

Member Tribute- January 2012



Bets Doss

Bets Doss was introduced to art classes at the University of Oregon. She was working part time at the University and at a photography shop on campus. She married and moved to San Francisco where she was hired as a fashion model at Ransohoffs. When son Rick decided to make an appearance they moved back to Springfield, Oregon. Rick was followed 14 months later by brother Ron. Raising her two sons was top priority for the next 10 years.

Eventually they moved to Phoenix and she got a job as assistant to Don Ruffin, the art director at KPHO, Channel 5. He was just starting to teach classes and be shown in galleries. He renewed her interest in art and she took classes from him. While being his assistant at the studio, he also asked her to assist him on 3 large 12 ft by 30 ft murals. That was a wonderful experience.

Later, Bets took a class in Technical Illustration at Glendale Community College and after working in that field a few years was hired as the first female Technical Illustrator at Motorola working with 13 men. Still working full time, she enrolled in evening classes in drawing and painting from excellent teachers at GCC; namely, Darlene Goto and Bill Ahrendt.

After retiring, she performed for a few years with the Sundance Ranglers, a Western dance troupe, dancing at senior centers, care homes and County and State Fairs.

Now a member of Arizona Artists Guild, she is reconnecting with her art interests, working in oils, watercolor, pastel and conte. She does their monthly newsletter and loves it. Being with others who enjoy the things you do and learning from them and the monthly critiques and showing with others in the yearly exhibits is a most fun and satisfying experience.