

June 2015



FCA NEWSLETTER



President's Message

I am hoping that you are all on your way to an enjoyable summer.

The studio painters are once again toying with the idea of painting en plein air. But, of course, the bear spray is now four years old. Oh well! Safety First! So it's back to the studio.

For some this a hiatus, a time to answer the call of the wild or the deck. Perhaps it is also a time for reflection on your art journey and setting your course for what is to come. Whatever it is, carpe diem! or as Walt Whitman said, "Do anything, but let it produce joy". ((Leaves of Grass) and take advantage of the extra hours of natural light. (Walt didn't say that!)

I recently joined Sheila Mitchell for a tour of the studio and gallery of the In-Definite Art Society, the program she shared with us at our last general meeting. What a great affirmation of the power of art and the resilience of the human spirit. Brain injuries and developmental disabilities can't extinguish the creative spark. More to come on this in the fall.

A reminder to our new members that we would like to get to know you better at our September general meeting. We invite you to take five minutes or so to introduce yourself and share a piece of your work. Let us know if you would like to participate by sending an email to iambobmcallister@gmail.com

Bob McAllister

What's Happening at September FCA Meeting

Come September, lots of school kids will be writing that essay titled "What I did on my summer vacation."

In addition to meeting some of our new members in September, we want to give you an opportunity to "Show and Tell". (See President's Message for more info.)

Bring along a piece of summer work that brought you pleasure to create, perhaps a memento of a special moment, a surprise, a learning experience, whatever! We look forward to seeing the fruit of your labour.

FCA CALGARY CHAPTER

Meetings resume on September 15th, 2015 at 7 pm
at Lakeview Community Centre, 6110 – 34th Street SW

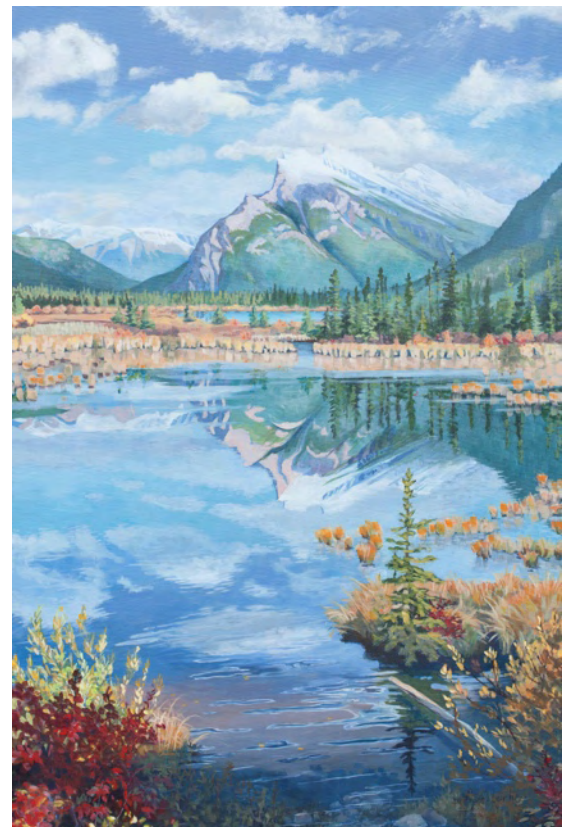
News from Members

Right: Dawn Heinemeyer's piece "Bronco Bustin" was selected to be in the Western Art Auctions



Right: My painting "Vermilion Lakes Fall Reflections" was juried into the National Crossing Boundaries Exhibition entitled "Splendor of Canada" (May 16-24, 2015 at the International Arts Gallery and May 26 to June 7, 2015 at the Federation of Canadian Artists Gallery. The purpose of this exhibition is to promote the development of appreciation, and understanding and exchanges of arts and culture between Western and Chinese arts in Canada. 30 artists were selected to participate by jury from the Federation of Canadian Artists (FCA) alongside 30 artists from the International Arts Gallery for a total of 60 exhibiting artists.

I attended the May 16 opening at the International Village Mall in Vancouver at the International Arts Gallery. Forty of the sixty artists were present. It was an unusual experience with many people attending including representatives from the FCA, the IAG, senior Chinese artists, the municipal, the provincial and federal governments as well as an ambassador from the China, many dignitaries and guests. There were speeches, media coverage, an invitation-only reception and they even published an exhibition catalogue with photos of the individual artists, their paintings and their profiles and biographies. It was not the usual wine and cheese opening I expected. As artists sitting together we all felt quite overwhelmed but appreciative.



Maureen Flynn-Burhoe

Absolutely Art Show

May 9th 2015 at Haysboro Community Centre



Video Library News Return Late Videos Without Penalty

If members arrange to return
outstanding DVD's
before the end of June,
the overdue charges (\$5 per month)
will be waived. Contact Judie
Poppewell at
judie@judiepopplewell.com



Photos by Ludmila Kalinina

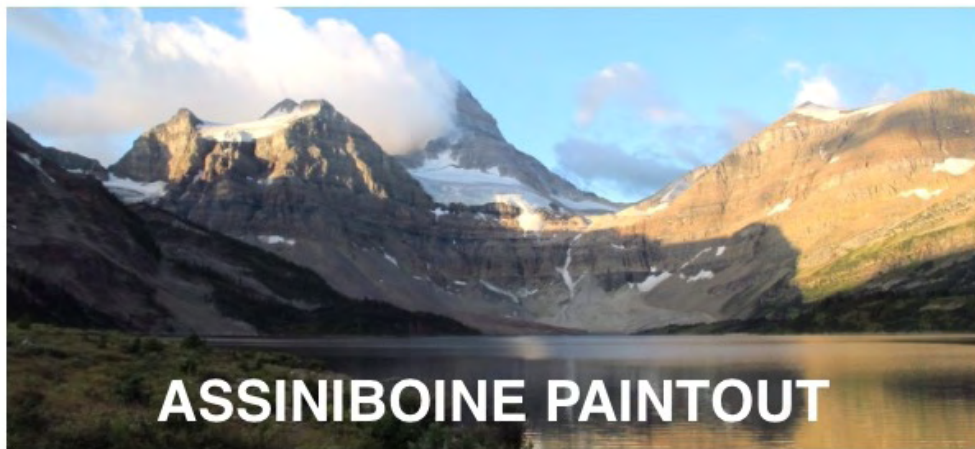
Volunteer at the FCA's Casino

at the Deerfoot Casino Saturday and Sunday, November 21 and 22, 2015.

This our opportunity to secure significant funding for the ongoing efforts of the Federation of Canadian Artists. As well, volunteers receive \$100, \$150 or \$200 credit (depending on the length of shift worked.) There isn't another FCA meeting before the deadline so please take a few minutes now to complete the Casino Volunteer Worker Application available on the link below.

Send completed form to Dawn Heinemeyer at dawn.heinemeyer@shaw.ca

http://www.fcacalgary.ca/pdf/files/casino_volunteer_form.pdf



August 16-19, 2015

**\$400 includes 3 nights in a Naiset Hut and helicopter in and out
Some shared cooking**

**Paint, photograph or hike the fabulous landscape with 7 other enthusiasts.
Contact Patti Dymant - pdymantart@hotmail.com for more info.**



Promote Your Art Show or Workshop in the Calgary FCA Newsletter

Members are invited to submit information on their workshops and art shows for publication in this newsletter. Contact Caran Magaw at cmagaw@shaw.ca with your submissions.

General Monthly Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, May 19, 2015, Lakeview Community Centre

President, Bob McAllister, called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Minutes of April Meeting. As there was no April Newsletter, the membership did not have an opportunity to review the minutes for the last meeting. Hence, no vote on approval of these minutes could occur.

Treasurer Report. There was no report.

Casino and Workshops. Tami Hort reported that the next casino will be on November 21 and 22, 2015 at the Deerfoot Casino. Hence, the Richard McDiarmid workshop will need to be cancelled or rescheduled as it conflicted with the casino dates. This workshop may occur during February, 2016, but no commitment can be made so far ahead. The information for this casino will be in the June Newsletter. All forms need to be filled out and submitted to AGLC by August. Forms for the casino are available on our website, and were available in hard copy at the meeting. Filled out forms are to be emailed, or mailed to Dawn Heinemeyer. Bob McAllister is to send out an email to members with the link to our website for the form as it is hard to find. We need more ideas on how we can utilize the funds generated from the casinos. Historically it's been the same members that attend the casinos. New members are encouraged to participate as well. A 2 day workshop by Doug Swinton will be held on June 5 and 6. There are still people on the waiting list. All funds earmarked for the workshops will be utilized.

Absolutely Art Show – May 9th – Haysboro. The awards for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners is a gift certificate for \$300 from Kensington Art Supply. The awards for 3 Honorable Mention winners is a gift certificate for \$50, also from Kensington. The person that delivered our easels and other equipment and materials in the FedEx truck to our shows is no longer available. We need someone that has a van that can perform this function, and the Calgary Chapter will pay for this service. If any member is interested, or knows someone that can perform this function, please let the Executive know. Janie Lockwood reported that about 300 people attended the Show. 7 paintings were sold. The show was well organized and Haysboro community centre was happy with the cleanup. \$456 was collected for the Food Bank. Attendees indicated that they heard about the show mostly from the small and bold signs, and by word of mouth. No one indicated that they found out about the show from our website. Bob mentioned that our shows look like every other art organization's shows around the city. What can we do to change this? Ideas need to be brought forward and were discussed later in the meeting.

Video Library. Judie Popplewell reported that there are still 10 videos signed out. The cataloguing of the library has started and will be finished by the first meeting in September. New rules are being enforced to encourage members to return the videos in a timely manner. If a video is not returned by the end of the 2nd month, a letter will be sent out. If after the 3rd month the video is still not returned, then the delinquent member will be billed for replacement cost of that video.

Utilization of Casino Funds. The rest of the meeting was devoted to how we can use casino funds differently and improve our profile. One of our mandates is for art education of ourselves and the public. Funding can be used for bursaries at local universities and colleges. However, we must be careful that we do not use the funds to promote ourselves. One idea is to bring art education to kids. However, we cannot use casino funds to pay our own members to do any instructing. Sheila Mitchell identified an opportunity with Indefinite Arts Society. They are involved with teaching art to people with developmental issues. We would be helping them and there would also be teaching opportunities there for our members, and we could also put on a show there and have some of our members put on a presentation. Also, we might consider giving them a donation from our casino funds. The public needs to get to know our artists as well as their art. Perhaps a brochure could be prepared outlining the history of the Federation of Canadian Artists and the standards that our members need to meet to attend juried shows and the recognition some of artists can achieve through attaining Signature Status. Perhaps this brochure could come out next year to coincide with our 35th anniversary. Having more members seek signature status would raise our profile. We could also get involved with the City on their lamp post banner program. We are doing well with our Workshops, but perhaps there is a way to involve the public and impact the community. There could be opportunities to display art at hotels in the downtown, or at East Village. There are many new condominium projects coming up around the downtown where we could showcase our work. More ideas need to come forward on marketing our work. Perhaps we can consider hosting art shows that last more than one day. Shaw Cable could also do interviews of some of our Signature Status members. To raise our profile perhaps Bob could open our shows and publicly give out the awards to our award winners. We could also do a show that would include work from other Chapters, but this would be a lot of work. We could do a show of our Chapter at the Federation Gallery in Vancouver, but that space is limited. AGLC funds could be used to ship art to the gallery in Vancouver. We could also look at ideas in the past that failed, re-evaluate them and perhaps try them again. We need to involve kids – the Vancouver painting in the park was successful. We could also do something during the Folk Festival. The more that the public is educated, the more art is sold. There are apps available that can demonstrate how a painting would look in various home settings. Perhaps something like this could be set up at one of our shows. We could invite prominent artists to be present at our shows so that our reputation can be elevated. Another idea is to have a plein air painting retreat and utilize some of our workshop instructors to assist us. As a chapter we are missing connecting with each other, and a retreat like this would help. We also need to look at other revenue streams than just AGLC. Perhaps we can find some sponsors. A committee needs to be formed to look at all of these options and others, and then report back. Bob and Tami will go to the next AGLC meeting and report on our aspirations.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by Bob McAllister at 8:15 PM. The meeting was followed by a garage sale. Submitted by Ron Czemerer