

August letter from the president

Hello everyone!

The Board met for a planning session in August. I hope you will join me in my belief that we have another great year ahead for the Crooked Creek Art League. The Board is already working hard on your behalf, planning fun and informative activities, speakers and workshops for year ahead as well as another great juried show. We are also exploring options for updating our Web page, improving visibility and marketing for the CCAL and our membership, and collaborative ways to be a good partner to our community. I'm thrilled to say that we have just been awarded a second \$1,000 grant from the South Carolina Arts Commission which will help us defray the expense associated with all that the CCAL undertakes this year. I hope everyone will join me in thanking Brad Arnold for all his hard work to make the grant award possible.

I hope that you had a revitalizing and fun summer filled with friends, fellowship and many wonderful painting subjects to inspire you. And, that you are refreshed and ready to be an active participant in all that the CCAL has to offer this year.

The first general meeting for all members and potential new members will be held on September 19th, the 3rd Monday of the month. Your board members will be providing the refreshments for the meeting. It is always good to see familiar faces again as well as meeting new friends as we kick off another outstanding year. Unfortunately, I have to be out of town on that date so I will miss seeing your smiling faces, but I know that our new VP, Dan Gardner and ex-officio president, Al Leitch, will do a great job of running the meeting in my absence. We will have a great speaker at this first meeting, Dianne Munkittrick from Santee. She paints lovely renditions of nature scenes and wildlife in oils. You can learn more about her and her work at <http://www.diannemunkittrick.com/>. As in the past, we will gather for refreshments at 6:30pm and our program will run approximately from 7 to 8:30. We meet in the Art Room at the Crooked Creek Recreation Center in Chapin. You won't want to miss it!

Dianne Munkittrick will rejoin us on October 7 and 8 for a workshop on oil painting wildlife. Please contact Al Leitch, our workshop coordinator for this coming year, and let him know if you are interested. It should be a fun time for all who attend. We are fortunate to be able to offer such reasonably priced quality workshops to our members. They are a great way to learn from the presenting artist as well as each other. And, a great way to get to know your fellow members better.

Looking ahead, at our October meeting, on Monday the 17th, 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 a fascinating talk!

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. If you have any other art

currently hanging on the left side please take it down or move it to the right side to make room for Anne's art prior to the September meeting. Any art not removed by that time will be taken down and leaned against the wall for you to reclaim.

The theme for the gallery in October will be Fall Scenes. So if you have some fall art to put people in an autumnal mood, please plan to hang it on the left side of the gallery during the month of October.

Our Spotlight Artist of the Month for August has been Ruby DeLoach. For September, our Spotlight Artist of the Month will be 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 our spotlight artists and view their exhibited artwork at the Chamber office if you can. This program provides great visibility in our community for the featured artists and the CCAL. If you are interested in becoming a future spotlight artist, we will be drawing names for new participants at the September meeting. Check with Ruby DeLoach for more details.

We have so many exciting things to offer our members. 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.

You may also be interested to know that the Chapin Chamber of Commerce (where we have the Spotlight Artist featured each month) is organizing the 37th Annual Chapin Labor Day Festival and Parade which is scheduled for Monday, September 5, 2016. The theme for the festival is "Chapin - The Heart of Lake Murray." This is the Town's signature event which brings thousands of residents and visitors to the lakeside community for a day of family fun and festivities. The parade begins at 9:30 am, starting from the GIS parking lot on Chapin Road and goes straight through town to the Bi-Lo shopping center. Immediately following the parade, there will be live entertainment on the Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative Stage featuring the popular R&B band Cash Money. In addition, there is the Publix Children's Area featuring activities and games on Clark Street, a Classic Car Show hosted by the Newberry Car Buffs and Taylor's Automotive in the Mt. Horeb parking lot off Beaufort Street, and street vendors selling a variety of arts and crafts, clothing items, food and knick knacks. The Chapin Branch Library (where we have also a featured artist each month) will be holding its annual book sale in the Community Room at Chapin Town Hall (157 NW Columbia Avenue) until 2:30 pm, with proceeds benefiting children and youth reading programs. A number of our members will be participating in the Festival and Parade.

Thank you for your membership in the CCAL. Together we can do great things! Remember,

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." (Maya Angelo). So, have fun and keep creating!

Barbara Teusink

President