

# Art Society of Strathcona County

NEWSLETTER



**DECEMBER 2015**



Art Society of Strathcona County  
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The A. J. Ottewell Centre  
590 Broadmoor Blvd.  
Sherwood Park, AB  
Phone: 780 449 4443  
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



2015 was a hectic and fun year for the Society. The Society is very fortunate to have so many members interested in participating and assisting whenever possible. Your ideas have been taken to heart and many are being implemented. I do hope you enjoyed being part of the success this year! Not only has the Society been joined by many new members, the workshops have been attended by many non-members who are now fully aware that the Ottewell Centre exists!

To the many new members this year – we are so happy that you sought us out and joined our forces. Plan on being a part of the excitement next year! Speak to a friend and both of you get involved in a project– it's the best way to enjoy this Society.

**Don't forget to record your volunteer hours in the book kept in the drawer to the left of the kitchen sink. If you wish to retain 10 volunteer hours and your 2015 meeting attendance record, for purposes of showing in the spring/fall shows and the Loft Gallery in 2016, please remember to pay your 2016 membership fee before January 31st !!!**

Art sales in 2015 exceeded \$15,000, and it is hoped that the economy will permit higher sales in 2016. Even if we don't exceed our sales each year, we still benefit in so many ways through this Society by the many friendships made and the knowledge that comes from those friendships by sharing "art" thoughts.

Leading this Society is a busy challenge – but I am proud of the results. My biggest thank you goes to the present Board of Directors who came in each month to handle the affairs of the Society, make decisions, and implement ideas. My job as President was made much easier knowing you were there with me! You were a devoted bunch!



Don't forget to bring a dish to share at the December meeting, and to support The Food Bank with a donation. 6:30 start!!!

Good luck to the new Board. I wish everyone a safe holiday season and lots of free time to create art in 2016.

Regards, Sonja.

## THANK YOU TO:

Everyone in the Society who volunteered hours this year, who came to meetings to be involved, who participated in the shows and the Loft Gallery & Gift Shop, who read the newsletters and kept abreast of happenings, and to everyone who signed up as a member for the purpose of keeping visual arts front and center in this volatile world.

## MEMBERS' CORNER

Next Board Meeting: **Tuesday, December 1 @ 6:30 pm @ Ottewell Centre**

Next General Meeting: **Tuesday, December 8 @ 6:30 pm @ Ottewell Centre -  
...see details below!**

### Christmas Potluck and Elections!

Yes, it's that time of year - time to hold the annual elections for the ASSC Board and obtain volunteers for committees for 2016. Looking back, we have accomplished many things this year and, looking forward, we anticipate even a greater year at the Society. The **December 8th** meeting will begin at **6:30 pm**. A short business meeting will be followed by elections and the usual table full of potluck dishes!!! with a chance to view the Art Challenge group of "WATER" paintings. It's time to celebrate the accomplishments, share travel stories and enjoy the friendships that all artists in the Society bring to our lives!

**We will be accepting donations for the Food Bank.**

## THE LOFT GALLERY & GIFT SHOP

### Open Saturday & Sunday from 12-4 pm

### LOFT GALLERY

CHRISTMAS has hit the LOFT!!! Be sure to come and see some of the crafty items that were featured at the Christmas Market.

We are heading into a wonderful time of year and if I may be so bold to suggest to read *Starving to Successful* or *How to Sell Art...* you will find it is a real eye opener as to how to close those sales that we all hope to make. So during your down time this holiday season - lol - read a good book:)

Thank you for a wonderful year and to all of you who have volunteered your time looking after the Loft - I hope you will be truly blessed this season!

Reminder that if you cannot pick up your artwork on December 20 please have it picked up no later than January 18 (this includes all Christmas items). We are closed in January but will be open February. Next rotation is March so please let Joyce know by February 1 if you are participating in the that rotation which should encompass the Spring show.

### CHRISTMAS MARKET PLACE REPORT-

Whew! We made it through another Christmas Market Place! I am so thankful that we have such wonderful members that show their other creative side. Everyone was so helpful and a special thank you to the committee members who made this event so easy for us to put on. A thank you to Sonja for helping the entire weekend on cash. And another thank you to each member that came out to support this...you really are important to us...just to say hello means so much!

The crowds were good but our sales were down from last year but I am hearing that all around. Apart from that, there were a number of our members who increased their sales over last year. We made \$5428.00 in sales.

So...until this time next year - start crafting and thinking about new innovative ideas... I already have some and I know that Norma is already thinking too.

Cheers...Joyce

## CHRISTMAS MARKET PLACE PHOTO!



### Congratulations are in order:

Email from Anne McCartney....I'm off to China in Dec., so thrilled to share my excitement with my fellow artists. I have been invited to participate in two shows over there that just happen to run at the same time so I decided to go over and celebrate! The first show is an exchange with the National Watercolour Society of America, which I am a member of, and the Shenzhen Watercolour Society. The show runs for a couple of months in China and then goes to California and runs a couple months there. The second show is huge for me, it started as an international competition in watercolour, where about 4000 people from around the world entered. I was fortunate enough to be selected as one of the 100 people outside of China to be invited to participate in this exhibition. The openings of both of these shows are at the beginning of Dec. I am thrilled that I will be able to attend both.

Check out my new blog at:

<http://www.mccartneyartworks.com/blog-news-and-events.html>

[www.mccartneyartworks.com](http://www.mccartneyartworks.com)

[www.facebook.com/mccartneyartworks](https://www.facebook.com/mccartneyartworks)

[www.facebook.com/AnneMcCartney.watercolourist](https://www.facebook.com/AnneMcCartney.watercolourist)

## THE LIBRARY CORNER

This has been a very successful year for the ASSC library. We've had literally boxes of books donated to us which we're still working to catalogue and integrate into the collection. We've introduced two new categories of materials: creativity and pottery & ceramics. And we've expanded our DVD collection, and we still have some dollars left in our budget to buy a couple more DVDs in December.

We'd like to hear from you about any new materials you want to see included in the library. Do you prefer books or DVDs? Are there enough books for your level of art experience? If not, can you suggest some that we can take a look at? If the library doesn't contain your favourite go-to books/DVDs, the ones that you use time after time for instruction or for inspiration, let us know so we can include them so other ASSC members can benefit from them as well. Come and talk to us at the library desk or leave us a note in the office.

And just a friendly reminder about the lending period for books. It's just one month, though we're pretty relaxed if it slips to two months. We understand that you may not come to every meeting or that you forget to bring the books with you. Or, you can drop the books off in the office when the Loft gallery is open [Saturday and Sunday, 10-4]. Just leave a note with the books with your name and the titles of the books you've returned. If you want to keep the books for a longer period, come and visit us at the library desk and we'll check them out to you again.

And those of you who have had materials out for three or four months or even since June (there are a few!!) can expect reminder emails encouraging you to return the books or DVDs to put them back into circulation. Some of the most popular items have informal waiting lists!

The library committee extends the Season's Greetings to you all and thanks you for your support and use of the ASSC library. We're all very enthusiastic about the many art books and DVDs that the library has and love to see you come and borrow them.

Kind regards,  
The Library Committee





## WORKSHOP NEWSLETTER

*Elaine Tweedy, Workshop Coordinator, is snow birding in California!*

### WINTER/SPRING 2016

#### January

- **Paint Along with DVD** - Watercolour Techniques with Jean Pederson - January 5, 10-2pm  
Cost \$5
- Willie Wong – 6 Mondays - **Acrylics** - Jan 11, 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8, 22 - Cost \$150
- **Photography** 101 – Al Dixon & Roy McLaughlin - Sat. January 16. Basic camera and functions: great if you want to learn more about your camera and its functions. Cost \$50  
[www.roymclaughlinphotography.com](http://www.roymclaughlinphotography.com) [www.aldixonphotography.com](http://www.aldixonphotography.com)

#### February

- **Paint Along with DVD** - Luscious **Pastels** Instructional with Karin Richter - Feb. 2, 10-2pm  
Cost \$5
- **Photography** 201 – Al Dixon & Roy McLaughlin - Sat. Feb. 6, - Intermediate photography principles i.e. lighting and compositional elements will be discussed. Cost \$50  
[www.roymclaughlinphotography.com](http://www.roymclaughlinphotography.com) [www.aldixonphotography.com](http://www.aldixonphotography.com)
- Nancy Corrigan – **Action Painting** - loose, colourful and abstract in **Acrylic** – 4 Fridays -  
Feb. 5, 12, 19 & 26. 10am-1pm - Cost \$100
- **Composition Essentials (All mediums)** - David Shkolny - Feb. 27 - Cost \$50  
[www.davidshkolny.com](http://www.davidshkolny.com)
- **Soft Pastel in Landscape and Figure** - David Shkolny - Feb. 28 - Cost \$50  
[www.davidshkolny.com](http://www.davidshkolny.com)

#### March

- **Paint Along Zentangle** with Lily Dutchak & Sheila Cline - March 1 - 10am-2pm - Cost \$5
- **Beginner Watercolour** with Willie Wong - March 5 - 10am-4pm - \$50
- “Altering Ourselves Through the Book” – Jean Tait - March 12 & 13 -10am-4:30pm - Cost \$100 [www.artcanheal.ca](http://www.artcanheal.ca)
- **Photography** 301 – Al Dixon & Roy McLaughlin - Sat. March 19 - Advanced photographic principles explained through photography exercises. Includes accessory lenses, filters and flash operations. Cost \$50 [www.roymclaughlinphotography.com](http://www.roymclaughlinphotography.com)  
[www.aldixonphotography.com](http://www.aldixonphotography.com)
- **Paint Along with DVD** Chinese Brush Painting March 22, 10-2pm Cost \$5

#### April

- **Life Drawing** - Monday, April 4 - 6:30pm-8:30pm - Cost \$15
- **Paint Along with DVD** - Johannes Vloothuis Lesson 11. April 5, 10am-2pm - Cost \$5
- Paint What you See, Not What You Think You See - with Jerry Markham - Friday, April 8 6:30pm-9:30pm. Saturday & Sunday, April 9 & 10 - 9:30am - 4:00pm. A workshop on the power of observation. This workshop is open to people who paint in **oil, acrylic or watercolour**, and any skill level. Cost \$225 [www.jerrymarkham.com](http://www.jerrymarkham.com)
- **Life Drawing** - Monday, April 18 - 6:30pm-9:30pm - Cost \$15
- **Paint Along with DVD** - Jim Wilcox “When You Can’t Paint Outdoors” April 19. 10am-2pm  
Cost \$5
- **Mastering Acrylics** - David Langevin - April 22, 23, 24 - 9am-4pm - Cost \$225  
[www.davidlangevin.com](http://www.davidlangevin.com)

## May

\* **“Elements of Surprise”** - Terrie Shaw - May 28/29 - 9:30am-4pm - Cost \$100

**NOTE:** Life Drawing is cancelled for January until the end of March.  
Beginning April 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Gregg Johnson’s Workshop on Miniatures or Cards!



Gregg had a full house of 18 students!  
Everyone enjoyed the method of dividing up paper into sections and then painting miniatures which sped up the creation process and led to multiple ideas on paper.  
A very good and interesting instructor!

Below is a “thank you” letter to Elaine Tweedy from Rex Beanland after he taught a workshop.  
**WOW, THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN VERY OFTEN!!! CHECK OUT REX'S BLOG ENTRY!**

Hi Elaine:

I'm sorry I didn't get to meet you but I'm sure you're enjoying where you are. I just wanted to say thanks so much for inviting me to give a workshop to your group. I had a fantastic time. I feel like I was treated like royalty which I think I could get used to. Faye and Terrie were very helpful and everything went very smoothly. I was excited to do this workshop because of the experiences I had this summer and I'm very pleased with how things went.

Anyway, I've posted a blog entry on my website covering the workshop and showing the final copies of the 2 demos I did. <http://rexbeanland.com/artblog/art-society-of-strathcona-county-workshop/>

If you are ever considering a watercolour workshop in the future I would love to do another one. But for now, thank you so much for this great opportunity.

Regards,

Rex Beanland  
CSPWC, AFCA, ASA  
<http://rexbeanland.com>  
403-685-5812  
[info@rexbeanland.com](mailto:info@rexbeanland.com)



**Paint Along with DVD Pictures! Instructor: David Wilcox**

Painting in Plein-Air, then back into the Studio. Wonderful instruction!



**The Photography Group Reporter will be back in the Spring!!!**

Information regarding the photography group can be obtained by contacting Roy McLaughlin at: [roymcl@shaw.ca](mailto:roymcl@shaw.ca)

## ASSC WEBSITE: Peter Hahn - ASSC Webmaster

You are a member of the Art Society of Strathcona County and both you and the society would benefit if you expanded your Profile page on the website. Your name has been added to the database so you will have access to our website and the Member's Only section. To gain access to the Member's Only section, you will need to do a one time setup of your account and password.

- Click on the "Forgot password" link located beside the "Login" button at the bottom of the left column.
- Type in your email address and the 6 characters you see in the picture. You will receive an email giving you instructions on how to set up your account.
- Once this is done, you will have access to all membership pages.
- Be sure to visit the "How To Docs" section to learn how to set up your profile and include images of your artwork!!!

Our ASSC website has been given a face-lift. You may have already noticed that the top banner on all pages has been given a cleaner look with the Barn included on the right hand side.

The home page has been simplified by:

Changing it from a two column layout to only one.

The list of upcoming workshops has been removed from the home page, but is still accessible by clicking on the 'Workshops' button on the left menu bar.

Most of the information about the ASSC has been moved to the 'About the ASSC' menu bar.

A 'Slideshow' has been added that cycles through a special photo album of ASSC members' artworks. Each member is encouraged to add one photo of their favorite work of art to this album. This allows each member to have their art displayed on the home-page slideshow. You can do this by logging onto our site and uploading a photo. Just click on the 'Slideshow Art' button on the left menu bar and click on the 'Upload' button. Once your photo is uploaded, it will automatically appear in the slideshow! If you change your mind at a later date, you can always delete your photo and replace it with another one. (Don't forget to edit the caption by including the title of your art and your name.) If you need help with this, you can check-out the 'How to Edit Your Profile' document in the 'How to Docs' section under the Members button.

SEND YOUR EMAILS TO  
*THE MAIL BAG* at: [minirose@telusplanet.net](mailto:minirose@telusplanet.net)

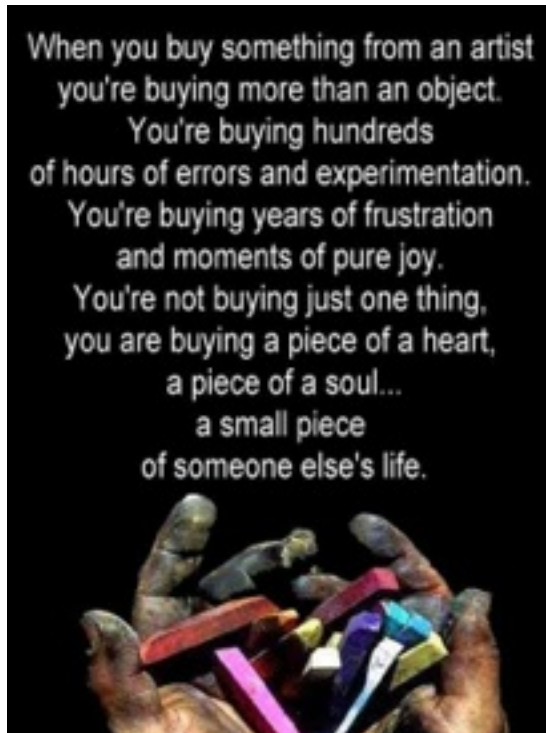
... to remain anonymous just say so OR please use the  
Suggestion Box, by the light switches, at the Centre.



Anonymous Letter to “the Mail Bag”... To the Anonymous Sender...THANK YOU!

Having just returned from several craft sales in the Heartland area, I must say that our ASSC Christmas Market was far superior! Commercial tables and the “same old” did not impress me. The ASSC MarketPlace items were completely artist-made and unique. The ASSC members are encouraged to continue to impress the public with their wonderful items. If you did not visit this year, please make a point of supporting our artists next year - you will be happy you did.

This meaningful poem “says it all.” So, so true. A BIG THANK YOU to Arlene Bowles for sharing with us all...





**ASSC MEMBERSHIP FEES** are due **January 1, 2016**. If you are going to be away, please leave a \$40 cheque at the welcome desk at the next meeting (you can postdate to January if you like) or mail it to the ASSC, PO Box 3061, Sherwood Park, T8H 2T1 before you leave. If your fees are paid prior to **January 31, 2016** then you will retain volunteer and meeting attendance time accumulated during 2015.

### **ASSC ELECTIONS IN DECEMBER:**

To get the highest benefit from the ASSC and its members, participation in some aspect is encouraged. The October newsletter set out all the positions that are available for volunteer purposes (or check the website). 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](mailto: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!!!

**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 2016 & they are also part of the application for the ASSC's annual AFA grant. Volunteering with other member artists to produce an art project or event makes us a personal Society and not a business. Of course, it is a fact that not everyone can volunteer time, so your support of the activities of the Society is also much appreciated.

Please stop at the **Welcome Table** on your way into meetings and sign in for the evening. This is important for the ASSC meeting attendance record and it may become important to you too if you are planning on showing your artwork at ASSC shows.

**"LIKE"** the ASSC on Facebook and please pass the message around!!!

**FEATURE ARTIST! Getting to Know you!** Elaine Forsberg has undertaken the task of compiling autobiographies and pictures of our members along with their artwork for the newsletter. The idea is to have as many members featured as possible, so you are invited to send your information to [elaine.forsberg@gmail.com](mailto:elaine.forsberg@gmail.com)

**SHOWING?** If you are having a show or an art event, please send your information to Julie Taylor, Newsletter Editor, at [jamtart53@gmail.com](mailto:jamtart53@gmail.com) for inclusion in the Newsletter!

**"THE MAIL BAG"** Send your emails/suggestions to "THE MAIL BAG" or use the suggestion box found in the ASSC foyer!