



# A R T N E W S

Over 55 Years of Encouraging Original Fine Art!

Volume 2016 Issue 11-12

Art-Shows-Art News-Keeping you Informed!

November/December

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2017 President: Sharon Somers 309-692-1869 [schamb6@gmail.com](mailto:schamb6@gmail.com)

News Publisher: Bev Pullen 309-385-2501

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## Dear Fellow Artists,

This is our last Presidents' letter, as we are stepping down after the Annual League Dinner in November. It's hard to believe that it's been two years since we took over from Bev Pullen. We've learned a lot during this time and have especially enjoyed getting to know so many of you. During our tenure our league has acquired a new logo; an updated, user-friendly website; and we have added several new events to our yearly calendar: Ignite Peoria and the Time Gallery Show and Sale. Our league has grown by over 30% during this time and we're confident that this growth will continue. Our league board is composed of many talented, hard-working individuals, each with specific jobs that they all do very well. We'd like to welcome our two newest board members, Barb Shreffler and Sandy Hall, who will both be a great addition to our board.

We welcome our new President Sharon Somers and Vice President Bev Pullen. We are grateful to have experienced officers who will make a smooth transition. Sharon has worn many hats over the years for the league. We will both continue to serve on the board and offer our assistance to board members.

In October, Sharon Somers and Darlene Jones chaired a Ken Clubb Watercolor Portrait workshop. While portrait painting can be a bit intimidating, with Ken's helpful guidance and encouragement, the task became less daunting and even, achievable. Ken is an incredibly talented artist and a wonderful instructor and we are so very fortunate to have someone of his caliber right here in central Illinois!

Our current event in 2016 is our member exhibit at Time Gallery. We are very grateful to Sharon Somers and John Bumgarner for chairing this event! This show, unlike our Annual Membership Show in the summer, is unique in that it allowed members to enter artwork, with no restriction on age. The title of this show is "Anything but Ordinary II", so please view the exhibit. The IAL has an abundance of talented artists and this show will be a great opportunity to showcase that talent! Our second reception will be December 2nd 4-6pm.

Our final event this year was our Annual Dinner, which was held on November 7<sup>th</sup> at WeaverRidge. This was a fun event and we enjoyed the camaraderie of our fellow league members. Thanks to Sherri Burritt and Bobbie Schwandner for organizing this dinner. We hope that all of you had a great time as we wrapped up another great year with the Illinois Art League!

Thank you for allowing us to serve you for the past two years. May your holidays be filled with the joy of family and friends.

Leslie Walsh and Jackie Colgan,

Presidents

***Renew for 2017 Now***  
***Membership Renewal Form on page 2***



At the Annual Electoral Meeting held during our Annual Dinner at Weaver Ridge the following were voted on and approved to serve on our Board for 2017: President- Sharon Somers, Vice Present-Bev Pullen, Secretary-Cindy Wamack, Co-Treasurers-Barb Unes and Wayne Pullen.

Also serving on the Board are: Sherri Burritt-Graphic Artist, Florence Gaffney-Publicity, Elijah Sansom-Historian and Photographer, Roberta Schwandner-Peoria Heights Library Exhibit, Brandon Wickwire-Webmaster, (at large members) Jackie Colgan, Sandy Hall, Barb Shreffler, and Leslie Walsh.

..... A special thanks to Marjorie Schwebel for chairing the Electoral Meeting .....

### ILLINOIS ART LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2017

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Names (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email : \_\_\_\_\_ WEB: \_\_\_\_\_

**Status:** \_\_\_New Member \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_ Artist \_\_\_ Friend/Patron

Amateur \_\_\_ Semi Professional \_\_\_ Professional \_\_\_

Age: 18-30 \_\_\_ 31-50 \_\_\_ 51 & over \_\_\_

Medium(s) Preferred: \_\_\_\_\_

**Interest: Volunteer:** \_\_\_Enter my art in shows \_\_\_Help set up take down shows \_\_\_Workshops/Seminars \_\_\_  
Greeter for Shows \_\_\_Classes \_\_\_Serve on Board \_\_\_Small Groups \_\_\_

Serve on Committee (s) for: \_\_\_Shows \_\_\_Exhibits \_\_\_ workshops \_\_\_Classes

**MEMBERSHIP YEAR IS JAN 1<sup>ST</sup> – DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>.**

**Individual Membership \$30.00 \_\_\_ Family Membership \$40. \_\_\_ Friend/Patron Membership \$50.00**

Please complete and return with your check payable to **ILLINOIS ART LEAGUE**

**Mail to: IAL PO BOX 3532 PEORIA, IL 61612-3532**

**www.illinoisartleague.com also on Facebook**

**THE FOLLOWING GROUPS WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER**  
**IAL Board Meeting** ( Resumes in January), **Colored Pencil Workgroup** (Resumes Jan 4th),  
**Prairieland Watermedia Society, and All Artist’s Group**

- Wed Nov 16th thru **FOREST PARK NATURE CENTER NATURE ART SHOW**  
January 1st Artists Susie Ryan (Pottery) and Sue Cleer (colored pencil) will be exhibiting.  
Reception: Sat Nov 19th 2-4 pm.
- Thursday Nov 17th **PRAIRIELAND WATERMEDIA SOCIETY 1:00-3:00**  
Peoria Heights Library (Small Gift exchange) Hostesses: Linda Sprouse and  
Loretta van Hoorebeke.
- Monday Nov 28th **ALL ARTIST’S GROUP** at Humana Building 1:00-3:00 on Hale St. Pioneer Pk.  
For additional info: Cindy Wamack 691-1677 cwamack@humana.com
- Thursday Dec 1st **COLORED PENCIL EXPRESSIONS** luncheon at 11:30 at Peoria Pizza Ranch  
Theme: Small Gift Exchange Hostesses: Rose Sullivan and RSVP Bev Pullen 309-385-2501
- Monday Dec 12th **ACRYLIC PAINTERS GROUP** Peoria Heights Library **9:30-12:30** Jean Gronewold  
309-657-3874 or contact at jeangg38@gmail.com

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONGRATULATIONS</b></p> <p>Michael Aldag is featured as the artist of the month on the "I Like Illinois" website: <a href="http://www.ilikeillinois.com/living/arts-culture/529-illinois-artist-of-the-month-michael-aldag">http://www.ilikeillinois.com/living/arts-culture/529-illinois-artist-of-the-month-michael-aldag</a>. Check this out! Congrats Michael!!</p>
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WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Scott Spitznagle 6010 N. Smith Rd. Edwards, IL 61528 309-256-1802 sspitznagle@ymail.com Photography  
Please add him to your IAL Directory

**GALLERY SHOWS**

IAL Time Gallery Membership Show/SALE  
“Anything But Ordinary II”  
Hometown Clock Tower Bank Building 201 Clocktower Place, East Peoria, IL Levee District  
Gallery Times during Bank Hours Only Closed on Sunday  
**Reception Friday Dec 2nd 4:00-6:00pm**

**MEMBERS REMEMBER TO PICK UP YOUR ART WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28TH**  
**10:00 - 2:00**

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**EXHIBIT A GALLERY** (Peoria Heights Prospect Rd) **8 X 8 SHOW**  
Burritt, Gaffney, and Hildebrand are but a few exhibiting Nov 1st-Nov 30th

## IAL MONTHLY MEMBER EXHIBIT AT PEORIA HEIGHTS LIBRARY

816 E Glen Ave, Peoria Heights, IL 61616 Open 9-6

EXHIBITING FOR NOVEMBER ARE: Jean Gronewold, BK Pullen

EXHIBITING FOR DECEMBER ARE: Jean Gronewold and Sharon Somers

For additional information contact Roberta Schwandner at 263-5143 or raschwandner@aol.com



**Jean Gronewold** *Art has always been my passion since I can remember. My paintings reflect my inner most feelings and I really feel alive when that brush first touches the canvas! As I paint I find that instrumental music is my muse and it inspires me to feel creative and emotionally centered. As an artist I am not afraid to take a risk and I enjoy the challenge of experimenting with many different types of media including acrylic, watercolor, collage, inks and mixed media. My painting style is very varied depending on what inspires me at the moment as I paint both objective and non-objective pieces. I am fascinated by "found objects" and often use these recycled items to add elements of texture and dimension to my art work.*



**BK Pullen** *Creativity has always been a motivation for how I approach life, whether teaching, gardening, or illustrating the beautiful world we live in. I love trying new things, such as the oil pastels in this exhibit; fun and liberating. I found that this medium works well on matt board. The two colored pencil drawings allow me to be precise and accurate. I love controlled detail, very relaxing. The watercolor landscape done at a Ken Clubb workshop was most gratifying. Whether tight and controlled or loose, I love it all-oil, pastel, watercolor, or colored pencil. Enjoy the show!*



**Sharon Somers** *Sharon M. Somers is an artist and a published author. Originally from Eureka IL, Sharon now resides in Hopewell. Sharon first studied watercolor with the late JoAnn Bell of Washington in the 1970's. She earned her associates degree from I.C.C. in 1982, specializing in watercolor illustration. She was an award-winning art director for major companies in Peoria until 1996 when she became disabled.*

*Artist Statement: My art, as my very life, has been overcoming obstacles and solving problems creatively.*

*Art lessons between babies in the 1970's ultimately, and almost supernaturally, led to a successful career in graphic design which saved my young family. Losing that career in the 1990's to illness and disability led to an eventual return to fine art as therapy for my mind, body and soul, which I feel saved my life, again.*

*Using simple materials: papers, watercolor, and natural fibers - I try to convey the beauty, life and light that I see in all of God's creation. When I'm painting, I'm transported into a world without problems or pain. In sharing my paintings, I am sharing my hope.*

**Please contact Roberta Schwandner at 263-5143**

**or raschwandner@aol.com**

**if you would like to exhibit in 2017 at the Peoria Heights Library**

