



CCAL President's Letter — October 2026

We made it to fall—a beautiful time of year for plein-air events. I have yet to try plein-air painting, but it is on my bucket list for this year. How about you? After the intense summer heat, the cooler mornings and afternoons are especially welcome. As we approach mid-October, here are the latest CCAL updates and reminders. --Michael

October Members' Meeting

Our October members' meeting is Monday, October 19, at Crooked Creek Park in Chapin. Refreshments begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by a short business meeting at 6:00 p.m.

- **Refreshments:** Thank you to the 15 members who signed up to bring refreshments. If you need a reminder of what you promised, please contact Kathy Gardener.
- **Guest speaker:** Sculptor Marion Mason will share his story and some of his work. I have met Marion at several exhibitions and sales, and his work is beautiful. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from him.

TAPS Gallery

Reminder: the theme **for October** is "Cultural Heritage - Showcase the richness of your heritage through art" October 19-November 16

Theme **for November** is "Seasons and Festivals - Depict your favorite festival or the beauty of different seasons"

New Members read about TAPS Gallery

<https://www.crookedcreekart.org/tap-gallery-themes> Please join us in this regular event! Don't be shy, this is a great way to start to showcase your work as a member in the Park's front lobby. Bonus, the Park employees pick their favorite, and the winner gets a ribbon!

Welcome, New Members

We hope you will join us in person at Crooked Creek Park in Chapin or online via Zoom. The Zoom link is always available on the website's events calendar. We look forward to meeting you!

Join by Zoom: [Meeting link](#)

Meeting ID: 894 0493 6824

Workshops

Last year's member survey identified workshops as a frequent area of interest. This year's workshop schedule addresses most of that feedback:

- More types of art are represented.
- Instructors include local, regional, and national artists.
- More Saturday options are available. Suggestions for evening options
- The full schedule has been published for the year.
- Robinson Family Funding has helped reduce ticket prices for several workshops.

Despite these improvements, registrations for the first three workshops remain low. Current registration levels will not financially support the program. Instructors schedule their work months in advance, and a last-minute cancellation by CCAL results in lost income for them.

Workshop Call to Action

Choose a workshop and register early. Workshops are enjoyable opportunities to learn new skills and spend a day or two with fellow artists. <https://www.crookedcreekart.org/workshops>

Payment in full is now required two weeks before each event. If the minimum number of attendees needed to break even has not registered and paid by that deadline, the workshop will be canceled.

Volunteers Needed

Our league is powered by volunteers. Many did not know exactly what to expect when they signed up, but they now say they enjoy the work—and especially the friendships they have formed.

We need more members to help this year. Current members should contact the chairperson for the area where they would like to serve. New members may contact a committee chair or an Executive Committee member: Michael Naughton, Bobbi Mann, Jimma Causey, Jan Lane, Barbara Tuesink, or Yvonne Beyer.

Volunteering is one of the fastest ways to meet people, learn how the league works, and make the most of everything CCAL offers its members. It is also a great way for members to share knowledge and prepare new members for the future.

For the fall Library Show we need two members who can climb a ladder to take down art on Saturday October 31 from 10 AM to Noon.

For Still Hopes we need two members to help with the hanging of art at Still Hopes on drop-off day: Saturday November 28. From experience this involves about 2-3 hours of time. Contact Kay Fox

For Sponsorships, we need 2-4 members to help with following up with potential sponsors, asap. Contact Jo Alford for information.

For the spring Library show we need two members who can climb a ladder and hang art. Contact Amy Thompson or Cathy Schwalm for details.

Irmo Branch Library Show

The Irmo Branch Library Show is now open. Please stop by and encourage your friends and family to visit. The exhibition features a diverse collection of styles, colors, and media, creating a striking display across two walls and two display cabinets.

Library Artwork pickup: Saturday, October 31, from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Still Hopes Exhibition and Sale — Important Dates

Key Show Dates

- **Online entry:** September 16–November 18
- **Acceptance notification:** Monday, November 24
- **Artwork drop-off:** Saturday, November 28, from 10:00–11:00 a.m. at Still Hopes

Did you know?

The CCAL Webpage has a protected link to the members' roster. It's a quick easy place to find contact information for other members. You can also track your MIGS (Member in Good Standing) on the roster. MIGS relates to qualifying for the Juried Shows.

Family Members, friends, neighbors, favorite business owners and you can become sponsors of CCAL on our on-line Sponsors and Donations page of the website <https://www.crookedcreekart.org/join-support>. Memorial Donations can be made here as well

CCAL is chartered as a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of federal tax law. Your donations are greatly appreciated and are fully tax-deductible. Donations can be dedicated to our annual show, special projects or general operations.