

Newsletter

CRESCENT HARBOR ART GALLERY

The Whale

February 2026

February Artist Of The Month

Michael Harder: Paintings



I am a contemporary artist and an enrolled member of the Yurok Tribe. My work is grounded in process, material honesty, and direct engagement with the natural world. Growing up in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest shaped how I understand nature, time, structure, and imperfection, and those ideas continue to inform my work.

For me, process and materials are as important as the finished piece. I frequently make my own gesso, paints, mediums, and fixatives, working with pigments such as copper and iron oxides, charcoal, and hand-ground materials. My gesso incorporates acrylic resin and chalk gathered from a beach in the United Kingdom, and I prefer rough, unsanded surfaces over smooth white canvas. I also make my own fixative for pastel and charcoal using milk casein and ethanol, valuing material performance and integrity over commercial alternatives. Grinding sumi ink is a meditative part of my practice that establishes rhythm and intention before marks are made.

I work across multiple mediums and am drawn to abstraction, movement, and emotional charge. Nature—especially the woods and the ocean—serves as both influence and anchor, shaping work that reflects tension, rhythm, and stillness rather than literal depiction. Influenced by figure drawing, I aim to capture motion, drama, and feeling without prescribing narrative.

I believe strong art should provoke thought, emotion, and interpretation. When different viewers encounter the same work and each comes away with a different story, the work succeeds.

**Be sure to vote for the 2026 Board Members!
Come to the February 19th board meeting,
11am at the Gallery.**

Crescent Harbor Art Gallery

Board Ballot



<input type="radio"/> Jim "Doc" Belardi	<input type="radio"/> Steve Schlesener
<input type="radio"/> Michael Harder	<input type="radio"/> Liza Skeeter
<input type="radio"/> AmyLynn Harp	<input type="radio"/> Patricia Thorpe
<input type="radio"/> Hank Northrip	<input type="radio"/> Jeanette Treiber
<input type="radio"/> Jaques Kepner	<input type="radio"/> Philip Wadsworth
<input type="radio"/> Beverly Kukuk	<input type="radio"/> Stephen Washburn
<input type="radio"/> Terance Lusich	<input type="radio"/> Tanya Winston
<input type="radio"/> Steven Mowles	
<input type="radio"/> Criss Raintree	
<input type="radio"/> David Saile	

Vote for 15 names
maximum

The Crescent Harbor Art Gallery
Presents

Watercolor Demo & Potluck with Deborah Dawson

**Thursday, Feb 26th
11:00am**

at the Crescent Harbor Art Gallery,
140 Marine Way, Crescent City

**Bring a dish! Demonstration begins at
11:00, followed by the pot luck.**




Gallery: 707-464-9133
Website: www.CrescentHarborGallery.com



The Crescent Harbor Art Gallery

Presents

Beginning Watercolor Class with Deborah Dawson

**Saturday, Feb 7th
& Saturday, Feb 28th
10am - 12pm**

**A 2 Hour Class
for \$35**

at the Crescent Harbor Art Gallery,
140 Marine Way, Crescent City

*All materials will be
provided for your first 2 classes.
After that, a \$5 charge will be
added to cover materials unless
students bring their own.*

**Space is limited, so please call
Mary at 707-999-8707 to
reserve a seat.**

Gallery: 707-464-9133
www.CrescentHarborGallery.com



The Crescent Harbor Art Gallery

Presents

Advanced Beginning to Intermediate Watercolor Class with Deborah Dawson

**Saturday, Feb 7th
& Saturday, Feb 28th
1:00 - 4:00pm**

at the Crescent Harbor Art Gallery,
140 Marine Way, Crescent City

A 3 Hour Class for \$40

**Please bring your own paper, palette, paint and brushes.
If you do not have your own materials, a \$5.00 fee will be
added to cover expenses.**

**Space is limited, so please call
Mary at 707-999-8707 to
reserve a seat.**

Gallery: 707-464-9133
www.CrescentHarborGallery.com



Crescent Harbor Gallery

Dear Members, mark your calendar!

Member's Pot Luck

February 22, 2026 3pm-6pm

Please come to our Membership get-together and social mixer, at the gallery on **Sunday February 22nd**.

Meet and greet your fellow gallery members, board members, and catch up on gallery news and plans. Please bring your favorite dish to share!

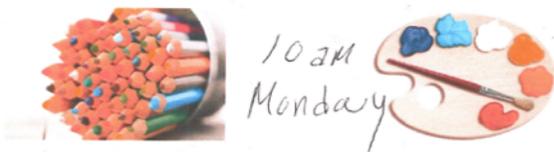
Our membership gatherings are very important to sustaining our beloved gallery in the harbor! Please don't miss it!

If you have any questions or would like to help out :
email Liza Skeeter, Membership Chair, at lskeeter@hotmail.com



FOR THE LOVE OF ART!

LIFE DRAWING GROUP at Crescent Harbor Art Gallery



10am
Monday

Cris Raintre

Are you interested in joining a small group of artists and art lovers to practice figure drawing? We meet regularly to improve our drawing skills by sketching from live models: each other (fully clothed).

Bring your own art supplies and your choice of media (paper and pencil is fine).

If interested, please include your name and contact info on the sign-up sheet in the gallery.

AT LAST! A New Sign!

We have a new, bright, bold sign on Hwy. 101 South at the Harbor, proudly proclaiming the gallery's existence since 1961! It will be fun to see how many out-of-towners and tourists this new sign will catch the eye of and draw them in.



Call to Artists Digital/ Photography category & 3D category Innovative Art

Reception held
4/4 @ 6:00

Entries

Due

March 28th
2026

1st each wins \$300
2nd place each wins \$200
3rd place each wins \$100
Best in show wins \$100

First 50 entries
\$20 each
3 entries
per artist

Size limit of 48 in.
on its longest side

Show

www.crescentharborigallery.com
Coast Redwoods Arts Association
Crescent Harbor Art Gallery 140 Marine Way Crescent City
707.464.9133

January Classes and Activities

Reminder: Gallery Members receive a 10% discount on classes!*

Sat. February 7 & Sat. 28 - Beginning Watercolor Class with Deborah Dawson, 10am -12pm. (2 Hour Class for \$35); and Advanced Beginning to Intermediate Watercolor Class, 1-4pm (3 Hour Class for \$40) Call Mary, (707) 999-8707 for more info & reservations to get your name on the list, as classes are limited and fill up quickly. **See flyers in this newsletter.**

A Family Art Experience will not be done the month of February, but will resume in March.

Thursday, February 19, 11am - Members are encouraged to come to the Board Meeting to vote for the 2026 Board of Directors for the gallery.

Thursday, February 26, 11am - WATERCOLOR DEMO & POTLUCK with DEBORAH DAWSON. See flyer in this newsletter.

Online Watercolor Course - A WATERCOLOR JOURNEY, comprehensive course for beginning and intermediate watercolor artists by renowned watercolorist Deborah Dawson; **Entire 17 Lesson Course: \$75; Individual Lessons: \$10. All purchased courses remain available indefinitely.** Call or stop by the gallery for more details, or find & purchase the courses at crescentharborgallery.com/online-classes/

Life Drawing Group every Monday at 10 am, with Criss Raintree & Stephen Washburn. Free; just show up and bring your own art supplies and your choice of media (paper & pencil is fine). **See flyer in this newsletter.**

*Reminder to please send in your membership dues.

Welcome New & Returning Members!

Jarvin and Mel Woosley

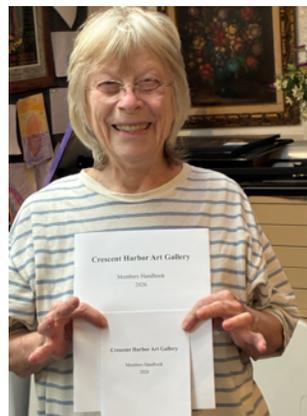
Sue D'Errico

Jeanette Treiber

Welcome to Crescent Harbor Art Gallery!

**MEMBERS HANDBOOK & MEMBER INFORMATION BROCHURE
THANK YOU CRISS RAIN TREE
& TERRANCE LUSICH!**

...for putting together these very important member information materials. These volunteers created a Members Handbook and Member Information Brochure, both of which can be picked up at the Gallery. The Members Handbook is also available to view on the Gallery website. The Gallery strongly suggests that you read through these materials, because some member and art display rules have changed. We thank Criss and Terrance for their hard work, and we're grateful for all members' volunteerism, which our nonprofit gallery needs to keep running smoothly!



MEMBER'S POTLUCK IN FEBRUARY!!!
We'll be having a Member's Potluck on Sunday, February 22, from 3-6pm. Meet and greet your fellow gallery and board members, and catch up on gallery news and plans. SEE FLYER IN THIS NEWSLETTER.

CONTACT US:

www.CrescentHarborGallery.com

**140 Marine Way
Crescent City, CA 95531**

(707) 464-9133

CrescentHarborGallery1@gmail.com



Editor's Corner

This month of February 2026, there are a lot of things going on for our members to participate in! We have a **Member's Pot Luck**, which will be a fun meet and greet, and if last summer's Pacific Paradise party is an indication of the culinary experts amongst our artists, you can be assured of delicious entrees, salads and desserts! There's a **Watercolor Demo & Potluck with Deborah Dawson**; a **Life Drawing Group** every Monday; the ongoing **Watercolor Classes with Deborah Dawson** at the gallery; as well as **our first online course offering of A Watercolor Journey with Deborah Dawson**, which you can purchase on our website. Also take note of the Call To Artists flyer for the **Innovative Art Show in April**, with entries due March 28. Last but not least, members can come to the Board Meeting on Feb. 19th at 11am to **vote for the 2026 Board**. **Details for all of these happenings are in this newsletter, or you can call or stop by the gallery for more information.**

If you're an upcoming Artist of the Month, get started on your bio for the newsletter! Please keep it around a 150-word limit so that I can place it on the front page of this newsletter. You can also choose to have a photo of yourself along with your bio. Some things to tell about yourself? A little background, where you're from, what types of art mediums you like to engage in, your influences, etc.

If you have any submissions for the newsletter, you can get in touch with me by email, kitschtikis@yahoo.com, or by phone, (707) 951-0307. - Marcia Morgan

