

Southern Saratoga Art Society

A SOCIETY FOR THE APPRECIATION OF THE VISUAL ARTS



Newsletter

February/March 2021

PO Box 1536, Clifton Park, NY 12065

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My first "President's" letter and I've been sitting here struggling with what intelligent, witty, creative words I can impart to my fellow artists.

First, I am reminded of this wonderful society of artists we all belong to. I was drawn to SSAS several years ago from a member who was in an oil painting group with me. I attended my first meeting and at once found it friendly, informative, and with an exchange of creative ideas. "I need this", I said to myself. It seems like when we start talking about art, whether it be oil painting, watercolor, abstract, etc., I'm always inspired to start painting and learn more. I've learned something at every meeting I've attended.

I'm honored at this time to be the Acting President of this organization. The Board and volunteers are a group of hard-working artists who find joy in sharing their creative minds and gifts to continue to make this a great organization.

We all need each other during these tough times to get through the Covid days, helping each other to remain creative and cope with lack of socialization. We are moving forward as best we can to have Zoom Board meetings and our monthly membership meetings on Zoom.

Wow! Once I started the juices flowed. Maybe not witty but informative. Hope to "see" you at the next meeting.

In the meantime, paint and stay creative!

Rita Helie

*"Art is the only way to run away without leaving home."
Twyla Tharp*

SSAS in-person meetings have been temporarily suspended due to COVID-19. We will continue to meet via Zoom on the 4th Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

MARCH MEETING

We're looking forward to our annual March "Show and Tell" meeting, which is always a fun evening. We will meet via Zoom on **Monday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m.** The Zoom link will be sent out prior to the meeting. We hope everyone will participate by sharing a recent piece of artwork, a work in progress, or just show a favorite painting/photo/drawing, etc. Don't be shy!

ZOOM HELP

All SSAS meetings will be held on Zoom until further notice. Are you new to Zoom? Please see the attached "Tip Sheet". There is a link to a test meeting, where you can check to see if everything works and practice joining a meeting. Questions or need help? Contact Jean Skanes.



SPECIAL THANKS TO FRANK COLETTA

SSAS would like to offer Frank Coletta our sincere gratitude for the valuable time, energy and creativity he has given us during his tenure as SSAS president. We appreciate all he has done especially in coordinating our venues and guiding us during the tough time of the Covid crisis. Frank will remain on the Board of Directors and will be a valuable source of support to both the board and to our members. He is planning to devote more time to his artwork, like the amazing Arizona landscape pictured above.

2021 BOARD MEMBERS

Acting President
Rita Helie

Treasurer
Rebecca Jenkins

Secretary
Jean Skanes

Venue Coordinator
Frank Coletta

Membership
Marty Coletta

Hospitality
Judy Loucks

Past President
Jack Morgan

Past President
Bill Staudinger

Publicity
Pat Wade

Welcome and Sunshine
Sherry Walkup

Program
Carol Winterton

Website Design
Valerie Wolf

Board Member Emeritus
Val Mosier
Past President

To contact any Board member:
Info@southernsaratogaartist.com

THANK YOU EVA MARIE LOUCKS

Special thanks to Eva Marie Loucks, who is stepping down after many years of hard work creating our newsletter.

SUNSHINE CLUB

The SSAS Sunshine Club sends flowers/letters/offers of support to SSAS members experiencing an illness, a death in the family, or undergoing other hard circumstances. Please contact Sherry Walkup if you know of someone in need.

OUR MISSION

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

PROGRAM NEWS

We have several artists lined up who are willing to do a demo via Zoom and we'll let you know as soon as we have firm dates.

Our November members' show will be held at the Clifton Park Senior Community Center for the entire month of November (if the building is open). Because we did not have the show in 2020, we will use the same theme, "Nature". We hope everyone will participate!

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

We continue to look for an Artist who wants to show their work on our web page as Artist of the Month. We encourage all of you who want to show more of your work to take advantage of this opportunity. Contact Frank Coletta if you are interested.

2021 VENUE NEWS

As of now the only venue that is open for showing is the Clifton Park Senior Center. All other venues are closed. Once the Senior Center reopens for visitors, please stop by to see Carol Winterton's one woman show. She uses multiple mediums, including acrylic and water-soluble oils. It is beautiful!

Interested in showing your work once the venues re-open? Contact Frank Coletta to sign up.

FACEBOOK

We are excited to announce a re-designed Facebook page – Thank you Denise Stewart! It will be fun, informative, and hopefully bring in new members! Please check it out! www.facebook.com/SouthernSaratogaArtist/

A BIG THANK YOU FROM FRANK

I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as vice-president and president of SSAS. I have decided to step down for now and serve as a member on the SSAS board. There have been many good changes to SSAS, especially our incorporation and tax exemption status. I'm sorry that the Covid-19 has almost crippled us in our efforts to encourage the Fine Arts in this Hudson Valley Region. With the coming of the vaccines we should be up and running within a few months. I want to thank all those who have served and are now serving on the board for their amazing service in keeping SSAS functioning. We need to assist our new acting president Rita Helie as she assumes leadership of SSAS. It is the Arts that lifts mankind above the turmoil and trials personally and nationally. Those who create bring out the best in all of us. I agree with my college professor when he said, "I will only create art that is positive and encouraging. There is already too many negative forces pulling us down." Thank you all for the privilege to serve you.
- Frank Coletta

WELCOME NEW SSAS MEMBERS

A warm welcome to Lynne Kaiser, Frank Munzer, Diane Pollack, Brian Skanes, Denise Stewart, and Karen Zimmers. Thanks for joining!

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER

Thank you to Carol Winterton for joining the SSAS Board and helping with the Program Committee! We look forward to working with you.

THANK YOU VALERIE WOODWARD

Thank you to Valerie Woodward, who recently resigned from the Board for personal reasons. We will surely miss her and we appreciate the time and effort she spent helping with the Newsletter mailing and other duties.