place, they do not only talk about the contemporary art fair, but you can get relevant information and the projects they are working on. When you exchange your ideas with the established artists, you may get an opportunity to work on a joint project.

## **How Beneficial are Art Exhibitions?**

Art exhibitions can be beneficial in multiple ways. They are suitable for artists, collectors as well as audiences. They are excellent social gatherings of people with similar likes and tastes. This does not mean that all the attendees will favor the same painting or artwork. It implies that the general artistic flavor will be an integral part of the environment created at these gatherings.

## **What's in there for visitors?**

Well, not every city may have reputed art galleries from where collectors and connoisseurs can buy the artwork they like. However, the possibility of art lovers being omnipresent in all towns can't be denied. How will these art lovers witness the grandeur and glory of your paintings? So, what is the solution? A temporary but highly publicized display of artworks at a grand scale- voila, you have an art fair before you.

## **Artists must not shy away**

Not all painters have the means to display their prized creations in reputed galleries. Selling artwork online is still a hard nut to crack. So, for young artists who want to monetize their creations, exhibitions can be a godsend. They can network their way to these events, and if their work is top-notch, they will give themselves a decent shot at selling their paintings.

## **Fame is a step away**

Relatively unknown painters get the opportunity to become the talk of the town if they get lucky at an art exhibition. Selling paintings and other works of art at shows will be a cakewalk if your creations win over the right collector. One huge sale and people will get to know that you have arrived on the scene with a bang. Even if the transaction does not happen on a grand scale, you will end up making friends or fans. And in the artistic way of life, these things come at a premium.

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## **Meet the Artist**

*This section is intended to introduce new members and old members to SAL colleagues. In short, a way to know each other better. Concerning new members it will include as many new members SAL will get each month. For old members it will include only one artist per month. Both new members and old members should submit a package including:*

- 1) A portrait photo*
- 2) A short biography with some interesting stories about his/her artist life*
- 3) Some photos of his/her most acclaimed and significant artworks.*

*Please send your package to: [francosp@centurylink.net](mailto:francosp@centurylink.net)*



## **-May 2021 Speaker- Stan Kurth**

"Artist and workshop instructor Stan Kurth has drawn and painted most of his life. An aunt, who was an artist and art instructor, became a big influence even before he began school. Stan lives with the conviction of "fear not" and that same attitude permeates not just life but his art. His focus and dedication to his work have earned him signature member status in several watercolor societies including the National Watercolor Society, San Diego Watercolor Society and the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies. He currently lives in Arizona."



Intuitive painting is the act of making marks and spreading pigment on a surface until it conveys a personal aesthetic. There is no predetermined finish or elaborate planning. My paintings are expressions of my life experience, everything which has touched and moved me along a path to the latest work. If the work fails to speak visually, no amount of esoteric rhetoric here will change it. Painting is a discipline which requires practice, passion, devotion, focus and a steadfast spirit of pursuing something which will never be attained.



***Windowpane #55 -15"x 15"***  
***Acrylic and watercolor on paper***



*Windowpane #54 -15"x 15"*  
*Acrylic and watercolor on paper*



*Windowpane #52 -21"x21"*  
*Acrylic and Watercolor on paper*

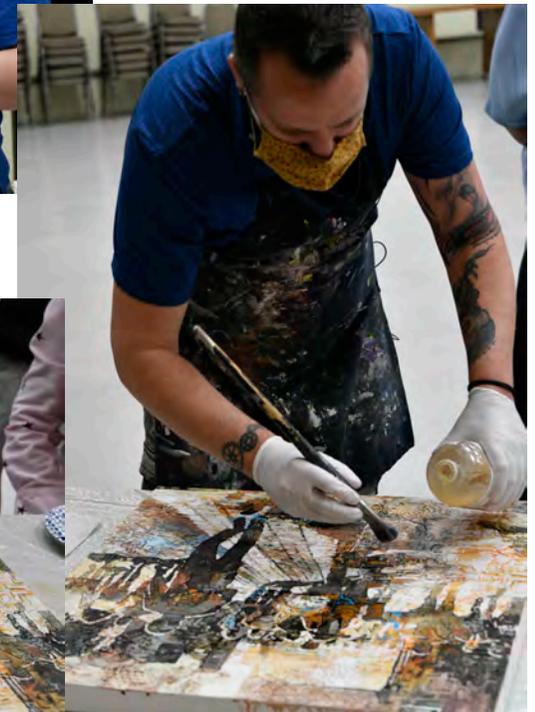
## April 2021 Speaker

### ***Many Thanks to Jon Wassom:***

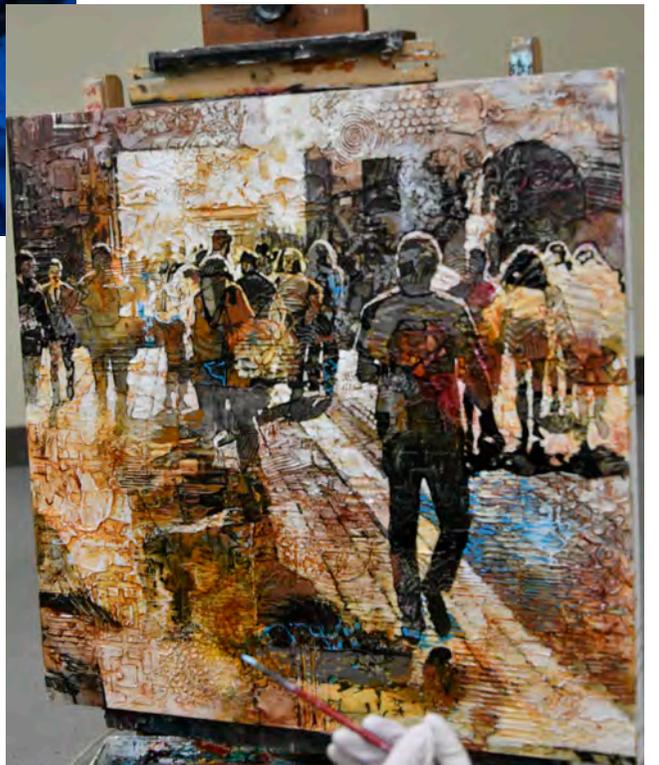
Laurie Schaefer re-introduced Jon Wassom, who provided our January and March programs. Jon showed us the final steps he takes with glazing to complete the painting he began in January. Jon is now represented at the Marshall Gallery in Old Town. Once again, everyone enjoyed watching him work. He has definitely inspired some members to try his methods.



Here a sequence of photos taken during his presentation







## **-Artist of the month-**



**-1st Place-  
"Home Sweet Home" (pastel)  
by Joan Langdon**

**About this painting:** It's about a bird on a nest. I was inspired by the many birds visiting in my backyard daily and because I love watching the hummingbirds.

**Biography:** Joan Langdon graduated from The Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City with a degree in Textile Design and worked in this field and in advertising for many years. After retiring from the business world and moving to Scottsdale she started studying with many leading artists and instructors at Scottsdale Artist School where she continued to take workshops and classes. She works in watercolor, pastel and oil and enjoys all mediums equally. She presently paints pet portraits by commission but enjoys painting other subjects as well. Her works may be seen at [www.JoanLangdon.com](http://www.JoanLangdon.com).



**-2nd Place-  
“Eclipse” (pastel)  
by Shannon O'Donnell**

**About this painting:** I love ballet and always wanted to be a ballerina. Fast forward years later...instead, I am an artist who painted a ballerina. I often paint from photo references. I love being able to choose a medium that best shows what I want to highlight. The sense of an “eclipse” led me to use pastels on black pastel board so I could achieve an extreme contrast between the light behind the ballerina and the ballerina’s silhouette - with just a hint of light on her face and her graceful fingers. I enjoyed creating the transparency of her skirt outlining her slender body. I truly love this piece and love how so many people have connected with it.

**Artist Bio:**

Shannon Gurley O'Donnell started painting in her early 20's after making an offhand comment to a budding young musician: “If the desire is there, the gift is there.” Later, standing in her kitchen playing with children’s watercolors to illustrate her poetry, she realized how much she had always longed to be an artist. In that moment, she realized her words of encouragement applied to her.

Shannon’s paintings reflect her diversity. Her multi-faceted life and deep, spiritual nature imbue her work . . . the energy and essence of her love for life and for her subjects is tangible. College art classes, training at Scottsdale Artists School, and private art lessons enable her to capture her subjects on a physical as well as a more intuitive, emotional level. Shannon paints what she senses in addition to what she sees. Her paintings reach beyond – to a place of knowing . . . Born and raised in Gallup, New Mexico, she moved to Phoenix, Arizona in 1983



**-3rd Place-  
Patchwork #2, Mixed Media  
by Cara Huish**

**About this painting:** Patchwork #2 is my second patchwork painting that I did with my palette knife. I just love the way you can blend the paints with the knife. I found out that I love the palette knife. The frame was built by my husband Nick.

**Artist Bio:** I started painting in 2018, I was struggling with anxiety for 4 years and needed to find something in my life to redirect my focus.. Painting turned my life around from anxiety to joy and refinding my worth. When you are in a dark place it is hard to focus on anything. Hence the name of my shop ANXIETY TO ART!!!!



**And now relax with some funny joke and curiosity**

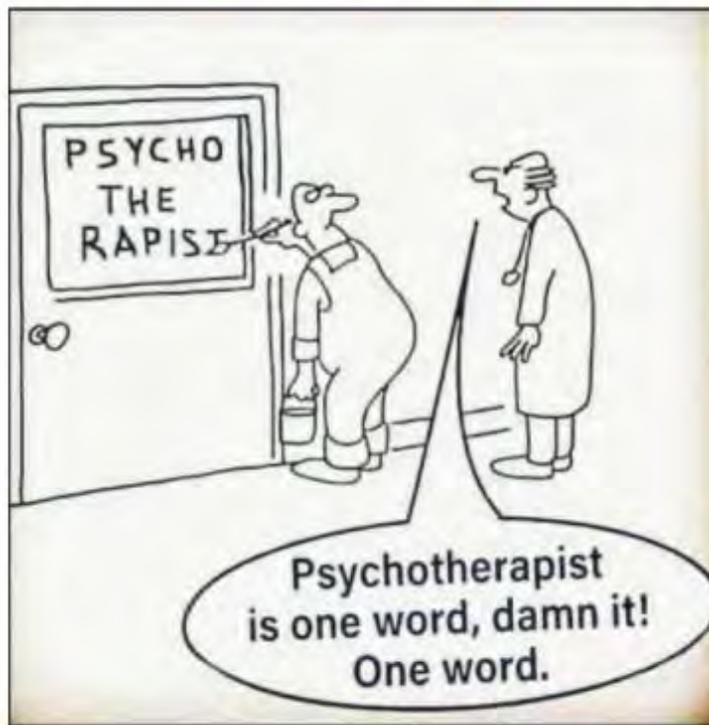
**An anonymous sent this:**

*Why is a baseball game a good place to go on a hot day?*



*Because there are lots of fans!..... Ha! Ha! Ha!*

**And what about this one?**



## "Sweetwaters Cafe" Show



A new **"Sweetwaters Cafe Show"** is on since April 1st. The panoramic photo shows all artworks on display. Individual photos of all artworks can be seen in the following pages. Again best wishes to all participant artists for a successful show.







CLARENCE GARDNER  
"Blue and Yellow"  
1920  
\$ 2,000



SANTA RITA DE BLANCA  
"Yellow Flower and Blue Cactus"  
1920  
\$ 2,000



CLARENCE GARDNER  
"Red Rock Landscape"  
1920  
\$ 2,000



CLARENCE GARDNER  
"Abstract"  
1920  
\$ 2,000



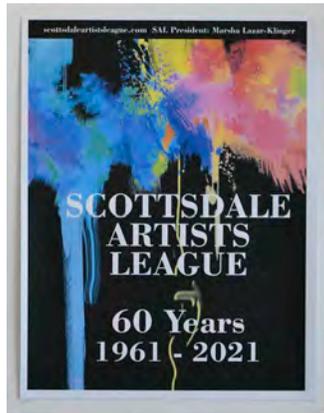
CLARENCE GARDNER  
"Two Cardinals"  
1920  
\$ 2,000



Twisted Flower Light  
— 2011  
— Sandy Boudier  
— 12" x 12"  
— \$1,200



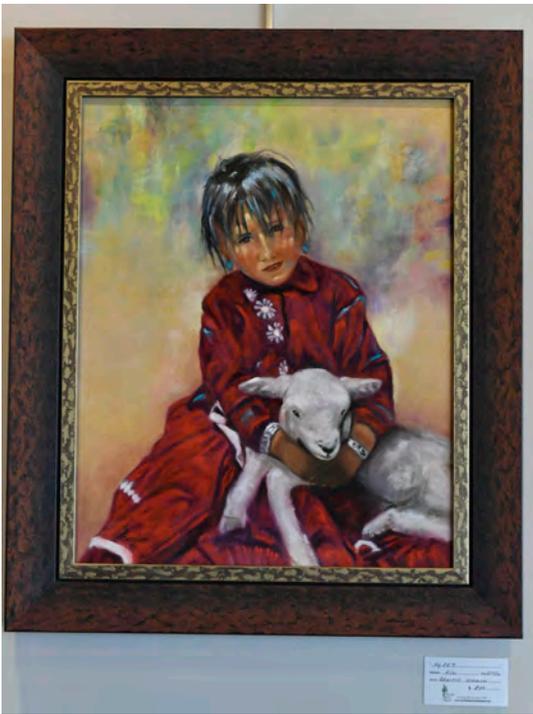
Abstract  
— 2011  
— 24" x 36"  
— \$1,200



Out of the Blue  
— 2011  
— 12" x 12"  
— \$1,200



CRANK IT UP!  
— 2011  
— 12" x 12"  
— \$1,200



July 2012  
Painted by [unreadable] and [unreadable]  
on [unreadable] canvas  
\$ 1,200



BACK TO WORK!  
Painted by [unreadable] on [unreadable]  
\$ 200



Precious Presents  
Painted by [unreadable] on [unreadable]  
\$ 115



CALIFORNIA POPPIES  
Painted by [unreadable] on [unreadable]  
\$ 100



Abstract  
Painted by [unreadable] on [unreadable]  
\$ 1,000



Small white label with text at the bottom right of the painting.



Small white label with text at the bottom right of the painting.



Small white label with text at the bottom right of the painting.



Small white label with text at the bottom right of the painting.



Small white label with text at the bottom right of the painting.



# **Buffalo Soldiers Monument**

**Do not forget to contribute to honor Al Stewart who sculptured the monument**



Help Us Raise \$650,000  
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## **Do not forget to make your 2020 Tax Credit Today!**

Sending out a friendly reminder that we are looking for continued donations and sponsors for our Buffalo Soldiers AZ Territory Monument that will be erected at the Arizona State Capitol in Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza downtown Phoenix, Arizona. Those who have already donated thank you for your kindness.



*Proposed monument.*

**Buffalo Soldiers AZ Territory Monument  
1866 - 1902**

Website: <https://www.buffalosoldiersazterritorymonument.com>

Video: <https://youtu.be/31jbcNTHeGc>

**Let them proudly sit equally among the heroes who helped defend, build, and settle our great nation.**

## SAL Swap Meet Page

FOR SALE:

Used white grid wall hanging system and accessories

9) 2' x7' panels

2) 2' x 6 1/2' panels

50 panel connectors

100 hangers

2) 12" x 12" x 8" baskets

1) 24" x12" x4" basket

1) 24" x12" x8" basket

3) corner shelves

Would like to sell all pieces together for \$150.00 or will separate with individual prices available on request.

Contact Barbarann at 603-361-8358 or [ba7jax@gmail.com](mailto:ba7jax@gmail.com).



Panel Connector and Hanger



Panels



Baskets



This photo is just to shows panels assembled and how to display artworks



## -SAL Member Critique-



**Jim Garrison** will be leading the critique during May General meeting.

All members are invited to participate with their work and suggestions. Critique begins promptly at 5:35 pm and runs to 6:45 pm prior to the General Meeting. Guests are welcome.

- Paintings and drawings do not need to be framed. Unfinished pieces are welcome for suggestion to finish them. Participants in the critique please do not bring paintings freshly wet, oil particularly, as the paint gets on our hands and clothes from handling the pieces and then paint is transferred to other works and the carpet in the critique area. If you have a frame to put the painting in for handling purposes that will be appreciated.



- Two works per member will be accepted.
- Work submitted after 6:15 may not be critiqued depending on volume of work.
- Work submitted for Critique cannot be submitted for artist of the month on the same evening.

**Jim Garrison**, Critique Master  
**Donna Levine**, Assistant  
**Dave Flitner**, Assistant

# **"Art Criticism is always very debatable among experts or whoever has to judge a specific artwork"**

**A short explanation to understand how your artwork is viewed during a critique.**

Art Criticism is always very debating between experts or whoever has to judge a specific work of art. Critiquing an artwork is like playing detective and whoever is doing it must assume that the artist has a secret message hidden within the work. The job is to find the message and solve the mystery.

Many of you may already know the fundamental of art criticism but it is always beneficial to refresh the concepts. This should allows you to self criticize your artwork at first and come to the critique more confident. It is important to get right that a critique is not negative. It allows you to learn and improve.

**These are the fundamental Steps of Art Criticism.**

**Description**-What do I see?

**Analysis**-How is the work organized?

**Interpretation**-What message does this artwork communicate?

**Judgment**-Is this a successful work of art?

## **Description**

It determines the degree of artistic merit. The critic may use aesthetics to help decide whether the work is successful. A work can be very successfully aesthetically, but critic might not want to live with it.

## **Analysis**

The critic determines what he sees and how the work is organized. Including composition, size and scale of work, relationship between colors and shapes, texture of surface and general execution of work.

## **Interpretation**

It explains or tells the meaning or mood of the work. In short what message does this artwork communicate? The critic may guess about the artwork, as long as they appear to be supported by what he sees in the work. However, he can make an interpretation that is different from someone else's.

## **Judgment**

It discovers how the principles of art are used to organize the art elements of line, color, value, shape, form, space and texture.

The critic can make a list of all the things he sees in the work: size of the work, the medium used, the process used, the subject, object, details and elements of art used. All of them remaining objective.





**-Membership-**

**SAL has 101 members  
19 members and 2 guests attended  
April 6 meeting**

**50/50 Drawing**

**\$ 20.00 to Irene Donato**

**Drawing for door prize**

**Arizona Art Supply-  
\$25.00 to Ann Warren**





The focus of the Arizona Art Alliance, under its new leadership, will be to serve the leadership teams of member groups.

Mission Statement: Facilitating growth in the Arizona arts community by empowering arts organizations to meet their goals of providing arts events, instruction, and community outreach.

The website ([azartalliance.com](http://azartalliance.com)) has a Membership Benefits page that lists: Outreach, Mentoring and Support, Education, Marketing, Collaboration and Partnerships, Members' Exhibitions.

Among Membership Benefits, the Arizona Art Alliance will provide member organizations with support for their outreach programs including funding, marketing, and assistance with curriculum development and virtual presentation.

The Art Alliance will host 2 exhibitions annually: "Interpretations" and "The Heat is On" (virtual summer show).

For more detailed info on Membership Benefits, please check the Alliance website.

Information should be posted soon regarding "The Heat is On".

Quarterly Meetings, via zoom, will be held for leadership teams of member arts organizations. These meetings will cover current issues and how to stay relevant, updates on events, and member organization announcements. Meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of the first month of each quarter. January, April, July, and October.

**Judy Delmonico-Roll**  
[jdelmonico-roll@cox.net](mailto:jdelmonico-roll@cox.net)

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*Marsha Lazar-Klinger, 513-515-4121 mlazarklin@gmail.com*

### 1st Vice President for Programs

*Laurie Schaefer, 480-363-6545 laurie.schaefer65@gmail.com*

### 2nd Vice President of Shows temporarily a team made of members:

*Pamela Shearer, 480-628-2072 pamelas.az@cox.net,*

*Judy Curran (Marketing), 480-232-4917 judykcurran@yahoo.com*

*Robin Schweitzer, 602-849-2614 robingailschweitzer@gmail.com*

*Sharon Elliott, 602-361-1794 whittlewomen@gmail.com*

*Leslie Austin, 602-818-2406 laustin39@cox.net*

*Barbarann Mainzer (panels), 603-361-8358 ba7jax@gmail.com*

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*Marti Thorson 269-578-6145 watercolor4life@gmail.com*

### Corresponding Secretary

*Joan Fuller 360-690-6854 jjisefuller0@gmail.com*

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## SAL Chairmen

### Critique

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*David Flitner, 480-831-8958 flitner@cox.net*

*Donna Levine, 602-574-1978 dalart@earthlink.net*

### Membership

*Shannon Gurley O'Donnell, 602-615-0649 Shannon@paintingsbyshannon.com*

### Artist of the Month

*Barbara Mainzer, 603-361-8358 ba7jax@gmail.com*

*Freddie Lieberman, 480-998-8782 fredarts@cox.net*

### Publicity Director

*TBD*

### Website and Eblast

*Kathy Wadsworth, 623-500-8001 Kwads6890@yahoo.com*

### Social

*Ute Merkle, 480-207-1604 klmerkle@gmail.com*

### AAA Representative

*Judy Delmonico-Roll, 480-990-1359 Jdelmonico-roll@cox.net*

### Newsletter

*Franco Valentini, 623-825-0395 francosp@centurylink.net*

Greetings to all of you,

*I like to fly. A passion I had since I was two years old when I spotted a WWII fighter flying almost a tree level. When I grew up I learned how to do it but I could not become a fighter pilot as I wished due to my mother's strong opposition. Fortunately, my working career helped me to be very much involved in aviation and therefore in close touch with airplanes. I have been flying more than I thought I could do as a civilian. And what I enjoyed more when flying was and still is to look down from above. It is a fantastic view. A view that tells how lucky we are to live in a planet like Earth. I do not fly any more as I used to do because the age put a stop to a lot of our activities. But the passion is always alive and when I can, I go up to take panoramic photos from above, or some photo like this one of friends flying up side down on his airplane over the Arizona desert. Photography is an art and I offer you this photo as a wish to see our beautiful Arizona always pristine.*

*Franco*

