



December Newsletter – Volume 3 of 3

The Fine Arts Society of Southern Tier
P.O. Box 154, Vestal, New York, 13851-0154



Message from the Board of Director's Art Studio

The Board would like to remind everyone that as NYS re-opens its venues, please practice good habits:
Stay Safe ~ Stay Home ~ Wash Hands ~ Use Masks ~ Disinfect ~ Take the Warnings Seriously
Art and Artists are a Vital Part of Life

The 122nd Members' Show runs through 12/28/20. Come see this great show!
Located at the Oakdale Mall Temporary Gallery (former Things Remembered), Johnson City, NY.
Gallery Schedules have been updated and sent to members Email, or schedule an appointment
with Jan Wood benzjw1@gmail.com or call 607 797-1719

Category (8) Inspirational Art During COVID:

During the pandemic, many artists admitted that they found it very difficult to concentrate on art activities. The inspiration just wasn't there.
--And yet ART IS A MEANS OF SELF-EXPRESSION-GOOD OR BAD.

In an attempt to get the artist thinking about what good things have resulted during the pandemic, the Board suggested that we offer a special one-time category in our 122nd Members' Show-Inspirational Art ----and so we did.

The idea, however, for Category (8) was prompted by Governor Cuomo's design- Climbing the Mountain-NY Tough COVID poster. The Board contacted the Governor's office and we were pleased to receive Award Certificates from the Governor acknowledging our winners of Category 8-Inspirational Art during COVID.

Some of the art being prepared for the Members' Show was inspired by the health concerns we were all facing-A serene painting to help relieve anxiety, a bucket of chicken to make people laugh or a wine and cheese evening in celebration of the good fortune, we have in life. Other art in the Members' show could have easily been listed under category 8 as the pieces were very uplifting and promoted a positive feeling when viewing them.

The Board of Directors is proud to announce our artists and winners of the Inspirational Art – Category 8:

Don entered this piece in the OIL category but based on its content, it was determined to be very appropriate for Category (8)-Inspirational Art. This piece takes the viewer to a serene place which may help to reduce the anxiety during COVID. In studying Don's art over the years, he is an artist whose landscapes almost always reflect peaceful, serene settings. Very enjoyable to view. Congratulations, Don!



Don Juozitis

Honorable Mention

Governor's Recognition
Certificate

"Woodland Stream" – Oil

Serenity – during COVID

Kathy told us the inspiration behind this piece. Kathy and her husband stopped by at a local relative’s farm. The family hadn’t seen the family- friendly duck in a while. During their search, they found the duck and the chicken both sitting in a washtub that was full of hay sitting on eggs. A very unlikely pair. During COVID, Kathy reflected on that day, and thought what a great way to give people a laugh. She reduced the size of the washtub by painting a bucket with hay, featuring the chicken only. The piece does put a smile on your face- a little comic relief. Congratulations, Kathy!



Kathy Smith

Honorable Mention

“Bucket of Chicken” – Oil

Governor’s Recognition Certificate

Whimsical – We need a laugh during COVID

Daniel Sniezek

Honorable Mention

"Art Work Book"

Governor's Recognition Certificate

Daily activity coping with COVID

Dan is an artist that carries a sketchbook with him at all times. He captures many moments in time. In the prologue to his book, he mentions the classification of the virus as a pandemic which resulted in the closure of businesses, schools, churches, events etc.-wear masks, social distance, wash hands and stay home. Dan mentions that he took advantage of this time to do at least one piece of art each day. He also recorded his thoughts each day as he created his art. He then e-mailed his thoughts and art to various friends. As a recipient of his work, I found it very uplifting and looked forward to his daily communication. The e-mails continued from the onset of the classification of the virus as a pandemic and are still being done. It was great to hear that he decided to publish a collection of his pieces and it is now for sale on Amazon. Congratulations, Dan.



Jan recognized early on that staying home was very different. It sparked a lot of emotions. Television and social Media became a main Source of communication. Some communication made us smile. Some made us angry. Some gave us knowledge and Some made us re-think our beliefs. This piece was inspired by John Lewis's funeral and eulogy. When you re-examine your soul and beliefs, you realize how naïve one can be. The four Men in this piece represent their strengths and beliefs in their struggle for justice. Our pledge of allegiance acknowledged that the United States of America stands as-one nation, under GOD with Liberty and Justice for ALL. THESE FOUR MEN BELIEVED THAT. Congratulations Jan!



JANICE WOOD

“... and Justice for All” - Oil

Staying at home during COVID

Janice Wood

"Celebrating Good Fortune" - Oil

Staying at home 24/7 during COVID

Staying at home with a spouse or family member can be challenging for many. Some days are not perfect. We found ourselves grouchy, tired, bored and not as friendly or kind to each other as we were in the past. What do you do? It's very simple. FOCUS ON THE GOOD—LOVE OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS. REMEMBER ALL THE FAMILY GET-TOGETHERS WHEN YOU LAUGHED, AND CARRIED ON AND ACTED LIKE CLOWNS. DID YOU EVER LAUGH SO HARD THAT YOU COULDN'T STOP AND ANYTHING THAT REMINDED YOU OF THE ORIGINAL COMMENT MADE YOU LAUGH EVEN HARDER UNTIL YOU ALMOST CRIED? In celebration of our good fortune of family and good friends, we toast them with a glass of wine and yummy snacks. This piece represents good times and the love for one another.



A boat washed ashore and was damaged during a storm in Provincetown, Mass. Our son and daughter-in law were residing there at the time. We visited them after the storm and took a trip to see the boat. There were pieces of equipment and people surrounding the boat helping to move the boat from the jetty. People helping People. We were surprised to learn the boat could be repaired and not scrapped. It caught my eye as a possible painting that would represent a moment in time shared by all of us. The painting was finished just before the onset of the pandemic. It was to be a gift to our son and daughter-in-law when we visited them in their new home in Texas in May 2020. The painting remains in our home. But the pandemic changed that-Thoughts changed and the meaning of the painting changed. It will remain a gift of a shared moment but it also represents how things can change very quickly. The pandemic being the most critical-we see heroes working tirelessly to contain the virus and save lives- People helping people. The country is not the same. Disarray- IS IT BEYOND FIXING? WE KNOW BETTER-WE ARE RESILIENT AND WE WILL RISE ABOVE THIS-EXPERTS ARE NOW BEING CALLED UPON TO ACT AND THE VACCINE IS ON THE HORIZON. People helping people continues. WE WON'T BE TOWED AWAY AND SCRAPPED-WE ARE ALREADY MOVING FORWARD TO RESOLUTION.



JANICE WOOD

“Provincetown Boat Wreck” - Oil

How things change meaning during COVID

Janice Wood

“Ocean City, NJ” - Pastel

Trying something different during COVID

This piece was started just to experiment with pastels and was never intended to be anything more than that. The artist fussed with it on and off for several weeks and then put it aside with really no intention of ever finishing it. When the pandemic broke out, we were advised to stay home—didn't sound too bad—in a nice home and in good company. However, this began to weigh on us. Eating more, watching movie upon movie and losing creativity and motivation. Draw-Paint--There was little or no interest. Seeing people in action—heroes—people helping people and people coming together was the inspiration needed to get back on track. For starters, the pastel piece came out of the closet—let's finish it in some form. It may be a practice piece but it definitely was presenting something positive—sunshine, reflections. The more the artist worked on it, the brighter it became and the meaning became clear—The sun will rise and set again.



The Binghamton Philharmonic planned a 2-year venture to honor Beethoven’s 250th birthday. The arts community was invited to participate. BCAC and FASST decided to do a joint venture student art show. It was scheduled to be held in March, 2020. After much planning and arranging, the show was set up and opened on March 4, 2020 as planned. Unfortunately, due to the COVID outbreak, it was closed before the awards ceremony and before anyone had the opportunity to view the wonderful art pieces of local art students in Grades 9-12. Everyone was disappointed. When we heard the show would be closed, John, A FASST Board member, went to the gallery and photographed each piece with the intent to send the photos to the art teachers to forward to students and their families- a virtual show was then set up. This piece was inspired by the art of the students and represents just some of the exciting pieces that were part of the show. Since then, many other local organizations are now offering virtual shows to allow artists the opportunity to continue to showcase their art during the pandemic to avoid large gatherings in a gallery. Congratulations, John!



JOHN WOOD

Honorable Mention

“Student Art Show” – Collage
Reimagining art shows during COVID