

## MLAA Board

### Elected Officers:

Linda Happel, **President**  
[linste@sbcglobal.net](mailto:linste@sbcglobal.net)  
532-7240

Barb Conley, **Vice Pres.**  
[barcon@inreach.com](mailto:barcon@inreach.com)  
532-0207

Renetta Hayes, **Secretary**  
[rhayes714@aol.com](mailto:rhayes714@aol.com)  
984-4048

Lorna Hunt, **Treasurer**  
[lhunt@mlode.com](mailto:lhunt@mlode.com)  
533-1067

### Committee Chairs:

**Aloft Art Gallery, Dir.**  
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**Plein Aire Coordinator**  
Susan Lea Hackett,  
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& Michael Severin, 533-4774  
[Donh1@mindspring.com](mailto:Donh1@mindspring.com)  
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**Scholarship**  
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**Hospitality**  
TBA

**Venues**  
Susie Hoffman, 785-2050  
[susie@townhallarts.com](mailto:susie@townhallarts.com)



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow Artists. I am so proud of our organization. What an active group! Thanks go out to so many of you for making this year run so smoothly. First of all, I cannot thank Barbara Conley enough. Not only has she produced the most wonderful painting for our art show drawing but has also arranged all of our demonstrations this year, plus is an active member of the art show committee. Plans for the art show at the fair have come together amazingly well thanks to all the member involvement. Irene put together the Prospectus which was mailed to everyone last week. Renetta finalized the Donation Letter which was mailed at the same time to all previous donors and we have already received a few replies. Also Renetta sent publicity, the call to artists and information regarding the show in the Weekender. Theresa Bond, a new member, has ordered the ribbons, and her daughter, Susan Campi is working on the poster and postcards. Pat Gray and Jeanne Philbin have been a great help with the mailings and JoAnn Terry is chomping at the bit to start putting together the drawing prizes as they come in. And of course working with Charlotte and Stacey at the fair has been a wonderful experience. Hope I didn't miss anyone and so many have helped this year, I am so thankful for this wonderful group.



Michael Severin's Plein Aire group has painted in many wonderful areas, Heron Ranch, the site of Barbara's drawing painting, was one. If you are not on the Plein Aire list and would like to be informed of the paint out times and locations, please e-mail your e-mail address to Michael. It is wonderful to get into our beautiful outdoor surroundings and Michael's expertise and kind nature in helping his fellow artists make this an experience you don't want to miss.

Heinie Hartwig painted a great ocean scene in one hour in front of a packed membership audience, all of us watching in envy. Next month, Judie Cain will demonstrate painting in gouache. We also will have a demonstration in August this year, an added bonus, as Dale Latinen is able to come that month. There have been many requests to see Dale. Again, Barbara thanks for arranging these great guests.

We have approximately 2 months until our 63rd Annual Art Show so catch that painting fever. I believe this will be the best show ever and our show at the fairgrounds should draw a greater, more diverse crowd to fine art. Even if they just come in for the wine tasting, everyone will be impressed with the fine artist displayed in the Creekside building. We also plan to do Plein Aire demonstrations in the fairgrounds at various times the weekend of the show/fair so those interested please contact the show committee.

Thanks so much to all of you. This has been a great year!

Hugs, Linda

## Minutes of Mother Lode Art Association General Meeting, March 16, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Linda Happel at the Tuolumne County Library building with 30 members present.

The Chair reported on the outcome of the meetings with the Tuolumne County Fair Committee relative to having the MLAA Annual Art Show & Exhibit at the Fairgrounds during the Fair, July 10 -12, 2015. Copies of the Proposal were distributed and are attached as part of these minutes. After discussion relative to the pros and cons of having the show in conjunction with the County Fair, Jim Alsup made the motion and Irene Taylor seconded it to have the show in July at the Fair. Motion carried and the Show Committee will progress with the planning.

The Minutes of the February Meeting and Treasurers report were available on the front table.

Louise King announced that the wooden eggs she had ordered for us to paint at the meeting did not arrive because of the dock strike and would be reordered at a later date.

Michael Severin reported on the plain air paint outs. The group had the 2<sup>nd</sup> outing in Tuolumne City which was successful. He announced there will be not set schedule but the plein air group will be notified when a venue is planned. The Sierra Glen Apple Ranch will be visited in the future. The next paint out is Thurs., March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Herron Ranch.

Susie Hoffman had signup sheets for the various venues for members hanging art around Sonora. The change out will be April 29<sup>th</sup> for three months.

The Chair introduced the Scholarship applicants: Amanda Walker and Brittany Henry. Both are Colombia College students graduating and continuing their education at a four year institution. Amanda is a mother of five with an autistic son. She has used art with her son to improve his communication skills and hopes to pursue a dual degree in education and art. Brittany had some negative influences in her life that she overcame through exploring and developing her art and is looking for an internship with Disney and move into an illustrator job after her degree. The \$1,000 Scholarship was awarded to Amanda Walker.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 for a refreshment break and resumed with an interactive demonstration of watercolor techniques with Carolyn MacPherson. Carolyn took the members through a step by step progression to create different types of skies. The process was enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Renetta Hayes, Secretary

## Mother Lode Art Association Interim Minutes April 20, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Linda Happel at 1:00 p.m. The chair introduced guests that were present: Chuck Knowles, a western artist from Columbia; Ruth Walter, recently returned to the area as her husband is the new pastor of the red church; Carmen Northen, a cousin of Barbara Conleys who is a photographer; Michelle Huddleston, a self proclaimed beginning artist; Gaye Griffiths from Lake Tullock, also a beginner; Michael Kelly, a budding artist and Steve Park, a long time admirer of Heinie Hartwig, who came with JoAnn Terry from Oakdale.

Program Chairman, Barbara Conley announced the May demo would be Judie Cain and June will be Chris Spracklin. There will be no business meetings in July or August but we will have demonstrations from Jane Hofstetter in July and Dale Latinen in August.

The minutes of the March meeting were read by Secretary, Renetta Hayes and as there were no corrections or additions, they were approved as read.

The Chair announced that the Sponsor letters and prospectus for the July Art Show & Exhibit were mailed last week. Lorna Hunt created a poster for the donated Barbara Conley Grand Prize original oil painting. The painting will go on display at the Aloft Gallery for sales of opportunity tickets and letters will be sent to each member with opportunity tickets the week of April 27<sup>th</sup>.

The Chair announced that MLAA was required by the Fair to have liability insurance and because the Aloft carries liability insurance under the MLAA auspices, MLAA was already covered by that policy. That was good news. The night of the reception, Gianelli and Inner Sanctum will be pouring wine in the Creekside Building which is the building in which our show will exhibit. The Fair will also be providing food that evening. They will also be providing a bus the night of the reception to ferry guests and artists to the reception. Tickets to the Fair for \$5 will be available for artists when they bring their entries. It is planned to have plein air painting demos on the Fairgrounds during the Fair.

The plein air group are having paint outs on a regular basis. Michael Severin has a list that he utilizes to let members know of the paint outs. Susan Lea Hackett advised that if you are not on his list but wish to be notified, please let him know at [cdodge@mlode.com](mailto:cdodge@mlode.com). Susan showed three paintings she has recently done on the plein air paint outs. As the weather warms, she will start up some paints out further up the hill in the afternoons.

Susie Hoffman passed out Town Hall Arts classes to be held and announced the venues to be taken down and put up at the end of the month. Connie O'Connor announced she will be getting information relative to Umpqua and Stage 3 artists so she can include them in her publicity.

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Irene Taylor is working with her to arrange space for artists to have an area in Casa on Thursdays from 1 – 4 pm as a place to gather and paint. More to come on this!!

Pat Gray announced that Louise Giersch has moved out of the area and she passed a card around for those who knew her to sign. Her address will be given in the newsletter for those who would like to know. Cary McGrew brought in a large amount of art supplies that Louise gave her to bring to the meeting. Members were encouraged to help themselves. It did not take long for the table to be stripped of all supplies and some happy artists were made. It was announced the Wild Rose Gallery would be having a Red Church Day sale on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Paintings of the Red Church need to be dropped off by April 27<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds to benefit the Red Church (what else)!

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 for refreshments and reconvened shortly thereafter for an oil painting demo by Heinie Hartwig. Heinie’s method of doing his underpainting in mid values, then putting on a varnish then completing the painting using very light brush strokes to put in the lighter and darker values, then varnishing again was very informative and interesting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Renetta Hayes, Secretary

### MLAA Venues:

**Aloft Gallery:**

Eva Walker  
Sulastri Linville

**Serventes:**

Lizz Heald  
Theresa Bond

**Umpqua Bank:**

MJ St. Claire

**Pulmonary:**

Cary McGrew

**Anticoagulation:**

Pat Gray

**Dr. Perez:**

Barb Young

## Aloft Gallery News

Spring is here! May is the start of our new year. We have a full house this year with Geneva Davis-Seasons coming back to the Aloft and new members, Joan Muggleton and Doris Olsen joining us with their wonderful art. MLAA also returned with a space to showcase MLAA artists.

If you have not been to the Aloft lately, you are missing out on one of the best secrets in Sonora for art, gifts and cards.

Come join us on May 9, Second Saturday, for the fun and look around.

Our fundraiser this year was for the Sonora Cat Rescue and they had kittens for adoption in the Gallery and were they the scene-stealers. The Aloft Gallery was please to give the Sonora Cat Rescue \$800.

If you have ever considered joining the Aloft, there is now a waiting list. Since we are a member operated gallery, that means committing ten calendar dates each fiscal year and participating in monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday events. Unlike other galleries the artist gets to keep 90% of their sales price.

**Aloft Art Gallery:**

167 S. Washington St. (across from Sonora Inn)  
Telephone 209-588-8604

[www.aloftartgallery.com/](http://www.aloftartgallery.com/)  
[www.facebook.com/AloftArtGallery](https://www.facebook.com/AloftArtGallery)

## LIFE DRAWING AT STUDIO B

Next drawing dates are Fridays, 11 AM - 1 PM, May 8th and May 22.

Sherie Drake, organizer of this class is in need of models also. The models can be clothed. Call or email Sherie at [drake@mlode.com](mailto:drake@mlode.com) or 209-588-1682.



# HISTORY

- Mother Lode Art Association (Founded in 1952)

## **Their mission:**

"The Mother Lode Art Association is a non-profit organization founded in 1952 to promote the arts and the appreciation of the arts in our community".

- Tuolumne County Arts Alliance (Founded in 1970 as the Central Sierra Arts Council (CSAC) - renamed in 2013)

## **It's Mission:**

"To promote the arts and arts education in Tuolumne County, thereby enriching the lives of its residents and visitors".

Tuolumne County Arts Alliance is the Mandated Public Art Agency of Tuolumne County by virtue of being the recipient of a competitive State and Local Partnership Grant as awarded from the California Arts Council (CAC). CSAC predated the California Arts Council by 6 years and had originally been intended to serve the Central Sierra. After 1976 and the creation of the CAC by then Gov, Jerry Brown 56 "county arts councils" were created.

So, as you can see the two organizations are and always have been totally separate, and one is 63 years old and one is 45 years old. Having said that however, the two organizations have enjoyed a long and close relationship and have promoted and assisted the goals of both for the benefit of all. We have often collaborated together through many years to promote the Arts in Tuolumne County and have strengthened our economy as a result.

MLAA exists to serve its membership. They also have a very viable scholarship program and help showcase both emerging and long time artists display their works in the community on a regular basis. They have also financially supported the work [s] and programs of TCAA through the years - which is a truly wonderful thing!

TCAA exists to serve the schools in Tuolumne County and ALL of the artists residing and working in Tuolumne County - it also serves all of the cultural organizations, such as the theatres, literary groups, public art, 2-D and 3-D art, film - etc.



Harris Ranch  
by Barbara Conley  
Grand Prize,  
2015 MLAA Art Show

In partnership with  
the **Mother Lode Fair**

**63rd MLAA Annual Juried Art Exhibit**  
**Show Dates: July 10, 11, 12, 2015**

**Mother Lode Fairgrounds**  
**Creekside Building**  
**Stockton Road ♦ Sonora, CA**

**MLAA Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the Month at the Tuolumne County Library**  
Greenley Road, Sonora CA.

**General meeting are scheduled from 1 - 3 pm.**

2015 Meeting Schedule. No meetings held in July, August and December!

May 17, 2015    June 15, 2015  
Sept. 21, 2015    Oct. 19, 2015    Nov. 16, 2015

## **Newsletter Information**

Please notify the Newsletter Editor, Irene Taylor of any of your art showings, art shows, art opportunities, awards won and general art interesting articles. Newsletters are published every two months: remaining newsletters for 2015 will be published June 30, September 30 and November 30. Please send your articles and pictures no less than 5 days before publication time to Irene Taylor at [irenewcartist@gmail.com](mailto:irenewcartist@gmail.com).

## FEATURED ARTIST



**Susan Lea Hackett** was born in Southern California, and she always knew that she was an artist. Her mother was a master needleworker and her grandmother an accomplished Plein Aire oil painter, who painted with her friends in the San Gabriel valley. At the age of twenty, she escaped to northern California and earned her Bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley in 1970, majoring in studio art with an emphasis on painting. After graduation, she worked for five years for the San Francisco models' guild, and posed for many of the



San Francisco figurative artists. Most of her working life was spent in geriatrics, teaching arts to frail elders. In 1984, she began making quilts, and has received awards both locally and nationally for her unique art quilts. In the late nineties, a community art center, Frank Bette Center for the Arts, opened on the very corner of the block where she lived. She returned to her roots in figure drawing and painting there, and was able to show and sell her work in the gallery. She and her husband Don were lucky enough to build their dream home on the banks of the Stanislaus river in Strawberry, Ca., at 5,300ft in the Sierras. She moved there full time in 2010, and is now active in the Mother Lode Art Association, coordinating their Plein Aire paint-outs along with Michael Severin. Plein Aire and studio watercolor work is her current great love, and you will find her most days painting by her window or on her deck, inspired by the sounds of the birds and the river. Susan is represented by the Frank Bette Center for the Arts in Alameda and the Ventana gallery in Sonora.

Here are some of her paintings from 2014:

## Plein Aire Paintouts

led by Michael Severin and Susan Lea Hackett

We have had many successful outings in the last two months, and enjoyed some fellowship along with group critiques and discussion. The outings are scheduled about a week in advance, with flexible days and times to accommodate the light and weather. If you want to be notified of these outings, you must email Michael Severin to get on the list. if you do not have email, you can call susan at 965-0253.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS



JUDIE CAIN will be our demonstrator at the May 18th meeting. She will demo with oil paints using a limited color palette.

A native of Burlingame, CA, Judie studied at California College of Arts after high school. Family responsibilities behind her, and taking early retirement from the business world, Cain returned to painting by attending college, numerous workshops and taking private lessons.

Painting from life as much as possible, her colorful paintings are uplifting and inspiring.

She has taught her workshops, “Basic Nuts & Bolts of Oil Painting” and “Color Demystified” in the western states as well as other local venues. She currently teaches adult summer classes covering painting fundamentals and color. She will be teaching “The Four Value System” at Town Hall Arts, in Copperopolis, on May 30th.

Judy has been represented in galleries in Washington, Oregon, New Mexico and California, including Murphys, Sonora, Copperopolis and Carmel. Judie lives in Murphys.

For information about her paintings, gallery representation, classes and studio, please go to [www.cainart.com](http://www.cainart.com) or call 209-728-2267 (studio) or 559-3345 cell. Email: [cainart@goldrush.com](mailto:cainart@goldrush.com)

**CHRIS SPRACKLIN** will be our demonstrator at the June 15 meeting. She will demo making a mask using natural materials: ethnic masks. She will bring the needed supplies.

Kina, aka, Christine Spracklin, has been making masks and garden art for ten years. Her whimsical designs have brought delight to all who own her work.

She has shown her work at shows in San Francisco, Sacramento, Sonora and Columbia, taking honors at numerous events. Her creations adorn homes and gardens of people throughout the world.



### **MLAA Art Show - another opportunity for your support!**

One of the major ways your MLAA supports scholarships is by selling raffle tickets for donations made by YOU and the community. There are usually several “theme” baskets, community event tickets, coupons and paintings and/or workshops. Many of these items are created and/or donated by our members.

PLEASE be thinking about how you can help support your art association. You may also want to ask your local business friends to donate a basket, coupon or tickets.

Thank you for your support!



## MOTHER LODE ART ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Categories: (check one)

Individual  Business

\$15.00 Senior 75 & Older \_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 Patron \_\_\_\_\_

\$20.00 General \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00 + Benefactor \_\_\_\_\_

\$50.00 Patron \_\_\_\_\_

\$100.00 Benefactor \_\_\_\_\_

\$250.00+ Lifetime \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **MOTHER LODE ART ASSOCIATION.**

**P.O. Box 5140**

**Sonora, CA 95370**

We encourage you to enjoy the wonderful Artist Demonstrations and Programs we have the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at the Tuolumne County Library, Greenley Rd., Sonora. Meetings are at 1:00 pm.

## Mother Lode Art Association

P.O. Box 5140

Sonora, CA 95370