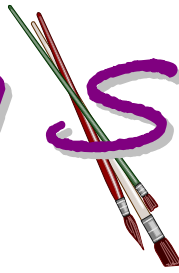




# Brush Strokes



By Mary Baumgartner

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## FOR THE FUN OF IT

Did you ever paint something just because you couldn't *not* paint it? That's what happened to me! I had taken a photograph of pelicans my last visit to California and I was on the pier at Oceanside when three pelicans marched by.

They had seen visitors and expected a "hand-out" but I got more than that. I got a painting out of it a few years later. It was changed a lot of course, but as I was painting it I felt like I was back there with them again.

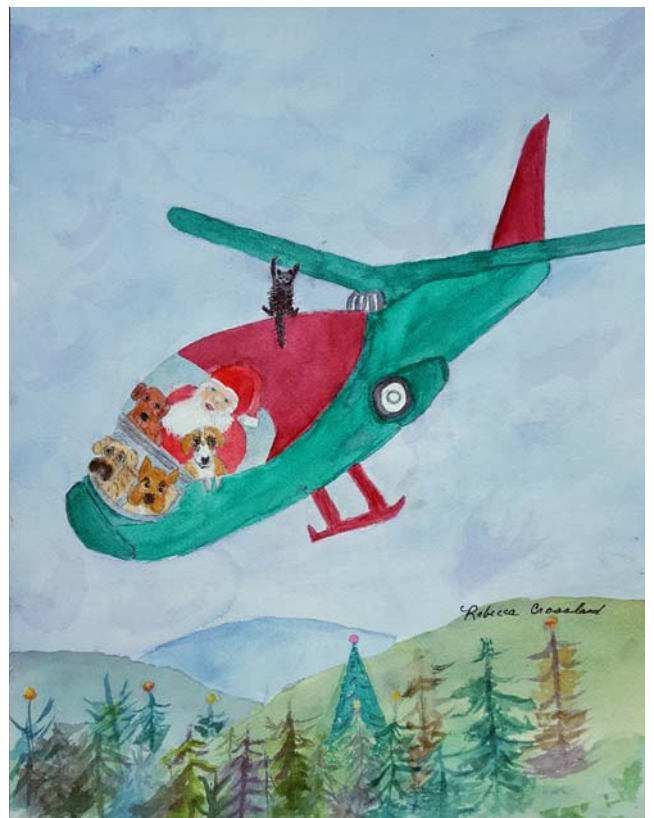
Sometimes these are the best kinds of paintings because they bring back memories.

### Where's your Xmas Card?

For many of you out there I can understand if you don't do a painting for your Christmas card. They are expensive to have printed at the Xerox place and then there's the envelope and the postage. I print my own on my big Epson printer and of course I encourage my students to paint a Christmas card every year. Then I'll print the correct number and charge whatever my costs are. Below are two of these.



"Not a Creature Was Stirring" by Susan Hale



"Hovering With Santa" by Rebecca Crossland