



April 2020

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## President's Message

Dear Fellow Artist and Art Appreciators,

March as it turns out has been a month of change. The coronavirus crisis has affected each and every one of us and temporarily changed our way of life. These changes are causing us to adapt quickly to different situations. Americans are very resilient and innovative so these challenges will no doubt be met and new measures will be put in place for the future. During this time we are experiencing many necessary closures and cancellations. It may not be what we expected, but it's for the good of all.

Below find a list of the cancelations that Gaston County Art Guild has for the months of March and April. We are so pleased that we have been able to reschedule most everything for later this year or the same time next year. So we in the GCAG have much to look forward to. Check our website for updates going forward.

The human spirit is a remarkable thing. Keep the spirit by loving, learning, and taking care of each other.

Warm Regards,  
 Carol Stowe-Rankin  
 GCAG President

GCAG welcomes our latest new and renewing members:

- Renee Collins
- Laura Pellerin
- Aimee Phillips
- Patti Wells

## GCAG's New Website

**Address:**

**[www.gastoncountyartguild.org](http://www.gastoncountyartguild.org)**



## 2020 Community Foundation Run There is Still Time To Donate

The Community Foundation has created a “Virtual Run” for your convenience. You may still make a donation to this event through the “Virtual” link, (designated for the Gaston County Art Guild) which will help GCAG fund additional programs, shows, classes and workshops throughout the year. And, for the next month the Foundation will match a portion of your gift. Please consider giving all or part of your donation to the Gaston County Art Guild. To donate on the “Virtual Run” link, [click below](#).

### **March General Meeting**

GCAG thanks Phil Rukse for his informative demonstration at the March General Meeting. Mr. Rukse gave a presentation on his experiences in Plein Air and also demonstrated how he paints in watercolor. Also, thank you to Gloria Brinkman for setting up this program.



### **Cancelations & Postponements**

Due to the ongoing health crisis, the Gaston County Art Guild has postponed or canceled the following:

- Lore Spivey Workshop on 3-D Miniature Bookmaking Postponed to 2021.
- Marjorie Hicks Workshop Postponed to 2021.
- A Natural View Art Show canceled.
- The April General Meeting scheduled for April 14 canceled. (See below for By-Laws voting instructions)
- Weekly Plein Air Wednesday meetings postponed until further notice.



**Don't forget to vote on the revised By-Laws. You may do so online by clicking below! Voting closes at midnight on Tuesday, April 14, 2020!**

### **Board of Directors Officer Nominees 2020-2021**

Each year during the May meeting, the Gaston County Art Guild members elect officers for the Board of Directors. This year the voting procedure will be a bit different. Since in all probability the May meeting probably will not take place due to the coronavirus health situation, we will be voting online (more info to follow). The nominating committee has proposed the following candidates to serve:



**Carol Stowe-Rankin (President):** We are thankful Carol has agreed to serve another year as the Gaston County Art Guild's leader. During this past year, Carol was instrumental in securing a comprehensive board of directors with the energy and expertise to help move the Guild forward. In addition, she has been quietly building a Board of Advisors made up of individuals interested in the arts. Carol has also moved the Guild forward by

continuing partnerships with Bliss Gallery and Gaston College's Jeanne Rauch Gallery and by developing new partnerships with Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens and the Gaston County Museum of Art & History for the "A Natural View" show and "A Moment in Time" photography show. These partnerships will continue into 2021. For a more complete bio on Carol Stowe Rankin, please click below.

**Gloria Brinkman (Co-Vice President):**

Shortly after my retirement I was delighted to become a member of the Gaston County Art Guild. Membership in the GCAG has provided me with friendships, inspirations, and motivations that have been instrumental in my return to production of my own creative work. Though I have a passion for processes of print-making and painting in watercolor, since my participation in the Guild's weekly Plein Air painting group I have embraced a newfound joy in painting outdoors in both oil and watercolor.



In my first year with GCAG, I assisted the Programs Chair by securing speakers for monthly meetings and facilitating their workshops for Guild members. It was my honor to serve as Chair of the 2020 Senior High School Art Show in collaboration with Gaston College.

A vibrant visual arts culture is crucial to quality of life in our community. I look forward to growing my involvement with the GCAG in support of opportunities for visual artists to learn new skills, share their expertise, and become involved in community outreach initiatives supporting arts education in our schools with the goal that visual art thrives in Gaston County. For a complete bio, please click below.



## Board of Directors Officer Nominees 2020-2021



**Linda Pellerin (Co-Vice-President):** Linda has been a member of the Guild since 2018 when she took over editing and publishing the ARTworks monthly newsletter. For the past year she has served as vice-president and has agreed to serve an additional year in that capacity. She currently is responsible for the Weekly Updates, the monthly ARTworks newsletter, Facebook updates, the Guild website and publications promoting the shows, workshops and classes. For more information, click below.

**Wanda Meekins (Secretary):** Wanda has ten years of related Art Guild experience. She was one of the original artist residents at Arts on Main. As such, she volunteered several hours a month to help run the gift shop or greet visitors and give tours of the building. In 2015, she was elected vice-president of the Gaston County Art Guild and served on the Guild's Board for the next three years. In 2018, she continued to serve on the Board in the capacity of Interim President until July, 2018 when the newly elected officers took office. In her roles as vice-president and interim president, she was involved in most phases of running a non-profit in the city of Gastonia. She was also responsible for helping run the Arts on Main portion of the Guild which consisted of studios, resident artists, galleries and gift shop. For a more complete bio on Wanda, please click below.



**Donita C. Stewart (Treasurer):** Donita is our current treasurer and has agreed to serve another year. She has implemented standard accounting practices, set the organization up with an online "box" to hold all our documents, set Quickbooks to run invoices and developed some bookkeeping forms to keep the rest of us in line. She comes to GCAG with an extensive background in finance, having spent 18 years as corporate secretary and treasurer for Southwood Corporation. Her duties included implementation and management of accounting systems, financial statement reporting and management of health and commercial insurance coverages. She also served as treasurer for Arrowood Business Association in Charlotte where she was responsible to the BOD for the association financial management and reporting using Quickbooks. We are grateful for all Donita has done in the past year and look forward to working with her in the coming fiscal year.



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### In Memoriam



The members of the Gaston County Art Guild would like to extend sincere condolences to Susan Neerincx, and her family on the passing of her husband James John (Jack) Neerincx, Jr. on Friday, March 20, 2020.

He was 89. Susan is a founding member of the Gaston County Art Guild and she and Jack have supported the Guild for many years through time, talent and treasure. Please keep Susan and her family in your thoughts and prayers as they go through this time of sorrow.



**If you have an item for the ARTworks monthly newsletter, or the Weekly Update, please contact Linda Pellerin, [lrpellerin22@gmail.com](mailto:lrpellerin22@gmail.com).**

**Deadlines: ARTworks Newsletter 20th of each month  
Weekly Updates—12 noon each Saturday**