



President's Letter – February 2026

Good day! Well, here we are in February 2026 and Punxsutawney Phil, the famous groundhog, saw his shadow on February 2, which means he is predicting six more weeks of winter!! I am glad we are in the Carolinas, knowing our spring weather typically arrives ahead of many other parts of the country. With Spring ahead, that means our Annual CCAL Juried Show and Sale are just around the corner. And here are some important reminders:

Last Call for: Sponsorships and Donations to be recognized in the Annual Juried Show program. If you would like to contribute to advertise your own art business or to honor a friend or family member, act quickly to be included in the Annual Show brochure! Go to <https://www.crookedcreekart.org/sponsorship-support> , as soon as possible!

• **Monday, February 16 will be our General Members' Meeting** of the year at Crooked Creek Park. Refreshments and networking begin at 5:30 pm. **Join the meeting via Zoom** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89404936824> This link is also available via our Events section on the CCAL website.

- The brief business portion of the monthly meeting starts at 6:00 pm, followed by our **guest speaker, Diane Gilbert**. Diane's practice is rooted in a long personal cheminement — one shaped by time, experimentation, and a deep listening to the material itself. She will share what led her to where she is today, the techniques she uses, and the philosophy of clay that guides her work.
- **Volunteers are needed and requested to bring** appetizers and desserts by 5:15 pm to the kitchen next to the meeting room. If you have not already done so, please email Jo Alford to tell her what you plan to bring. **Joalf1959@gmail.com**
- **Artists for Africa** representative Amy Brady will be at our February 16 meeting to collect your Postcard art for this effort. Refer questions to Michael Naughton or Barbara Teusink. Here is a link to more information: <https://artistsforafricausa.org/>
- **At the Artists Place (TAP) Gallery**, please pick up your January art on February 16 so we are ready to hang the Juried Show work. Note: if you must retrieve your entered piece early you are required to notify Dianne Neil, Gallery chairperson prior to an early pick up. More information is always available at our website: <https://www.crookedcreekart.org/tap-gallery-themes>

Upcoming Workshops - Register now at <https://www.crookedcreekart.org/workshops>

Observe, Translate and Explore; Abstract workshop with Marissa Vogl is on February 26, 27 & 28, 2026 (9AM to 4 PM)

Basic Collage Workshop with Lillie Morris is schedule on Friday, March 20 & Saturday, March 21, 2026 (9AM to 4PM)

CCAL Annual Juried Show is fast approaching. Here are important dates related to this show. **Online Entry: Jan 01 - Feb 19 (online registration only)**. Questions? Ask the Show Chair, **Kay Fox**; her email address is lady10is57@gmail.com. **Artwork Delivery: Sat Feb 21** 10:00am - 12:00pm. More details and the Prospectus may be found at <https://www.crookedcreekart.org/annual->



contests **Volunteers are needed** for many show- related activities, please considering helping out. Contact Kay Fox for more information.

Our Public Galleries are an important community activity for our CCAL, and we always need more artists to participate in these rotations. To sign up go to <https://www.crookedcreekart.org/public-galleries-artist-application>

Thank you for your attention to these important upcoming events. As always, feel free to contact me or any of our Executive Committee members if you have questions or ideas to share. Your continued enthusiasm, participation and volunteerism keep our League vibrant! I look forward to seeing you on February 16.

Michael Naughton, President
CCAL