



# The Paint Rag

*Celebrating Over 65 Years of Friendship*

November 2012 Volume 68 Issue 9  
Non-Profit Organization #95-604775



James Wisnowski is a graduate of the American Academy of Art and a signature member of the Transparent Watercolor Society of America. In addition, he is a member of the Oils Painters of America, California Art Club, Laguna Plein Air Painters of America, American Watercolor Society, Chicago Artists Coalition, and the Palette and Chisel Fine Art Arts Academy. For thirty years, he has taught his technique at the Palette and Chisel Fine Art Academy in Chicago, the Old Town Art Center in Chicago, the North Shore Art League, Winnetka, IL and the Palos Verdes Art Center, CA.

James focuses on the outdoor landscape in both oils and watercolor mediums, traveling and teaching his technique in workshops extensively in inspirational locations in Europe and the USA. Painting en plein air gives him a more immediate and intimate encounter with the subject, which allows him to translate the experience onto canvas. These paintings are then often used as studies for larger work done in the studio. His technique is defined as realist and colorist, simplifying and emphasizing the light and color in order to communicate his vision of his environment as he sees it. James believes painting is a visual language with no need of verbal explanation. The images should express themselves through the painting. Living in Chicago for much of his art career has given him a unique feeling for the urban cityscape. Through his work, he shares the rediscovered beauty that may be lost or forgotten in everyday subjects. He shows the uniqueness found in simple ordinary neighborhood scenes, which are often overlooked. After relocating to California, the rocky coastlines, colorful fishing villages, and vineyards, as well as the urban scenes, continue to inspire his work.

James Wisnowski will be our demonstrator at our November 6th meeting.



## A Message from the "President" November 2012



### Tears For Happy

I played music for a woman in hospice on her 91st birthday. Tears welled up and poured down her cheeks. No, my playing wasn't that awful. But the tunes our band played brought back the memories of who she really is. Not who she WAS, but who she IS. The angel standing next to her (and I believe the hospice worker really was an angel) encouraged us to keep playing because these are "Tears for Happy". She said that when all else is gone it's important to remember who we are and not what we think we have become.

Samantha was a beautiful German Shepherd. Given name of Tammy Faye. The Burbank Shepherd Rescue saved her from certain premature death after a life of giving. Skipping to the end of the story I will tell you that "Sam" lived 18 more months. Happily enjoying good health and much love away from the breeder who allowed her body to decay. Tears for Happy came a year after her natural passing when foster family Tom and Vicki received their pet portrait of Sam. "It brought us back our Sam". Research has found that the chemistry of Tears for Happy is completely different from the tears coming from sadness or pain. Let those tears for happy roll! Bittersweet is richer than chocolate and every bit as good for your heart.

The moral of these stories is that art is a gift that keeps on giving. Don't think for one minute that your creations only give to you. They have true "love power" in them. They will continue to give to all who experience them. They are not for you only. I encourage you to be selfless and pass your artistic creations on to others. Your artwork will help people to know, not only who YOU are, they will help them remember who they themselves are too.

I can't wait to experience your creations at our wonderful winter Small Works Exhibit at Miguel's Whites' Gallery in Montrose this November. Also make sure to get tickets for our Annual Holiday Dinner in the Monterey at Encino Banquet Hall for our December meeting dinner! It's so much fun to dress up and get together for our Holiday celebration as an extended family. We'll be welcoming our new Board into office as well. Thank you all for stepping up to the plate and helping the club with your service to keep it alive.

Love,  
Michelle Nosco © 2012

### October Mini Art Show Winners



1st: Yona Rapport



2nd: Sandra Hall



3rd: Al Andros



HM: Jeri Christens

## Who's Who



### **JENNIFER BENTSON-GEBEL**

Jennifer Bentson-Gebel loves to travel, which fits in perfectly with her current project, “California Oaks as Art,” in which she is painting the significant oak trees of California. It all started when she was taking a figure drawing class at Descanso Gardens and began to ponder the similarities between tree limbs and human limbs. She thought to herself: “I’ve always loved trees; I need to pursue this ...”

She next found herself researching important trees of California, which led her to the Engelmann Oak on the campus of Cal Tech, in Pasadena. It is one of the largest oaks in California, and is declining due to age. When Bentson-Gebel went to the Cal Tech campus to research, she received a commission from the college to paint the beloved tree. That first piece in her series is now a permanent installation on campus, in tribute to the ancient tree, and her series now totals over twenty works in a variety of media.

Jennifer always loved art, and in fact, had wanted to major in art; she always brought her watercolors along on weekend backpacking trips and vacations during college years at University of Arizona. Her major, though, ended up preparing Bentson-Gebel for the field of counseling, in which she worked 30 years. During that time she was in many areas of that field including rehab and career counseling. Making art helped her to put others’ pain aside after her long days of helping patients.

After 20 years in that profession, Jennifer was struck with a rare form of cancer which she’s very fortunate to have survived. She spent much time during her three recovery years, taking art classes and painting outdoors among the trees, soaking up the healing power of the earth.

Art helped Bentson-Gebel through the grief of another tragedy, that of suddenly losing her adored husband, in whose name she established a scholarship endowment to the Department of Environmental Chemistry, at UCI, where he taught. Every year, she asks applicants to write an essay about how they plan on making a difference in the world, because that was what Michael Gebel was all about.

Jennifer’s perspective is that now, every day is a bonus day, and she says that when she’s making art, she completely loses herself in it, loses track of time, and feels as if the art pours through her. She also says that she comes away from painting feeling incredibly refreshed.

Bentson-Gebel (pronounced gable) is no stranger to volunteering: she’s served on the boards of several statewide and international organizations of her counseling peers, and is currently the membership chairperson for the Glendale Art Association. Those, in addition to her delightful effervescence and full-time commitment to art, make her the perfect candidate to serve as San Fernando Valley Art Club’s President, beginning in January 2013.

Please make sure to introduce yourself to Jennifer at one of our next meetings and find out for yourself what a remarkable woman she is.

**Attention, Artists, Members and Guests, The Paint Rag HAS GONE GREEN.** The Paint Rag is now being sent by e-mail unless you requested snail mail. Regardless of which way you receive your Paint Rag, it is still important to let Miriam Thorin, Membership Chairperson know your e-mail address. She will send out up-to-date information about opportunities for shows and paintouts when available and reminders of important deadlines.

**Plan Ahead to Attend our Tuesday Meetings - Future Demonstrators**

Date	Media	Artist	Time	Location
November 6	Watercolor	James Wisnowski <a href="http://jameswisnowski.com">http://jameswisnowski.com</a> 310-633-3080	6:30 PM	Encino Community Center 4935 Balboa Blvd., Encino, California
December 4	Figurative demo in oil, with a model	Julie Snyder <a href="http://juliesnyder.com">http://juliesnyder.com</a>	6:30 PM	Holiday Dinner and Demo Monterey at Encino 16821 Burbank Blvd., Encino, CA
January 8*	Soft Pastel	Meli Calkins <a href="http://www.melicalkins.com">www.melicalkins.com</a> 818-366-9835	6:30 PM	Encino Community Center 4935 Balboa Blvd., Encino, California

All, The first Tuesday in January is NEW YEARS DAY! Our club meeting will be on the 2nd Tuesday for January so we can all enjoy recovering from our midnight celebrations!

It is amazing that this year is almost over and we are now looking towards the Holidays and your 2013SFVAC Membership Dues which are due by December 20, 2013. So start planning to continue being members of the SFVAC family and complete the included application form so that we can update our database. Artist or Patron Members: \$40.00. Additional family member of either category is \$10.00. After completing the form, enclose your check made payable to SFVAC and mail both to:

**Joette Snyder**  
22545 Schoolcraft St.  
West Hills, CA, 91307

## Holiday Dinner

Tuesday, December 4, 2012 from 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm

### Monterey at Encino

16821 Burbank Blvd, Encino, CA

\$35.00 includes a demonstration which is TBD,  
dinner and lots of fun with all the members of the SFVAC.

Your choice of \_\_\_\_1) Salmon \_\_\_\_2) Turkey \_\_\_\_3) Vegetarian Pasta

For reservations send your check payable to the SFVAC and this form with meal preference to:

Diane Nelson Gold 16362 Barneston, Granada Hills, 91344

Please get your checks to Diane by November 26th, 2012 so we can give the restaurant an approximate number of members attending.

# Art Around Town

Date of Art Show or Workshop	Organization Hosting Show/ Workshop	Location	Contact Information	Last Date for Entry	Brief Description
Nov 6-29, 2012	SFVAC	White's Gallery 2414 Honolulu Montrose CA	Jan Cippolla sfvac@jancipolla.com 818-281-0619	November 3rd, Take in: 11AM—1PM	Member Fall Show 'Small Is Beautiful' Two entries with images no larger than 12" X 16"
Jan 9— Jan 27th, 2013 Reception January 20th	Topanga Canyon Gallery	120 N. Topanga Canyon, Topanga, CA 90290	www.topangagallery.com 310-455-7909. Will only accept online payment. See prospectus at http:// www.topangacanyongaller y.com/downloads/TCG- prospectus.pdf	December 8, 2012. Fees \$40 up to three entries. All entries must be submitted online. Online entries must be submitted on or before December 8, 2012	2013 Open Juried Show. Juror is Om Navon Bleicher, of Bleicher Galleries of Santa Monica and Mid City West.

It is hard to believe, but **Michelle Nosco** will finish her third year as president of our club in December 2012. She will have been "termed out" as required by the by-laws of our charter. So we are in need of wonderful volunteers who are willing to take this position and a few others on the Board. **We need volunteers to be part of the nominating committee for next year's board positions of club president, and treasurer starting January 2013.** If you know of anyone who may make a great president or a treasurer or if you want to give it a try yourself, talk to Michelle or Diane Nelson Gold. Nominations for the 2013 Board members are now open and December is fast approaching. So start thinking about who you think will make a wonderful Board member or would like to participate helping. Talk to any of the board members and we will toss your name into the hat.

We want to thank our October Demonstrator Eric Merrell for sharing his talent at our meeting.

## Paint Out For those who love to paint outside - SAVE THESE PAINT OUT DATES:

- « Tuesday November 20, 2012 for the Paint Out at Orcutt Ranch in Canoga Park
- « Monday December 3, 2012 for the Paint Out at Ferndell Park -
- « For directions and detailed information please check our Paint Out Blog at:<http://sfvacpaintout.wordpress.com>

The **San Fernando Valley Art Club** began in 1943 and has provided a continuing forum for artists of all skill levels and working in most art mediums. Guests are welcome to attend the monthly meetings/demonstrations and learn more about the club. Additional information can be found on the club's Web site, [www.sfvartclub.org](http://www.sfvartclub.org).

## Member News

**Ruben Yado** won first place (Landscape/Still Life/Floral- watercolor) at the San Gabriel Fine Arts Association Fall Open Juried Show on Sept. 28-29, 2012. Ruben also won third place (Animal/Wildlife - all media) at the Torrance Artists Guild Fall Open Juried Show held at the Toyota Auto Museum, Torrance, CA on Sept 28-29, 2012 . Congratulations Ruben!

**Antonio Pelayo** will curate an art exhibit Friday November 2 at the Day of the Dead Cultural Event, starting at 9:00p.m. and ending at 2:00am. Titled "El Velorio" there will also be music and dancing. KGB Studios, 1640 North Spring Street , Los Angeles. Wow.. staying up until 2:00 AM!! Call Antonio for more info at 818.731.0834.

You can see **Beth Summers'** work at the following venues this November. Artists' Enclave, Woodland Hills, Calif.; Sierra Design Studio, Mammoth Lakes, Calif.; Imagination on Main Street, Ventura, Calif., and "La Cuisine!" Blynn House, Pasadena, Calif."California Heritage" with California Art Club, Jose Vera Gallery, Los Angeles High Studio Art Gallery, Moorpark. Also Beth gave a demonstration on pallet knife painting at the Glendale Art Association on October 10th. Beth is one busy lady.

**Madeleine Prochazka** is participating in two shows; one in Pasadena called "La Cuisine" held at the Blynn House, October 4 – December 28; the other in Arcadia at the ACS-DS Clay Festival was held at the County Arboretum, October 13 and 14th.

**Meli Calkins** had a painting accepted at the Santa Paula Ag Art Alliance's Fifth Annual Exhibit "Art About Agriculture". The show is at the Santa Paula Art Museum, (117 N. 10th Street) and at the California Museum of Ventura County's Agriculture Museum, (926 Railroad Avenue, both in Santa Paula). The show runs from November 10, 2012 to March 17, 2013. Reception is November 10th starting at 4:00 – 600 p.m. at The Santa Paula Art Museum.

A few memories from the October members' meeting



**San Fernando Valley Art Club**  
offers venues each member artist  
may independently approach!

### Artist Alley

Calabasas Tennis & Swim Ctr.

Contact: Kathy Milbrand

(818) 222-2782

23400 Park Sorrento

Calabasas

\$46.00 insurance fee from the city  
which they provide.

### Aroma Restaurant

Contact: Moira

(818) 508-7377

4360 Tujunga Blvd.

Studio City

No commission

### Organic Coffee Shop

Contact: Emily

(818) 762-0181

12508 Moorpark St.

Studio City

30% commission

Any member of SFVAC wishing to display their work at any of these venues should **first call the contact** at each location to arrange an appointment. At the appointment time please provide them with a portfolio or photos of your work and arrange dates for their next available exhibit.

### Lulu's Beehive

13203 Ventura Blvd., Studio City. Cross

street Mary Ellen Ave,

Contact Marilyn Blutter.

(818) 830-0825

### Coffee Fix

12508 Moorpark St, Studio City

Corner of Moorpark and Whitsett

20% Commission

Contact Dori Marler

dorimarler@yahoo.com

(818) 453 8175



Find out the latest in club news on Facebook. If you are a member of Facebook, just search the San Fernando Valley Art Club.

Thank you to all of our advertisers for your continued support!

Rea Nagel will be teaching a multimedia art class starting September 11 at the Carter- Sexton Art Store at 5380 Laurel Canyon Blvd., North Hollywood. Come join us and have a fun time and learn a lot. Work with watercolors, inks, acrylics, and collage.. Call Rea at 818- 908-5919.

Be the ARTIST OF THE WEEK AT THE SECRET SQUIRREL COLD BREW COFFEE SHOP sponsored booth each Sunday at the Laurel Canyon and Ventura Sunday Street Fair and Market from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The company supports the art community and will not charge any commission. They are on Facebook and Twitter and like to talk each week about the artist they are showing in their booth. Contact Barbara Schwarz at (818) 314-9939 for more information.

### Art Classes

Helene Jukoff will be the art instructor at the Reseda Community Adult School. This low cost class will cover all mediums (watercolor, oil, soft pastel, oil acrylic and drawing). Classes are held on Wednesday mornings at the Wilkinson Center, 8946 Vanalden, Northridge. Helene also offers private lessons on Tuesday afternoon. For more information on both classes, call Helene at 818-349-7933.

### 2012 Board Members

President	Michelle Nosco	(661) 803-7744
Vice Pres.	Diane Nelson Gold	831-1786
Treasurer	Joette Snyder	912-6560
Recording Secretary	Sylvia Crosbie	902-1853
Membership	Miriam Thorin	577-7461
Paint Rag Editor	Meli Calkins	366-9835
Exhibits Chair	Jan Cipolla	281-0619
Mini Exhibits	Gerda Maxey	362-3254
Historian	OPEN	
Media Relations	Terry Supple	346-5791
Host Committee	OPEN	
Hostess	Tina Lauer	414-6522
PR Mailing	Lisa August	882-8517
Raffles	Pearl Schwager	368-8171
Video Librarian	Arlette Menard	366-6665
Paint Out Coordinator	Trisha Bennett	784-3000
Parliamentarian	Open	

Member news for the December 2012 newsletter is due by November 17th , 8:00 p.m.  
Call Meli Calkins, Editor, Telephone 818 366-9835



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By Marjorie Sarnat

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Don't forget to check out the Paint Out Blog at <http://sfvacpaintout.wordpress.com> to see where we have been when painting Plein Air!! The link is also on the SFVAC Web page.

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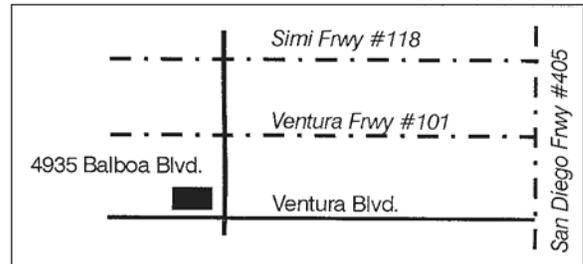
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**The San Fernando Valley Art Club**  
 Meets on the first Tuesday of the month:  
 4935 Balboa Blvd., Encino, California  
 Social time 6:30 p.m. - Program 7:00 p.m.  
 Refreshments served.

The Public is Welcome  
 Requested Donation: Members \$5.00  
 Guests, \$6.00



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Board Meetings -  
Monday: November 26th and December 27th  
 Meeting time - 7:00 pm  
Location:  
 Tarzana Community Center. 19130 Ventura Blvd.,  
 Tarzana  
 At the corner of Vanalden and Ventura  
 Parking in rear

See what is new on the San Fernando Valley Art Club website [www.sfvartclub.org](http://www.sfvartclub.org)

**SFVAC Paint Rag**  
 17227 Kingsbury St.  
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