

September letter from the president

Hello everyone!

We've kicked off another great CCAL year as the autumn weather begins to arrive. I don't know about you, but I love the colors and cooler temperatures of fall each year. I'm sorry I wasn't able to be with you at the general meeting last Monday, but I have it on good authority that it went well and that, despite a few technical issues, you saw a great demo and presentation by Dianne MunKittrick.

Dianne MunKittrick will be conducting a Wildlife and Nature Workshop Oil (or Acrylics) Friday and Saturday October 7th & 8th - 9am to 4pm. You can learn more about her and her work at <http://www.diannemunkittrick.com/>. Remember that to ensure that we don't end up with empty seats; the board has adopted new guidelines which allow us to sell unfilled seats to non-CCAL members during the last two weeks preceding the workshop. Her workshop is right around the corner and should be a great one that is well attended. If you are interested, be sure to get your registration and deposit to Al Leitch as soon as possible.

I am happy to report that at the September board meeting, we accepted a clean report from our annual audit committee and agreed to make no new changes to the constitution or by-laws this year.

In addition, here are some of the key things happening in CCAL right now:

Juried Show: The dates have been set for this year's Juried Show. Delivery of artwork will be February 18-19. The awards reception will be on Monday, March 20 and non-awarded artwork pick up will be March 25. 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. In response to numerous questions in prior years, the board adopted clarifying language following the model of the State Fair requirements as follows: "A Professional Exhibitor is defined as anyone who has earned \$1,000 or more during a calendar year by either selling their items, teaching the subject, doing extended exhibiting, or involving themselves in other professionally related activities in a capacity that would give the entrant unfair advantage over an amateur." Todd Baxter has agreed to be the juror for our show. Some of you may remember him from a workshop he did for us two years ago. He plans to do another workshop on a different topic for us this year. You can learn more about Todd at www.baxterfineart.com.

Publicity: CCAL has recently been featured on the Chapin TV Channel 2, the Chamber of Commerce newsletter and in the Chapin Times (thanks Claudia!) In addition, we will be an exhibitor at the First Annual Chapin Fall on October 15 at the Coffee Shelf from 9-5. Claudia Zeigler will set up a tent for CCAL. She needs helpers! Tents go up Fri. afternoon with set up at 7:30 Saturday morning. We will have a table for art work and brochures and another table for drawing a "graffiti wall". If you can help or would like to display art, please contact Claudia. If you know of any other PR opportunities for CCAL and its members or have any requests or recommendations for publicity, please let Claudia know.

Special Competition: Ann Peake has planned another fun yearlong activity for us all. "Let's Paint Chapin" will be a chance for us to paint some of the great historic houses, old filling stations, barns, churches, bridges, trees, old Chapin Theater, water towers, river/ponds, Chapin lake side scenes, old buildings, streets and faces of the community from Chapin, Prosperity and Little Mountain. Paintings, which must be no more than 8x10 unframed, are due by April 15th and will be first shown at the May meeting. Winners will be selected by an impartial judge. If you have any questions about this special project,

please contact Ann Peake.

Website Update: The Website Committee has been working on exploring options for vendors, webmasters and hosting solutions for our new updated website. If you have any suggestions regarding the specifications for the new site or would like to be part of the committee, please let us know. Also, if you know of any good potential webmasters/webhosts that we should consider please let Roger Buenzow know.

CCAL Logo Contest: As announced earlier, we are also working to update the look and feel of the logo for CCAL. We invite YOU, the artists of CCAL to put your creative talents to work and help us come up with a great new logo! We're holding a contest to select the best new logo from entries made by our members. The selected logo and artist will win a prize! Logo submissions are due by the October meeting, so get started now! If you have any questions about the contest, please let me know.

Current Artist Exhibits

In September, The Artist's Place (TAP) Gallery will host a special one-man exhibit for the winner of our Best in Show Award from our Spring Annual Juried Show, Anne Hightower Patterson White. Please take some time to review her wonderful artwork.

Our Spotlight Artist of the Month for September is Joyce Oates. Spotlight artists are recognized on our website and have a special exhibition of a select piece of their work at the Chapin Chamber of Commerce. Please congratulate Joyce and view her exhibited artwork at the Chamber office if you can.

Our special exhibit artist for September and October at the Chapin Library is Claudia Zeigler. We are fortunate that the Chapin Library supports the Arts and provides a very nice special exhibition space for a featured artist for CCAL to display multiple works each month. If you are interested in being an exhibited artist at the library, please contact Roger Wright.

Looking ahead

At our October 17th meeting, we have another great speaker: Scott Penegar. Scott is a talented sculptor from Charleston. You can see his work at www.scottpenegarsculpture.com. It should be an interesting talk, so don't miss it!

The theme for the TAP gallery in October will be Fall Scenes. If you have some fall art to celebrate the season, please plan to hang it on the left side of the gallery during the month of October. If you have any questions about hanging art in the TAP gallery, please contact Corey Ann Lacey.

Our October spotlight artist will be Sandra Wilkie. If you are interested in becoming a future spotlight artist, we will be drawing names again for new participants at the January meeting. Check with Ruby DeLoach for more details.

The Irmo Chapin Recreation Commission will be holding a Craft Fair at Crooked Creek Park on November 15th. The Board is currently looking at how CCAL can participate in the fair. If you are willing to help put together a CCAL exhibit, please let me know.

Helen Beacham will conduct a watercolor workshop for CCAL on November 4-5 from 9am - 4 pm at Crooked Creek Park. The title will be "Put Some Motion in your Ocean". You can see more information

and examples of her work at www.helenkbeacham.com. Please contact Al if you are interested in attending.

Thank you for your membership. We have so many exciting things happening at CCAL! I encourage you to share with all your friends who are interested in art about the benefits of being associated with the Crooked Creek Art League. Please invite them to our meetings.

"To practice any art, no matter how well or badly, is a way to make your soul grow." – Kurt Vonnegut So, keep practicing, reaching and growing!

Until next time,

Barbara Teusink
President

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- Choose Crooked Creek Art League as your designated charity
- Funds will be awarded to CCAL quarterly based on your purchase amount.

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