

# BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS Cultural Arts ASSOCIATION

March 2021

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## **President's Message by Jeanette Roye**

Greetings Cultural Arts Members and Friends:

The website mentioned in last month's Newsletter has been approved by the Board of Directors, and has become a reality. We are pleased to announce the domain name is: **BVSCAA.org**.

Although, the **BVSCAA.org** website is in its early stages, we anticipate that it will become an excellent means of communicating with the current membership, as well as have potential for membership expansion.

Please visit the **BVSCAA.org** website as often as possible, to view additional content as we expand. Frequent website visits will also help direct traffic to our website.

By the way, Daylight Savings Time starts on Sunday, March 14, and Spring officially begins on March 20. Pack some fun into your days. "See" you next month. Until then,

Best wishes,

*Jeanette Roye*, President  
BVS Cultural Arts Association

## INTRODUCING APRIL WHITCO

by Michelle Miller

April Whitco is originally from Western Pennsylvania, and moved to Tehachapi in 2012. She felt instantly inspired by the unobstructed views of a California sunset. However, it wasn't until April became a mom that she started revisiting the world of oil painting, and began making art consistently. Influenced by her love of Impressionism, she turned to the beautiful mountains and skies that surrounded her; working to capture light, color, and movement.

In 2018, she joined a local Gallery, as a way to start sharing her art and connect with other local artists. Recently she has expanded her art practice to include an online shop and commissions. April's latest body of work, shown here, captures the quiet moments in a sunrise, the promise of new beginnings, and soft soothing colors that bring serenity and peace.

Find April and more about her work on her website at [aprilwhitcoart.com](http://aprilwhitcoart.com) and on social media at [@aprilwhitcoart](https://www.instagram.com/aprilwhitcoart).





## SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME (Press Release)

Dan Bronson, long-time resident of Bear Valley Springs and member of the Cultural Arts Association, has written a novel scheduled for March 9<sup>th</sup> release. It's a hard-boiled mystery called *Someone To Watch Over Me*.

The book has been getting remarkable pre-publication reviews from major figures in the literary and film world—figures like *New York Times* best-selling author Phillip Margolin, who has said, “Reading *Someone To Watch Over Me* is like watching *The Big Sleep* or *The Maltese Falcon*.”

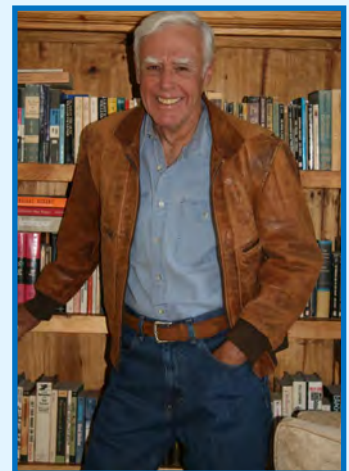
The story is set in Hollywood in 1947. Dan's narrator-hero Jack Shannon, a former actor whose promising career was interrupted by the war and ended by a facial scar sustained in combat, is now a studio publicist. He jokes that the only thing he knows about publicity is how to suppress it but, that in fact, is his real job. He's a fixer who babysits the studio's stars and covers up their bad behavior; and he's good at what he does, because his experiences in Europe have left him morally and emotionally numb: it's easy for him to whitewash breaches of ethics and the law because he simply doesn't care.

Everything changes for Jack when Savannah Stevens enters his life. A sexpot star in the mold of Jean Harlow and the studio's biggest box-office draw, she's a deeply troubled young woman given to emotional breakdowns, unexplained absences from the set, and time-devouring delays occasioned by her paralyzing insecurities and her insistence on dozens of takes.

Jack's job is to stay with her 24/7, deliver her to the set on time each day, and make sure she completes her current picture, a picture on which the future of the studio depends. All goes well until Savannah disappears, and Jack is assigned the task of finding her...without revealing to anyone, including the police, that she is missing.

*Someone To Watch Over Me* is Dan's first novel, but he's someone who's had many careers in the literary and film worlds: Associate Professor of English at DePauw University, Senior Story Analyst at Universal, Associate Story Editor at Filmways, Executive Story Editor at Paramount, Writer-Producer of HBO's Ed Harris thriller *The Last Innocent Man* and NBC's cult classic *Death of a Cheerleader*, and author of the memoir *Confessions of a Hollywood Nobody*.

Dan says he's astonished at the reception his book is receiving. He was thrilled to get a call recently from the author of an upcoming review, who compared his ending to the conclusion of *Chinatown*, and he's especially pleased to have received an invitation to appear with Phil Margolin on The Poisoned Pen Bookstore's "Book Chats," an interview show whose previous guests include Michael Connelly, Walter Mosley, and many other masters of the mystery genre. Dan and Phil's episode will be posted March 10<sup>th</sup> on The Poisoned Pen's website and its Facebook page. The book itself is already available for pre-sale on the Amazon and the Barnes & Noble websites. For further information about Dan and his books, check out [Dan-Bronson.com](http://Dan-Bronson.com) and [Hollywood-Nobody.com](http://Hollywood-Nobody.com).





The Bear Valley Springs Cultural Arts Association (BVSCAA) is a non-profit organization fostering support and participation in community arts programs.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL YEAR: 2020—2021

- Single (\$20), Family (\$35), New Club Member, Returning Member (s)

Due to the restrictions on public gatherings as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, dues paid from January 1st, 2020, as well as dues paid in 2021, will be in effect through December 31st, 2021.

FIRST NAME (Please Print)

Grid for first name input

LAST NAME (Please Print)

Grid for last name input

Email Address (Please Be as Clear as Possible)

Grid for email address input

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers:

Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

BVS Resident? No Yes Tract/Lot # \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you would be able to assist in the following areas:

- Art Show, Hospitality, Ways & Means, Calling Committee, Membership, Holiday Bazaar, Publicity

I understand that the BVSCAA is a 501c3 non-profit organization, supported by membership dues and event participation.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_