

CALENDAR

5/2	Pick-up Artwork from Pruyn House	9am to 3:30pm
5/2	First Intake of Artwork at Town Hall	8:30am to 4:30pm
5/3	Second Intake of Artwork at Town Hall	8:30am to 4:30pm
5/3	General meeting via Zoom Vern Fannin will be sharing her Botanical drawing skills. Presentation of Annual Scholarship Awards	6:45pm
5/4	Hanging of Artwork at Town Hall	11am
5/5-6/29	Town Hall Show Exhibit	
5/18	Town Hall Show Reception and Awards Presentation	4:30 to 6:30pm
6/7	General meeting via Zoom Ruth Crotty, Plein-air Oil Painter and Watercolorist	6:45pm
6/21	Annual Potluck Supper at Pruyn House	4pm to 8pm

Thank you!

It is so important to thank the many people who made our 2022 **Pruyn House Show** such a great success. This was our first in- person show since the beginning of the pandemic and it was just wonderful to see so many members and their work. There were 54 exceptional entries, which made choosing the winners very difficult.

There was a wonderful crew who took in the entries over the two-day period. Many thanks to: **Linda Picarazzi, Pat Ryan, Sharon Thorpe, Anita Schermerhorn, Criss Maciaone, Sally Decheine, Nancy Lyons and Jacqueline Smith.**

After the intake, the hanging elves came in and created a space for all the works to be displayed in the best possible way. Thank you to: **Tim Lederach, Criss Lally, Greg Smith, Barbara Via and Mary Ann van Alstyne.**

Our first non-virtual reception was held on April 3rd, and we have to thank **Marjorie Ward** and **Vince Forte** for creating lovely table decorations and providing the attendees with refreshments.

Thank you to **Criss Macaione** for taking care of the email reminders to our membership along the way.

We need to thank our Judge, **Joel Chapin** for doing the difficult job of selecting the award winners. With all the fabulous works that came in it was a tough job.

Once again, a big round of applause goes out to **Pam Agan-Smith** and **Lee York**, our show co-chairs. Without their coordination and attention to detail the show would not have come together.

Last but not least, thank you to **Tami Sherry**, the Administrator of the Pruyn House who provided us a warm and gracious welcome for CAL's first live show in two years. We appreciate your support.

Congratulations to our 2022 Pruyn House Art Show Winners!

Best In Show: **Ned Lacy** for *Shady Side*

1st Place: **Barb Lennox** for *Dark Waters*

2nd Place: **Pam Agan-Smith** for *A Peach on the Beach*

3rd Place: **Richard Ruotolo** for *Cannon Street Eagle*

Honorable Mention: **Bev Braun** for *Misty Morn*

Honorable Mention: **Susan Barczak** for *2020*

Honorable Mention: **Margaret Carrick** for *Pandemic*

Welcome to our New and Returning Members!

Seth Edelman

Lorraine McCann

Irina Kaplan

Aosta Edelman

Nancy Sadler

Betsy Cotton

Eden Hart

Our 2022 Pruyn House Reception



Photos by Elvin Reed

Town Hall Show 2022 Update

Featuring Colonie Art League

Intake: Monday, May 2nd
and Tuesday, May 3rd, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
(Please hand in your artwork at the Supervisor's office, 2nd floor)
Reception: Wednesday, May 18th, 4:30 to 6:30 pm
Pick up of Artwork: Thursday, June 30th, 8:30 to 4:30 pm

We will now be accepting either one large or two small pieces of artwork per member:

Small pieces: no greater than 15 inches (H or W) including frame

Large pieces: 15 to 36 inches (H or W) including frame

Cash prizes will be given for **First, Second** and **Third** Places. Honorable mention awards will also be given.

Judges for the show are:

LynnMarie Paris, Art teacher, Shaker HS

Sue Stuart, Retired Art teacher and an active painter

Guidelines for Entry, Display and Sale of Art

Entry Fee: \$0

- Two-dimensional work only
- One large or two small works per artist
- Work must have been completed within the last three years and NOT have been exhibited previously in any CAL judged exhibit
- Work must either be framed, or museum/gallery wrapped and wired for hanging
- Affix entry form (below) to the back, upper left-hand corner
- Watercolors (except if on canvas), pastels and drawings must be under glass
- Work must be dry
- Artwork must remain on display for the duration of the exhibit
- Original art only
- Sales will be the artist's responsibility. The Town Hall will provide visitors with a list of works and prices.
- **You must be a current CAL member to participate**

Entry Form for Town Hall Show

Please complete 2 copies of this form. Affix one (1) copy to the back, upper left-hand corner of your artwork. Bring the other copy when you drop off your artwork at intake.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ email address _____

Title _____

Medium _____ Price or NFS _____

Annual Potluck Supper

After a two -year hiatus, CAL is once again having a **Potluck Supper meeting**. On **Tuesday, June 21**, we will be at the Pruyn House Barn, from 4-8pm.

If the weather cooperates, members are invited to arrive in the early afternoon to paint outdoors on the beautiful grounds. Board member **Sue Lunow** has volunteered to be the coordinator for this event. She is seeking volunteers to help with set up and clean up and to bring main dishes.

CAL will be providing paper goods, beverages, and desserts. An email will be sent in May asking member to let Sue know what main dish they will be bringing. We are excited to once again celebrate with our members.

Members Spotlight

Ellen M. Hughes

An interview with **Lynne Kaiser**

For our next installment of Member Spotlight, we are featuring **Ellen M. Hughes**, an acrylic artist residing in the New York upper Hudson Valley, and spending winter months in Cape Ann. She paints with a large brush in bold strokes and colors, seeking to capture the energy, mood, light, and movement of a scene rather than to create a strict representation or an abstraction.

Hughes exhibits independently as well as through the North Shore Arts Association of Gloucester, the Rockport Art Association, the Colonie Art League (CAL), the East Bank Arts Alliance, and the Roundtable Art Group. Her "Simeon's Gift" received an Honorable Mention award at the 2021 Pruyn House/CAL show.

Meet **Ellen Hughes**:

LK: Where are you from?

EH: I am originally from Colonie, although I currently live in Schodack.

LK: Tell us about your educational background. When did you first become interested in art?

EH: I do not have a formal art education, although I have taken classes here and there. I was in the education field for most of my working life. I always had an interest in art from when I was very young. Now that I'm retired, I have a chance to pursue it consistently.

LK: Are you influenced by any artists?

EH: Yes, in fact I was very influenced by Bob Emerick, who was one of the original members of the CAL, I understand. He was a cousin of my mother's and lived close to us. I also had him for an art teacher briefly in elementary school and was very inspired by him. My favorite artists are Van Gogh and Singer Sargent, of course. George Inness, Emile Gruppe.

LK: What prompted you to choose the medium you work in?

EH: I started out sketching and doing watercolors, then oils. I really liked oils a lot, but I moved to acrylic because it's more practical for working within your home and it dries a lot quicker. Now, I almost exclusively paint in acrylics on canvas, with a yellow ochre under painting, or with a failed painting for under painting. I tend to paint in standard sizes that do not have to be custom framed, which really saves money on framing. I am not a careful or precise painter and I like acrylic because you can work rather fast and go back in to fine tune (correct your mistakes!). I also like the color saturation of acrylic paints.

LK: Would you share your process with us?

EH: Gladly. It all starts with a photograph. I take pictures with my i-phone all the time with paintings in mind, then work in my home studio to crop and format. I don't do preliminary sketch work or a lot of planning. I am not a patient painter. I kind of just jump right in and paint!

LK: What is your home studio like?

EH: I am very lucky to have a room in my home with a sliding glass door and natural lighting, where I can paint and leave my materials out. I have a large tool chest on wheels (Home Depot) with drawers to store my materials and to use as a work surface next to my easel. Those tool chests are highly functional and designed to take some real abuse, which mine does. Because it is portable, it can be moved out of the way.

LK: Are there any special brushes and paints you like to use to achieve your signature style, "large strokes, bold colors"?

EH: Yes, I mainly use a Bright #10 for the large bold strokes. For smaller areas, I use # 6 and #8 Bright. I am hard on brushes. The brand isn't as important as the stiffness. I like Windsor and Newton, but any brand will do if the brush is nice and stiff. I recently found some brushes that suit my purpose at Arlene's.

For paints I use various brands for their individual colors. Golden's acrylics have good color saturation, so I often use them.

LK: Do you have a particular subject matter that you like to paint?

EH: Oh, yes! I often gravitate towards streets and cars. Maybe cars because we see them everywhere so any kind of a scene without a car seems incomplete. My go-to subject when I can't think of anything else to paint is a scene from a salvage yard close to our house filled with old junk cars. I also like to do street scenes from areas that are significant to me for some reason or just charming in some peculiar way but not necessarily pretty.

LK: Do you sell your work?

EH: Although my primary objective is not to sell my paintings, I do sell them on occasion and have done some commissions for local restaurants. I really enjoy doing exhibits, especially

with other artists. I think combination of all the different styles, points of view, subjects, and colors is so much more interesting than just one artist's work.

LK: How did you come to join CAL?

I joined the Colonie Art League because I find artists in general to be interesting, generous, compassionate, sensitive people with good senses of humor. I like the social part of getting together and all that I can learn from other artists just as much as I enjoy the process of art itself. I enjoy nothing more than heading out to an exhibit and seeing all the beautiful creations that other people have to offer. I find other artists to be inspirational to no end. A gallery I find to be truly inspirational is the Laffer Gallery in Schuylerville

LK: Is there anything else about yourself that you would like to share with us?

EH: I admit, I have cats as pets, most of whom showed up without invitations. I won't tell you how many because then you will think I'm a weird old cat lady, which is not true. I'm just weird and old. LOL

LK: You are also very humble and talented, and we appreciate your letting us into your studio.



CAL Volunteers Needed

Dee Foley is looking for another member to assist her with identifying and contacting potential demoists. Dee's contact info is in the Board of Director's list at the end of the newsletter.

Lynn Kaiser is looking for another member to assist her as New Member Liaison.

Children's Summer Art Program

Come take a part with CAL in Time Travel at the Pruyn House.
July 15, 22, and 29. 10am to 3pm.

We still need more help with organizing and support staff on one or more days. Please contact Criss Macaione Qmogm@aol.com, 518-312-6883.

Member Classes, Workshops and Services

Join us for Wednesday Open Studio

Where: St. Matthew's Church in Latham

How much? \$5 donation

For whom? open to all CAL members

When? anytime on Wednesdays, 10-2

Enjoy painting with friends. Bring your lunch, art supplies, and a dose of humor. Take advantage of the CAL DVD's and library.

CAL Library

The library at St Matthew's is in the back room, open from 10 AM to 2 PM and 6:30pm to 9pm Wednesdays. Books and DVDs. Call to make sure that the church is open, Chris 518 879-2927 or Kris 518-461-2809.

Art Classes with Kris Woodward

Watercolor, Pastel, Acrylic, Oil and Drawing

Kris Woodward has classes on Wednesday night 6:30-9:30 currently alternating St. Matthew's and Zoom. Also, Thursday morning either at her home gardens or St. Matthew's depending on the weather, 9:30-2:30. Kristin.woodward10@gmail.com, 518-461-2809. Students are required to have COVID shots.

Ruotolo Design Shack

Richard Ruotolo is a new CAL member this year and our new CAL Webmaster. He brings with him 25 years' experience in the design industry. View samples of his art and client work at www.ruotolodesignshack.com. See more on Facebook and Instagram. Contact Rich for all your graphic design, illustration, and photography needs.

Community Art Venues

Colonie Town Hall

If you are interested in using the corridor walls as a venue for your art, the Town Supervisor's office would be happy to arrange that for you.

Contact the Supervisor's Office at 783-2728.

Niskayuna Library community room

Contact: Circulation Desk 386-2249

Ballston Community Library community room

Contact: Deborah 399-8174 ext. 2

CAL Board of Directors

Barbara Via *President* 518-441-7464

Susan Lunow *Immediate Past President* 518-653-1453

Pam Agan-Smith *VP/Show Co-Chair, and Membership* 518-813-3583

Lee York *Vice-President/Show Co-Chair* 518-772-0859

Marci Poirier *Secretary* 518-326-3086

Greg Smith *Treasurer*

Dee Foley *Director/Demos* 518-475-9132

Jean Reiter *Director/Newsletter* 518-944-6012

Marion Greenberg *Director/Scholarship* 518-274-3434

Criss Macaione *Online Communication* 518-312-6883

Christine Spencer *Librarian* 518-879-2927

Lynne Kaiser *Budget Chair, Publicity, New Member Liaison* 518-268-8598

Vince Forte, Jr. *Member-at-Large*

Carolyn Martel *Member-at-Large* 518-462-4306

Kristin Woodward *Member Emeritus/ Workshop Director* 518-461-2809

www.colonieartleague.com

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physical address: 129 Old Loudon Rd Latham, NY 12110

CAL Website

Our website www.colonieartleague.com, is not a commercial website and does not sell directly or indirectly to potential clients. It will only display your wares and contact information if someone wants to buy. There is a page for CAL members to display artwork which is labeled "Member Art for Sale". One option if using the CAL website is to make a page with your name on it and include a few examples of your artwork along with your contact information, phone number, or email address. If you wish to participate, email the details to ruotolodesignshack@gmail.com.

CALnews Schedule

We will send out five issues per year and email blasts for additional information as necessary.

Below is the proposed schedule:

1) SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER ISSUE

August 5th - Newsletter copy deadline for articles/info

2) NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ISSUE

October 5th - Newsletter copy deadline

October 15th - Newsletters get emailed to membership

3) JANUARY/FEBRUARY membership list and show information only

January 5th - membership list and show info sent to Jean

4) MARCH/APRIL ISSUE

February 5th - Newsletter copy deadline

February 15th - Newsletters get emailed to membership

5) MAY/JUNE ISSUE

April 5th - Newsletter copy deadline

April 15th - Newsletters get emailed to membership