



the society of layerists in multi-media

*"...the relationships in art are not necessarily ones of outward form, but are founded on inner sympathy of meaning."--Wassily Kandinsky*

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## Message from the President



As the year comes to a close, let's take the opportunity to assess all that has transpired. After the restrictions the coronavirus placed on the world last year, many of us have been able to get out a bit and enjoy some sort of normalcy in our lives. Spending time in our studio space has allowed our creativity to flow in response to all that is happening around us. One of the current activities that is giving much pleasure to numerous SLMM members is the collage/ assemblage project spearheaded by Win Ratz, WY and Nancy Egol Nikkal, NY. Members are paired with another member and exchange materials to use to create a work of art — many of these have been shared on the SLMM

Facebook page which is becoming quite active. This is just one of the ways our society is connecting our members across the miles. Please contact Win ([winratz@gmail.com](mailto:winratz@gmail.com)) or Nancy ([nancy@nikkal.com](mailto:nancy@nikkal.com)) if you are interested in participating.

Updates to our SLMM website are always being made, especially in the section of our organization's history, by Sue Burke Harrington, TX. This is a very important part of documenting all that our society has done during the past 39 years since being founded by Mary Carroll Nelson, NM. We need the memories of all our members to help fill in the blanks with information and photos if possible. We ask that you visit our website and review this section — contact Sue ([sburkeart@gmail.com](mailto:sburkeart@gmail.com)) if you have anything for her to add to the site. Enhancing our history will give prospective members a better sense of our organization, what we stand for, and what we have to offer.

We continue to hold our bimonthly national Zoom meetings in an effort to keep our group connected. These have been 'sharing' discussions, but we hope to discuss other topics that might be of interest to our members. If you have a suggestion for one of our meetings, please let one of our board members know. Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 1:00 pm Mountain Time — meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of every other month starting in January. We hope more of you will participate since connecting with other members is how we keep SLMM strong and moving forward!

Stay healthy and happy — *Laura Pope*, SLMM President

As your SLMM newsletter editor, I will bring you up-to-date on the reason this newsletter is late. Since my mother died right at the time everything was due for the fall newsletter, I was unable to collect and compose the material and with the advice of a few other SLMM members, it was decided it best to skip the fall edition. It was awhile before I got my feet back on the ground, but I thought to myself, why not go ahead and create a shorter version with an emphasis on those who have passed away. It was a sad October as we lost my mom, Pauline Eaton, Jennifer Badger Sultan and Galen Etemad.

*This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of SLMM members and friends who passed away in October, 2021. First of all, as your editor, I would like to mention my mother who took flight the same day that Pauline Eaton did, October 5th. Without mom, there wouldn't be me and without me, I wouldn't be typing this newsletter!*



### Lenora Kuchar, 12/25/1914 - 10/05/2021

My 106-year-old mother, Lenora Kuchar, was born December 25, 1914, on a Nebraska farm. She witnessed the first airplanes, cars replace horse and buggies, indoor plumbing and so many inventions and innovations. Her mother died from the Spanish Flu on Christmas Eve, 1918, and it was the night before mom turned four years old. Her grandparents took her to live with them in South Dakota until her dad remarried in 1920. The hard times were many as she went through the Great Depression and the Dustbowl days. Crops dried up or were eaten up by the invasion of grasshoppers. Her famous quote was "If you killed one grasshopper a thousand came to the funeral." Her passion was history. She loved to learn about the early times and her major contributions to the community of Meadow Grove, Nebraska, were two books chronicling the history of the area. Under the pen name "Still Learning" she wrote witty and informative stories for the local newspaper.

Mom liked to travel and it was my pleasure to take her on trips after dad died in 1984. A favorite place we visited was Alaska in an oil-guzzling van that got 300 miles per quart. *Yes, it was add a can of oil very 300 miles.* She loved Nascar races so we attended the tracks in Pennsylvania, Arizona, and New Hampshire. Last but not least, she loved Elvis. Although she never saw the real Elvis, she saw many impersonators over the years and had quite a collection of scarves! I took her to Graceland for her 90th birthday.

Mom was sharp right up to the end and was fortunate enough to stay in her home for all those years. She will be sorely missed but she got her wish...she said it was time!

Pictured to the right is mom standing next to her museum. She purchased this building (the original first post office of Meadow Grove, dated 1883) and restored the building and converted it into a museum to house historical memorabilia relative to the area.



For the obituary and video tribute, cut and paste this link on your browser.

<https://www.brockhausfuneralhome.com/obituary/lenora-kuchar>



Pauline Eaton, 3/20/1935 -  
10/05/2021

On October 12, a few days after Pauline's passing, Charles jotted these beautiful thoughts.

*From our bedroom window, I can see a Great Horned Owl. It is balanced easily on a swaying limb and buffeted by strong winds. Pauline and I loved to watch it and its partner. They would both sit motionless for hours and then one would leave on silent wings for a destination beyond our sight. I would that I could have alerted each of you personally and sooner, but I have been topsy-turvy all week—often sitting motionless while buffeted by strong winds. Last week on this day and hour, Pauline took flight on her own quite silent wings.*

*For a number of years, Pauline has suffered from chronic and often intractable pain from several debilities—including an advancing spinal stenosis that rendered her unable to look forward. Her head dropped down to her chest and compromised both her breathing and speaking. On Monday, October 4th, she enjoyed a delightful pain-free day (aided by new medications provided by her physicians). Later, at 11:00 p.m., she relaxed into sleep. The next morning, at a previously arranged visit by a Hospice nurse to evaluate her condition and options, as Pauline was sleeping, the nurse sat by us and discussed with me what possible steps ahead might be taken. Then, at 11:55 a.m., Pauline, age 86, stopped breathing and did not awaken in this world.*

*In 1963, when Gregory, our eldest son was 14, Pauline asked him to learn the Toccata from Widor's 5th Symphony for the pipe organ. Pauline said that it sounded to her like angels leaping up the spiral stairway to Heaven—and that she would like him to play it at some distant point for her memorial service. Within the year, Gregory had learned it by heart and has played it for his mother every time that we have been together and near an available pipe organ. Knowing that she was rapidly failing physically, Gregory booked a flight to Albuquerque with plans to play the Widor Toccata for his mother at St. John's Cathedral on October 19th. Pauline was not able to live that long and died on the fifth. However, our immediate family from several states met at the Cathedral to hear Gregory present his musical gift to Pauline. Then we all went to the Fusion Theater to enjoy her paintings there, and then on to our home for refreshments and a viewing of nine paintings that had never before been seen together. These nine paintings chronicle her transformation as an artist from 1983 to 1986 and on.*

*In the following days, I have found occasion to introduce these paintings to friends and complete strangers (a new neighbor never before met, a cleaning woman, etc.). To each of these I have said: "I want to introduce you to Pauline through her paintings and through my eyes and yours". The result has been eye-opening for them and amazingly supportive to me. In her last days, Pauline said: "I am not going to say goodbye to my friends; they can see me any time they like".*

*You, too, are invited to visit. Help me to celebrate Pauline's life—a most extraordinary artist and human being. Whether you arrive as part of a group or by yourself, I do urge you to come. The best hour (for the lighting) is 5:00 or later. Please contact me by phone or email and arrange a time and day. I plan to keep the paintings arranged in our library for several months if possible. [If you like, I'll also play a recording of the 6-minute Toccata]*

**Charles Eaton, 68 Hop Tree Trail, Corrales, NM 87049, ceaton@unm.edu, 505 507 9229**

*If you click on the following blue URL, you will find a tribute to Pauline from her good friends, Hugh and Ber Himwich. Including very recent photos of her by Ber and poems by Hugh, Pauline, my grandfather, and others. <https://padlet.com/hughlings/819rwtppmsg07dd4t> And also this from our organist son, Gregory Eaton: <https://www.facebook.com/gceaton/>*

As SLMM's newsletter editor, I want to share this story. *Long before I knew Pauline, she purchased a painting of mine from the 1983 San Diego International Watercolor Exhibition. A few years later I joined SLMM and met Pauline for the first time. In conversation, she put two and two together that I was the artist who created the painting she fell in love with, "Dad Predicts Rain." My dad was suffering from lymphoma at the time I painted it. He died a few months later. Dad had an uncanny ability to predict the weather so this became the subject of the artwork. The rain falling across the map of Nebraska and streaks of paint were actually a symbol of my tears as I made an effort to express my love for dad. When I told her about this personal story, it touched Pauline deeply and she offered to return the artwork. I did not accept her generous offer as I knew the painting belonged in her collection. (An interesting note: After mom passed away in October, I was going through her photo albums and I was so happy to find this photo of dad standing next to the painting. It brought me to tears!)*



*I always looked forward to seeing the Eatons at the conferences and sought out their table if I could squeeze in. They had lots of admirers! Pauline told me that she never liked any of the photos taken of her but she said she liked this one! I like it too.*



Here is what Charles wrote to Karen Van Hooser on November 11. *Here is a coincidence. I am sitting on the edge of our bed and I'm looking at a painting on the wall which is called "Dad Predicts Rain" by Kathleen!*

*Pauline must've purchased it from a show that was held in San Diego a long time ago and it's a beauty. My my, what a world we live in, and what strange coincidences occur.*

Pauline and Charles were SLMM newsletter editors for many years. Pauline contributed to the organization in so many ways, including being a board member. Looking back at the archives, I found in the November 1991 newsletter that Pauline singlehandedly curated the 60-piece show, "A Gathering of Voices," for the Marin County Civic Center Art Galleries in California...she provided transportation in her trusty station wagon for every activity.

Pauline Eaton, in 1997, encouraged members to submit work for the upcoming book, "Bridging Time and Space, Essays on Layered Art". She wrote "The fifteen years of the existence of the Society of Layerists in Multi-Media have been significant in the changing of thought across the art world. This book is our really HOT chance to make our mark appropriately known to the art world at large. Already the words "layers" or "layering" are being used in published articles, reviews, and catalogues, but it was OUR GROUP that invented the words and promoted the ideas since 1982. Remember with what excitement you discovered SLMM yourself, finding that you had an 'art home' at last, that you were not alone in the ideas evolving through your own art! Think of how many others have not yet found the terms with which to link themselves to a greater universality of expression of the layers of being, spirituality, expression, metaphysics, time, space, and inner realities!! This book is perhaps the MOST IMPORTANT exhibition opportunity SLMM has—or will ever have—to share the importance of layering concepts and images. "Bridging Time and Space" debuted at the 1998 SLMM conference in Haverhill, MA and quickly became a must-have. *This was my first SLMM conference and I met so many who became life-long friends, including Charles and Pauline Eaton.*



Here are some happy faces as Pauline and her SLMM friends returned to the conference hotel in Asheville after a night out on the town.



## Jennifer Badger Sultan, 1941-2021

A lifelong artist and SLMM member since 2004, Jenny Sultan passed Thursday night, October 14, after a very brief and precipitous battle with lymphoma. She had had two previous battles with cancer. She was 80 years old. Her family asks that you honor Jenny's memory by enjoying and sharing her work widely. <http://www.jennybadgersultan.com> On November 14th a memorial was held in San Francisco where Jenny made her home.

*As your editor, I had many things in common with Jenny. We were both college art professors and we both were fascinated with dreams. When we had our*



*SLMM conference in San Francisco, I got to know Jenny better. Her organizational skills were evident as she put together a conference that will be long remembered with field trips, workshops, and activities that brought our SLMM membership closer*

*together. I absolutely loved her artwork, especially the ones that were based on actual dreams. In 2019, she participated in the exhibit, "Night Dreams" at the San Pablo Art Gallery in Pablo, CA with a group of artists who had been involved in local dreams, IASD, and events at Berkeley's Dream Institute for many years. In her own words "To have this opportunity to show our work together was very satisfying." On the left, "Descending the Mountain Tower", was included in this exhibit.*



**Dori Pendergrass, SLMM member from Florida, wrote** *Losing Jenny hit me hard. We knew each other for many years, and our friendship melded more strongly when we both became members of SLMM. I phoned Jenny every now and then. I had even talked to her when she was in the hospital. Each time we talked she sounded pretty good. As always, she encouraged me to be creative. I was hopeful for her recovery until near the end.*

*Jenny seemed to embrace the whole world with her images. As you know, her paintings were often responses to her dreams which provided a close look at her unconscious. Her color choices were clear and meaningful, putting a positive light on every person and place she knew. Through her life, making art was her constant focus. Open-mindedly and sensitively she embraced her own life and the life of others through each one of her paintings. My heart goes out to all who loved her. I will miss her! She was an inspiration to me. —Dori Pendergrass*

**Jaleh Etemad wrote this tribute**

*Our artistic relationship goes back many years. We often worked side-by-side in the Society of Layerists in Multimedia. When I was the President, Jenny served on the SLMM Board of Directors. For over four years she was the Regional Coordinator for the Pacific and Canada Region. The members gathered in her studio for many wonderful and exciting*

*workshops from mask making to creating murals. She headed the SLMM Annual National Conference that was held in San Francisco in 2015.*

*Jenny's art was amazing. She was an extraordinary artist painting her dreams. One day while I was with her at her studio, she brought out a large, deep box. When she lifted the lid, I could see that the box was filled with stacks of painted canvases. She shared that each canvas was a painting of a dream. I was blown away by this beautiful collection. I do not usually remember my own dreams. However, one dream that I do remember is from a dream that I had a short time before I learned that Jenny had passed. In my dream, Jenny was mixing a bowl of her famous spinach salad with a happy smile on her face. When I later learned that she had passed, I remembered the dream and realized she must have been saying goodbye to me.*

*She will always be remembered as a gentle and caring human. She will always be in our hearts.*  
Jaleh Etemad, November 9, 2021.

## Galen Etemad, 11/01/1922-10/31/2021

Jaleh Etemad's loving husband Galen passed from this world on October 31st. Many of you will remember Galen, he and Jaleh attended several SLMM National Conferences together over the past 20+ years. Galen, a true

gentleman, was soon to be 99 years old. Jaleh and Galen were together for so many years, they will, most assuredly, continue to walk side by side.



Galen was a brilliant man, born November 1, 1922, in Mashhad, Iran. Education was important to him and he was drawn to engineering. He moved to America in 1948 to pursue his degree in Mechanical Engineering from Harvard. He then went to California to the University of Berkeley to pursue his doctorate, awarded in 1954 with a specialty in Heat Transfer and Fluid Mechanics.

On the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing, July 20, 1969, his daughter Nakissa Etemad wrote an article for the Persian Heritage giving tribute to her amazing father who was one of the first Iranians to work in the American space program. He earned the nickname, Mr. Apollo.

Juliet Wood, SLMM member from California, wrote this about Galen

*Jaleh and Galen were ever the stars at many, many gatherings. They came to any and all events with smiles and laughter. My late husband Ash thought so much of Galen noting his generous spirit and brilliant mind. I think of Galen now as a "world-personality". While always being himself he embodied an attitude of acceptance for all. I will never forget the Persian New Year celebration at their beautiful home. I know Galen treasured his family and Jaleh above all else. This beautiful man had a far-reaching presence in the world and will be sorely missed by all who knew him. My most loving embrace to Jaleh. —Juliet Wood.*

SLMM will be forever grateful to Galen and Jaleh. Their generous contributions over the years from the Galen A. and Jaleh A. Etemad Family Fund is evidence of their love for SLMM. A heartfelt appreciation is returned from each and every member.

This beautiful poem, penned by SLMM member Barbara L. Chapman, certainly fits the theme of this newsletter. *Thank you Barbara for sharing.*

**“At the Water’s Edge”**

**Arriving at the water’s edge  
answering a call from within my soul  
that was planted lifetimes ago.**

**And the sight of the sky invites me to soar  
and the burdens I’ve chosen are suddenly no more.**

**It is an eternal connection though not a cord.  
Boundless freedom in breath and timeless, unseen beauty.**

**It is a single moment holding the heartbeats of all life throughout time.  
And the water’s edge and into the open sky  
is where I meet all souls throughout time.**

**I become one and I become many  
in one breath at the water’s edge.**

@Barbara L. Chapman  
Edmonds, WA  
blchapman.com

## Donations and Gifting

Life is so rich in unexpected surprises. We are happy to announce contributions from Mary Carroll Nelson and Terri MacDonald. Their dedication to SLMM means so much to us all!

*Editor’s note: The website now gives all viewers the ability to make donations to SLMM throughout the year. Go to [slmm.org](http://slmm.org) and at the bottom of the HOME PAGE, click the Donate Button. It is a great opportunity to help SLMM and to make a tax deductible contribution.*

## We welcome these new SLMM members (April15-Fall, 2021)

Robin E. Brooks, ME; Shai Christensen, KS; Constance B.(Connie) Fisher, VA; Kathleen M. Foster, KS; Marlene Furtick, NY; Brenda J. Gear, NC; Constance Gehring, KS; Joanne Van Genderen, NY; Nicola Ghersen, CA; Rachel Hobreigh, CA; Freda C. Mullen, IL; Liz Ruest, WA

### **Re-instated members**

Patricia S. McCandless, PA; Nadia Hlibka, AZ; Billie Denise Wright, OR (originally from the Virgin Islands)

## Membership Committee Report

Submitted by Barbara Jo Converse Stevens

Barbara Jo’s report shows that our total membership is up by almost 20 members from last year and the SLMM Facebook site has almost doubled in members who have joined the site since January. The committee has been working hard to make it easier for us to stay connected. Zoom meetings and Special Projects have led the way in keeping SLMM alive and well during these pandemic times.

The Membership Committee has us all anticipating 2022! We are all looking forward to **More Zooming!!** If you haven’t tried it, how about making it a new year’s resolution?

**The weekly Zoom meetings** are held every **Tuesday** and have proven a wonderful way to exchange ideas, critique, share all sorts of topics and socialize. *As your editor, I have so much fun participating and if I am not quite up to yakking with the group, I just sit back and smile as I listen and watch as it is informal, like sitting around your kitchen table with best friends. Did I say it is FUN!!* Date and Time for weekly Zoom are Tuesdays at 11 am Pacific; noon

Mountain; 1 pm Central; 2 pm Eastern. Go to [slmm.org](http://slmm.org) and click on calendar of events for the Tuesday link. *See you next Tuesday!*

**National Zoom meetings** are held on the 3rd Thursday of *every other* month to connect members in ways similar to the national conventions (January, March, May, July, Sept, Nov.) at noon Pacific time, 1 pm Mountain time, 2 pm Central time, 3 pm Eastern time. Links may be found on the [slmm.org](http://slmm.org) Calendar of Events. Next meeting is January 20th. *See you there!!*

**Special Projects** led by Win Ratz, WY, and Nancy Nikkal, NY, have brought members across the USA together on a more personal basis by creating enthusiasm and excitement for new ideas and techniques. It all started on a weekly Zoom meeting when someone suggested using tea bags in our art. So, the Tea Bag Project was born and with great enthusiasm, Nancy put some of our creations on her blog site. The next thing we knew, we were on to Collaborations! Win took our names and threw them in a hat and two by two we were randomly paired up with another SLMM member to exchange collage materials. What fun that was!! Sue Burke Harrington created a wonderful digital record of our creations. The Pacific Coast got excited about this project and put together a collaboration as well. Collaborations can be through pairing up by drawing names out of a hat or you can choose your own partner or partners. *By the way, it's not too late for those who want to jump on board. If you want to be paired up, contact Win Ratz for more information at [winratz@gmail.com](mailto:winratz@gmail.com). She will pair you up with another SLMM member to exchange materials for a fun collaboration. This project is due on February 14th so there is time to be included.*

#### **Zoom Workshops/Demonstrations for 2022**

We are excited to announce SLMM will be having monthly Zoom Workshops/Demos with Barbara Jo Stevens leading the way in January. In February, Jean Warren, CA, SLMM board member and watercolor artist, will give a demonstration on using the phone for videoing and a workshop on fractured images. The exact dates will be announced soon.

**Web Gallery:** January, April, July, October--Check Web Gallery page on [slmm.org](http://slmm.org) for themes and submission dates then watch your email for a notice from Susan Dreiling, our Website Design & WebGallery Administrator, who will send out a notice one month ahead of time.

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#### **40th ANNIVERSARY WEB SHOW--MAY, 2022**

SLMM is turning 40 years old in May. As you know, Mary Carroll Nelson founded this organization in 1982. It is time to celebrate with a show! It will be a virtual exhibition held in May so watch your email for more information.

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Many of you have noticed the [slmm.org](http://slmm.org) website has been undergoing many changes this year to entice more viewers to join SLMM as well as to encourage SLMM MEMBERS to continually check the website for news and activities. It is the perfect way to stay connected.

*As your editor, I love seeing our accomplishments and our history evolve through the printed page. We will continue publishing the newsletter. But have you noticed that the news can be rather old by the time you receive it. For example, you will be having an exhibition in a few weeks and you would like the SLMM members to know about it. You put it in the newsletter and by the time it is published, the show is over and it is just a distant memory.* For current events, there are several ways to immediately get the information out to your SLMM friends. On the [slmm.org](http://slmm.org) website you can post your event on the News/Events section and on the Forum. Since our Forum is for members only, it is a great way to connect without worrying about the usual annoyances of social media. **To join Forum**, click on it and fill out the information required including a password, and after your membership is checked for current status, you will be accepted as a Forum participant. (Most join with an email address so you will be notified when someone posts). On Forum you can post your accomplishments and upcoming shows, ask questions, get answers and see what others are doing too. To join the private SLMM group Facebook page, you will need to be approved as well. Check with a board member on how to join the private SLMM Facebook group.

*We encourage everyone to join the Forum & the SLMM Facebook group page. You are in control of what is put on both sites, and you are instantly in the loop with other SLMM members. You get feedback and you are sharing your artwork and ideas plus you are making instant connections!*

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Any member, whether beginner or experienced artist, who would like support, guidance and/or encouragement in growing as an artist, can contact one of the members of the **Professional Growth Committee**: Win Ratz, WY, Chair; Kathleen Kuchar, KS; Nina Mihm, TX; Lynn Mikami, CA; Nancy Egol Nikkal, NY; Mary Wilbanks, TX

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**The Collaborations:** The purpose of the collaboration is to get to know another member better through emails, letters, texts, and the exchange of materials for artwork. **Barbara Chapman, WA** and **Kathleen Kuchar, KS** were paired up to collaborate and here is what happened! With envelopes of materials exchanged, they each went to work combining these items to create a collaboration. On the left is Barbara's collage using the papers Kathleen sent her. Kathleen, on the other hand, took the papers Barbara sent and added lots of paint. Kathleen said "I was inspired by the papers Barbara sent. I love her swirling brushwork and emotional content, so it was easy to build on that, adding my own emotion through color and expression. I think we had a successful project."



**Mary Carroll Nelson** asked Barbara Jo Stevens if she wanted to do a collaboration with her. Barbara was so excited and pleased that they would get to know each other better. Mary created an accordion book with all the materials including some of Barbara Jo's notes. Jo responded, "Thank you Mary for all the fun and for sharing some of your stories with me!"

**Mary Kottman, KS**, created her first collaboration piece with Barbara Stevens "I painted the background and added the sea shells, but all the paper was from Jo". After conversing with each other, they both discovered their love for seashells.



**Cal Mahin, KS**, has found he LOVES these collaborations. This one is called "Ponies Running Free", 26"x24" and has materials from SLMM member, Janet Ruffin. Please go to the SLMM Facebook page to see many more collaborations.

## Walls of Water

New SLMM member, Rachel X Hobreigh of California, is very active in community and world-based projects creating better lives for everyone. Her latest collaborative project with the Helms Design Center was curating a fundraiser for the Samburu Project whose mission is to provide access to clean water in the communities of Samburu, Kenya. She participated in a Zoom meeting a few months ago telling us all about this project and asked if SLMM members would be interested in participating. With our philosophy of holism and being connected, it was a resounding YES!! SLMM members contributed over 100 of the 300 works of art created by 70 international artists. These small wooden panels were made of multiple mediums: photography, collage, assemblage, watercolor, acrylics, sculpture and oil paint and were assembled on three walls to create the display, *Walls of Water*. A percentage of the sales of these artworks go directly to sponsor the organization in the continuation of their work. *Rachel tells us that next year's project will involve trees...so be thinking TREES!*



*Walls of Water* dates are December 2, 2021-January 2, 2022 at the Helms Design Center, Corridor Gallery, Culver City, CA <https://helmsbakerydistrict.com/event/an-art-exhibition-in-support-of-the-samburu-project/>



SLMM members—  
Renee, Lynn and  
Rachel enjoying the  
opening



**Beth Ann DeMont, KS**, with her artwork for the *Walls of Water*. A workshop was held at Kathleen Kuchar's studio with KS members sharing studio space, good food, and friendship as they worked on the project.



**Renee Amitai** also showed work in conjunction with the *Walls of Water*.

Refresher on using the SLMM Website, written by Susan Dreiling, Website Administrator

As we are all finding ourselves turning to online spaces to connect, share, and seek information, I wanted to put a quick guide together about what our wonderful SLMM website has to offer.

You can begin at our home page: [www.slm.org](http://www.slm.org) where you can find the latest news, including any new exhibitions and newsletters. There is also a new "Donation" button that takes you to a form where you have the option to make donations via PayPal or be invoiced to pay by check.

Speaking of forms and being able to use PayPal, we now have the SLMM Membership Renewal Form available online—and many have chosen to use it this past summer! We are still streamlining processes on the backend, so your continued kindness and patience is appreciated. If you'd like to check out the form, or perhaps submit your renewal if you haven't yet, take a peek here: [slm.org/member-renewal-form](http://slm.org/member-renewal-form)

There's a **News** section on the site here: <https://www.slm.org/news> and it's a bit bare, but has so much potential—this is where we would love your participation. If you have any relevant news, exhibitions, etc. to share, please use the link found towards the bottom of that page (direct link here: [slm.org/form-news-and-events](http://slm.org/form-news-and-events)).

Did you know that part of your membership benefits is an **Artist Link**? Check out the listing here: [slm.org/artists](http://slm.org/artists) and submit your info via the link at the bottom of the page (or access the form directly here: [slm.org/form-artist-link](http://slm.org/form-artist-link)).

One of the best ways to connect in real-time with the group is via our **Member Forum**, which you can sign up for by clicking on the "forum" in the menu across the top of any page on the site. This is a secure space where you can post and comment with other active SLMM members. Please note that you will need to create a password, and there will be a short waiting period for approval. This is another area of the site where direct participation makes all the difference, and many active members are excited to have more voices join the forum.

As we continue to use the site more and in new ways, we will stay nimble and flex our pages and sections as needed. Be sure to check back often for updates and to connect.

Wishing everyone health and peace,

*Susan*

Susan Dreiling, Web & Social Administrator

[susya.dreiling@gmail.com](mailto:susya.dreiling@gmail.com)

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### Circle of Prayer

*Let us offer a prayer for members who have passed and those going through difficult challenges. As SLMM members, we care for one another in good days and in bad days. All of us reach out with compassion, support and understanding as we weather the storms encountered on a daily basis. Love, Kindness, and being Connected are what make us whole. So, with us holding hands in an imaginary circle (remember those days we could actually have a prayer circle at the conferences), let us say a prayer for each and every one of our members and their loved ones who may be affected by storms, fires, and other natural disasters, including COVID-19.*



The prayer circle at the 2015 conference in San Francisco. Ironic to see Jennifer Badger Sultan and Pauline Eaton standing side-by-side.

*Membership renewal is due annually by the 1st of July. Dues must be current to be eligible to participate in SLMM national and regional exhibitions, national conferences, website, web gallery, social media and newsletters. **Membership has its privileges!***

## **Officers**

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Newsletter Editor: Kathleen Kuchar

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Win Ratz and Nancy Nikkal

### Website & Social Media

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Liz Ruest

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### Communication Resource

Co-Chairs, Nicola Mason

Secily Cruse

Jean Warren

### Professional Growth

Win Ratz, Committee Chair

Kathleen Kuchar

Nina Mihm

Lynn Mikami

Nancy Egol Nikkal

Mary Wilbanks

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**Newsletter Editor.** Please submit any inclusions directly to Kathleen Kuchar, Newsletter Editor, at [kakuchar@hotmail.com](mailto:kakuchar@hotmail.com). Newsletters are published two times a year, April and October at which time they will be emailed to all members. Hard copies can be mailed at \$10 but always free when found on the SLMM website. *Next due date is April 15, 2022.*

**Membership Roster** is published once a year in September at which time it will be emailed to all members. Hard copies can be post mailed for an additional fee of \$10. The membership renewal notices will be sent via email in May with a deadline to renew of July 1st. The membership term runs from July 1st through June 30th of the following year. Any updates to your contact informations should be sent directly to Karen Van Hooser, Executive Administrator, at [karensvh@gmail.com](mailto:karensvh@gmail.com)

### **Membership Renewals & Applications**

SLMM is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization incorporated in the state of New Mexico in May 1982. Annual dues are \$50.00 for Individuals, additional \$25.00 for spouse/mate. The membership term begins July 1st and ends June 30th of the following year.

Membership applications and renewals are processed through the SLMM website [slmm.org](http://slmm.org) with the convenience of PayPal to pay your dues...or if you prefer to pay by check you may request an invoice to mail to: SLMM, PO Box 897, Guthrie, OK 73044.

**Artist Link or Artists Page.** Susan Dreiling [susya.dreiling@gmail.com](mailto:susya.dreiling@gmail.com) is the person you need to contact when submitting work for your Artist Link or Artists Page. She reminds us that it is free to have an Artist Link that gives your name and contact information and one photo of an artwork plus an optional short statement. If you want an Artists Page, it will allow more information on the website such as additional photos, a vitae and bio. This will cost a one-time fee of \$60. payable directly to Susan.