

MAY 2026 Newsletter



Meeting Schedule

May 13, 2026 at Grace Presbyterian Church auditorium

7434 Bath St. Springfield, VA 22150 (there is a side door on the church to the auditorium at the parking lot)

6:30 – 7:00pm Networking, set up

7:00 – 7:20pm Business meeting

7:30 – 9:00pm Visiting Artist Presentation
(times are approximate)

www.springfieldartguild.org

www.facebook.com/springfieldartguild/

<https://www.instagram.com>

IN THIS ISSUE:

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- **Announcement**
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- **Art Opportunities**
 1. SAG Green Spring Gardens Art Show
 2. Join Art a La Carte (AALC)
- **Board Members, President & Speakers Schedule**



Marni Maree

Watercolorist

[Sketchbook Journaling: NO rules, NO fancy supplies, NO pressure!](#)

Our May Guest Speaker is longtime SAG member Marni Maree. Marni will show how simple sketchbook journaling can be. During her demonstration, Marni will walk us through her compact “go kit,” to show us how few tools she needs to sketchbook journal when she’s just out drawing or traveling.

ANNOUNCEMENT!

SAG is looking for New Board Members!

Every organization needs committed board members to have a strong and effective organization. In addition to the standard roles and responsibilities of a board member, our board members are active advocates and ambassadors helping make SAG a great organization. SAG board is comprised of 9 volunteer members who are committed to bringing our members great programs and art opportunities.

SAG is making its formal announcement for 3 board members. This is for a 3 year term which will be voted on in our June 10, 2024 Membership Meeting in compliance with our By-laws. This board member is to replace SAG Board member, [Nancy Patrick](#), [John Nicholson](#) and [Ying Zhang](#) as they will have completed their term. SAG needs 3 volunteers to join the board.

As always, SAG board meetings are open to all members. They are held via Zoom the Monday after the Members' Meetings. If you'd like to attend a meeting, contact any board member for more details.

Volunteers
needed

ANNOUNCEMENT!

WE WOULD LIKE TO SHOWCASE SAG ARTISTS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.

You are all interesting people in the art world.

You are - having shows, selling work, juried into shows, painting outside or inside remembering a favorite painting from the past, being frustrated, painting by yourself or in groups, using pastels, oil, acrylic, pencil, mixed media, escaping into your canvas, painting now, in the past or planning for the future, making landscapes or portraits, loving or hating acrylics, coping with too many greens in the spring ... and much more...

Anything you are doing, is interesting to fellow artists and also strangers just wandering through Facebook.

Nothing is too mundane about your and your art ... just talking about why orange is your favorite color, or why watercolor frustrates you is interesting to others...

Showing who you are as an artist will help spread the word about SAG and attract more members.

Please send a few photos and any information (Subject line - Facebook) you would like to share to:

Nancy Patrick - nancypatrick1407@gmail.com



Springfield Art Guild's Franconia Government Center Art Show

Thank you to all SAG members who took part in the Franconia Exhibit and Supervisor's Open House at the brand-new Franconia Government Center this past weekend. There were many engaged attendees who participated in the People's Choice Awards, and we had 28 donated art pieces to raffle! Attendees were very excited about being able to vote for their favorite paintings and to take home original art from the event. To see images of the event, visit SAG's Facebook and Instagram pages.



FRANCONIA EXHIBIT PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD WINNERS

FIRST PLACE

THOM LOWTHER, PARK RETIRO - MADRID
NANCY PATRICK, UNWRITTEN WORDS

SECOND PLACE

NANCY PATRICK, COUNTRY GARDEN

THIRD PLACE:

LYDIA JECHOREK, WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE
LYNN MARTIN, AVA

Congratulations!

SAG SPRING 2026 JURIED ONLINE ART SHOW AND SALE

A "WONDER"FUL WORLD

MARCH 29 – MAY 31, 2026

Congratulations to our winners

"I have made my decisions on the submitted work. This was not an easy task. It is always hard not to give awards to works that are extremely close in quality and impact to those that do receive the awards. I was very impressed by so many works that I seriously considered for an award. And, I am very impressed with SAG!"

-- PETER ULRICH, JUDGE AND JUROR FOR THE SAG SPRING VIRTUAL SHOW,



First Place

Noreen Brunini -- "Northern Lights"

This work is an amazing example of "letting the painting paint itself" ... meaning taking advantage of the wet-into-wet effects one can achieve with fluid media like acrylics and watercolors. It has a marvelous semi-abstract quality. If she had named it something else, the viewer would interpret the shapes differently and not as flashing lights in the northern sky. This work just grabs the viewer with its power. I wish I had watched it being painted.

Second Place

Chris Cardiff -- Arizona Slot Canyon

When I first saw this photo, I thought it was a painted picture using, say, oils or acrylics. When I saw it was a photograph taken in a canyon in Arizona I was amazed. Chris was definitely the right person in the right place at the right time! The vertical format is a great choice as it gives the viewer a good sense of being deep in the canyon and looking up toward the sunlit upper rim. The color and deep shadows are sensational.





Third Place

Susan Fay -- Invisible Worlds

I love the concept of this work. I can imagine the viewer of this lovely sunset thinking “soon it will be dark and the stars will start to shine.” And Susan has given us a view of those stars that we would see if we had telescopic vision. She is reminding us that those little dots we see after dark...she has dubbed them “Invisible Worlds”...are really huge exciting suns and planets, many, if not, most of them, much larger and brighter than our modest planet earth. Her rendering of the celestial bodies is excellent....bold and filled with motion. An exciting work of art (and science!).

Honorable Mention

Clair Bentley – Sunflower Burst

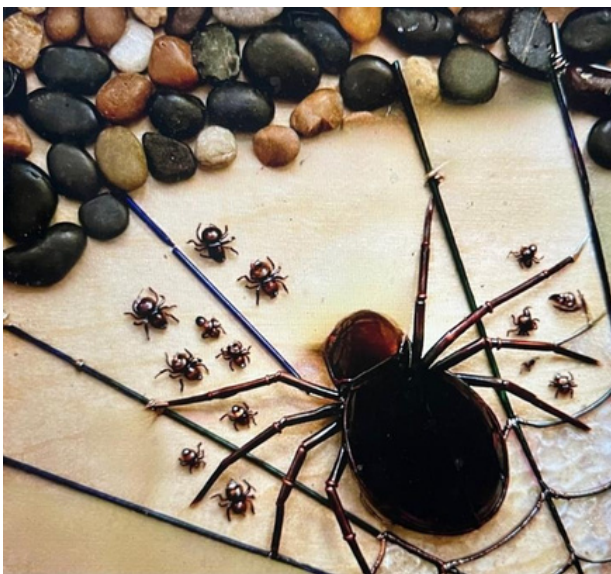
This is a wonderful example of “mixed media”... combining both transparent and opaque paint with ink. I love the contrast of the warm flower petals with the cool green foliage. The ink work is a significant contributor so that she has achieved a good balance between the two media. She has also used spattering of the light yellow opaque paint to achieve a loose and free result. The composition is very effective in that she has totally filled the format with this close-up view of the blossom.



Honorable Mention

Laura Ramirez-Drain Threads of Wonder Motherhood

I was amazed at this arrangement of these very distinctly different objects...spiders and stones into this pleasing mosaic. The colors and deep values are what first attracted me: the browns, grays and blacks. The composition is also very effective...one can feel the movement of the spiders upward toward the stones. I found it terribly creative to arrange these objects into this pleasing and dramatic array.



Honorable Mention

Liz Pohland -- Match Point



This is a still life unlike any I have ever seen. Liz has transformed ordinary, mundane and maybe even ugly elements...burnt matches and burnt paper...into an interesting and almost semi- abstract work of art. She has challenged us artists to find unattractive elements in our surroundings and see if they can be arranged and represented as a work of art. It's one thing to see a thing of beauty and paint it. It is quite another to take something that belongs in the trash and convert it into a work of art. Amazing!

Honorable Mention

Teresa Brunson -- Hiking Journal

I've seen many, many paintings in my long life but not one quite like this one. The title "Hiking Journal" suggests that an enjoyable hike through a beautiful woodland can be remembered, of course, but can also be recorded and not only in words but in a work of art. This inventive combination of the artwork and the written journal is so very creative and impactful. Her pastel technique is very effective and beautiful. I'd love to take a hike in this place.



Honorable Mention

Nancy M. Patrick -- Red



This is one of those of those paintings that stop you in your tracks. Your first expression after seeing it is "WOW". Upon closer inspection one imagines a story is being told (perhaps a fairy tale I should recognize?). On the other hand, one could make up a wonderful tale based on this image. Nancy has rendered the elements of the painting beautifully. The glowing illumination on the far shore is balanced by the glowing basket that "Red" is carrying. A very creative and impactful work.

ART OPPORTUNITIES

This section of the newsletter is for SAG members to let us know about art opportunities in our area. Tell us about any art classes, workshops, exhibits, upcoming art shows to enter, and any other art opportunity you can think of. Please send any art opportunities to happyartstudio@gmail.com; teresatindlebrunson@gmail.com by the 20th of each month.

SAG's Green Spring Gardens Art Show

GreenSpringGardensHorticulturalCenter,4603GreenSpringRd.,Alexandria,VA22312



"Art School" by Marni Maree

Springfield Art Guild -- Call for Entry

Garden Dreams

June 29–August 23, 2026

Online JotForm Art Show Registration: **April 13 – June 15 by Midnight**

Click Here to Register: <https://form.jotform.com/sagcurating/2026-SAG-GSG-call-for-entry>

Chairperson: Carol Lynne Barto,
Assistant Chairpersons: Pat Hafkemeyer and Teresa Brunson
Judge: Pattee Hipschen
<http://www.patteehipschen.com/>

Subject of artwork must be based on regional (DC/MD/VA) horticultural or natural themes. **Please Note:** Seascapes, human portraiture, and pet portraits are ineligible unless pre-approved.

—This is a Green Spring Gardens guidance—

ArtShow Guidelines, Regulations, & Requirements: *General Information & Guidelines*

1. **Garden Dreams Art Show** is open to all current 2026 Springfield Art Guild members.
2. Green Spring Gardens' annual art show is a show with monetary awards for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and the SAG Founders Award. A certificate will be given for the Honorable Mentions and the People's Choice Award.
3. Our judge this year will be Pattee Hipschen. <http://www.patteehipschen.com/>
4. All artwork **must** be based on regional (DC/MD/VA) horticultural or natural themes.
Please note: Seascapes, human portraiture, and pet portraits are ineligible unless pre-approved.
5. Participating artists **must** volunteer to assist with the show. The list of volunteer tasks/activities to sign up for is located within the online registration form.
6. All artists must **register** and **volunteer** by **Monday, June 15, 2026** by Midnight.

Artwork Submissions Specifications

1. SAG members may submit up to three (3) 2-dimensional pieces of original artwork.
 - a. They must **NOT** have been previously entered in a Green Springs' show.
 - b. Artwork can be any medium.
 - c. Original photographs and digital art are eligible.
 - d. The size limit is 36 by 36 inches including the frame.
 - e. Please Note:
 - i. A diptych will be counted as two pieces.
 - ii. A triptych will be counted as three pieces
2. Art should be ready to hang or display with wire and screw eyes, framed, matted, or with edges finished. **We cannot show artwork that is not ready for exhibition.**

NOTE: Not eligible: saw tooth hangers, clips, wet canvases, damaged frames, torn backings, soiled or poorly matted artwork.

* *Example of a professionally framed artwork with flat screw eyes and wire:*



3. You must provide one photo for each entry (artwork only—no mat or frame in photo). Acceptable file types are: jpg, jpeg; 500 KB (minimum) to 1 MB in file size. Smart phone photos are acceptable.
4. You must name your files as follows: **YourLastName_FirstName_Title**
(example: smith_john_redbarn.jpg).
5. **Entry fees** are due upon submission and are non-refundable. The entry fee is **\$10 for each piece or \$25 for 3 pieces**. Registration fee can be paid online through the Jotform registration form using credit card, debit card, Venmo and PayPal. Members can also pay the registration fee by check.
 - **If paying by check make checks payable to Springfield Art Guild (SAG) and mail to:**
Pat Hafkemeyer
SAG GSG Show
5926 Burnside Landing Dr.
Burke, VA 22015
6. You must provide a contact method in the registration form—Email address or Phonenumber—both acceptable, for potential questions regarding your submission(s) and/or sales inquiries.
7. Each entry must be original work created by the artist. It may not be a copy, likeness or derivative of another's artistic creation from any source. This includes any work done in a workshop, as a class assignment, or from an instructor's demo. Artwork must be your own thought, idea, composition and image. It cannot be a direct copy of a photograph, painting, or image, including images from written publications (newspaper, magazine) and social media (Instagram, Facebook, websites, etc.), unless you have the artist's expressed permission or the image is copyright free.
 - **Not eligible:** photocopies, giclee prints or any type of reproduction.
8. Final acceptance for this exhibit will be at the curators' discretion upon physically viewing accepted artwork at Artwork Receiving.

d **Sales Information & Requirements**

1. All artwork must be for sale. We will **not** accept pieces marked "NFS". All works will be available for purchase, at the price which is set by the artist for each piece. Green Spring Gardens reserves the right to decline the inclusion of any artwork.
2. Virginia sales tax will be included on the price tag label with each artwork. Paying all sales taxes to the State is the responsibility of the artist.
3. Green Spring Gardens can only accept cash or check with art show sales. They do **not** handle any credit card or other types of transactions for the art shows. All other types of payment are to be handled through each individual artist.

4. It is up to the individual artist to handle transactions other than cash/check with the customer. If your artwork sells, you will get a call with the customer's name and contact information. It will be up to you to contact the customer to arrange payment via Square, Venmo, PayPal, etc.
5. Green Spring Gardens requires that any artist who sells their artwork must submit a 30% commission payment to Green Spring Gardens Park by the close of the show.
The 30% commission on all sales will benefit the Friends of Green Spring Gardens Park (FROGS).

c **Releases, Permissions, & Notes on Insurance**

- Springfield Art Guild and Green Spring Gardens **are not liable** for any loss or damage to artwork at any time.
- By submitting your application/entries, you release them, their staff and all volunteers from any responsibility for any damage or loss to your artwork during the exhibition, set up, or take down. Be aware insurance policies in effect will not provide coverage for damage or loss due to fire, theft or burglary and vandalism. By submission, the artist agrees to assume all risk of damage to or loss of his/her own art from whatever cause. Artists may obtain their own insurance.
- Permission to reproduce submitted artwork by the Springfield Art Guild and Green Spring Gardens for publicity and archival purposes is automatically granted by the artist as a requisite for entering the show.

Summary of Important Dates

- **Friday, June 15, 2026 — Deadline for Digital Submissions** is by midnight via SAG JotForm
- **Sunday, June 28, 2026 — Installation** at Green Spring Gardens Horticulture Center
4603 Green Spring Road
Alexandria, VA. 22312
Receiving: 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Show installation: 1:30 p.m.- 4 p.m.
- **Sunday, July 12, 2026 — Reception and Awards —from 1- 3PM** at Green Spring Gardens, Horticulture Center (address as listed above)
- **The Exhibit runs June 29, 2026 - Aug 23, 2026**
- **Pickup** for all unsold artwork is on **Monday, August 24, 2026 from 11AM to 12:30PM**
 - No early pickup.
 - Springfield Art Guild and Green Spring Gardens cannot be held responsible for any artwork left after pickup deadline.
 - There is no storage available. All artwork must be picked up by **12:30PM**.

Y **Questions:** Please contact the chairpersons: carol.lynne.barto@gmail.com,
pat.hafkemeyer@cox.net or teresatindlebrunson@gmail.com

ART OPPORTUNITIES continues...

This section of the newsletter is for SAG members to let us know about art opportunities in our area. Tell us about any art classes, workshops, exhibits, upcoming art shows to enter, and any other art opportunity you can think of. Please send any art opportunities to happyartstudio@gmail.com; teresatindlebrunson@gmail.com by the 20th of each month.



Join our vibrant gallery!

If you are a local artist and are interested in showing your work in our gallery, please fill out the application on our website.

We accept all mediums, including:
oil, acrylic, & watercolor painting · photography
pottery · glass · jewelry · mixed media · metal
driftwood · polymer clay · assemblage
wood · fiber art

310 Mill Street
Historic Occoquan
(703) 496-9540
www.artalacartegallery.com

Art a la Carte Gallery (AALC) in Occoquan has an opening for an artist to join the gallery. At this time, AALC is particularly looking for an artist who works in **3D, ceramics, leather, or multi-media** to round out its family of nearly 30 highly creative people working in watercolors/oils/acrylics/inks, jewelry, wood, textiles, glass, photography, and other media.

If interested, apply online at <https://www.artalacartegallery.com>. Simply click on the **"Join Our Gallery"** link on the homepage to access the application and begin the process. Please note, even if you do not work in one of the desired areas noted above, you may still fill out an application for future consideration when an opening occurs. AALC is always looking for artists and artisans who can bring a distinctive creative vision to the gallery!

EXCITING MEMBER NEWS

Be sure to let me know if you have anything you would like to share about your art endeavors. We would like to hear from you. Contact Ying at happyartstudio@gmail.com

The Loft Gallery

Watercolor & Wood

Fine Art Works by

Patricia Hafkemeyer & George W. Jones III

Dates of Show

Tuesday, June 2
through
Sunday, July 5, 2026



Meet-The-Artist Reception:

Saturday, June 13, 2026
1:00-4:00 pm

The Loft Gallery (Upstairs)
Entire Top Floor Filled with Fine Art
by 23 Local Artists

www.loftgallery.org
www.instagram.com/theloftgalleryatoccoquan/
www.facebook.com/loftgalleryoccoquan

EXCITING MEMBER NEWS continues...

Be sure to let me know if you have anything you would like to share about your art endeavors. We would like to hear from you. Contact Ying at happyingartstudio@gmail.com

Mark your calendars!

SAG Artist Nancy Patrick's new "Inspired by Nature" Solo Art Show at Green Spring Gardens will be in May & June (5/5-6/28) in The Historic House.

The meet the artist reception will be Sunday, May 17 1pm-3pm.



Nancy Patrick received two People's Choice Awards at the Springfield Art Guild Show during the opening day celebration of the new Franconia Governmental Center; First Place for Unwritten Words and Second Place for Country Garden.



Congratulations!

EXCITING MEMBER NEWS continues...

Be sure to let me know if you have anything you would like to share about your art endeavors. We would like to hear from you. Contact Ying at happyartstudio@gmail.com



**SAG Artist Nancy Patrick's
"Hidden" was awarded the People's
Choice Award at the Virginian with
the Fairfax Art League.**

Congratulations

And also, Nancy Patrick Cherry Blossoms was chosen by juror Pamela Huffman for the Falls Church Arts "250 & Counting" exhibit. April- May 31, 2026.



EXCITING MEMBER NEWS continues...

Be sure to let me know if you have anything you would like to share about your art endeavors. We would like to hear from you. Contact Ying at happyingartstudio@gmail.com



Mark your calendars!

SAG Artist Deidre Pistochini will be the featured artist for the month of May at Art a la Carte Gallery in historic Occoquan.

Her "Meet the Artist" reception is scheduled for Saturday, May 2nd, 1-4 pm.

Congratulations!

NOVA Nature Journal Club



LIKE "The NOVA Nature Journal Club," on

Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/544583139673338>

The NOVA Nature Journal Club, a Facebook group administered by SAG Member Elaine Sevy, offers a steady flow of lovely illustrations and journal pages, as well as links to register for a variety of online and in-person classes.

The NOVA Nature Journal Club is managed by SAG Member Elaine Sevy. Our group is a diverse community of artists and naturalists, of all levels, who meet together to connect to nature through art. Though centered in Northern Virginia, it is open to anyone with a passion for exploring nature with a journal.

Nature Journaling at Lake Accotink with Jen Brown

Join us on a two hour nature journaling walk at Lake Accotink in Springfield on the **second Friday of each month from May through November**. Bring your medium of choice. This is excellent sketchbook practice!

Dates/Time

Friday, May 8, June 12, July 10, Aug 14, Sept 11, Oct 9 and Nov 13

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

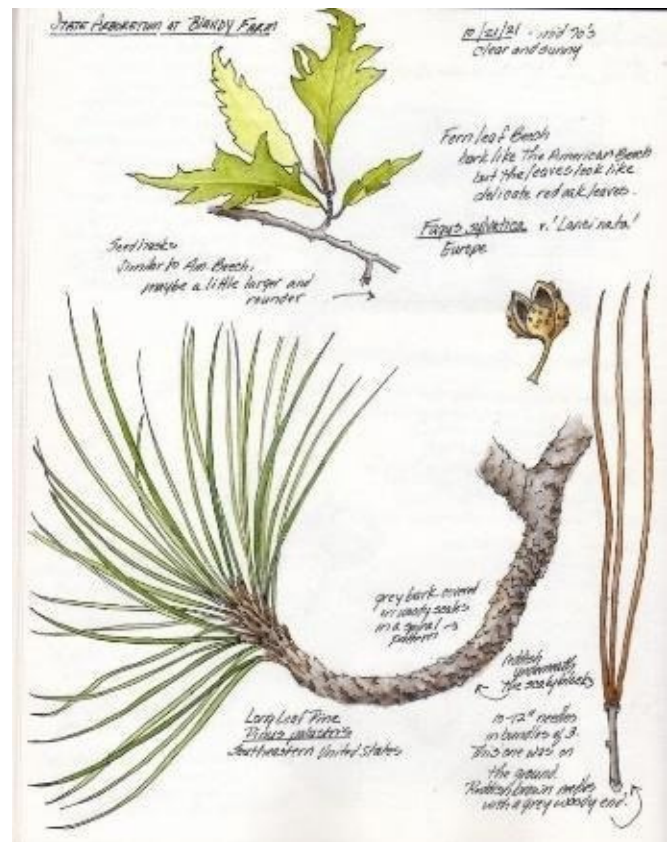
Location: Meet at Lake Accotink Park Parking Lot near the Marina

[Lake Accotink Park Parking Lot](#)

Nature journaling is a fun and relaxing way to get to know our native plants better.

Join us on a two hour nature journaling walk at Lake Accotink Park. We will take a short walk,

then settle in for drawing and journaling in your medium of choice.



Register Now (click here to register)

Jen Brown, Potowmack Chapter Secretary, will host the program. In addition to helping with the chapter, Jen also leads botanical drawing programs for [Nature Forward](#) and has a certificate in botanical illustration.

Space is limited and registration is required. NOTE: This event is offered on the second Friday of every month from April through November at 10am.

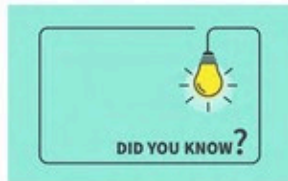


SAG Members:

Our website has a new page allowing you to have easy access to our events. It includes our monthly meetings and speakers, our art shows and other events.

To see the page click on the **EVENTS** tab at the top of our main page.

<https://www.springfieldartguild.org/calendar/>



UPCYCLE
CREATIVE REUSE CENTER

Check out the new location!

**2397 S Dove St
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-861-8705**

<https://www.upcyclecrc.org/>

The UpCycle shop is located in our Materials Center
Closest metro station: **King Street**

Shop Hours

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 12 PM - 6 PM

Saturday & Sunday: 10 AM - 4 PM



Instagram



FOLLOW US

**SAG is on Instagram! Follow us there.
You can find us @springfieldartguild**

SAG members:

Do you want some additional publicity for your upcoming show? If you are showing work in a non-SAG venue, let us know the details and send us an image. We'll post them to our Instagram account. Send the image, location, dates and any other relevant information to: sagartinstagram@gmail.com

Meet SAG's 2025-2026 Board Members

Springfield Art Guild welcomes new Board members: Carol Barto and Liz Pohland

SAG is looking forward to another great year with our Guest Speakers Series, members' shows and other activities throughout the year. Everyone is encouraged to invite friends to join us for our meetings.

Advisors:



Lydia Jechorek
Former Board Member



Elaine Sevy
Nature Journaling Coordinator



Alice Merritt
Librarian,
Former Board Member



Pat Hafkemeyer
Membership



Teresa Brunson
Website,
Former President



Marshall Carolus
Vice President



Liz Pohland



Sandy Olszowy
Treasurer



Carol Barto



Chris Pankow



Nancy Patrick



Ying Zhang
Newsletter



Susan Fay
Website



John Nicholson
Audio-visual equipment manager

Acting President and Alternate Schedule Chart

2025-2026	Acting President	Member Mtg	Board Mtg	Alternate
September	Chris Pankow	10	15	Nancy Patrick
October	John Nicholson	8	13	Ying Zhang
November	Carol Barto	12	17	Chris Pankow
December/Holiday Party	Nancy Patrick	10	15	Carol Barto
January (Zoom)	Susan Fay	14	19	Marshall Carolus
February (Zoom)	Nancy Patrick	11	16	Carol Barto
March	Ying Zhang	11	16	John Nicholson
April	John Nicholson	8	13	Susan Fay
May	Susan Fay	13	18	Ying Zhang
June	Marshall Carolus	10	15	Chris Pankow

Contact Information for Board Members and Advisors

First Name	Last Name	Email	Role	Month as Acting President
Marshall	Carolus	marshallcarolus@aol.com	Vice President, Grace Church Contact, guest speaker coordinator.	June
Nancy	Patrick	nmccarthyart@gmail.com		December; backup: February
Pat	Hafkemeyer	Pat.Hafkemeyer@cox.net	Green Spring Gardens show chair: Membership	November; backup: December
Susan	Fay	sbfoy@verizon.net	Instagram	February; March backup: November
Ying	Zhang	happyingartstudio@gmail.com	Newsletter	May; backup: January and October
Carol	Barto	carol.lynne.barto@gmail.com		November, backup: February
Elizabeth	Pohland	epohland@mac.com	Secretary	
Chris	Pankow	pankow1@msn.com	Gmail coordinator	April, backup: September
John	Nicholson	jnicholson.2@gmail.com	Publicity	October, January; backup: April
Lydia	Jechorek	raylyd@verizon.net	Guest Speaker/zoom coach	
Teresa	Brunson	teresatindlebrunson@gmail.com	Newsletter Assistant, Website	
Alice	Merritt	amerritt5@verizon.net	Books & thumb drives	
Elaine	Sevy	yorkiemum.sevy95@gmail.com	Nature journaling, Facebook admin.	

SAG's Featured Speaker List for Our 2025-2026 Season

All meetings will be in-person except January and February

2025-26	Guest Speaker	Art Topic
Sep 10	Justin Worrell	Contemporary tonalist painter
Oct 8	Matt Makara	Painting nature with a camera
Nov 12	Marisela Rumberg	Fiber arts and zentangle
Dec 10	No Speaker	Holiday Party
Jan 14	<u>Jen Hudson (zoom)</u>	cut paper artist and painter
Feb 11	<u>Teresa K Brown (zoom)</u>	Alcohol ink painter and instructor
Mar 11	Christine Dixon	Contemporary realist painter
Apr 8	Gavin Glakas	Portrait, Cityscape painter
May 13	Alex Tolstoy	Watercolor impressions
Jun 11	Addie Moore	Critique

Note: the guest artist schedule is subject to change