



BRUSHSTROKES

Hurricane Florence Edition

President's Message

I sat in my home office contemplating a load of freshly-washed laundry. It rested comfortably on the guest chair, with room left for oh, about a dozen ears of corn. Oh, I'll put it away promptly – that's five minutes work. But we are beginning the transition to autumn.

In autumn, the ears of corn disappear and the piles of laundry grow larger, as tee-shirts and shorts are no longer comfortable outside dress. By the middle of winter, the laundry pile will barely fit on the chair, even with socks along the edges dropping to the floor. I've often wondered if the piles of laundry eat the corn, thus getting larger and making the corn disappear at the same time. But that does not meet the requirements for logic, so I discard the idea. I'm old-fashioned that way; if things don't make sense, I discard them. I don't tweet them to my followers.

Autumn in Savannah is a stealthy season – the temperatures drop, but not that much. You must look for other signs.

I walked around the Whitmarsh Preserve the other day, and there were a few bright orange butterflies flitting around. I believe those are the early arrivals of the monarch butterfly migration. If you have been growing milkweed on the periphery of your house, this is your season. By the end of the month they will cluster thickly around your house like cars around a Cracker Barrel on a major highway. Milkweed is the monarch butterfly equivalent of decently spiced sausage and well-done home fries. They sit on the stalks and grumble about the traffic. One of the smaller ones asks if we're there yet. No – not yet.

I also saw that the beautyberries had turned violet – they had been green to this point. Beautyberries are a mint – they grow vigorously in areas that no other plant wants to deal with. In the fall, they turn violet and then deep purple. The ones in the Preserve have very thick clusters of berries this year – we've had daily deluges for much of the summer and they've

No, Hurricane Florence didn't pass through Savannah. It did hit New Bern, however, and that's where the marvelous artist Karen Schaaf lives. She's the one who normally designs and publishes the newsletter so attractively. This edition is something we put together in her absence, and a reminder that we know what those problems are like.

responded. By the way, if you fancy beautyberries, you can probably find some at your local flower market, but those are cultivars and will be neither as vigorous or long lived as the wild ones. When you find bird droppings on your truck that are tinged purple, you know that one of your neighbors has successfully planted beautyberries this year.

Uniform-clad students swarm thickly around the city on weekdays. They are traveling from class to class I suppose, and display the range of boisterousness, sadness, and distraction. You look at them and doubt the wisdom of growing old and leaving the world in their care. They look at you and wonder why the world isn't more messed up than it is, with such as you having participated. There's nothing like a little distance to create misunderstanding. And then you go your separate ways.

For people who plan, this is a busy season. Things have to get done before the holidays, and being outdoors is possible again. In the evenings you can throw events that are dressier than tee-shirts and short, and don't involve kegs. If anyone has a gala something or an annual something else, and they don't do it in the spring, they'll do it in the autumn. Of course, it was too hot to do any real planning before this, so it has to be done now. You can hear the motors whine and the fan belts screech as the planners gear up for the event that has to be held on the most perfect weekend before the frozen turkeys arrive at the supermarket.

Autumn is a prime season for painters, of course, especially plein air. If you paint in oils or acrylics, your work will have fewer sand gnats embedded in it; if in watercolor, you can contemplate your subject for more than a minute without the sun drying your mixtures. There's less wear and tear on your personal self too – temperatures in the eighties seem much more survivable than anything in the nineties or above. And beautyberries or monarch butterfly migrations are worthwhile subjects.



That's assuming that you get to stay home this year. The last two years, those big circular weather systems from the Atlantic have caused many of us to visit other parts of the Southeast, anywhere from Dothan, Alabama to Chattanooga, Tennessee. That's after many years when none of them came close enough to worry about. And the wind and rain are even harder on plein air painters than the midsummer sun. Easels that stay upright are far easier to use.

No, this year, let's stay home and paint or sculpt or whatever it is that we do. It's the Savannah way.

Ed

Organization Notes

Sarah Bernzott has joined the Savannah Art Association Board. Sarah will be assuming responsibility for the Airport Gallery and arranging month-long exhibitions.

After many, many years of service, Barbara Gentry is stepping down from being the SAA Board Secretary, effective at the end of the year. We're looking for someone to replace her. Duties include taking minutes of the meetings, and tracking calendars of events, as well as broadcasting upcoming events to members. If you are interested, please contact admin@savannahartassociation.com.

Jill Ward, our Treasurer, is looking for assistance. Jill keeps the books for the Association and the gallery, and has many other responsibilities, including a full-time job. If you can help Jill, please let us know.

We're coming close to the end of the year, and we'll be electing a new Board in the January meeting. If you are interested in joining the Board, please let us know at the email address above. Most jobs take about one day per month.

Marcee Musgrove has assumed responsibility for the Foot & Ankle Associates exhibitions. Please contact her if you have questions. We'll be doing a changeout sometime soon.



What's Going On?



Twenty five pictures from SAA artists are currently hanging at La Terra Natural Oils, on Bull Street, just south of Forsythe Park. We had a reception there on September 12th, with a very nice turnout. The proprietors, Linda and Joe, allowed us to sample some of their products. La Tierra sells wonderfully flavored oils and vinegars, spices and relishes, and just about anything for a sumptuous table. Thanks to Marcee Musgrove for putting it together so well. The exhibition will be there until the end of the month. If you couldn't make the reception, drop in and see the work that's up – there are some great pieces. La Terra Natural Oils is at 1520 Bull Street, about halfway between Victory and Forsythe Park. You can call them at **912-417-2638**.

The Members' Room at the Savannah Art Association Gallery changed out this month, so there's all new work to see. The gallery is on Chippewa Square, at 232 Bull Street. If you are

interested in exhibiting your work there, the next change will be in early November. Please email us at admin@savannahartassociation.com, and we'll send you more information.

Also this month, we hung a new show at Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport. The show is My Picasso – encouraging members to let their creativity wander. The reception will be at the airport at 6 pm, on September 28th and we'll serve light refreshments.



Member Gwen Frazier-Smith designed a poster for this year's Savannah Jazz Festival, and she will have a table at the festival activities. The Savannah Jazz Festival is a musical and cultural high point of the fall. Gwen being there makes it just that much more exciting. Drop by and talk to Gwen while she's there.

Playshop at Generation One



The next one will be Saturday, October 6th, from 10 until lunchtime. Michael Grecian will present information on brushes and brush techniques. He represents several brush companies and has the background to handle any brush questions. John Rise of SCAD, who did that great presentation at the general meeting last year, will be on hand to introduce him. Again, to register, call Generation One at (912) 350-7587.

We'll be having playshops at Generation One into the new year, now that autumn is here. Watch for emailed Brushstrokes and calendars for details on upcoming events. We also be posting them on our webpage and on Facebook.

Learn

Art Lessons For The Novice

Beginning the first week of September, Judy Crisp is again offering instruction for the *novice watercolorist*. Four 2-hour private sessions, taught in her Wilmington Island studio, are \$160.00. For more info and a supplies list, please call Judy at (912) 658-5787 or email her at jpcrispl@bellsouth.net.

Art Lessons For Everyone

Becky Marcussen is holding watercolor classes in the Pooler Hobby Lobby. They run from 1 to 3 on Mondays. Please contact her at (217) 343-2827.

Becky also does a class for acrylics, oils, and pastels. Those are on Wednesdays, from 1:30 to 3:30. Again, please contact her at (217) 343-2827.

The Board of Directors

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News From The Gallery

The Savannah Art Association Gallery on Chippewa Square is on Tiffani Taylor's Art Walk this year again. Every month, the art walk promotes visits to galleries. Member John Taylor poses in front of our gallery for some of the Art Walk publicity. If you'd like to exhibit at the gallery for two months, please contact us at

admin@savannahartassociation.com.

There are openings for annual exhibitors at the Gallery. You may commit to a wall or a half wall. Annual members contribute to the rent, sit the gallery, and help govern the space. Annual members must be "juried in" by the other annual members. If you would like to exhibit and help run the SAA Gallery, please contact the gallery manager, Roy Yarger, at the email address above.



SPECIAL OFFER

Grand Opening
Create An Artspace
517 E. Broad Street, Savannah

Working with Soft Pastels
A Six Week Workshop with
Rebecca Marcussen
Savannah Artist & Instructor

Tuesdays, October 2- November 6, 2018
10:00 AM-12:00 PM

\$175 for one participant \$300 if you add a friend

<https://www.thetybeetourist.com/create-artspace>
Information and Registration

\$20 materials fee, payable with registration for each participant. New supplies and substrates will be provided for each class. Participants are encouraged to bring their own soft pastels and pastel pencils if available. Otherwise they will be provided by the studio.

Calendar

September 28 Friday, 6:00 pm: Airport Reception

October 3 Wednesday, 6:00 pm: SAA Board Meeting

October 17 Wednesday, 6:00 pm: General Meeting – The Woods – Loving Vincent DVD, a feature-length, oil painted animation

November 7 Wednesday 6:00 pm: SAA Board Meeting

November 30 Friday 10:00 a.m.: Take down and Hang Airport Show

December 5 Wednesday 6:00 pm: SAA Board Meeting

February 9 Saturday 1:00-4:00: ISCAP Art Show – Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church

We'll update the calendar as events are added.