



Community Arts Association Inc
P.O. Box 307
Allendale New Jersey 07401

Newsletter

March 2023

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on **March 14, 2023** at Trinity Church, 55 George St. Allendale, NJ at 7:30 PM. Hope you can join us.

Board of CAA

PROGRAM NEWS

I received thank you notes from our two Zoom guest artists, shown below. You are always an attentive and involved group, which our presenters appreciate, as do I. Glenda

Thank you, Glenda and the rest of the group. It was a pleasure visiting with you all.
Thank you again for inviting me,
Christi

Thank you so much for the lovely event, I had a blast!
Joe

In an attempt to get more material on our **April guest artist, painter Susan Jarecky**, for this edition of the CAA newsletter, I sent Susan some rather disjointed questions to answer. She responded so thoughtfully and thoroughly that my questions were transformed into a fascinating and informative profile. I do not think I could improve on her answers, so I am submitting them as she wrote them.

-I see that you credited a rural childhood for your love of nature, but I think you grew up in Irvine, CA, which is hardly rural.

My family moved to Irvine in 1967 when I was 5 years old. At that time the population was 2500 including the newly built UC Irvine college where my eldest brother was a student in the first incoming class. Irvine was unincorporated and was a huge working agricultural ranch. There were no highways, grocery stores or downtown areas, so it truly was rural Orange County throughout my upbringing. The neighborhood we lived in was one of the first master planned association communities in the United States. I rode horses on the open lands and on the nearby coast of Newport Beach. This is why I am drawn to undeveloped lands and country landscapes.

-I know you were in California for quite some time. You had your career as an architectural illustrator there, as well as ran a gallery. Why did you move to Colorado?

After spending a month in Colorado in 2014, my husband and I fell in love with the Rocky Mountains and bought a home in Evergreen, a lovely community in the "foothills". At 8000' elevation, in the forest with spectacular views of Mt. Evans, we felt home for the first time in our lives and made Colorado our

permanent home, leaving crowded California behind. Things had changed so dramatically there and we were stifled, finding freedom and quality of life in Colorado. We spent 7 years there until the grandchildren came along, which brings us here to New Jersey! As they say, "You can take the girl out of the country, but you can't take the country out of the girl".

-I also found references to your love of horses, and that you had horses of your own. Is that still the case? I imagine it would be much harder to be a horse owner in Wyckoff than in Colorado, but it could be done.

I rode horses any chance I could as a child and as soon as my own daughter was old enough, she began to ride, excelled, and we bonded through horse ownership. I connected deeply to my daughter and the two of us loved our dear horse Skipper, a beautiful quarter horse rescue. It's a long story, but the truth is I was the one who needed rescuing. I learned the horse through countless hours of riding, watching, feeling, and yes, smelling. My first oil painting at 9 years old was of a horse. I'm pretty sure my last painting will also be of a horse.

-I am interested in the fact that your husband is also an artist, although I did not find as much online information about him. What kind of artwork does he do, and do you both have studios in your newly remodeled home in Wyckoff?

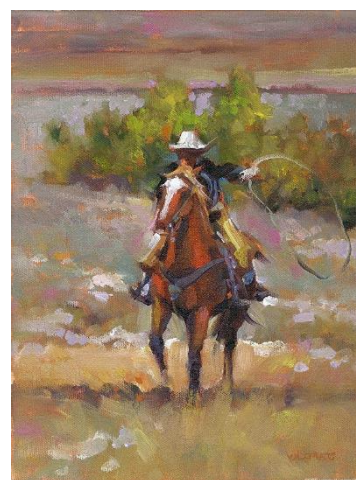
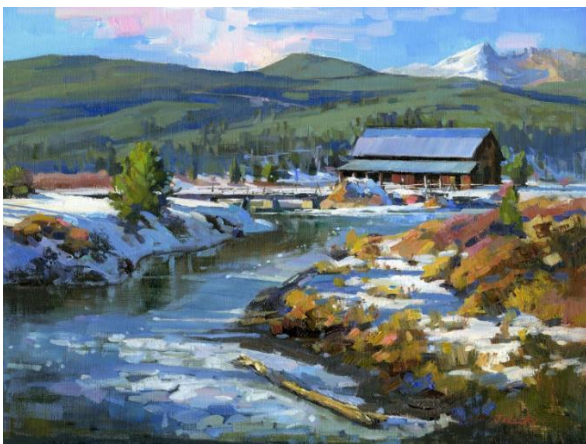
My husband is a woodturner but he has a love for art and we support each other in that way. Everywhere we travel, we look for inspiration, we talk about design, help each other problem solve, critique, and just share the passion of being makers. We each have a studio at the Wyckoff house. My studio is on the main level while he has the full basement. Together we create in the ceramic studio, which is being designed and will hopefully to be in production soon.

-I see that you have taught private painting lessons and workshops in the past. Do you hope to continue doing so in NJ?

I have enjoyed mentoring, teaching, discussions, art adventures, plein air painting and field trips with other artists. It would please me if I could teach a few students here in the area as I have a lot of knowledge to share. The greatest way to grow as an artist is to share what I know. I am an expert in some ways and still learning in other ways so I like to be surrounded by artists who can also teach me.

- You also work in ceramics, wood and jewelry. You have not shown any examples of that aspect of your work on your website. Will you be sharing some in your presentation to us?

I do ceramics and jewelry for fun. My husband and I enjoy ceramics together and I repurpose his wood scraps to create jewelry, but my profession is oil painting. I love wood and ceramics because they are "of the earth" and keep me grounded. Maybe I will wear one of my necklace creations and share a little about it. I hope to inspire the group of CAA artists with my story. Being an artist is not a race but a marathon and so we are constantly growing, ever influenced by the world around us. Not a day goes by that I don't notice the sky or the light on the most ordinary scene or subject. If I see even a hint of beauty, I see a painting, and that is the pure joy of being a painter. "Paint truly from your heart and the wonder of your eyes, and the viewers will be delighted"



Susan's oil painting "The Beginning" was recently featured in the Ridgewood Art Institutes 2023 Juried Show, and received an award

***Nature Journaling Workshop
to be Hosted by The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference***

Our May Workshop will be a collaboration between Community Arts Association and The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. This exciting development came about because our usual venue is less available than it has been in the past, as a children's music program uses the space most days of the week. The theme of our workshop - Nature Journaling - allied perfectly with the Trail Conference's missions of preserving green space and building and maintaining hiking trails. Additionally, I helped establish the art gallery in their headquarters building in the historic Darlington School House in Mahwah, and had been running it until the building closed to the public during the pandemic.

I tested the strength of my connections by reaching out to the Trail Conference staff with a proposal to host the workshop jointly. CAA had already committed to paying a fee to our instructor, James Sisti, who also has connections to the NY-NJTC, so I was not asking for a financial commitment. The Trail Conference's contribution is use of their space and assistance in publicizing the event. They, like us, issue an online monthly newsletter. Unlike us, they have a membership of approximately 10,000!

Yes, they agreed, and are graciously not charging us for use of the space, allowing us to charge a very reasonable fee for the workshop to both CAA members and NY-NJTC members. The nonmembers fee includes the cost of a one-year membership to either organization. An additional benefit is the proximity of the Trail Conference building to Ramapo Reservation, allowing us to try out our newly learned lessons immediately in a beautiful setting.

One other aspect of the collaboration - the Trail Conference has invited James Sisti to install a solo show of his work in the gallery space we will be using for the workshop. It will be the first art exhibit in nearly three years. Not only will it be a valuable visual aid for workshop participants, but it expands what I have been able to offer James - a guest artist appearance, a workshop, prize judge for our member show, and a solo exhibition! He is an extremely affable young man, and has expressed his gratitude frequently and vigorously,

I am anticipating strong interest in this workshop from Trail Conference members, so would advise signing up early to secure your spot.

*Glenda Haas
Program Director*

MEMBER SHOW

Attached to this newsletter is the Prospectus for our upcoming Member Show. We look forward to showcasing your work once again. I hope that we can expect a painting from each and every member this year to make this one of our best exhibits yet. You will see that the prospectus lists the prizes that are available, and I am hoping that we can add a few more before the Reception and Award ceremony. If anyone wishes to donate to an award in the name of someone special, remember it is tax deductible. What a great way to honor a loved one! Just contact me and it will be included in this show. I thank everyone who has volunteered so far and if there are more members who want to step up - hurray for you! Welcome to the Member Show Committee.

Rose Scaglione
Member Show Chairperson

APRIL BUS TRIP TO AWS AT SALMAGUNDI CLUB

A flyer is attached to this email for the upcoming April bus trip to the AWS show at the Salmagundi Club. The date of the trip is April 19, 2023.

Peri Karkheck
Event Chairperson

WEBSITE NEWS

We are still looking for volunteers to help with various website and social media duties that take almost no time at all. Please contact Jenn Merz at the email address below if you can lend a hand. Please remember to email jpgs to Jenn at jjmerz@yahoo.com to update your Gallery page.

Jenn Merz

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Linda Barboni our Artist of the Month!



My watercolor for February:

‘Winter Reflection’

‘Wet-in-wet watercolor technique always produces surprises. The loose-flowing spontaneity of pigment moving with water is why I fell in love with it 30 years ago. I was once asked what I was thinking when painting. It was then I realized it was not so much about my thought process but how I felt. It’s an instrumental part of creating; perhaps, the most important part for me.’

Linda Barboni

MEMBER NEWS

Susan Hostetler - This painting below left "Posing Bold" was juried into the Wallkill River Center for the Arts mixed media show in the months of March and April. And I'm part of this show, where I have a dozen paintings, running through March, during Women's History Month: Women's Nature exhibit, at the Garner Art Center, Hudson's Mill Tavern.



ARDEN KLEMMER
SUSAN LAIS HOSTETLER
KRISTEN J WALSH

WOMEN'S NATURE

THE GALLERY @ HUDSON'S MILL
MARCH 1 - 31


OPENING MARCH 1 6PM


MEET THE ARTISTS • COCKTAILS • HORES D'OEUVRES

Geri Tashker-Asquith - Uploading: Image Selection for Your Website & Applications. Is your favorite image of your artwork actually the best choice for your grant application or website landing page? **Join us on 3/15 @ 7:00 PM** for a workshop on image selection with one of Ninth Street Collective's founding members, Courtney Childress. With a decade of experience, she will provide guidance to help you present yourself and your work in the best possible light. Courtney will cover how to choose a cohesive set of images of past and current work, format images for proper display on various devices, provide tips on ordering your images, and insight into what curators and dealers are looking for when viewing your work! This workshop will be beneficial to anyone who needs to upload images for work, school, or even your personal social media accounts. Don't miss out on how to select and upload the best images possible! For more information and to register! <https://www.artscouncilofrockland.org/classesandworkshops>


Michael Bertelli reports he and Herrat Sommerhoff have paintings and sculptures in this show

My
FAVORITE THINGS

 open to the public:
An Exhibit & Sale by
CLIFTON ASSOCIATION of ARTISTS
March 8th until April 29th, 2023
Wednesdays thru Saturdays • 1 pm until 4 pm


www.cliftonartscenter.org

Office Hours • Mon. to Fri. • 8am until 4pm
Call to Confirm for Appointment

 **MEET & GREET**
Saturday, March 11th
1pm - 4pm

www.cliftonnj.org
900 CLIFTON AVENUE • CLIFTON, NEW JERSEY 07013
ON THE GROUNDS OF THE CLIFTON MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
973-472-5499

APRIL NEWSLETTER

If you have any information you would like included in the April Newsletter, please send it to Marion Brown at marionbrown@optonline.net no later than Monday April 3, 2023