



Springfield Art Guild (SAG)

A place for a creative experience

April 2017 Newsletter

Meeting Schedule

Wed. April 12, 2017,

6:00-9pm

Grace Church
7434 Bath St.
Springfield, VA 22150

6:00 pm – Set up and socializing
7:00-7:30 pm – Business meeting
7:45 – 8:30 pm - Speaker
8:30 – 9:00pm – Clean up
Note: Schedule may vary

www.springfieldartguild.org

www.facebook.com/springfieldartguild/

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WATERCOLOR & INKS

Guest Speaker Sandy Olszowy

Sandy Olszowy lives in Springfield, Virginia, and has been a member of the Springfield Art Guild for the past several years...since shortly after returning from her first trip to France with watercolor teacher Marni Maree. She currently spends way too much time working for a government contractor, and dreaming of days when there will be more time and energy for creative endeavors.

Sandy earned a B.F.A. way back in the dark ages from Madison College (aka JMU). After working as a graphic artist, she got sidetracked into the printing industry, very early videoteleconferencing, and help desk support



before becoming full-time stay at home mom for many years. Creating works of art took a back seat for a long time. But the kids had the BEST projects, for they had real art supplies to use!



It was in the college days Sandy discovered a love of watercolor. Much much later, it is still her primary medium, although these days horizons are broadening into other areas. One is a passion for alcohol inks, a love for the brilliance of the colors, the transparency of the medium and its unpredictability. It seems like play.

“We started out by deconstructing Sharpie markers to make home-made alcohol inks. My niece was living with me at the time, and she was really good at figuring out how to take apart the markers so we could soak the centers in alcohol. I’ve progressed from there! There are people doing marvelous

wondrous things in this new and very challenging medium, and while I don’t always love the results of my efforts, I’m finding that it’s great fun getting there.”



WORKING WITH PHOTOS

Two items on working with photos:

1. Helen Van Wyk was a popular oil painting instructor with her own show on PBS called "Welcome to My Studio". She did beautiful portraits in oil, and her book "Portraits in Oil the Van Wyk Way" is a great resource for portrait painters. She died in 1994 but her show lives on on YouTube. In the book I found the following suggestion about how to credit a reference photo used to make a painting but which was not your own photo.

"There are times when you must use a commercial photograph, such as the obvious one of painting a portrait posthumously. When using such a photograph, you should credit the photographer, if you know his name. This information can appear along with your signature on the front of the painting and also on the back of the canvas, painted lightly with a bristle brush that's been slightly wetted with a color. If you don't know the photographer's name, however, merely indicate that you did copy from a photograph with the words "from photo" written under your signature and, again, on the rear of the canvas. When you work from photographs that you take yourself, you need not cite any information about using photography as your source of reference. Your photographs are merely your means to an end."

I don't know this to be the final word on crediting photos not your own, but it apparently was her practice...

2. Still on the subject of photos,

Mitchell Albala has a wonderful piece on his blog (<http://blog.mitchalbala.com/using-photographs-like-an-artist/>) on best practices. Albala is the author of the very useful book Landscape Painting: Essential Concepts and Techniques for Plein Air and Studio Practice (Watson-Guptill, 2009). (In general, his blog is extensive and really outstanding.) Albala says (abbreviated extracts):

Be an interpreter, not a copyist.

If all we do is replicate the photo, then why do the painting at all?

[In speaking of the work of artist Terry Furchgott...] Only in general subject does the final painting resemble the photo. Most of all, her subjective and vibrant interpretation of color is testament to the fact that the artist is a far more intentional colorist than the camera will ever be.

Make the composition your own.

A camera defines a composition the moment the shutter is pressed. Don't be too quick to accept this as the "final" composition. Tip: When photographing subjects of interest, don't attempt to compose the perfect picture in the camera.

Don't follow photographic color.

If one is simply copying the color, then one is not translating, but engaged in an uncreative color matching exercise. A photograph may be used for suggesting generalized color direction, but it should not be used for matching colors, hue-for-hue...

Don't trust photographic values

The most misleading type of information provided by the photograph is its value relationships. All too often, the camera creates too much contrast between the lights and shadows, especially in bright light. It underexposes the darks (turning them to black) and overexposes the lights (making them overly light or white)...

Manage detail and edges

Keep it simple. When it comes to detail the painter must strike a delicate balance. The photo is ideally suited to give us information about detail, but it can also trick us into capturing detail in excess. The artist must always pay attention to the big shapes that drive the composition, and detail must always remain subordinate to those shapes. **Tip:** Artists control attention and interest in their artwork by not giving equal weight to all detail. Assigning varying degrees of hardness and softness to edges creates a form of spatial mapping that helps support the illusion of space.

Beware of ambiguous or awkward passages

We sometimes find ambiguous or awkward passages in our subjects that we think are interesting...
...when brought into our artwork they can look ambiguous or poorly drawn.

Let go of the photo

At a certain point, the photograph needs to be put aside. As a piece develops it takes on a life of its own and becomes independent of the source from which it derives. If you are constantly looking at the photo, you will be pulled in its direction and begin to make less creative choices.

Consider the source

One of the biggest mistakes an artist can make is to start with a poor reference. If you are going to rely on the photo for detail, drawing, or composition, then those things must be working well in the photo.

Again, visit his blog... it's very instructive.

Enjoy!

John Nicholson

SAG's Green Spring Gardens Art Show

Below is the prospectus for the Springfield Art Guild, "Art in the Garden" 2017 show. Registration must be received by August 4. All artists must volunteer to assist with the show. The list of volunteer duties is on the registration form. We are looking for a volunteer to work with us this year so we can mentor them to chair the show next year. Please let Claire or Terry know if you're interested.

Art in the Garden co-chairs, Claire Bentley and Terry Holman

Claire.Bentley@cox.net

Terryh888@aol.com



"Art in the Garden"

Springfield Art Guild 2017 Fall Art Show & Sale at Green Spring Gardens Park
Alexandria, Virginia 22312

Tuesday, August 22 – Sunday, October 22, 2017

This is a Juried Show with 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mention ribbons to be awarded. Artists must register and volunteer by August 4, 2017. 20% commission on all sales will benefit the Friends of Green Spring Gardens Park.

Schedule

August 4 – Registration & payment due.

This show is open to SAG MEMBERS ONLY. Members may enter up to 3 pieces.

Fee: \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Make sure your membership is up to date.

Those who join SAG after June 2017 for the coming year may participate, but will pay a non-member fee of \$15 per piece of art.

Monday, August 21 - Receiving 12:00-1:00

Judging 1:00 pm-2:00; Show installation from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Pick up unselected art from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Sunday, August 27 - Reception and Awards, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Monday, October 23 – show take down and pick up art **10:45 to noon**.

Artists must pick up on this date or arrange pickup by a friend. There is no storage space.

Submission Criteria

- ✓ Artwork must focus on flora, fauna, or local (DC, MD, VA) landscapes.
- ✓ Artwork must be for sale and if selected stay on exhibition from August 22 to October 22, 2017 in Green Spring Gardens Park
- ✓ SAG members may submit up to 3 pieces of artwork no larger than 40" x 40" (including frame)
- ✓ Only hand painted, hand drawn or other "original" 2-D art, created in the last 2 years, will be considered. Traditional photographs and digitally enhanced photographs are welcome. **Drafts, photocopies, offset prints, lithographs or copies of already published art will not be permitted.**
- ✓ All artwork must be for sale and suitable framed. Entries must be ready to hang with hooks and wire and be protected by glass or plexi-glass when necessary.
- ✓ **Saw tooth hangers, clips, wet canvases, soiled or poorly matted works will not be accepted, nor will artwork previously shown at a SAG sponsored Green Spring Gardens show. Exposed nails must be covered by a backing and or tape.**
- ✓ Artists making sales shall submit a 20% commission to Green Spring Gardens Park at the close of the show and are responsible for Virginia sales tax which Green Spring Gardens Park will collect. All sales will be made through Green Spring Gardens Park. Artists will be provided sales details when work is accepted for the show.
- ✓ All artists shall be solely and exclusively responsible to insure properly and adequately their work and property. By submitting this application, the artist agrees to fully and finally release the Springfield Art Guild, its directors, officers, employees or volunteers and employees of Green Springs involved with the exhibit of any and all responsibility for any damage or loss to any artwork during the time of the exhibition, its set up and take down. Be aware that insurance policies in effect will not provide coverage for damage or loss due to fire, theft or burglary and vandalism. The artist agrees to maintain their own insurance if they so choose. The artist agrees to assume all risk of damage to or loss of his/her own art from whatever cause. The transport, installation and removal of the artworks are not covered by insurance.

Art in the Garden
SAG's 2017 Fall Art Show & Sale at Green Spring Gardens Park
Alexandria, Virginia 22312 (703-642-5173)

Registration Form

Registration and payment must be received by August 4, 2017. **Make checks payable to SAG** and send with the registration/volunteer form to: Terry Holman, 8970 Fascination Ct, 414, Lorton, VA 22079

Questions: Terryh888@aol.com or claire.bentley@cox.net

Please complete the registration form below carefully, as no changes can be made after submission. This information is used to create labels for the show in advance. Artists must pick up unselected pieces on August 21 between 2 and 3 pm. Please print clearly.

-----Cut here and send in with check-----

Registration Form

Artist's Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Title 1 _____ Medium _____ Price _____

Title 2 _____ Medium _____ Price _____

Title 3 _____ Medium _____ Price _____

VOLUNTEER FORM (ALL artists MUST volunteer to assist with the show)

☐ YES, I can make the labels for all the artwork pieces

Receiving, Hanging, and Reception Volunteers

☐ YES I can help with receiving, August 21, 12:00-1:00 (need 3 volunteers)

☐ YES I can help with the hanging, August 21, 2:00 - 4:00

☐ YES, I can call artists whose paintings were not accepted into the show (2:00)

☐ YES, I can record paintings that were picked up because it was not accepted into the show

☐ YES, I can organize the reception, Sunday, August 27 1:00-3:00

☐ YES I can bring a dessert or appetizer for the reception, Sunday, August 27

☐ YES I can help with the reception (serve, set up/clean up), 1-3, Sunday, August 27

☐ YES I can photograph the reception (award presentations), 1-3, Sunday, August 27

Take Down Volunteers

☐ YES I can volunteer to take down the art show on Oct 23, 10:45-noon. There is no storage, so artwork must be picked up on Oct 23 by noon.

I have read the Prospectus and agree to the terms of entering the show.

Signature

Date

Using Perspective to Draw a Tea Cup by Liz Steel

Liz Steel is a Sydney based artist and architect. She is the author of an excellent webpage packed with all kinds a great art tips. Check out her newsletter to keep up-to-date on her postings.

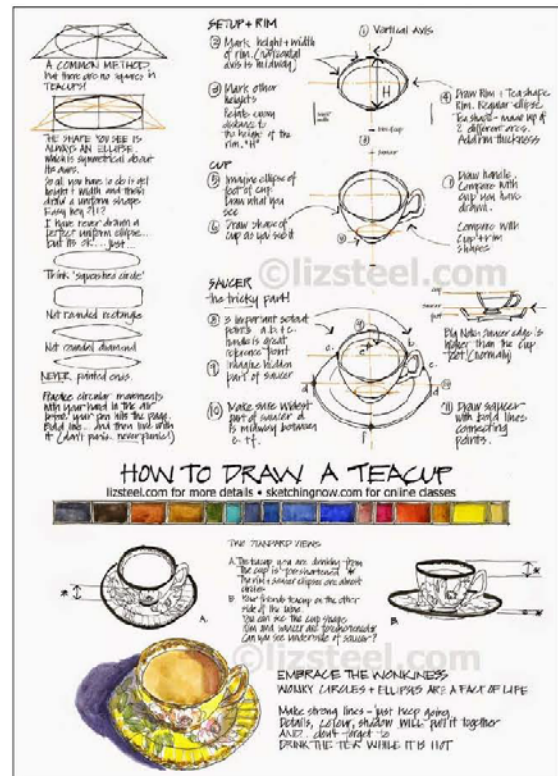
Steel's sketches on how to use perspective when you are drawing round or cylinder shapes is a great follow-up to our February meeting. Go to her August 19, 2014 posting, "[How to Draw a Teacup](#)" to get this free tutorial [download](#) with step-by-step examples and notes.

Steel also shares lots of great advice on journaling on her website. Her [sketching tools](#) post (2/4/16) shows the tools Steel uses for her journaling.

Last month (March 2017), Steel and [Marc Taro Holmes](#) (Citizen Sketcher website) hosted a sketching challenge to [draw 100 people in 5 days](#). They did 100 quick draw figures and faces sketching. Steel's website provides great insights through her notes on her quick sketches.

I keep telling myself I will carry a sketchbook more often, but find I usually only sketch people when I'm at the airport waiting for a flight. A *lightbulb went on the other day when I saw an interesting gentleman on a TV documentary and thought I'd like to draw him. I realized if I pause my TV when I see people I want to draw people I have hundreds of figures and faces at my disposal for quick sketches.*

Lydia Jechorek



SAG is Missing DVDs

Here is a list of DVDs that are listed as "missing" from the SAG DVD library:

"Landscapes Through Time" by David Dunlop (disk 2 of 3/lessons 5-8)
"Landscapes Through Time" by David Dunlop (disk 3 of 3/lessons 9-13)
"Mood and Atmosphere in Oil" by Carolyn Lewis
"Painting Sentimental Roses in Watercolor" by Susie Short
"Atmosphere and Mood in Watercolor" by Joseph Zbukvic
"Secrets of Flower Painting" by Ken Hosmer
"Designing Great Starts with Texture and Form" by Pat Dews
"Layering Light" by Bette Ridgeway
"Watercolor Portrait Series" by Tim Packer

If you have ever checked out any of these videos, please check to see if they might have been mislaid or stored somewhere and, if so, return them at our next meeting. If I don't hear anything in the next few weeks, I'll take steps to try to reorder these and get them back in the library.

David Cochran
SAG DVD Librarian



Creative Resource Center

Do you love high quality art supplies, sold at discount prices? Come visit our reuse center to see what we have in stock today. Our inventory is always changing. You just might find a treasure behind our doors!

Participate as a Daily Member of UpCycle and fill a bag for \$5-\$25, depending on the size of the bag. Check out our Annual Materials Memberships to enjoy unlimited access to our reuse collection! www.UpCycleCRC.org

Located in the Durants Arts Center, 1605 Cameron Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

I need help please!

To all SAG members.

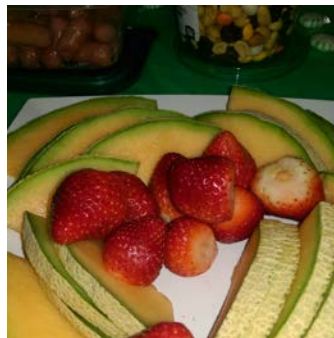


I am always in need of any kind of art news to put in our monthly newsletter. This is your newsletter and I want to include topics you are interested in. The most difficult part of doing the newsletter is getting the content. I don't write the content, I just put it all together to layout the newsletter. Help me out by sending some articles or even just a few lines about some art news. I would really like to have articles about art workshops or classes you have attended, reviews or summaries of museum shows, any art tips, upcoming art shows to enter, awards you have received and things like that.

Just email any newsletter information to teresatindlebrunson@gmail.com

Thank you,
Teresa

A BIG **Thank you** to SAG's Hospitality Chair, Cari Cole and to all the volunteers that have brought in delicious goodies, drinks and festive decorations!



Nature Journaling Mondays, 3-5:00 p.m at Lake Accotink Park.

Let's get outside and do some Nature Journaling. Join us also if you'd like to do some plein air painting/and or photography.

For those of you who don't know me, I'm SAG member **Elaine Sevy** (also becoming known as the "Accotink Lady"). Feel free to email me at yorkiemum.sevy95@gmail.com and/or call/text me at [703-901-5612](tel:703-901-5612) if you have questions or suggestions.



I'm a Nature Journaling enthusiast but not an expert or teacher. I'm just an enthusiastic volunteer, and these activities are free to the public.

As artists, Nature Journaling is an excellent way to improve our observation skills. It's also a great way to become more comfortable painting and sketching in plein air (outside), and doing studies that inspire future paintings.

We will start each session at the park's marina and branch out to different locations from there.

Directions to Lake Accotink Park's marina area —

Take Springfield/644W exit from I-95, which puts you on Old Keene Mill Road.

At the 3rd stoplight, make a right on Hanover Road. Continue on Hanover Road through a residential section to Highland Ave where you make a left.

Stay on Highland Ave. a short distance, and make a slight right onto Accotink Park Road. An industrial area will be on your right. After a short distance, the park entrance is on the left (Accotink Park Rd continues here).

Drive to the end of Accotink Park Rd (past Park Office on the left at 7500 Accotink Park Road and the first large public parking lot by the dam) to the parking lot by the marina.

*****Please Note that GPSs often send people to the wrong park entrance**

Nature Journaling is a relaxing way to see and experience our local parks in a new way and can help us get "up close and personal" with plants and animals we might otherwise miss. It also offers an opportunity to explore what each season has to offer.

The Springfield Art Guild has partnered with the Friends of Lake Accotink Park and Friends of Accotink Creek to offer these kinds of visual arts activities in our community. We are fortunate to have such beautiful, natural areas set aside for our use and enjoyment.

Exciting SAG Member News

Ruth Ensley Gross a solo show consisting of 20 watercolors at Katibeh Art Gallery
February 9 - March 21 entitled:

PRESERVING TROPICAL TREASURES



In Occoquan my Art a la Carte space is focus is: **THIS IS THE YEAR OF THE ROOSTER** for April



Congratulations Ruth!!!

"Davi M. D'Agostino's painting **"Last Hurrah"** was selected among 890 submissions from 32 countries for a Special Merit Award in the All Women 2017 (January) Light, Space and Time online competition. In a separate CityScapes online competition (February), her painting **"L'Aubergine Door, Provence"** was selected among 447 submissions from 19 countries for a Special Recognition Award."



Congratulations Davi!

ART Opportunities

All,

A friend of mine asked me to help find art – for an art auction. Her daughter started a non-profit to help kids in need when she was 6 yrs old. Let's Help Kids (www.letshelpkids.org) gives 100% of the profits they make from this event is used solely for the purpose of spreading happiness to children in need... (some of the happiness items they provide are bikes, presents, clothes & even scholarships to camp)... I've known my friend for eons & anything she touches "turns to gold"... her daughter (now 12) has the same touch.....

I offered to help find art for their Art Auction for Happiness... and hopefully, you'll be able to provide pieces for it. (I & my hubby have participated each time she holds the auction & I know that Karen Hutchison participated in this a couple times).

The show & art auction has moved this year & will be held at the annual Annapolis Wine & Arts Festival in Annapolis, MD. The festival is giving Let's Help Kids a 40'x40' tent & she has found a sponsor to help build & set-up the display walls (including pedestals)...

CALL FOR ARTISTS



Paintings

Ceramics

Sculpture

Photography

Glass

An Art Auction for Happiness

Submissions are due by May 20th.

Submissions must be "ready to show." Paintings or photography should be framed or mounted. Glass, sculpture, or ceramics can be free standing.

**Show and Auction to be held at the annual Wine & Arts Festival
Annapolis, Maryland
June 2017**



Let's Help Kids was started by a kid to help other kids. 100% of the proceeds of this event will be used solely for the purpose of spreading happiness to children in need.

Please contact us at info@letshelpkids.org to make arrangements for dropping off art or for more information.

Here are the deets on the festival itself...

June 10-11

Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium

550 Taylor Ave, Annapolis, MD 21401

<http://annapolisartsandwinefestival.com/>

Can you help me help fill the tent with your great art!!!!????

Also – spread the word to other art organizations.....

Have them get in touch with me.....

Love, peace, gratitude & creativity!

Kathy

kathy strauss, ccfc (President)

Arches Gallery Artists

Workhouse Arts Center | Building 9

9518 Workhouse Way | Lorton, VA

www.facebook.com/archesgalleryartists

www.archesgallery.weebly.com

Upcoming show

at Davi M. D'Agostino's home studio and gallery space April 8-9 from 1-6 p.m. Ten artists and artisans, **3 of whom are SAG members**, will be showing and selling their works. Hope you can come join us as well!

Please Save April 8-9, 2017, 1-6 p.m.



Jill Brabant



Karen Chin



Davi M. D'Agostino



Lynn Gibson & Lisa Sherman



Kurt Kershow



Mary Ellen Larkins



Ursula Marquardt



Cynthia Schoepel



Carol Dawn Petersen

**Please join several local artists during the pre-Mother's Day weekend of April 8-9
at 6540 Jerome Ct., Manassas, VA!**

- There will be new art and artists, studio sale-priced art, and a raffle! Paintings, photography, prints, fused glass art, and beautiful jewelry!
- Feel free to bring a friend or two!
- We will not host another show in 2017. Hope you can make this one!
- From 1-6 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday, we will be serving delightful edibles, wine and other refreshments, and enjoying a great time with you!

We take all credit cards, checks and cash!

SPRING ART CLASS REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

CLASSES START IN APRIL

FOLLOW ArtLessonsWithCarolZeitlin on Instagram as I post students artwork & FB

SUMMER ART CAMP REGISTRATION OPENS MID-APRIL:

JULY 17, 24, and/or 31 in Burke.

Drawing Plus Color & Craft Fun Camp(5-8 yrs)

Fine Arts & Crafts Camp & Drawing Camp(8 & up)

Art Classes for Youth (8 years & up):

SESSION I: Tuesday, April 18 – June 6 at 5:15– 6:15 p.m. for \$88/8 wks

Saturday, April 22 – June 10 at 9:30- 10:30 a.m. for \$77/7 wks.

Drawing Plus Color (5 – 8yrs.)

SESSION 1: Tuesday April 18 – June 6 from 6:15 –7:00 p.m. for \$88/8 wks

Art Workshop or Sumi-e (Chinese Brush Painting) for Teens/Adults

SESSION 1: Saturday April 22 – June 10 from 10:30 -12:30 a.m. for \$105/7 wks

ONE FREE CLASS: New Adults only when registered for one full session.

Art Class Location: WOODS Community Centre

LOWER LEVEL ROOM 103(entrance near pool)

ATTACHED: ART CLASS BROCHURE- (FORWARD TO A FRIEND)

CURRENT STUDENTS can bring payment to class

TO REGISTER:

(1) E-MAIL OR CALL [703-250-6930](tel:703-250-6930) TO HOLD SLOT.

(2) PRINT REGISTRATION FORM, COMPLETE & MAIL PAYMENT.

(3) PLEASE, PAY PROMPTLY IF POSSIBLE.

(4) CHECKS TO BURKE CENTRE CONSERVANCY(BCC)

Thanks,

Carol Zeitlin

[703-250-6930](tel:703-250-6930)

WEB SITE: czartlessons.com



RETREAT and WORKSHOP

NOVEMBER 4th and 5th, 2017

ARTIST: Mark Polomchak (polomchak.com)

SUBJECT: Packet 11, image shown above and may also be viewed on polomchak.com. Packet, photo, line drawing and instructions are included in the Workshop fee. Mark will also be suggesting subjects for warming up to become familiar with his technique, those images may be viewed below.

DATE: November 4th – Saturday and November 5th – Sunday

TIME: 10am – 4:00pm (With a 1-Hour Lunch Break)

LOCATION: BJ Dickhute's Studio
180 Lutz Hollow Road
PO Box 87
Mount Jackson, VA 22842
540-325-6798
Website: bjdickhute.com
Email: bjdickhute@gmail.com