



August 18, 2025

Wow! August is flying by, and we've had some hot days and plenty of rain. I hope you've managed to complete your summer plans, spend time with loved ones, and create new art. Don't forget to add your pieces to the CCAL online gallery.

I'm pleased to report that our CCAL Board recently met to kick off the new season. Committees are completing plans for shows, workshops, fundraising, and more. We had a smooth transition with experienced volunteers helping the newcomers. Thanks for your patience and support as we settle into our new roles on the Board!

Welcome new members! Our website has lots of information about our organization. Monthly meetings are on the third Monday, starting September 15, 5:30-8:00 PM, with refreshments at 5:30 PM. The business meeting begins at 6:00 PM, followed by a guest speaker. Come early to get acquainted. Members provide refreshments, so please sign up to bring appetizers and desserts. A Zoom link is available for those who can't attend in person. Our September speaker happens to be me. I will be discussing "Tracing My Path to Abstract Painting,". The CCAL Board will be providing refreshments for the September meeting.

A few reminders for all members:

- A) Use the CCAL Website to get details on the activities, workshops, events and meetings! The volunteers at CCAL do an outstanding job of updating their portions of the website. They spend a lot of time getting details right and providing good direction and guidance.
- B) Our first workshop Painting "Painterly from a Photo Reference" is scheduled for September 26 and 27 9:00 am to 4:00 pm it is for oil and acrylic painters and will be held at Crooked Creek Park. The instructor is Dan Graziano. Details on the website.
- C) We have extended the deadline for the Membership Survey through August. Please take part using the link on our website. Your input is important!
- D) Participation in the Public Gallery rotations requires your sign-up on the website every season.
- E) The dates for our Fall Irmo Library Show and the Still Hope Exhibition are posted on the website. The prospectus for Still Hopes Exhibition is available on the website. Our goal is to have fifty or more artists submitting entries.

- F) It is time to renew your CCAL Membership online if you have not done so, already. Consider renewing at a Patron level to take advantage of the extra benefits and support of the league.
- G) Check the membership directory to make sure we have your current contact information.
- H) Each month we have a themed contest in The Artists Place (TAP) Gallery at Crooked Creek Park. The theme for Oct. 20-Nov. 17 is *Portraits - Artwork depicting a person or animal in any format (no nudes)*. Bring your artwork with you to the October meeting to take part. The list of Themes for each month can be seen under "Galleries" on the website.
- I) We still have the need for help leading and helping with some of our committees, please consider how you might volunteer to keep our organization well-oiled and invigorated with innovative ideas and energy!
- J) We have restructured our Sponsorship levels for donations in preparation for beginning to fundraise for the new season. Donations are used to support our many offerings through the year. We will need everyone's help on this effort so we can continue to run our programs and shows. We must coordinate recruitment of sponsors, however, so that we don't contact businesses multiple times in the year. Stay tuned for more information.
- K) We will be taking part in the Chapin Fall Festival on October 11. Please watch the website for details.

I look forward to seeing you at our first meeting on September 15. Please stop by and introduce yourself to all your officers and board members. I welcome your input and questions. Feel free to email me or call if needed. I also strongly encourage everyone to use the website as your first stop for information and guidance.

Michael Naughton

CCAL President

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