

Southern Saratoga-Art Society

A SOCIETY FOR THE APPRECIATION OF THE VISUAL ARTS

Newsletter

October/November 2020

P.O. Box 1536, Clifton Park, NY 12065

President's Message

"Time Out Place"

My wife and I got away this past week. We needed a "time out" place. We parked along side the Battenkill River in Arlington, VT. We soaked in the quiet beauty of the river as it wound its way around boulders and massive forests. All the troubles and pressures evaporated as we sat still and allowed the beauty around us to dictate our thoughts. Martha began to read her book and I began to sketch the beauty of the river as best I could. Both of us found a time of peace and quiet beauty to refresh ourselves from this hectic time in a troubled America. A change of scenery gave us renewed optimism in our majestic country. The quiet, soothing rivers and green mountains of Vermont were just what we needed!

Find a "Time Out Place."

- Frank



SSAS
Southern Saratoga Art Society

SSAS Meetings, which are usually held the 4th Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Clifton Park Senior Community Center, have been temporarily suspended with the closure of the Center due to COVID-19.

"Light at the End of the Tunnel for SSAS"

Presidents' Thoughts for 2021

I heard someone say this week that "this was a hard year to get through." No doubt we all can agree with that statement. The Covid Virus has spread throughout the world and caused havoc and fear where ever it touched. But there is light at the end of the Covid tunnel especially for artist and creative citizens. We have a ways to go but the creative power of America will win out. I choose to be an optimist. We at SSAS may be stilled for a season but that doesn't quench our creative spirit.

The Zion Lutheran Church, the Mechanicville and Clifton Park Halfmoon Public Libraries, and the Clifton Park Senior Center are now opening up their galleries for showings. (Waterford and Burnt Hills hopefully opening soon.)

We are now offering an on line show on our web site for our SSAS "Artist of the Month." Jean Skanes is developing a grant proposal that will allow us to purchase the equipment needed to view on line workshops as well as watch our guest artists work while viewing them on a large screen live.

There is a member's show scheduled for Nov. and Dec. at the Senior Center that will get us started showing again. Contact Pat Wade if you want to show in this members show.

The SSAS board has been meeting on zoom these past months. We are planning some exciting events for 2021. It is our hope that you will be excited about the venues opening up, our on line Artist of the month show, and the ability to get back to work creating and showing.

It is the boards wish that you all stay healthy while continuing to express yourselves through the creative process of the arts. Stay positive. Stay creative. Stay proud of this amazing country in spite of our shortcomings.

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OUR MISSION

To encourage the development of art and to make the community of Southern Saratoga County more aware of visual arts

Next Meeting: October 26, 6:30-8:30pm "ZOOM Show & Tell"

One or 2 days prior to the meeting, you will receive an invitation via email to join the SSAS meeting via [Zoom](#). We encourage new artists to participate for gentle critiquing, and all artists to participate and inspire us. Display a piece of artwork, photography, etc. that you have completed or are just starting. If you can, try placing a small light next to your PC or Ipad to throw some "light on your artwork." Again, we can provide some coaching for those who are reluctant or not familiar with Zoom.

Program Schedule: At this time, until we can safely meet at the Community Center, there are no demos planned.

Artist of the Month

Farm to Market Road, A Land in Transition

In this series of works I want to capture the beauty of this area before it is gone forever. The dairy farms are disappearing and the corn fields are being plowed under. I started the drawings on one of those Indian summer days last Fall. One of my favorite roads in Clifton Park is Farm to Market Road. It had several dairy and cattle farms as well as vegetable stands full of fresh produce. In its day it was the main route from the Mechanicville region to points west... Clifton Park, Niskayuna, Schenectady being a few.

The farms have shut down and the fields are now overgrown. I talked to some of the owners of the farms and they told me that they couldn't make enough to keep the farms running, so they sold them to cover their losses. Thousands of acres are now destined to become developments. Transitions are part of life. Things do change. That is the simple reason for my passion to capture the beauty of this area before it is gone forever. There are very few "up states" left in this area. So I offer you my experiences as I try to capture scenes taken from Farm to Market Road. This is a land that is now in transition with many who will forever have fond memories of what was.

Membership Dues

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have not had any meetings or demos in 2020. The SSAS Board of Directors recently made a decision to carryover all dues to 2021. If you already paid your 2020 dues, you will not owe anything for 2021.

Membership is open to any individual actively engaged in the production of art and to other persons interested in supporting and participating in the activities of the Society as art patrons.



Study #1, Frank Coletta, Pen & Ink



Study #2, Frank Coletta, Pen & Ink

Website Gallery: our website includes a gallery page with a clickable link for artists to post their artwork. Upload photos of your artwork or photography along with your bio.

Visit our website for all the latest news and information:

www.southernsaratogaartist.com

Mailing Address: SSAS PO Box 1536, Clifton Park, NY 12065