



## May 2025 President's Letter

Greetings, CCAL Members!

May is a busy time of the year for many people with weddings, graduations, and end-of-the-school-year parties and performances to attend. It's also a time to spend more time outdoors working in our gardens, going for walks, or just exploring the beauty of nature that is all around us. As I look back on this past year, our art league has had an exciting and busy time, and now we are coming up on our last members' meeting before we take a break for the summer. I hope you are planning to attend our Monday, May 19 meeting. As usual, refreshments will be served at 5:30pm and our meeting will begin at 6:00pm.

Before our main event, we will have a short business meeting where we will be voting on our newly nominated officers for the coming league year. Before the voting takes place, nominations from the floor shall also be permitted. The nominated officers are as follows:

President – Michael Naughton

Vice President – Bobbi Mann

Secretary – Jan Lane

Treasurer – Jimma Causey

After the brief business meeting, we will have our May Annual Contest. Members are asked to bring one piece of artwork, along with an easel, to the meeting room between 5:00pm and 5:45pm. The theme for all artwork is "Childhood Memories." **There is no cost to enter, but you will need to go online to register your entry by this Friday, May 16, prior to the meeting.** Members will be given time to walk around the room to look at all the artwork and then choose their favorites. Ribbons will be awarded to the top three winners. This is a fun meeting and a great way to end our league year, but we are still in need of people to sign up to participate. Please consider entering your artwork in this fun event! All the artwork that is submitted will also remain at Crooked Creek Park in our TAP

Gallery throughout the summer. Please check out the Prospectus and additional details on our website under “Events – Annual Contest.”

We have filled many of our volunteer positions for the upcoming year, but we still have a few we are looking to fill. Please consider being a volunteer next year so we can continue offering all that we do for our league members. We are still in need of help with the following committees and the Service and Support Team:

- Community Art - looking for a second person to help with our Community Art projects.
- Grants – Need someone to oversee applying for grants the CCAL regularly receives, and as time permits, to explore new grant opportunities.
- Membership – Looking for a second person for this committee who can help by making phone call reminders to members who may need to renew their membership, etc.
- Publicity – Need a second person who can help with compiling and submitting Press Releases to appropriate newspapers, magazines, and television stations regarding CCAL activities and events.
- Sponsorships and Donations – We need someone to maintain contact with our current donors and sponsors, and to reach out to possible new donors.
- Greeter – We need a friendly person to come early to our meetings to be ready to welcome members and guests, to remind them to sign in, and to answer any questions they might have. This person is also responsible for putting out and returning the name tags.
- Social Media – We are in need of someone who will handle our Facebook posts throughout the year.

If you are interested in finding out more about any of these positions, and possibly help the league by being a volunteer, please contact me for more information.

There will be no workshops offered during the summer, but please plan to register for our upcoming workshop with Dan Graziano, “Painting ‘Painterly’ from a Photo Reference” to be offered September 26-27. For more information and to register, please visit our website under “Workshops.”

We have a new public gallery display place added to our list of galleries! The Seven Oaks Park, in the St. Andrews area, will now be hosting our artists. They will be able to accept two artists, for a two-month period, with up to 16 pieces of artwork each. If you are interested in being scheduled for this gallery or any of our other galleries, please go to our website and find “Public Galleries.” From there you can find out more details and register to display your artwork.

We've had so many exciting things to participate in this past year. We've enjoyed wonderful speakers at our monthly meetings, great workshops, community festivals, and public gallery displays at Crooked Creek Park and at numerous businesses. We've also enjoyed the Still Hopes Exhibition, the Irmo Library Show, and our Annual Juried Show. Other special art events and opportunities have also come up during the year that many of our members have participated in. All of these, plus the many friendships made, is what makes being a member of the Crooked Creek Art League such a special opportunity. I am grateful to be part of this community of artists who encourage one another, strive to keep learning, and share their love for the arts with our community.

As my time of being president of the art league for the past two years comes to a close, I want to say thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve the league in this way. Thank you for your encouragement and patience as I learned about my new role. I hope I have served you well. I have enjoyed serving on the board and am thankful to each board, committee, and service and support team member who has worked alongside me. It really does take teamwork to keep this organization running smoothly. Thank you to all the many volunteers that have given of their time and talents to serve the league in various ways. Some have been in ongoing positions and others have been volunteering for a shorter, specific job. I want to extend a special note of appreciation for the great Board of Directors and committee members we have had this year. Also, a big thank you to all our Service and Support Team! We couldn't have done all we do without the help of everyone. I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve together with such wonderful people. I'm glad to be part of a circle of friends who enjoy the arts and share their knowledge and passion the way we do.

I hope to see all of you next year and that you will consider helping the league in a way that suits you best. Have a wonderful summer and enjoy spending time being creative in the arts!

Sincerely,

Yvonne Beyer  
President, CCAL