

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This issue of Brushstrokes will be different.

Sometimes, publications change things around because they think their readers have gotten tired of the old format. But that's not it – personally, I think the old format was just fine. However, we've had an illness on the Board, and the person who's been putting Brushstrokes together for years isn't able to do it for now. The rest of us are trying to fill in, but we're using the rear of our chinos for aerial navigation.

Looking Ahead

This issue is supposed to tell you what's happening over the next few months, and that's precisely what we're foggiest on right now. We have many dedicated people who go off and do great things on their own, and we don't know the details until just before publication. Our collector of upcoming events is where the illness struck, so we'll publish what we know about. We'll send additional information via email, Facebook, and hardcopy as we find out about them. Bear with us, please.

Getting On The Soapbox

When I was in high school, the English teacher had us read "Elegy on a Country Graveyard", by Thomas Gray. I didn't care for it. It's certainly cleverly written, and transmits the mood, but the whole idea of an elegy didn't seem quite right to me. Why go to the trouble of writing poems about dead people (that's what an elegy is) or for that matter, eulogies (that's a prose elegy)? The subject of the piece is not in a position to appreciate it.

I am in my fourth year as the President of the Savannah Art Association. In that time, I've learned

many things, sometimes without colliding violently with them. I've come to appreciate the contributions of many people in the organization. I'm going to mention them while those people are still up and running around. I think that's a better idea than an elegy, especially for someone who is a terrible poet.

Bobbie Kraft, Martha Love, and Barbara Gentry have been the nucleus of the Savannah Art Association since before I came to Savannah. They are still a huge part of who we are and what we do. **Grace Rohland** and **Margie Gravina** have made many clever contributions over the years. **Becky Marcussen, Jill Buckner, Karen Borden, Marcee Musgrove** and **Cathy Sizer** are more recent additions who make their mark every day. **Roy Yarger, Christina Taylor, and Carol Anderson** are even more recent, and they help us get things done, in a big way. **Karen Schaaf** turns ideas into attractively presented newsletter information.

When I look at a membership list, I see many people who had tremendous contributions in the past and then went on to do other things. **Jim Chirbas** and **Sandy Brannen** are two, but I could name many more.

Even in an environment of adept and dedicated people, **Andrea Stark** is a special case. She has taken on the



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thorniest of issues, with immense grace and tact, and gotten them resolved. She sees things that need to be done, and she gets them done too, without fuss or even mention. This is in addition to being a superb painter, and a fine teacher of art. She has been trying to teach me the finer points of watercolor. She has had indifferent success, but any success at all is due to her wisdom and dedication.

Andrea is the missing element in this newsletter. She is on the road to recovery, but it will take her awhile. In the meantime, we'll try some new things, try to reconstruct some old things, and in general, try to keep things going. We'll scabble around in the dirt, like Darwin's finches, looking for seeds of sustenance. The whole process may be amusing (sometimes intentionally), but it's what we can do until Andrea returns.

I think the Savannah Art Association is a wonderful enterprise – I wouldn't be in my fourth year of presiding if I didn't. We exhibit art for our members, put together competitions, introduce them to new forms of art and hold three-day sessions with noted practitioners. All of that takes time and energy, and it requires lots of skills that really don't have a lot to do with art.

Can you help with these things? Talk to somebody on the Board.

Ed Eckstrand



mark it on your calendars . . .

APRIL			
4	Wednesday	SAA Board Meeting	The Woods 5 PM
6-8	Fri-Sun	Workshop: The Art of Abstract Painting Instructor: Sharon Saseen	Oatland Island Wildlife Center \$350
14	Saturday	Playshop with Elaine Grippi: Draw on scratchboard	Generation One Cost: \$15
16	Monday	Plein Air Group	Bamboo Farms 9 AM
18	Wednesday	General Meeting: Featuring ISCAP and sustainability Includes a tour of the facility and a presentation of ISCAP artwork in their gallery space	6 PM Chatham Recycling Education Center <i>1321 Eisenhower</i>
21	Saturday	Earth Day Please plan to come by our tent!	Forsyth Park 10:00-4:00
28	Saturday	ISCAP Art Show Local students and teachers will show their climate art	Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church 1-4 PM
MAY			
2	Wednesday	SAA Board Meeting	The Woods 5 PM
16	Wednesday	General Meeting	Kohl Gallery 6 PM
31	Thursday	New Airport Show "Another Groovy Summer"	Savannah Airport Gallery 10 AM

Paint Out 2018

Let's look back a second.

We completed **Paint Out 2018** in March.

Robert Isley gave a wonderful demo on Pulaski Square.

The Tybee Arts Association sponsored a great **quick draw** in their building, and we held the **plein air event** downtown on the third day.

I could not make it out to Tybee that day, but I am told that the lunch they provided was fabulous, and the quality of art that came out of it was very high.

The quality of art from the plein air event downtown was also exceptionally good, and everyone seemed to have fun.

That last part is pretty important to me. Take a look at the photos on the next page so you can see what I mean about the quality of the work.

The judging for both contest was provided by Lori Keith Robinson, a lovely person who has worked with us in the past. She is an accomplished artist – she's given demonstrations for us in past years, and very accomplished at determining and explaining what makes a good painting. We thank her more than can properly express.

We had a raffle to help defray the costs of Paint Out, and Robert Isley, Barbara Gentry, Cathy Sizer, Margie Sone, and Jim & Carol Anderson provided us with some great prizes.



Quick Draw winners

Jeff Markowsky (First)

Cindy Shaw (Second)

Jamie Farnsworth (Third)

Beth Hegeman (Honorable Mention)

Kelly Connor (Honorable Mention)

Plein Air winners

Mickey Boisvert (First)

Rob Summerlin (Second)

Sharon McIntosh (Third)

Carol Cole (Honorable Mention)

Mimi Diamond (Honorable Mention)

Raffle winners

Joy Botkin

Carol Cole

Chris Love

Rhonda Anderson

Kristin Ward

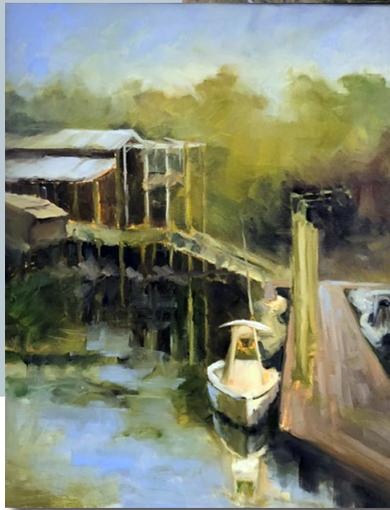
Paint Out photos



Plein Air



Quick Draw



City Hall Think Tank

The City of Savannah has announced the Think Tank Art selections for the next quarter. They are:

Jody Wigton – Lava Lamp, Fiber

Sharon Saseen– Regal Language in Turquoise, paint & collage

Julie Sheed – Hightide Sunrise, Acrylic on canvas board

Sue Gouse– Patriotic Garden, oil

The people at City Hall asked to me to tell you that some folks submitted smaller pieces that were very attractive, but just too small for the space. They're interested in larger things.

Member Solo Show!

Marcee Musgrove, White Lotus Arts

Come and see Marcee's show contains 20 pieces of original works.

February 20-April 19, 2018

Starland Cafe

11 E. 41st Street, Savannah, GA
31401

Hours: 11-3, lunch only

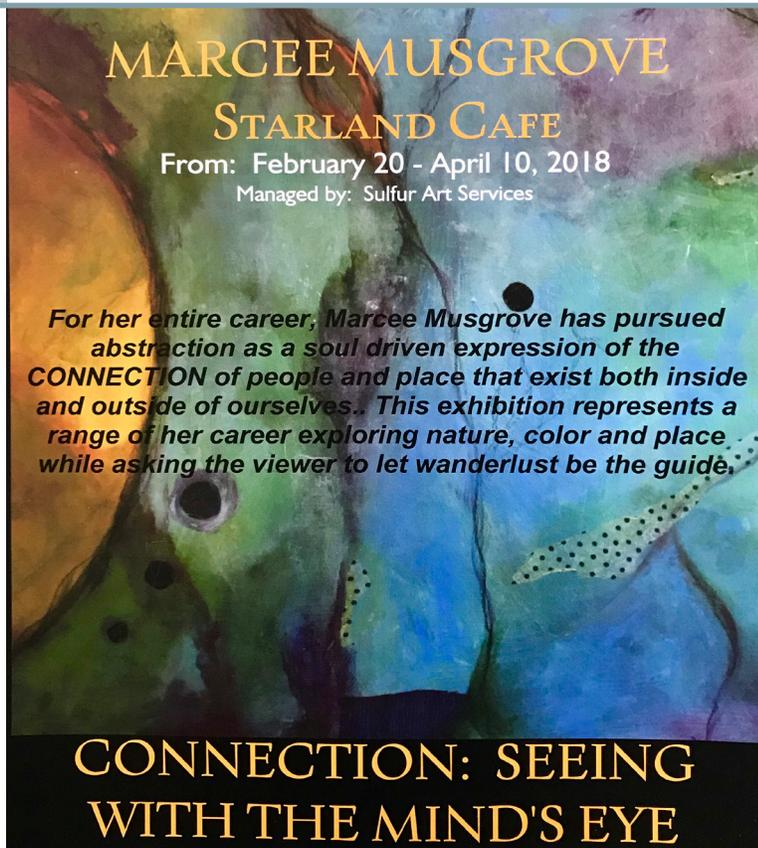
When The Moon Sings

Over the past weeks, several SAA artists have appeared on P. T. Bridgeport's radio show, When The Moon Sings.

Becky Marcussen, Beverley Baynes, Martha Love, and Marcee Musgrove, to name four.

When The Moon Sings plays quieter music and frequently has chats with local artists and musicians, including SAA members. I am told that the experience is relatively painless.

If you'd like to listen, tune in on Saturday evenings at five to WRUU, 107.5 FM. You can also pick up the program on the WRUU website (www.wruu.org) by clicking the listen button. That rascal Bridgeport is trying to record the interviews, but he's not technically adept enough yet.



MARCEE MUSGROVE
STARLAND CAFE
From: February 20 - April 10, 2018
Managed by: Sulfur Art Services

For her entire career, Marcee Musgrove has pursued abstraction as a soul driven expression of the CONNECTION of people and place that exist both inside and outside of ourselves. This exhibition represents a range of her career exploring nature, color and place while asking the viewer to let wanderlust be the guide.

CONNECTION: SEEING WITH THE MIND'S EYE

Plein Air: Painting the Coast

Tybee Island two-day workshop with Mary Hubley

May 2 - 3, 2018



Mary Hubley is an award-winning coastal artist. Her beach and marsh landscapes are dramatic, with rich colors and soft edges.

Hubley has always lived near the beach, and her work is influenced by travel throughout North America, Asia, and Europe. She grew up in a family of artists and worked for many years doing corporate art and book illustration. Profiled in the "Best of America Artists" books, she gives classes and workshops, does frequent plein air painting, and is represented by several prominent Southern art galleries. She was recently given the honor of receiving first place in a Smithsonian Institution WaterWays exhibition. Mary is a Gamblin Dedicated Workshop Instructor.



This plein air workshop is all about the coastal experience, painting out of doors around beautiful Tybee Island, Georgia. It includes demos, one-on-one instruction, and gentle class critique. The workshop is for all levels, focused on oil and acrylic painting skills. New students will learn the basics, while advanced students will have the chance to develop their skills. Artists loosen up, connect with their personal style, and get motivated. We will explore composition, tone, color, and working fast. Participants will go home with finished plein air paintings and solid recommendations as to where to go next with their individual painting practice.

WHEN: May 2-3 2018

WHERE: Tybee Island, GA.

FEE: \$275 for 2 days.

Includes lunch.

REGISTRATION:

www.tybeearts.org

SUPPLIES: Students are responsible for bringing their own supplies and materials. See Mary's recommended supplies at www.maryhubley.com/plein-air-supplies.



Register today!