



PO Box 4823, Salinas, CA 93912

**August 2023 Newsletter**

## **Presidents Corner**



Hello SVAA,

I hope you are all enjoying the end of summer. I love the longer days which gives us more light to

paint by.

I've been thinking lately about my long-ago trip to the Southwest. It left powerful images in my mind. These images had no words but expressed feelings and told stories. They were petroglyphs and pictographs painted and pecked or scraped on large rocks and stones in the Navajo lands by the Anasazi's. These ancient people who lived in the Four Corner region of the US were very creative, sharing stories and feelings without the burden of a written language.

As modern artists today we can also share our emotions and stories using a large array of color, shapes, forms and line.

Yesterday I was painting at Harden Foundation and decided I needed an abstract to help release tension. My brush had a mind of its own creating colorful circles of many colors. It felt wonderful not to have a strict plan but to play! We need that just as children do.

Art therapy, or so it's called is such a wonderful way to share privately our pent-up emotions that need a healthy escape. Why am I sharing this with you? I want you to keep painting for your mental and physical health (even if you have dozens under your beds.) 😊

I'm looking forward to watching Ed Avila on Saturday September 9th create a beautiful Pastel painting. I always learn from Ed's demonstrations even though I don't use Pastels. Join us!

Donna Davenport 🍷  
President SVAA



## **September Demonstrator Ed Avila**

Ed is a long-term friend of SVAA. He is one of those people who grew up being an artist. He has, over time, painted in watercolor, oil, watercolor, pastel, and camera. He has been a working photographer in our area for many years.

Those of us who have painted in the company of Ed, have benefited from his quiet instruction.

We hope you will come to the next meeting of SVAA and witness pastel painting in person



## Featured Artist FAYE RUSSO

Faye studied art since the age of twelve with pencil drawings. While attending high school, she worked as a colorist in a photography studio, and later worked in a floral shop as a designer. She attended art classes at Monterey Peninsula College, San Jose State University, and Hartnell College. In more recent years she has chosen watercolor as her favorite medium. Flowers are her favorite subject. She's had one-woman shows in Carmel, Seaside, and Salinas. And her work hangs in many private homes and business offices. A lithograph of her drawing of the John Steinbeck House was purchased by the City of Salinas and sent to Japan to hang in the City Hall of its sister city Kushikino, Kagoshima. Faye is a member of Art Unlimited, and was formerly a board member of the Salinas Valley Art Association.



## Featured Artist in Newsletter

Each month we try to show the work of our members. It's not hard. Just take a picture of a few of your paintings and share them with me (Linda), either by text message 831 809-0629 or e-mail [griffik@sbcglobal.net](mailto:griffik@sbcglobal.net). If you can, move close when taking the picture which will crop out all but the wonderful art. Also send a brief note telling a little about yourself



### Next Meeting

September 9th at Refuge Bible Church.

115 Iris Dr. Salinas, CA. Meeting starts at 1 pm. Park in the parking lot. Entrance is off the parking lot.

Thanks for the great snacks 😊 Keep 'em coming 😁

### Reminder

Bring your unwanted art books and supplies. One mans trash is anothers treasure. Keep in mind that if no one wants them, you must take them back 😊

### SVAA Officers

President -Donna Davenport  
Vice President -needed  
Secretary - Gail Lawrence  
Treasurer -Sue Shaw  
Historian -needed  
Roster -Pat Maher  
Webmaster -Steve Maher  
Web. assistant -Michael Elliott  
Newsletter Editor- Linda Griffith

**Please note that there are 2 positions yet to be filled! Could one of them be a fit for**