

August 2017 letter from the president

Hello everyone!

It's hard to believe summer is coming to an end so soon. The 2017-2018 Board is off to a great start. We met for a planning session on August 28. We have a lot of great things in the works for this year. The Board is working hard on your behalf, planning fun and informative activities, speakers and workshops for year ahead as well as another great juried show. This will be a transformative year for our Juried Show as the board has voted to expand our categories of competition to also include Photography and 3D artwork as separate categories for entry. Watch for a lot more information to be coming out about that soon. We are also exploring options to continue improving our Web page, improving visibility and marketing for the CCAL and our membership, collaborative ways to be a good partner to our community and to increase options for grant funding.

The members of the board are excited for the year ahead. I hope that you have had a restful rejuvenating summer and are excited to jump back into a new year with CCAL too! We welcomed 5 new members over the summer (welcome to each of you!) and hope to see our membership continue to grow as we offer more and better benefits for our members.

The first general meeting for all members and potential new members will be held on September 18th, 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, Ginger Robinson, will do a great job of running the meeting in my absence. We will have a great speaker at this first meeting, Patricia Raible from Charlotte NC. She will be demonstrating her technique for preparing the cradle's she uses as the foundation in creating her unique and beautiful Abstract Mixed Media artwork. You can learn more about her and her art work at www.patriciasteeleraible.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!

Patricia Raible will rejoin us on October 6 and 7 for a workshop "Building a Painting" where she will instruct participants on creating a painting using her Abstract Multi Media techniques. Here's your opportunity to take chances and just have fun creating something beautiful. It should be a lot of fun! Please contact Sonya Diimmler, our workshop coordinator for this coming year, and let her know if you are interested. Sonya has done a great job lining up a wide range of very talented artists for our workshops this year. 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. Note: You will need to bring a prepared cradle to participate in this workshop. You can learn how by attending the presentation at the September meeting OR by watching her video which we should be able to provide to everyone soon.

Looking ahead, at our October meeting, on Monday the 16th, we have another great speaker. Gerard Erley, a talented local artist, will be doing a demo of creating a portrait for us from a live model. You can see Gerard's work at gerarderley.com. It should be fun to watch! Gerard will also be doing a workshop for us in November on doing portraits from a live model.

In September, The Artist's Place (TAP) Gallery will host a special one-man exhibit for the winner of the Best in Show Award from our 2017 Annual Juried Show last spring, Anne Hightower Patterson White. Please take some time to see her superb artwork. You will notice that there is a new display cabinet in place on the right hand side of the lobby of Crooked Creek Park. This is so that we can display 3D artwork on a regular basis and include this year's Juried Show.

The theme for the TAP gallery in October will be Fall Scenes. Please plan to bring of your fall themed artwork to put people in an autumnal mood, and display it on the left side of the gallery during the month of October.

Our Spotlight Artist of the Month for August has been Roger Buenzow. For September, our Spotlight Artist of the Month is Olga Yukhno. Spotlight artists are recognized on our website and have a special exhibition 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 our new public gallery coordinator, CJ Marchese 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 and hosting the 38th Annual Chapin Labor Day Festival this weekend with the Parade scheduled for this coming Monday, September 4, 2017. 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. A number of our members will be participating in the Festival and Parade.

Thank you for your membership in the CCAL. The power of our support for each other and the arts is boundless. Together we can do great things!

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."

~Albert Schweitzer

Barbara Teusink
President