

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Song of Summer

Just now, I have an art magazine on my desk. It completely covers my “to do” list, the bank statement, and twenty nine cents in change. The quarter that is most of that amount is too beat up to use in the parking meters downtown, and I am at a loss on what to do with it. I like magazines that cover hard choices.

This particular magazine is the American Art Collector. According to the bank statement that it covers, I have no business looking at it, but I do anyway. Some of the advertising touts pictures that are marked down to a modest five figures, and I am waiting for the opportunity to snap them up, once the lottery comes through.

This issue includes an article on Zaria Forman, who is opening a show somewhere in Seattle. Zaria Forman goes to the Arctic and Antarctic, photographs icebergs, and then takes the photos back to her studio and makes large, realistic pastel portraits of them. Somewhere on line, I saw a picture of her standing next to one of her portraits in progress. She had a bright if slightly uncertain grin, and blue hands. Apparently, her pastels require some manual manipulation to show what she wants them to. I don't do pastels, so I don't know if that's okay, but she does very nice work, so it's okay with me.

Zaria Forman's work especially appealed to me today. Having already done a fair number of things that were on that “to do” list, I decided the day was mine. First, I walked the SAA Management Consultant. After five years of trying, he is still rather inept at drinking from lawn

sprinklers, and always looks somewhat puzzled when they squirt up his nose. Apparently, dingo types have a steep learning curve in some matters.

But after that, I threw an assortment of belongings in the bed of the truck, and by eight thirty, I faced due east, over the place where the Savannah River meets the Atlantic Ocean. The temperature was eighty four degrees and there wasn't an iceberg in sight. As the sun got higher, so did the temperature. I put up the umbrella. That's no mean accomplishment – the screw that holds the two pieces together went missing, and I have replaced it with an assortment of bungee cords. It's not quite the same, but it works, mostly.

Today, where the Savannah River meets the Atlantic Ocean, there were quite a few dragon flies. There were also a number of butterflies, monarchs by the look of them, and I suppose they were heading for Mexico, leaving early to beat the crowd. This group seemed more interested in Dafuskie Island than Mexico, and that is the wrong direction. I tried to point that out, but I had left my milkweed at home, and they weren't terrifically interested in talking.

Being helpful to butterflies is hard work, so I had my lunch early. There were a few slices of bread, a chunk of well-aged manchego cheese, a small pile of black cherries, and a large bottle of diet brown. The knife I thought I had brought with me went the way of the screw for the beach umbrella, so I had to gnaw the rind of the manchego off. By nine-thirty, I had rinds, pits, and a small reserve of diet brown.

The temperature continued to climb, and the biting flies

continued

President's Message, continued

like shade as much as I do on a hot summer's day. They have other tastes that we disagree on. These were the big housefly-looking kind, the ones we called deer flies in Virginia. The insect repellent was packed safely with the knife and the beach umbrella screw, so I tried spraying them with SPF 50. The one I hit came back later and burped at me.

You will never be alone on a beach in August, but on particularly hot Wednesday mornings, the crowd is sparse. There were the usual morning beach walkers and bike riders, small groups of friends and families, and a few fishermen. One of the fishermen caught a shark between two and three feet long. To celebrate, he entertained everyone around him with his boom box. The shark got a better deal. I put on my headphones. By noon, the temperature was in the mid-nineties (it reached 99 today), so I packed up and went home. I stopped at Chu's for another bottle of diet brown, which cost me 75 cents less than the same bottle in the machines at the beach. Chu's also makes change and the lady smiles at you, something machines haven't got the hang of yet.

Soon, we will have workshops to attend, exhibitions to hang, and in October, four days of Paint Out. But not today.

The article on Zaria Forman leads with a photo of her in the Antarctic. She has a woolly white cap jammed on her head, and a large insulated parka covers the rest of her. She is taking a picture with an expensive camera, and she is trying to use it through a pair of thickly insulated gloves.

I'd rather have my problems than hers.

Ed

**Congratulations
sold!**

The SAA gallery room has had **four sales** and the airport show has had **2 sales!**

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mark it on your calendars . . .

SEPTEMBER			
4-6	Mon-Wed	New art in, old art down at SAA Gallery	10am until 5pm Cost \$40 for two months.
6	Wednesday	SAA Board Meeting	The Woods 5 pm
7-9	Thurs-Sat	Sharon Saseen workshop Cost \$235 Call 912 633-3188 to register	9am until 4 pm. Oatland Island Wildlife Center
11	Monday	Plein Air Group	Reynolds Square 9 am
20	Wednesday	SAA General meeting and Airport Reception	6 pm
22	Friday	Plein Air Group	New Orleans Square 9 am
23	Saturday	Playshop at Generation One Becky Marcussen teaches still life using acrylics	Cost \$15 10 am until 1 pm
24	Sunday	Reception at SAA gallery Enjoy the art, food and drinks, fun for all.	1 until 5 pm.
OCTOBER			
4	Wednesday	SAA Board Meeting	The Woods 5 pm
11-14	Wed-Sat	4th Annual Paint Out Event	See page 5 for details
18	Wednesday	SAA General meeting	The Woods 6 pm
21	Saturday	Playshop with Judy Nichols Colored Pencil	10 am - 1 pm

artist of the month . . .

Beth Hegeman wanted to be an artist back in grade school, but it wasn't until retirement from her law enforcement career and raising two boys that she began learning the challenging process of oil painting.



Beth Hegeman

She studied for several years with Kentucky landscape artist Bill Fletcher. She traveled to the South of France, painting in historic places such as Renoir's garden and the alpine village Entreaux.

She has continuously sought to better herself by taking workshops, including the American Academy of Equine Art. Instructors have been absolutely influential in her painting style over the years, as it takes years of instruction - under different artists whom one admires - to develop one's own style. Matt Smith, Quang Ho, and Lori Putnam (to name a few), as well as reading about the French Impressionists have all been great influences.

Beth is a charter member of the Tybee Arts Plein Air Painters; you may see Beth and other artists painting about Tybee Island.

Growing up near the Jersey Shore, she feels at home here on Tybee Island, where she vacationed with her family before buying a place of her own. She has discovered the joy of painting our precious "Tybee" turtles, salt marshes, shrimp boats, weather-beaten marinas, and colorfully restored cottages.

Her work is offered at the Tybee Cottage Art Gallery.



upcoming workshops



Sharon Saseen

Taking the Mystique out of Abstract III

September 7, 8 and 9th

9:00 a.m-4:00 pm

Oatland Island Wildlife Center

\$235 due with application.

www.sharonsaseen

TWO SPACES STILL AVAILABLE!

Tony Couch Four Day Watercolor Painting Workshop

Monday through Thursday
November 27-30, 2017
at The Coastal Georgia Center



Tuition is \$350

A \$50 deposit will hold a spot for you in the workshop. Balance is due October 27.
Make checks payable to Savannah Art Association.

This will be a thorough workshop, with Tony doing a full sheet demonstration painting each morning, plenty of time for you to paint in the afternoon, and a critique at the end of the day of all the work done that day, each day.

He'll unravel much of the "mystery" surrounding design while he shows you how to make your paintings fresh and crisp – and he'll make color much simpler for you, too. Many students have said they have learned more in one day at one of these workshops than in four years of art school!

Questions?
Call Andrea at (912) 663-3188
starkan10@gmail.com
toncouch@mindspring.com



A series of events, workshops, and demonstrations, ending with the plein air competition itself.

Over \$2100 in cash prizes.

SAA 4TH ANNUAL PLEIN AIR COMPETITION

OCTOBER 11
Wednesday

8 AM: Registration begins at SAA Gallery. 232 Bull Street. \$25

1 PM: Free demo by a Golden representative upstairs in the Dick Blick store

OCTOBER 12
Thursday

Plein air painting demonstration by Lori Keith Robinson at the Tybee Island Art Association building, cost \$25. Includes lunch (for the first 25 who register).

Canvases stamped for those who plan to paint on Tybee Island that afternoon.

OCTOBER 13
Friday

8 AM - 2 PM: Quick Draw \$25

UGA Marine Science Center, Skidaway Island. Painting from 8 am until 2.

Art displayed at 2 pm. Judged awards given at that time.

OCTOBER 14
Saturday

8 AM - 2 PM: Paint in Savannah \$30
Registration at SAA gallery, 232 Bull St.

Work will be displayed in the SAA gallery at 2 PM and judged by Robert Isley.

Any paintings stamped and painted during the event, except at the Quick Draw, are eligible for hanging and judging (limit 2 per artist.)

5 PM- 8 PM: Reception and Award Ceremony.