



Watauga Valley Art League Newsletter

WVAL Membership Meeting

Second Sunday of Every Month

1:30 pm to 4:30 pm

WVAL Newsletter

January 2020

Post Office Box 2177

Johnson City

Tennessee

President's Letter pg 2

The Watauga Valley Art League welcomes all who wish to visit us during our educational and instructive monthly gatherings. ***Be Happy and paint more!***

WVAL artists' artwork may be seen at www.wataugavalleyartleague.com. For more information about the Watauga Valley Art League please contact Mabe Collins Brown (423) 768-3713 or email us at WVAL@WataugaValleyArtLeague.com

*****Dues for 2020: \$35 per person (\$45 per couple and \$18 for students*****

Mail to: Watauga Valley Art League, PO Box 2177, Johnson City, TN 37605

The Next WVAL Meeting is January 12 and you will have the opportunity to meet the WVAL 2020 Board Members and hear them give a presentation on their choice of medium and their techniques.

Mabe Collins Brown President

Judy Cable President-Elect

Judy Donley Past-President

Treasurer Glenna Elsea

Secretary Linda Loffmin

VP Exhibits Judy O'Hara

Communications Elton O'Hara

Membership Deborah Hubbard

Social Media Sonny Tanner

Video Librarian Mike Matthews

Hospitality Brianna Moore & Mary K. Brown

Programs Committee :

Don Gotteerbarn, Chair

Wayne Ritchie, Judy Cable

Christmas Cards:

Barbara Jernigan

Mother's Day Cards:

Ken Doak

50th Anniversary Chair:

Judy Cable & Judy Donley

Hello, artists and art lovers.

As your new President, I want to share some thoughts. However, before going to ideas about where our League may be going and perhaps should go, I want to point out what a splendid job you all have been doing. When I first moved to northeast TN, I was impressed by the size and activity of the art community; yet, though we are doing well, we could do even better. I have identified below some possible avenues for improving an already fine organization.

First, despite the enthusiasm and activity of our members, we would benefit from association with more participants. At last count, we were 61 strong and celebrating our 50 year anniversary, but I feel certain that there are far more than 61 potential art activists in east TN, many of them probably unaware of our group and what it is trying to do. I would hope we can organize an outreach operation this year to improve involvement among those in the area with art interests.

To that end, from time to time, I will be suggesting some possible actions we can undertake, and I hope each and every one of you gives some thought to this issue and offers an idea or two.

Second, regardless of our success in expanding membership in the league, we should perhaps try to alert more people who are not themselves artists to the presence, goals, and activities of our group. In other words, one of our goals should be to stimulate art interest among people in the larger northeastern community. Periodic shows of our work is, of course, the main way we do that, and it has been spectacularly successful. Nevertheless, we might try some new wrinkles. Maybe we could sometimes conduct our shows in different kinds of venues, such as lobbies of various assembly halls in and around the northeast where other kinds of activities take place. The Sycamore Shoals facility is excellent though “passerby” traffic is limited. I am sure there are many possibilities that some of you can suggest for pairing some shows at times with other kinds of public activities.

Third, maybe we could find ways to encourage local print media to run regular features on local artists. Perhaps a specific committee for this purpose could be named.

These are just a few of my thoughts. I am sure you have many more. After all, artists are creative people . If we put our heads together we can make eastern TN a hot bed of artistry.

Mabe Collins Brown, President, WVAL

YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE
BUT IF YOU DO IT RIGHT
ONCE IS ENOUGH