

## **January 2018 letter from the president**

Hello everyone!

And so a new year begins. I can't believe its 2018 already! I hope you had a great holiday season and are rejuvenated for a fresh new year. We had a good crowd at our January meeting with 40 members and no guests. We all shared a fabulous spread of delicious food and a lot of fun and fellowship. Marissa Vogl gave a great presentation including a live demo of creating one of her Chirpy Birds – a lovely little cardinal.

For those of you unable to join us, we missed you!! I look forward to seeing everyone's smiling faces when we meet again in February.

Work will begin soon on plans to outline an exciting new community art project utilizing funds from the generous donation from the Love Foundation. We would love to hear YOUR best ideas and suggestions as we move forward with a project plan. If you are interested in being a part of the effort, please let me know!

I'm also excited to say that work is scheduled to begin next week to install our new hanging and lighting system in the back hall and to upgrade the hanging system in the TAP Gallery. A huge thank you to Ron Weathers who is handling the installation for the league. Thanks Ron!

If you are one of the few that hasn't had a chance yet to get your membership renewal in, please be sure to get it in as soon as you can. We don't want to see anyone's membership lapse ☺. You can get your renewal in online at <https://www.crookedcreekart.org/join-or-renew> or send in your renewal check to Jean Kirkley. Please let us know of any updates or changes to your information on the membership list. If you have any questions please contact Jean Kirkley at [jeankirkley@mac.com](mailto:jeankirkley@mac.com).

Here are some of the key things happening in CCAL right now:

**Juried Show:** The prospectus for this year's show and all the pertinent information is available on the website at [crookedcreekart.org/ccal-juried-show](https://www.crookedcreekart.org/ccal-juried-show). Remember that participation is open to members who have 1) paid their annual dues and 2) attended at least three meetings since March of last year (meetings in April, May, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb). We will have four categories of competition in this year's show: 2D amateur, 2D professional, photography and 3D artwork. Entrants must choose between Amateur and Professional for traditional 2D pieces, but may also enter the new categories, which will remain undivided this year. Please review the guidelines for deciding to enter as an Amateur or Professional and choose the one that best matches your skills and sales. Alexis Levine will be our juror for the show. Alexis is a wonderful watercolor artist from Greensboro NC. Please consider making a donation to help support the awards and expenses for this year's show. If you have any questions, please contact either Sandra Oliver at [soliver497@bellsouth.net](mailto:soliver497@bellsouth.net). If you would like print copies of the postcard invitation for the show for sharing with friends, family or local businesses for display – great! Please get in touch with Sandra Oliver and she can get them to you.

### Current Artist Exhibits

For December, The Artist's Place (TAP) Gallery's theme is "Winter Blues" - anything having to do with the color blue or the blues. Please join in the fun and help celebrate art with your CCAL peers by bringing something that represents this theme to you to display in the gallery. Please bring your paintings, photographs or 3D pieces to add to the display. Remember that we also welcome photography and 3D pieces (12x12x12" max) or small works on easels for the display cabinet. I hope that you will get a chance to view some of the wonderful pieces already up and add your own. These artworks will remain in place until our February meeting. If you have any questions about the gallery or hanging your art, please let Corey Ann Lacy know.

For January, our Spotlight Artist of the Month is long time member, Faye Delia Meetze. Spotlight artists are recognized on our website and have a special exhibition of their work at the Chapin Chamber of Commerce. Please congratulate our spotlight artists and view their exhibited artwork at the Chamber office if you can.

Our special exhibit artist for December at the Chapin Library is Sonya Diimmmler with a collection of her lively animal portraits. Be sure to check it out and thank the Chapin Library for their support of the Arts.

In the BB&T Bank on Art Gallery Jan-Mar our featured artist is Karen Larrabee with one of her beautiful paintings. I hope you get a chance to get by the bank to see it. The bank has granted us permission to transition this gallery to a monthly display so we will be drawing for monthly exhibitors beginning with April.

A collection of the fine artwork of Debi Kelly is on display in the Bank on Prosperity gallery at the Prosperity Town Hall. This gallery allows for the display of multiple pieces so visit it and thank them for their support of the arts if you can.

### Looking ahead

In January, we will meet on Monday the 19<sup>th</sup>. Our presenter will be the South Carolina State Fair Chairman and noted Midlands artist Craig Houston. Craig is a graduate of Ringling School of Art and an illustrator and graphic designer. Having created a large part of his art on computer for most of his career, he has been drawn back to the smell of paint and the feel of the brush hitting the canvas. His paintings vary widely between loose contemporary abstract and classic impressionist style.

The theme for the TAP gallery for January will be Portraits (human and animal). Please join in the fun and help celebrate art with your CCAL peers by bringing something that represents this theme to you to display in the gallery. Please bring your paintings to the February meeting and plan for them to hang until the March meeting. If you have questions about displaying art in the TAP gallery, please contact Corey Ann Lacey. Also, I'm still interested in your feedback on ways to incentivize participating in the TAP gallery hangings. Would you like to see us offer a non-cash certificate award for "Best in Show" for the monthly themes? Perhaps the winner could have the option to choose themes for future months? What do YOU think?

Our January featured artists will be:

- Spotlight artist, Chapin Chamber of Commerce: JJ Casey
- BB&T Bank on Art: Karen Larrabee
- Chapin Library: Sandra Oliver
- Palmetto Fine Arts Gallery: Anne Hightower Patterson White, Barbara Teusink, Joyce Oates
- Prosperity Town Hall: Barbara Teusink

Our gratitude to CJ Marchese for her work on our public galleries so far this year. She needs unfortunately to step down from that role for personal reasons. I'm delighted to say, however, that Olga Yukhno has stepped up and will serve as our public gallery chair for the rest of the year. If you are interested in becoming a future featured artist in one of public galleries, check with Olga for more details.

Our next workshop will be on February 2-3 from 9am - 4 pm at Crooked Creek Park. The title will be "Chubby Chirps with Personality". Marissa Vogl will be our instructor, teaching us all about her processes for apply thick paint and using different brushes and knives to create interesting textures as we explore the shapes, color, energy and personalities of small birds. Her medium is oil, but she welcomes artists in acrylics as well. You can see more information and examples of her work at [marissavogl.com](http://marissavogl.com). This workshop nearly full, so if you're interested please contact Sonya to get registered. Remember that a \$50 non-refundable deposit is required to hold your seat in the class (to help defer the cost to the league for hosting the workshop). Seats not reserved with a deposit are subject to being sold to another person.

As always, I thank you for your membership and support in the CCAL. I hope you are enjoying all the great things happening in your league and suggest membership with your friends who are interested in art.

How are we doing? We welcome feedback and recommendations on how to make CCAL even better. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

**"Trifles make perfection, and perfection is no trifle."**

~Michelangelo

Until next time,

Barbara Teusink  
President

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