

February 2018 letter from the president

Hello everyone!

I'm loving the sunny warm weather. Hope you are too! We had a good crowd at our February meeting Monday night with 38 members and one guest. We were a happy crowd and all shared great food, fun and fellowship. Michael Story was our presenter. We're grateful to him for being a last minute fill in for us. He gave a great presentation on his process for selection and developing his references then turning them into great paintings. It was great seeing some of the nuts and bolts of his process and learning from it. For those of you unable to join us, we missed you and hope to see you at our Juried Show and reception next month.

I'm delighted to say that work has been completed and we now have a great new hanging and lighting system in the back hall as well as the two sides. We have also completed installation of the new hanging system in the two sides of the front (TAP) gallery. It looks great for the show! A huge thank you to Ron Weathers whose hard work has made all this possible for us. Thanks Ron!

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

Juried Show: The show is right around the corner! The prospectus for this year's show and all the pertinent information is available on the website at 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). You can check your MIG (Member in Good Standing) status on the latest membership directory if you are uncertain if you are eligible. It can be found on the website at crookedcreekart.org/membership-directory 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. It's not too late if you'd like to make 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. 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. Registration and Take-in for your artwork happens this weekend so make your plans now to get registered on Saturday 2/24 10am-1pm or Sunday 2/25 1pm-3pm.

Current Artist Exhibits

From now until March 24, The Artist's Place (TAP) Gallery's theme is "Spring is in the Air". 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. If you have any questions about the gallery or placing your art, please let Corey Ann Lacy know.

For February, our Spotlight Artist of the Month is JJ Casey with her colorful piece "Joy of Color". 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 February at the Chapin Library is Sandra Oliver with a collection of her lovely pieces. 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 CJ Marchese's fun artwork 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 March, we will meet on Monday the 19th for our 23rd Annual Juried Show and Sale Reception. Please plan to join us in celebrating all the great artwork of our members and in congratulating our winners. We meet in the large first room off the lobby for this event. Family and friends are invited to join in on the fun and to view all the great art. Please share the news that the show will hang for public viewing from February 25 – March 23 and we encourage the public to visit the park to see it.

On March 24, the winning pieces from the show will move from the hallways to the TAP Gallery. They will remain on display until our April 16 meeting. Please plan to bring artwork that fits the theme "Land and Sea" on April 16 to hang in the TAP gallery for the month. Please join in the fun and help celebrate art with your CCAL peers by bringing to display! If you have questions about displaying art in the TAP gallery, please contact Corey Ann Lacey.

Our March featured artists will be:

- Spotlight artist, Chapin Chamber of Commerce: Ann Peake
- BB&T Bank on Art: Karen Larrabee
- Chapin Library: Maureen Carter
- Palmetto Fine Arts Gallery: Nancy Mandish, Ruby DeLoach, Ron Weathers
- Prosperity Town Hall: Barbara Teusink

CCAL is proud to offer opportunities for public display of our members' art in a variety of galleries hosted by CCAL Business Partners. If you are interested in exhibiting your artwork in one or more of these galleries, please send us an email by Monday 2/26 to ccal.gallerieschair@crookedcreekart.org. You may sign up for any or all of the galleries. Names will be drawn at random and assigned to upcoming month-long displays for each gallery. You will be notified if your name is selected. If you have any questions or concerns about a display, please contact our gallery coordinator: Olga Yukhno by email or 803-422-4289.

Our next workshop will be on March 16-17 from 9am - 4 pm at Crooked Creek Park. The title will be "From Ordinary...to Extraordinary". Alexis Lavine, NWS will be our instructor. In this workshop Alexis

will focus on painting the humble, ordinary subject. So often we feel like we have to find the picture - perfect subject before we can begin to paint. But sometimes a fabulous subject is right at our feet, or in a corner of our home, overlooked and forgotten. Let's explore some modest subjects and see how we can turn them into extraordinary paintings – with the right combination of solid drawing, creative design, good painting technique, imagination, humor, and fun! Painters in all media are welcome.

You can see more information and examples of her work at alexislavineartist.com. Alexis is very much an in demand instructor and this workshop is expected to fill. 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.

We are also fortunate to have two new member led opportunities for you:

- 1) Long time league member and art teacher, Anna Kay Singley will teach a two day workshop focusing on creating solid compositions. Artists from all media are welcome. Anna Kay is well known for her critical eye and gentle critique and will use her years of experience to meet students where they are at in their process and help them pass through blocks or improve compositions and technique. The cost of the workshop is \$100 and will be held at CCP April 6-7, 2018, 9 am - 4 pm. Please bring any snacks and lunch and contact Workshop Coordinator Sonya Diimmler at sonyadiimmler@outlook.com if you want to sign up for this workshop.
- 2) Another long time league member who has taught numerous classes in the past, Tommy Thompson, will share his great watercolor knowledge in a 6 week class. This class is expected to start in mid-April and be held on Tuesday evenings at CCP and will be geared to beginner through intermediate level. More details on this will be coming soon.

Once again, 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.

"Painting is just another way of keeping a journal."

~ Pablo Picasso

Until next time,

Barbara Teusink
President

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