

## Official Newsletter of your Lake County Art League

#### Elected Officers

Connections

Website/facebook
Phil Schom......847-548-1724
Sketches
Chris Tanner .....847-340-0275

Visual Recording ......Vacant

Historian.....Vacant Tours.....Vacant The Lake County Art League year runs from September through June. In the past we have met on the third Monday of these months, 7-9:00 pm. Meetings in September, October, January, February, March, April and June include presentations and are held at State Bank of the Lakes in Grayslake. November and May meetings are the closing critiques for our popular fall and spring membership shows, and are held at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts theatre in Waukegan. Finally, we take a holiday break in December. Here are dates that should now be on your horizon now:

Monday, February 19th - LCAL meeting
State Bank of Lakes 7pm

Monday, March 19th - LCAL meeting State Bank of Lakes 7pm

Saturday, April 7th - Spring Membership Show Check-In10 am to 1pm Jack Benny Center

> Monday, April 16th - LCAL meeting State Bank of Lakes 7pm

# February Presentation is .....Landscape Artist Susan Wilson

Susan Wilson, recommended to us by Lee Radtke, will do our February meeting demonstration of the oil paint stick medium. Susan is a modern landscape artist who prefers



use oil paint sticks applied directly by hand, without brushes or palette knives. She produces paintings from her world travels, personal photos and "just my thoughts." See

her work online at <a href="www.susanrwilson.com">www.susanrwilson.com</a>.
There you will read that she was "raised and educated in the Midwest where the flat and unobtrusive landscape was the most prevalent aspect of the environment. My paintings reveal the conflict and harmony that exist in the relationship between Earth and sky, when the sun touches the tops of the cornfield at dusk and the day is over but the work is not.

"My work describes this life in its simplest form and gives the viewer a peek into nature's organization. Midwesterners control the environment to a certain extent by dividing the land into mile-wide squares, laid out like an old quilt top. They compartmentalize the fields by color and fence, and create towns that have only square city blocks which affects the way they approach every aspect of life. I've lived near Florida's blue waters and clean beaches, Michigan's evergreens, and experienced the mystery of the Mississippi River. The landscapes reflect my systematic approach to structure and even require the trees to stand at attention.

"My paintings reflect the colors of nature as well as purple trees and crimson rivers that live only in my sketchbook."

Susan's work is currently owned by corporate & private collections nationally and internationally in Rome, Florence, Casoli, San Juan Islands, Spain, China, & Mexico.

To learn a little more about the medium of oil sticks, see a 2-3 minute video at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?">https://www.youtube.com/watch?</a>

Presentation chairperson Sue Schneider has given us a preview of what comes next. For our March meeting she is just finalizing guest artist Georgia Velisaris, found through Sandie Bacon and Dandelion Gallery. Georgia is a photographer that does workshops and travelogues. Our April artist will be Tom Pedersen. He lives in the Waukegan ArtSpace apartments and does Interesting work

JANUARY
WINNERS OF
THE MONTHLY
COMPETITION
WINNERS



Barbara Stubing



Aruna Sarode



Lee Radtke

## **Annual Adler Invitation Show of Five LCAL Artists**

Jeff Harold, Maggie Schwarz Kraus, Leslie Scott, Susan Schneider and Chris Tanner make up the on-going annual "LCAL Artists" show at the David Adler Music and Arts Center in Libertyville. These members were invited to display based on an Adler review of work hung at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts prior to the Fall Membership Show closing critique. See more about the Adler at <a href="http://www.adlercenter.org/attend/exhibitions/">http://www.adlercenter.org/attend/exhibitions/</a>. The show will continue through Friday, February 23.

# Spring Membership Show Check-In April 1

It's time to start thinking about our annual Spring Membership Show at the Jack Benny Center. Consider which piece you have painted, drawn or photographed in the past 3 years that you might want to display and have critiqued. Better yet, use this as a chance to show us a new approach or a new vision to hear what your fellow artists have to say. You have eight weeks to finish your latest and best work.

### **OTW Availability**

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Available Space	pieces	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
					SM	SM					FM		
Jack Benny Center *	20-40		NA	NA	S	S	CLC		NA		S	FMS	NA
Lake Villa Library													
Mirror Images, Antioch	12						•					•	
State Bank of the Lakes, Antioch													
Heartland Bank, Antioch	10												
Antioch Dental Center													
Antioch Township Office													
Undercroft Gallery, Waukegan	20-30												
Site Managers													
Jack Benny Center		Chris Tanner		847-340-0275			chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net						
Lake Villa Library		Andi Walker		847-420-9479			zomombie@gmail.com						
Locations in Antioch		Ken Lutgen			847-356-6975			kenlutgen@sbcglobal.net					
Undercroft Gallery		Ali Albakri			224-381-0321			text message option					

<sup>\*</sup> Waukegan Park District; NA = Not Available, FMS, SMS = Fall, Spring Membership Shows, CLC = CLC student show



#### **New Member: Tom Asma**

This article continues our practice of profiling new members so that you recognize them and can talk about mutual interests. Please introduce yourself to Jeff as soon as you see him.

Tom, a native of Waukegan, was educated as a commercial artist and made a living at it until, he says, "the Macintosh computer changed everything." He was then able to find what he calls "factory work" in and around Lake County and ended up working at Abbott for 14 years before retiring 3 years ago.

As a working graphic artist he was able to pursue fine art on the side and was for a time employed by Malcolm Layson and was a

member of the Art league. He rejoined the Art League last year.

Tom learned commercial art at the respected Layton School of Art in Milwaukee, but found advertising art too restrictive. He left school and was shortly thereafter drafted into the Army. He was stationed at Fort Greely, Alaska, near Fairbanks; there he could draw and paint spectacular scenery and was introduced to the new artist grade acrylic paints.

Later, back in Illinois, he returned to commercial art, married and started a family. He worked for Layson Productions and Carlson Studios in Chicago, then became a staff artist with Lake County Planning Commission and finally Walgreens in Deerfield.

Forced out of commercial art by the new computer technology, Tom worked at WMS Gaming as they moved away from video arcade games to slot machines for casinos. Lastly, at Abbott, he drove forklifts in a large warehouse.

What's next? Exploring new media and subject matter. Currently Tom's doing graphite drawing, pen and ink, and colored pencils. He often does subject series like cars or flowers, and should soon be discovering still another subject.

