

## **February letter from the president**

Hello everyone!

Spring is definitely in the air with all this wonderful warm weather we've been having! It was great to see everyone at the meeting Monday night. It was good to see so many happy faces and we enjoyed an entertaining presentation by Donnie Hughes. He and his twin brother certainly have an amazing ability to create wildlife paintings. His use of acrylics and airbrushing definitely help to bring his paintings to life. Donnie will be our workshop presenter in May so consider signing up to learn more about his techniques. If you have any other suggestions for people/topics you'd love to see in a workshop next year, please let us know! For those of you unable to join us, we missed you and hope to see you again soon!!

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

Webpage: Roger Buenzow is doing a great job maintaining current information on the new website. Consider visiting the website and subscribing to receive email notification anytime we add new and exciting news about the successes and events of the league and our artists. Simply go to [crookedcreekart.org/congrats](http://crookedcreekart.org/congrats) , enter your email address and click on Subscribe Now. Be sure to let us know of any important news, events or celebrations we can share by using the link on that page to [let us know!](#)

Juried Show: Registration for this year's Juried Show went smoothly this past weekend thanks to our great co-chairs, Sandra Oliver and Dianna Smith, and all the wonderful volunteers that helped out! The show this year includes 90 beautiful works of art: 49 amateur pieces and 41 professional pieces from a total of 39 artists. Be sure to invite your family and friends to attend the awards ceremony to support the show and our artists. We will have several special guests this year: Representatives Chip Huggins and Micah Caskey from Lexington County and Rick Martin from Newberry County plan to attend to show their support for CCAL and the arts. Their efforts to fund arts programs is much appreciated! Please help them feel welcome. It's not too late; please consider being a sponsor to help ensure we can continue to have a good selection of awards for all our entrants.

Member of the Year Nominations: Each year, CCAL recognizes a special member who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to benefit the league. They are recognized for the important work they have done in addition to any assigned duties. Sometimes those efforts are very obvious and sometimes it's for a myriad of behind the scenes efforts that have helped to move the league forward. To each, we owe a debt of gratitude! We have many fine members working hard to make the league better for us all. Please consider taking a few minutes to nominate someone worthy by using the form available on the website [HERE](#).

Nominations Committee for 2017-18 Board: It is time for us to come up with a slate of candidates for the board and chair positions for next year. As directed in the constitution, we need to appoint a nominations committee to identify the slate to be put before the league for a vote. The slate must be named by the April meeting and it will go before the membership at large for voting during the May meeting. This is an important part of ensuring we have a strong slate of people willing to help keep CCAL moving forward and running smoothly next year. We NEED YOU! We need at least one more volunteer to serve on this important committee. This is a vital, but fairly short and sweet role. PLEASE let me know if you would be willing and able to help out.

End of the Year party: As usual, our end of year party will be held in May. If you have any suggestions for the party (location, refreshments, activities, etc.) please let Barbara know! Also, if you would be willing to help in either planning or holding the event, please let me know!

#### Current Artist Exhibits

The theme for the TAP gallery from now until the Juried Show is Animals. If you have any questions about hanging art in the TAP gallery, please contact Corey Ann Lacey.

Our February Chamber Spotlight Artist is Al Leitch with his lovely “Bay Street” pastel painting. Please congratulate Al and view his exhibited artwork at the Chamber office.

Our first quarterly BB&T Bank on the Arts Gallery display features Maureen Carter. If you get a chance to visit the bank please thank them for welcoming our display. Congratulations to Maureen on her lovely painting “Roman Courtyard”.

Our special exhibit artist for February at the Chapin Library is also Maureen Carter. I hope you get a chance to see her lovely watercolors in her display.

#### Looking ahead

Our March meeting will be the Juried Show Awards Ceremony on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Plan now to attend to show support for the all the great art and artists in our league.

From the end of March until the April meeting, the TAP gallery will feature the award winning pieces from our Juried Show. Plan to come by and see the best of the best!

Our March Chamber Spotlight Artist will be CJ Martin-Marchese and in April it will be Lisa Stone. For more information about the Spotlight Artist program check with Ruby DeLoach.

Our March showcase artist in the Chapin Library Artist Gallery will be Mary Williams. If you are interested in being an exhibitor at the library please contact Roger Wright.

Our next workshop will be Todd Baxter on portrait drawing. It will be held Friday and Saturday March 3 & 4 - 9am to 4pm. You can learn more about Todd and his work at [www.baxterfineart.com](http://www.baxterfineart.com) . This workshop currently has a full roster but if you are interested you can still get your name on the waitlist. If your name is on the current roster but you have not yet paid please send your money to Al as soon as possible. Remember that unpaid seats will be released to those on the waitlist!

We will have another great workshop in April with Sheryl Stalnaker on Palette Knife painting. See the [workshop page](#) on the website for more details. Contact Al ([leitch@moore.sc.edu](mailto:leitch@moore.sc.edu)) to get registered.

"I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way - things I had no words for."

~Georgia O'Keeffe

I hope your days are filled with color and beauty as spring begins to blossom.

Until next time,

Barbara Teusink  
President

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