



January-February 2017



President's Message

There are such distractions from art lately.

We are in the midst of the holiday season, with Christmas just around the bend as I type this. For some reason, I prepared early this year, and I get to enjoy the season without panics and errands. I recommend it; I have seen the Cathedral of Saint John in its Nativity finery, stumbled on a particularly nice version of "Silent Night" (by Dana Cunningham – look it up on YouTube), and somehow conjured a pretty Christmas tree from our decoration holdings. Sometimes, life creates art without much effort on my part.



Photo by Molly Cusick

There are minor distractions too. We live on one of the islands to the east of the city, surrounded by marshes. To get from our island to the next one west, you must travel over a marsh that attracts more forms of primitive life than most. Things grow with a particular zest there and when they die, they

release a penetrating, pungent odor. I frequently have to roll the windows up for three-tenths of a mile when I use that road. If you look closely at the black buzzards there, their eyes are watering.

A very similar odor surrounds my desk right now. The canine companion lying underneath is impervious to it; he is the source. Just to make myself feel better, I yell down the hall, "Somebody's been feeding egg nog to the dog again!" No answer. It's just as well.

Then there's the PERT chart. Do we really need a PERT chart? PERT charts are for building large complex pieces of technology, not opening galleries. Opening a gallery is easy – you just throw a few pieces of art on the wall and open the doors, right? Not so much. We can't possibly put the computer in the shop until the alarm system is up. On the other hand, the alarm system requires the computer. We need to train our gallery sitters how to use the sales system. We can't do that until we install the software, which requires the computer, which requires the alarm system, which requires the computer. Hmmm.

We'll open the gallery in January; we're hoping directly after the New Year has arrived. That means getting ready for the opening now. In a few hours, I'll head to the shop to see if we can get the alarm system and the computer up concurrently. My companion in this is somebody who has the skills and sense that I do not. I frequently forget which end of the screwdriver you hit the nail with.

Opening a gallery requires planning and then a little experience. The experience shows you where the planning went wrong – you need both. Opening a gallery in January sounds kind of odd, but we'll use the weeks of dubious weather to get our act together. When the weather gets warmer and disoriented people poke their heads in the gallery door to ask if this is the box office for the Savannah Theater, we'll be ready.

And in the meantime, the holidays roll on in their graceful way. Neighborhood houses are lit at night and festooned with ornaments. This is the year of the Star Wars Yuletide. You've never really seen Darth Vader until you've seen him draped in red and green bulbs. This time of year, we get fogs – the Christmas lights in fog are particularly attractive, for some reason. It's a Savannah thing – we had few Yule fogs in the depths of New England while I was growing up. Moisture does other things there, and they are frequently unpleasant.

Let us have a happy new year. 2016 was a difficult year for many reasons, and we are through with it. At the least, I look for a 2017 without the need to haul limb fall to the street for two weeks. Let us have fewer circular weather events next year.

Ed.



ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Molly Cusick



Molly Cusick has been photographing her surroundings ever since her father gave her an old Nikon camera 15 years ago. She has upgraded to the digital world utilizing both her newer SLR and her I-Phone. In the past couple of years she has moved into the macro world as well as continuing her landscape work.



Photo by Molly Cusick

Traveling through the world's most beautiful places, Molly sees beauty where others are not looking. Faces within rocks, creek reflections, abandoned cars and barnacled boats offer a rich interplay of texture, color, and tone. He eyes are drawn

to the way nature overtakes man-made objects causing decay, peeling paint and patina. Her yen to explore propels her to continually evolve her vision.

With camera in hand, Molly's ability to be absolutely present with her surroundings allows her to capture images that are exquisitely mundane and extraordinarily sacred. She offers a simple shift in perspective to reveal beauty within decay, light within shadow. Molly invites you to journey with her as she explores the world with eyes of wonder.

She offers her images printed on metallic photographic paper, infused into aluminum or printed on wood. The latter 2 methods require no framing or glass and come ready to hang. The infused image has an archival value of 150 years and are waterproof and scratch resistant which allows them to be used in places you wouldn't want to hang art such as in the kitchen behind the sink, in the bathroom or out of doors. Just keep them out of direct sunlight.

She lives in California, but displays in most of the SAA places. Her proud mother is Cathy Sizer.

Her website is:
www.mollycusickphotography.com

The General Meeting

Held on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 is the meeting where we will nominate new board members and vote on the current members as well. If would like to serve on the Board of Directors, contact any member of the board or call 912-232-7731 to be added to the slate of officers.



Photo by Molly Cusick

CALENDER January 2017

4 January, Wednesday is the Savannah Art Association Board Meeting at The Woods 5 p.m.

16 January Monday. PAG Plain Air Group meets at Firehouse Subs in Victory Drive for lunch, at 12 noon, followed with painting at Daffin Park.

18 January, Wednesday General Meeting at the Woods at 6 p.m.

30 January, Monday, PAG meets at noon for lunch at the Savannah Mall food court with sketching or painting in the Savannah mall following.

February

1 Wednesday, SAA Board meets at The Woods at 5 pm

3 & 4 Friday and Saturday Sharon Sasseen will give a 2 day advanced class to those students who have taken her class before. Both days will be at the Oatland Island Wildlife Center. The cost for this class is \$200. **“Taking the Mystique out of Abstract II”** Call **232-7731** to register.

13 Monday PAG meets at Wangs II Chinese Restaurant on Waters at noon followed with painting at Lake Mayer.

17 Wednesday a General Meeting will be held at The Woods at 6 p.m.

27 Monday, PAG meets at Hueys on River Street for lunch 12 noon. Painting at River Street follows.

28 Tuesday, Airport show comes down. Please come and pick up your art at 10 a.m. The next Airport Show will hang on March 31. A Special Show with the works of long time member Jim Chirbas will take place during the Month of March.

.Miniatures –News in Brief

HELP!!!

January-February 2017

Saturdays on River Street will resume if we get a volunteer. We need a volunteer to organize and manage the River Street Shows. Call 232-7731 to volunteer.

PLAYSHOPS 2017 If you would like to give a 30 or 4 hour workshop please call 232-7731, or if you would like to have one given in a particular art area, call. 912-232-7731.

SAA Members!

If you would like to be Artist of the month... Send a recent photo, biography, and a few samples (photos) of your art work. We will put you in our newsletter! And on our Website. E-mail Andrea Stark at Starkan10@gmail.com.

Welcome to Our newest Members:

Carole Kinduell-Davis, Karin Mead, and Judy Crisp

New and not new...

Call to volunteer 232-7731. We need help with fundraising, working on River Street, High School Art Competition, and our Plain Air Event in October, and other areas of assistance as needed. Volunteers to sit in our new gallery space. Also contact Carol Anderson if you would like to assist her in the ISCAP PROJECT.

Need a volunteer to take over the Robo
Call. 912-232-7731.

Meet your current Board members:

Ed Eckstrand, President, Facebook
Carol Anderson, Vice President,
Education,
Karen Borden, Vice President,
Correspondence
Barbara Gentry, Secretary
Jill Buckner, Treasurer
Margie Sone-Gravina, Programs
Cathy Sizer, Publicity
Martha Love, Programs
Grace Rohland, Special Projects
Bobbie Kraft, Gallery Manager
Rebecca Marcussen, Fundraising
Andrea Stark, Programs