



OCTOBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ~ Fall colours! An artist's dream! Enjoy them while they last.

Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose. Events, such as painting plein air at the Ukrainian Village and the Members' Appreciation Dinner, were not well attended; however, I believe those who participated enjoyed themselves. These two events will be re-evaluated by our Board for next year.

Registering as a member of a Club or Society one takes on some responsibility – even if all one does is spread the word about the good things that are done within that group. Your support is important to help maintain a healthy organization. The ASSC is a volunteer-run entity and strives to bring you, as an artist, the opportunity to show your work, network with other artists, develop your skills through workshops and provides a website and a monthly newsletter. If you decide that you can give some of your time to volunteer on a Committee, so much the better! Friends become more important as you cruise along life's path and, "friends in the art world" are not only fun, but encouraging, supportive and inspiring.

Time flies so quickly. Next is the Christmas Market and hopefully many of our members are preparing items for this fun weekend. Please be a responsible member and distribute the advertising for the upcoming Fall Show and the Christmas Market to all your email contacts and friends, and then plan on attending both of these events and join in the fun! Both events need your support as an ASSC member. Bring friends!

Your Board is excited that the ACACA has booked their Alberta Wide Show again in our Ottewell Centre for 2017. If you are interested in entering, please mark your calendar and pay your \$30 membership fee to the ACACA before the end of February 2017, which allows you to enter a Zone Show, and hopefully then be in the Alberta Wide Show! More details will follow.

Please review again the job descriptions that are emailed with this Newsletter (or check the website) and think about volunteering for a task, being on a Committee, or being on the Board next year. There will be positions available such as Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, Loft Gallery Chair, Vice President, Spring Show Chair and some Board member-at-large positions. If you are interested in any, please contact me.

With Thanksgiving approaching and with all the troubles around the world, isn't it great that we can create beautiful things and share artistic conversations with friends...be thankful. I know I am – everyday!

Regards, Sonja

I follow this with a quote from our guest speaker in September. Let's ensure that our Art Society continues to thrive and that our members continue to support "in person" visual original artwork!!!

By Chris W. Carson, Executive Director of Visual Arts Alberta-Carfac

The closure of the Douglas Udell Gallery is another example of what has been happening to our Visual Art Ecology. In the past year, three other Edmonton visual art institutions have closed their doors (the Daffodil Gallery, Creative Practice Institute and the Drawing Room.) The closures of these other institutions are largely the result of the prohibitive costs associated with operating art galleries and art organizations. Currently, the Art World is full of contradictions. In an informative webinar for Visual Arts Alberta – CARFAC on August 29th, Rachel Bouchard (The Front Gallery, Edmonton) outlined several of these contradictions. Bouchard indicated that the art market has doubled within the past ten years yet, for small galleries, four out of five new galleries will close within two to five years. Some of the main reasons for this are the costs associated with doing business in small centres (the majority of the art market's value comes from a handful of fantastically rich people that buy and sell major historical and contemporary artwork in a few cities and largely through auctions and several major commercial galleries).

The art world is clearly changing. Perhaps we will see fewer commercial galleries and art organizations locally and a much bigger and better digital presence of art on the web and in social media. This, of course, is another major contradiction of our current art world – while art should be experienced in person, we may have to resort to the web to experience major art locally...



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Plein Air Painting at the Ukrainian Village:

The painting sessions concluded with a showing and sale of the artwork on September 11 at the Village Harvest Festival. Rain not only dampened the Sunday but kept the crowds away. Sad for all the volunteers who were prepared to handle all the activities set up for the day. The ASSC members fortunately were inside and were able to listen to NAIT's instructions to the small crowd on how to make various cheeses (Sheila C and Anne McC even took part!) Four paintings were sold along with a couple of smaller items. Good experience all in all.



Members' Appreciation Dinner:

Well ...168 members: 40 registered - 28 came out to enjoy dinner!
A1 Catering presented a fine meal and the members present had a chance to chat and get to know each other. Door prizes and roses were given out.
This event will be revisited by the Board.

Painting for "Peace"

Let's hope Peace prevails without our assistance! No one attended the ASSC September 21st International Peace Day painting session! So maybe we are all creating something at home that will be displayed in some fashion to promote peace in our world – because heavens, the world needs all the help it can get!

MEMBERS' CORNER

Next Board Meeting: **Tuesday, October 4 @ 6:30 pm @ Ottewell Centre**
Next General Meeting: **Tuesday, October 11 @ 7:00 pm @ Ottewell Centre**
The Library Committee will report!!!
Fall Show: Oct.14 (1pm-9pm) Oct. 15 (10am-4pm) & Oct. 16 (11am-4pm)
Cross Cancer Show: October 17, 18 and 19
Christmas Market Place: November 12 and 13
Meeting, Elections and Potluck! December 13 at 6:30 pm @ Ottewell Centre



THE LOFT GALLERY & GIFT SHOP-OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 12-4 PM

LOFT GALLERY – Please don't forget to sign up for the Loft Gallery Rotation for November and December. This brings in a lot of people on the two days of the Christmas Market who are looking for a unique gift. The next rotation will not be until March and April.

If you have not already brought in your BIO and description of your work please do so as soon as possible. The next meeting date is fine but we really need to get this in our book. Please replace any sold items at this time so that we are full for the Fall Show and Christmas Market.

It has been exciting having such a varied gift shop this time around and our sales have reflected it. If you are interested in the gift gallery the next intake will be January. We have a request that we have items in for the Month of January and also we will be open for the month of February. A table will be set up as in past years in the middle of the gallery for Christmas type items from the Christmas Market Place.

****Please contact Joyce Boyer at joyceboyer@shaw.ca to sign up for entry into rotations or to volunteer for Gallery shifts.**

COMING UP...

ART SOCIETY OF STRATHCONA COUNTY PRESENTS:

2016 Fall Art Show and Sale

A.J. Ottewell Community Centre (Red Barn)

590 Broadmoor Blvd., Sherwood Park, AB.

Opening Reception:

Friday, October 14 (1 pm to 9 pm)

Saturday, October 15 (10 am to 4 pm)

Sunday, October 16 (11 am to 4 pm)

Lots of opportunities for members to volunteer for a shift and/or bring a friend along to view the artwork by members....always great art!

REMINDERS!

Please “like” us (the ASSC) on Facebook!

Any members with artwork on the website are requested to update artwork regularly.

VOLUNTEER HOURS - Please record your volunteer hours in the book located in the drawer to the left of the kitchen sink. These hours will enable you to show your artwork in 2017 & they are also part of the application for the ASSC's annual AFA grant.

Please sign in at the Greeting Table when you attend the General Meetings.

If you have anything for the newsletter, please send it to Julie Taylor, Newsletter Editor, at jamtart53@gmail.com

CROSS CANCER INSTITUTE

We are ready to show at the Cross Cancer Institute this year. I have had people approach me on how to get into this event. We open it every year to the artists that have supported it the year before and then have a waiting list. I have one person now on the list for next year. It is a smaller venue and we want our artists to be able to show their artwork but it has tables for items that you would find in the Christmas Market. These items boost sales for the Cross and they have requested that we continue to have these tables. I will be planning the Cross next year as well so if you are interested in this venue please let me know. I want to point out that next year our Fall Show is over two weekends and the Cross might fall in between so keep that in mind. I can be contacted at joyceboyer@shaw.ca

CHRISTMAS MARKET PLACE

Wow, we are going to be a happening place for the Christmas Market - we have made a good impression to the public in the past years because of how unique we are. I have had vendors calling me to see if they too can have a table but we are full. It is an exciting event and I already know that we have a great and diversified group of artisans. If you have any questions please contact Joyce Boyer at joyceboyer@shaw.ca I would like to encourage our MEMBERSHIP to visit this market and show support to their fellow artists. It is a wonderful networking opportunity in this relaxed setting!

ASSC ELECTIONS IN DECEMBER

To get the highest benefit from the ASSC and its members, participation in some respect is encouraged. Check out the Job Descriptions sent with this newsletter for all the positions that are available for volunteer purposes. Please have a look and see if there is a position on a Committee or the Board that would interest you. If you would be interested in serving in any capacity, please email minirose@telusplanet.net or give Sonja a call at 780 922-3179 to discuss any of the positions. Making friends and making art go together!!!

THE LIBRARY CORNER

One section of the ASSC library that doesn't get very much attention houses our **Art History** books. We have books on art of particular styles, such as impressionism; resources on the great master painters from 1450 – 1900, including Michelangelo and Matisse; a four DVD set of the world's greatest paintings; biographies of Klimt and Monet; and cultural histories as diverse as Cowboys and Images, Abstract Painting in Canada and Israeli Mosaics of the Byzantine Period.

Browsing and reading art history books opens us up to visual images that reflect the social and cultural landscape of the times. We're exposed to different ways of viewing the world that we just don't experience anymore. And the subject matter of old paintings tells us what was important to the artists – pre-literate cultures had to keep their gods happy; renaissance European artists had to work for the Catholic church or rich patrons, and sometimes both. Contemporary artists have to balance their own creativity with making works that pay the bills.

And you don't even have to read a word in these books. Just looking at the illustrations in the art history books, whether they're of medieval masterpieces or early 20th century collages, may give you inspiration for your own work or, at the least, make you aware of where you stand in a centuries' long heritage of art.

Here are some quotes to entice you into the Art History library section.

I dream my painting and then I paint my dream.
Vincent van Gogh

Art is not what you see, but what you make others see.
Edgar Degas

Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.
Pablo Picasso

What makes photography a strange invention is that its primary raw materials are light and time.
John Berger

Creativity takes courage.
Henri Matisse

I don't paint dreams or nightmares, I paint my own reality."
Frida Kahlo

"You use a glass mirror to see your face; you use works of art to see your soul."
George Bernard Shaw, Back to Methuselah



FALL WORKSHOPS 2016

Elaine Tweedy Workshop co-ordinator



OCTOBER

- LIFE DRAWING FROM A MODEL – Mon. **Oct 17.** 6:30-8:30pm. Cost \$15
- PAINT ALONG DVD: LANDSCAPE IN PASTEL REFLECTIONS IN MONET'S GARDEN with Christy Tarbet. Tues. **Oct 18.** 10am-2pm. Cost \$5

NOVEMBER

- PAINT ALONG DVD: CAPTURING THE ESSENCE OF LANDSCAPES IN OILS with Katherine Hurley. Tues. **Nov 1.** 10am-2pm Cost \$5
- ZENTANGLE II & MORE – Sheila Kline and Lily Dutchak. Sat. **Nov 5.** 10-3pm. Cost \$30
- LIFE DRAWING FROM A MODEL – Mon. **Nov 7.** 6:30-8:30pm. Cost \$15
- PAINT ALONG DVD: CHARLES REID'S WATERCOLOUR SECRETS. Tues. **Nov 15.** 10am-2pm. Cost \$5

WINTER WORKSHOPS 2017

JANUARY

- DVD SOCIAL: MAKING MONEY WITH YOUR ART with Robert & Kate Burrige. Sat. **Jan. 7.** 1-3:30pm. Cost \$10 for members.
- ACRYLIC: MORE OF LETTING GO with Nancy Corrigan **Jan. 21/22.** 10-4pm. Cost \$100
- LIFE DRAWING - **Jan. 23.** 6:30-8:30pm. Cost \$15
- PAINT ALONG DVD: WATERCOLOUR DEMONSTRATIONS BY JOHN PIKE. **Jan. 24.** 10-2pm Cost \$5.00
- 6 WEEK SESSION WITH WILLIE WONG - **Jan. 23 – Feb. 27.** Cost \$150

FEBRUARY

- LIFE DRAWING - Mon. **Feb. 20.** 6:30-8:30pm. Cost \$15
- PAINT ALONG DVD: THE MANY STYLES OF CHENG-KHEE CHEE - INTRODUCTION & INTERVIEW PART 1- **Feb. 21.** 10-2pm. Cost \$5
- FLORAL- STILL LIFE COMBO IN OILS – Cheryl Peddie. **Feb. 25/26.** 10-4pm. Cost \$100

MARCH

- MIXED MEDIA with Jean Pederson. **Mar. 10, 11, & 12.** Cost \$150.
- PAINT ALONG DVD: THE MANY STYLES OF CHENG-KHEE CHEE - INTRODUCTION & INTERVIEW PART 2 . **Mar. 21.** 10-2pm. Cost \$5
- LIFE DRAWING - Mon. **Feb. 20.** 6:30-8:30pm. Cost \$15
- WATERFALL AND ROCKS IN WATERCOLOUR – Intermediate to Advanced - Jerry Heine. **Mar. 26.** 10-4pm Cost \$50

SEND YOUR EMAILS TO *THE MAIL BAG*

at: minirose@telusplanet.net

... to remain anonymous just say so OR please use the Suggestion Box, located by the light switches, at the Centre.

Please keep your emails coming!



...the lesson is...we should all stop and think before we speak! **AND** if you can't say anything nice then say nothing at all!

Thanks for sending this in Elaine!

While in Jasper I visited the local art gallery that is run by members just like the loft Gallery. It is a beautiful new facility, very modern, great lighting and is 3 floors...the top floor is where classes are held.

Chuck and I were the only ones there other than the volunteer artist on duty and another member artist who had stopped by to chat with the volunteer. This member, who had dropped in, was talking about another member who was not present and he was degrading her and going on and on. He moved his matted works in front of hers on the display cabinet, saying "that is what she does." He didn't care that visitors were present. It disturbed me very much that this conversation was happening while people viewed the gallery. I got up enough courage to approach the two. I said that I was an artist who belonged to another art society and how unprofessional they both were talking about a fellow member in front of customers. I felt this was very rude. He went on to say that it was true and wouldn't stop. I finally walked out then returned when he left. At this time, the volunteer said that she was sorry and that it shouldn't have happened.

The reason for sharing this is that I hope ASSC volunteers never do this whether in the Loft Gallery or working an art show, etc. This experience left me angry and I felt that I needed to vent.....thanks for listening. Elaine