

Art Society of Strathcona County

NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2016

Crabby Road 1-12-11



February Humour



Crabby Road 2-15-12



Art Society of Strathcona County
PO Box 3061
Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2T1
Fax: 780 416 1419



The A. J. Ottewell Centre
590 Broadmoor Blvd.
Sherwood Park, AB
Phone: 780 449 4443
for office hrs & information

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to all new members of the Society and a huge thank you to all those members who have rejoined from the previous year (or years!)

2015 was a great year for the Society and 2016 promises to be even better!

The ASSC and Ottewell Centre finances have increased slightly, but only because of the grants that the Society received. It is to be noted that art sales stayed about even to 2014: Shows \$9217; Loft Gallery \$3247; Gift Gallery \$5515 for a total of \$17,979.15. However, back in 2012, total sales were \$29,366!

Your Board is seeking a way to improve art sales and any ideas coming from the membership would be most welcome. We, as artists, must continue to educate the public on the beauty of "original art".

We will attempt to do this at the Dow Centennial Centre in Fort Saskatchewan in March, at the Ukrainian Village this summer, at the upcoming Spring Show in April, the Night of Artists Gala in March and through the workshops and the Loft Gallery during 2016. Of course, I am also looking forward to receiving some emailed pictures of our members' "peace" creations so I can publicize them as well. Let's get behind our Gallery and our events and keep the high profile that the ASSC now enjoys.

Don't forget about the Loft Gallery! Check out the February show with Joyce Boyer as feature artist, and remember to enter the March/April show by registering with Joyce B. by February 1. Even if you do not enter artwork, there is probably room for a volunteer shift or two!

Speaking of volunteer hours....the numbers are in - 4,029 volunteer hours in 2015; an increase from year 2014 which recorded 3,400 hours. It is our volunteers who are the backbone of this Society. A job well done! We are fortunate to have many new artists who are stepping up to volunteer, and it is hoped that the seasoned members will continue to assist wherever possible.

Your Board has again approved a Members' Appreciation Dinner on September 24, so please mark your calendar for this.

It's still winter so I do hope you are enjoying creating your artwork before spring gardening and outdoor activities are upon us. Speaking of such, my painting is on hold pending a tennis game in the sun! ☺ See you later in February!

Regards, Sonja

THANK YOU TO:

- Sue for shovelling walks for the Acrylic demo and always
- Dess and Sheila Cline for handling the coffee and snacks
- Antoinette and Shellie for auditing the year end financials
- Marie for much time spent on all aspects of the accounting
- Linda M. and Wally L. for undertaking the organization of the artwork and show at the Dow Centre in March!

MEMBERS' CORNER

Next Board Meeting: **Tuesday, February 2 @ 6:30 pm @ Ottewell Centre**

Loft Gallery Re-Opening: **Saturday, February 6 from 12-4 pm**

Next General Meeting: **Tuesday, February 9 @ 7:00 pm @ Ottewell Centre.** Enjoy the comments about "Contemporary Art" by artist, Doris Charest.

Night of Artists Gala, Enjoy Centre: **March 4, 5, 6**

Dow Centennial Art Show: **Month of March** (Thursdays & Fridays, 11 to 2 pm, and before any show in the Shell Theatre)

Strathcona Chamber of Commerce Trade Show: **April 8, 9, 10**

ASSC Spring Show: **April 15, 16, 17**

Student Art Competition: **May 6, 7**

Mother's Day Tea & Art Sale: **May 8**

Strathcona County's Annual Art Acquisition Program: **May 8 & 9**

UPCOMING!

In preparation for the **ACACA Zone Shows** and the **Alberta Wide Show** in the Ottewell Centre this summer, **on February 14, at 12:30 pm in the Loft Gallery**, Joyce will assist you in preparing your boxes for transporting your art to the shows!! Please give Joyce an email at joyceboyer@shaw.ca if you are planning to attend to get assistance in making your boxes, so she can have sufficient cardboard & supplies for you! Thanks, Joyce, for doing this!

READ ON...THIS WILL GIVE YOU MOST OF THE INFORMATION YOU'LL NEED FOR ENTERING THE ACACA SHOW!

The Alberta Community Art Clubs Association will be holding their **Alberta Wide Show** at the Ottewell Centre from **July 13 to August 14, 2016!!!** The artwork showing will consist of the winning entries from the 3 Zone Shows (**see info below**). There will be approximately 100 paintings coming into the Centre, and these will be juried further. Those winning entries will be featured at the **Alberta Spirit Show**.

Members! If you are interested in being part of the ACACA competition your ACACA membership fee must be paid before **February 28, 2016 (\$30)** for entrance into either the Northern, Southern and/or Central Zone shows. This will allow you to enter up to 3 paintings in any of the zone shows. See acaca.ab.ca for a membership registration form. You will then be eligible to have your artwork juried into the Alberta Wide Show in the Ottewell Centre this summer!

ACACA Zone Shows:

Northern Zone at Bonnyville on May 14 & 15
Central Zone at Lacombe from May 27 - 29
Southern Zone at Brooks on May 6 & 7

Specific boxing requirements must be met because the paintings have to be transported from one venue to another by the ACACA committee. As previously outlined, please contact Joyce by email.

We have had many members who have been juried in as “winners” in the ACACA past shows. Hopefully the jurors will send your entry on to the Alberta Wide Show and who knows from there! Let’s support this Association in our own Centre this year!

Night of Artists Gala: March 4, 5, 6

Want to be part of a large art scene? Plan to spend an evening of entertainment and refreshments at the Enjoy Centre in St. Albert with Phil Alain and Lewis Lavoie and many other artists! Many interesting venues will be set up at the Centre, including our Society’s booth promoting upcoming events. Our volunteers in the booth would be very pleased to see our own members attend and socialize with everyone.

The March General Meeting on **March 8** is the Annual General Meeting of the Society. Members will be asked to attend and vote to pass the Annual Reports and Final Budget for 2016.

ASSC Spring Show: April 15, 16, 17 at Ottewell Centre

March 15 is the deadline for entering your work in this upcoming show. Check the website for all details and the entry form. For this show, you are required to have recorded 20 hours of volunteer time and will have attended 3 general or committee meetings in 2015 and/or 2016. You will be required to work shifts at the show as well – but don’t let any of that stop you because the Spring Show is a wonderful opportunity to showcase and sell your artwork. Contact the Committee (Antoinette, Brian, Maria, Arlyn, Sabina, Jennifer, or Lynda and Lynn S) for any questions.

High School Student Art Show and Sale: May 6 & 7

Contact Kay McCormack if you wish to help with this show by taking a short volunteer shift in the Centre! Great way to check out the amazing artwork of the students, who may become future Art Society members!

Mother's Day Tea and Art Sale: May 8

Barbara Mitchell is planning a wonderful afternoon for "Mothers", families and artists! **If you, as a member, wish to reserve a table or art panel to display and sell your work**, kindly contact Barbara Mitchell, at brjn@shaw.ca. Bring your family and friends, enjoy tea and goodies, and check out the smaller art pieces. Ensure that the "Mothers" enjoy their visit to the Centre.

Strathcona County's Annual Art Acquisition Program: May 8 & 9

No prior registration is necessary...just bring your art piece, fill in the form, show your ID and leave your artwork for the day! It might be purchased for the County! You must be a resident of Strathcona County!

"MARK YOUR CALENDAR!" May 8 and 9 are drop off dates for Strathcona County's Annual Art Acquisition Program. General Information is available at www.strathcona.ca/artcollection

Questions? Please contact Barb Chapman at (780) 449-1139 or email barbara.chapman@strathcona.ca. More information will be coming soon!

Ukrainian Cultural Village Plein Air Painting

The ASSC artists will be out in the sun (hopefully) at the Village on **June 10 and August 9** creating some great pieces, and then will be set up to show and sell at the Harvest of the Past on **September 11** at the Village. Come and check out the Village and the artwork!!!

Thanks to Trish Haugen for sending in this food for thought!



THE LOFT GALLERY & GIFT SHOP

Open Saturday & Sunday from 12-4 pm

We are excited for a new year start up and we hope to make this a great year. Stay tuned for our hints in selling artwork that we will give throughout the year.

Don't forget that **February 1** is the cutoff for the March/April rotation. Please let Joyce know by emailing joyceboyer@shaw.ca if you want to go into this rotation. You will receive an email back just after the 1st on how many pieces you will be able to show. Lists will be needed by **February 15**. If you need more information, go to our website under LOFT GALLERY SHIFTS in the MEMBER'S ONLY SECTION. It has drop off dates and everything you need to know about when to drop off and pick up and also what shifts are available for the next rotation.

Joyce Boyer would like to invite you to the opening reception of **"IT'S ALL ABOUT TEXTURE"** on **Sunday, February 7 from noon until 4pm** at the Loft. This show is Mixed Media. She also has a show **"AT WATER'S EDGE"** at the **Jeff Allen Gallery** with a reception there on **February 10**. Just email her at joyceboyer@shaw.ca for the information - it is strictly Pastels and Oils.

SELLING TIP - When a person approaches a piece of Art that is yours go up and introduce yourself as the artist. Give them your name and ask for theirs. Use their name in your conversation creating a connection. If you can connect with them on a personal level, it is much easier to find out other information about them. At the Loft, you could always say...."Hi I am ____ and I am one of the artists at the Loft Gallery (or at the Art Society of Strathcona County) and you are ____?"

ARE YOU UP FOR A CHALLENGE?

World Peace

You will have seen the World Peace artwork by Terrie Shaw in the January ASSC newsletter (or on the website) and have all been inspired by her incentive!

The ASSC is offering this challenge to its members:

Paint a project for “World Peace.”

Create a piece of artwork to attach beside or above your door, your gate or somewhere in your yard for “World Peace.” You can paint on canvas, wood, metal, etc. – and apply about 4 coats of clear coat acrylic spray finish, and that’s it!!! It will last a very long time outside, but preferably it should be sheltered from the weather. Then, take a picture and send it via email to artsoc@telus.net and it might appear in the ASSC newsletter, the website and/or the local papers!

A great way for our Society to promote World Peace!!!

ASSC Logo - A change is due.

Please design a new logo for the Society, keeping in mind the following:

- use the 2 colours of the Society (blue and gold)
- must be suitable for printing in colour and black & white.
- must be very readable

Print your design in colour and in black & white (both on one sheet) and bring it to the general meeting on March 8. The designs will be displayed and voted on by the membership present at the meeting. The winning design will be rewarded with “A Free 2017 Membership in the ASSC!!!”

THE LIBRARY CORNER

Five reasons why you should visit the library corner and choose a book to take out:

You'll step outside of your comfort zone. If you're experiencing any form of artist's block, or even just feeling a little stale (artistically speaking), seeing what else is going on in the art world may be just the inspiration you need to give your creative muse a nudge.

You'll look at your familiar materials in a new way. Maybe you're taking your paints, mediums, papers, etc. for granted. Take a look at techniques from another art genre and see if you can copy them using the materials from your art area. Alternatively, maybe you'll find a new technique to try the materials you have.

You may have to focus on the process and not the outcome. Too often we get attached to what we produce, not how we produce it. If your chosen book shows you complex subject matters or a tricky technique, you'll have to focus on the how of doing it and not on the finished result -- at least for the first 3,5 or 10 times you try.

New subject matter, patterns, shapes and colours to inspire you. Step completely outside your comfort zone and move into different subject matter for your next project. If you focus on realism, try an abstract creation or even create a pattern. We have a few books on ethnic embroidery with amazing traditional patterns and colours that could be the basis for your next work, whatever the subject matter. Or you could turn to a page at random and make the colours there the scheme for your next work. And this goes for shape too – our pottery and jewellery books have shapes that could inform your next creation.

You can try something completely different. Be brave and purposely choose a book from an area completely different to your own. If you're very much a "doer" artist, consider taking out a book on creativity to read and practice different ways of putting your creativity into play. If you spend more time reading about art than actually creating, then take out a step-by-step book and actually follow the steps by doing them. If you've always painted in oils, investigate watercolour or acrylics. Michaels has cheap sets of these colours and there are always coupons. And so on.

If you're feeling really reckless, see us at the library table, and we'll select the book for you!!!



KUDOS TO KAY McCORMACK for her wonderful Soap Stone Carving class at Lee Valley on January 6th! Who knew a chunk of soapstone and some “elbow grease” could result in such unique creativity! ...a piece of soapstone, 8 hours of Kay’s step-by-step expertise and knowledge, a detailed printout, all tools supplied and lunch complete with beverages... all for \$90! What a steal of a deal!





WORKSHOP NEWSLETTER

WINTER/SPRING 2016



To date, registration for some workshops is low so they may be cancelled. Please check the website for information and to register on line asap!!!

February

- **Paint Along with DVD** - Luscious Pastels - 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
- **Nancy Corrigan** – Action Painting - loose, colourful and abstract in Acrylic – 4 Fridays - Feb. 5, 19 & 26 and Mar. 4, 10am-1pm. Cost \$100
- **Composition Essentials (All mediums)** - David Shkolny - Feb. 27 - Cost \$50
- **Soft Pastel in Landscape and Figure** - David Shkolny - Feb. 28 - Cost \$50

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 Ourself Through the Book”** Jean Tait, March 12 & 13 -10am-4:30pm - \$100
- **Newly Added: Willie Wong, new 6 week session – March 21, April 4, 11, 18, 25 and May 2 - 9:30am-12:30pm - Cost \$150**
- **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
- **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 and 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
- **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

May

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

Elaine Tweedy Workshop Co-ordinator
February 2016

NOTE: **ZENTANGLE PAINT ALONG** - MARCH 1 - 10am-2pm. As Lily and Sheila will be purchasing supplies, they need to know how many artists are participating. Please register on line or with Sue for this Paint Along. Cost \$5.00

Jean Pederson (DVD instruction)...great lesson on applying 20 plus layers of watercolour to create this wonderful portrait!



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 favourite 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

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



Thanks to Sue Borland for sending this in!

The Golden demo was a great success...we had an excellent turnout, at least 35 - 40 people.

Samantha is a very good speaker, clear and organized. She explained the Golden philosophy and the quality of the materials, and showed us so many mediums and paints, and how they all work together.

She had loads of examples of her talk to pass around and, I think, for the tiny \$5 fee, our members learned a great deal. They also were given a very comprehensive handout on Golden, and a generous sample kit!

One of the best demos we have hosted, in my book. I learned such a lot from Samantha, and I intend to take her course in the fall. I bet we will get a good response to her workshop!

Regards, and thanks to you for this great afternoon!



VOLUNTEER HOURS: Please continue to 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 and they are also part of the application for the ASSC's annual AFA grant.

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!!!

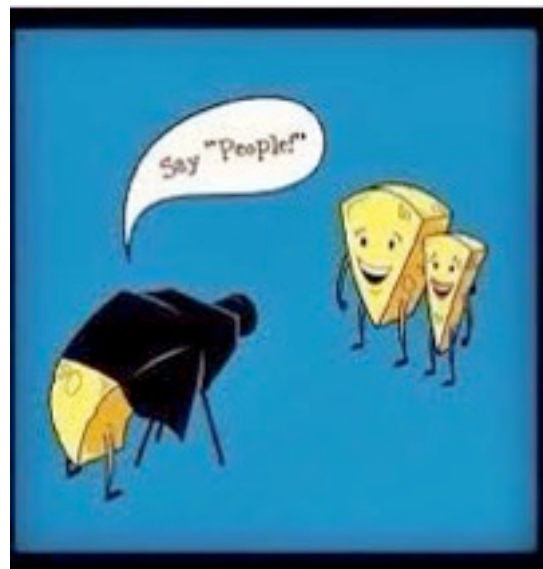
GETTING TO KNOW OUR ARTISTS! Elaine Forsberg has undertaken the task of compiling artist photos, artwork and a short autobiography. We would love to feature YOU so please send your information to elaine.forsberg@gmail.com.

SHOWING? If you are having a show or an art event, please send your information to Julie Taylor, Newsletter Editor, at jamtart53@gmail.com 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!

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



GETTING TO KNOW OUR ARTISTS!

Grace Lange was born in Edmonton and raised in rural Alberta south of Westlock. She graduated from Royal Alex Hospital School of Nursing, married soon after and has lived in Sherwood Park since 1974. Being artsy and creative has always been her interest but lately she focuses more on sewing and painting. After trying some of the mediums, she now uses acrylic paint and enjoys the challenge and the results.

Grace has taken short art class lessons from Anne Derhak and John O'Hanley and finds DVD and YouTube tutorials useful. She loves reading magazines and books on the subject of painting and art in general.



Lake Louise, Alberta (Acrylic)...Wall Mural (Acrylic)...
and Mixed Media

