

Newsletter: December, 2019



Southgate Living Center, Julio Drive, Shrewsbury. The entrance is handicapped accessible. Southgate is requesting that AGS members, when attending presentations, enter and exit through the front of the building and sign in and out for security reasons.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 2, 6:45 to 9:00

It's holiday season. Our December 2 meeting is our traditional pot luck and art share. We want to extend a special invitation to past members to join us for this social event. Let us know what you've been doing with your art, and catch up with your friends in AGS. Please join us if you can to kick off the holiday season! This is a good time to socialize and be merry.

At our last meeting Elaine Milosz distributed a survey of member interests. Twenty members responded, and Elaine wrote a complete list of comments. Let us know if you want to see it. The most popular meetings involve art shares and the chance to talk with other artists. Members also want to talk about art and to learn more about it.

Upcoming Shows and Events:

Our annual juried show begins Friday, December 6 and continues until December 30. Called "Places in the Heart," it's at the Northborough Free Library, 34 Main Street in Northborough. The artists' reception is from 4:30 to 6 p.m. that Friday.

If you want to show your work at the show, send your STAMPP to Liz MacDonald at gemem@townisp.com or call her at 508-842,8376. Deadline for sending your STAMPP is Friday, November 29, the day after Thanksgiving. On December 5, drop off your work any time from 3 to 4 p.m., also at the Northborough Free Library. Make sure your pieces are no larger than 16x20 each. As a reminder, STAMPP means Size, Title, Artist, Material, and Price per Picture and is the source of info for the tag below each work in the exhibit. The entry fee is \$8.00 for 1 piece or \$10.00 for 2.

December 3 is a busy day for AGS. The reception for the Southgate show with Lori Aberg and Jackie Stein is from 2 to 4 p.m. It's called "Inspired by Nature."

At 4 p.m. the same day, you can go to the Shrewsbury Credit Union to drop off an art work for "Artist's Choice," the next show in the series there. The credit union is at 489 Boston Turnpike, corner of Route 9 and Lake Street. The hanging is from 4 to 5 p.m. The show continues until January 22.

STAMPP submission deadline for the above credit union show is Friday, November 29. Note that this is the day after Thanksgiving and the same deadline as for "Places in the Heart."

Ongoing Activities:

The Tuesday art workshop is at the Shrewsbury Senior Center, 9-11 a.m. every Tuesday. Free--bring your own projects to work on. Composed mostly of AGS members, 6-12 people generally attend. The Senior Center is at 98 Maple Avenue.

Sid Solomon's Free People's Artists Workshop meets the fourth Monday of each month, 7-9 p.m. at Annie's Bookstop, 65 James Street in Worcester. This is a critique group for responding to members' music, poetry, stories, and especially art. The next meeting is this coming Monday, November 25.



Recent Shows and Events:

At our last meeting, Refugee Artisans of Worcester (RAW) made a presentation and offered their art work for sale. RAW partners with refugee weavers, basket makers, bamboo craftspeople, sculptors, seamstresses, embroiderers and painters. Current refugees are from Bhutan, Burma (Myanmar), Iraq, Syria, Rwanda, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Bangladesh and Guatemala. They have typically spent many difficult years in refugee camps abroad.

Four RAW members showed their work and demonstrated at the meeting. Ellen Ferrante (from New York City) made the PowerPoint presentation. Tu Meh (from Burma and then Thailand) is a backstrap weaver who learned her craft from weavers in her village in Burma. Backstrap weaving takes this name because it has a strap that goes across the weaver's back. The whole device is quite portable. With a backstrap loom Tu brocades designs into the fabric as she weaves.

Halima Chalihou (from the Central African Republic and five years as a refugee in Chad) does elaborate embroidery. Besides fabric greeting cards, she makes decorated jean jackets and vests.

Nandi Keshar Guragai was first from Bhutan, east of Nepal, and then he and his wife spent many years at a refugee camp in Nepal. Nandi works mostly with bamboo but also with fabric. That night he knitted with yarn. He is very productive, we are told.

Member Portrait:

Ralph Parente has been teaching for some 50 years. During the past ten years he has been teaching an on-line course in art appreciation and appreciation through Quinsigamond Community College. Now is quite different from his past teaching, he says. Then he used no color slides, no videos, no CDs. He used black and white materials with texts no longer than 100 pages. Ralph has a B.A. from Massachusetts College of Art and an M.A. in art from Pennsylvania State University. He also studied at Lawrence University in Sarasota, Florida. While chairing the art department at Anna Maria College in 1972, he began his association with Quinsigamond and has loved it ever since.



Ralph has traveled extensively, starting in 1954 with his first grand tour of Europe. He still travels. Focusing on museums, he loves to observe the wonders of creativity. His teaching includes experiences in New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Massachusetts. But "dogs are my life," he says.



**AGS Exhibit Schedule at Shrewsbury Credit Union
2019–2020**

Dec. – Jan. 28 “Artist’s Choice”
April 1 – May 15 “Complementary Colors”
May 15 – June 15 “Nature’s Best”

Chairperson: Joseph Rice,
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Membership & Treasury: Chris Anderson,
Leif22@townisp.com, 508-791-8103
Exhibits Chair: Liz McDonald,
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Member at Large: Gerri Ledoux,
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Member at Large: Robert Wilson, 774-275-0827
rrwilson55@gmail.com

Cancellations:

Meeting or event cancellations will be posted on the AGS website. All members will be emailed by 4 p.m. Any member may call Joseph Rice (508-393-3405) to confirm a cancellation.

Rides:

Need a ride to the next meeting? Let someone on the Steering Committee know a few days ahead and we'll send it out with the e-mailed reminder.

Website:

<http://www.artistguildshrewsbury.com/>

Please contact Joseph Rice if you would like to show your work on a gallery page on our web site.

Guests:

Bring a guest whenever you can to our meetings. Members who bring a guest don't have to pay the \$5 for the guest. Of course we hope you'll invite a guest who might like to join at some point. On their own, a guest pays \$5 per meeting. Members who live at Southgate don't pay dues and are admitted free to meetings.