



THE PALETTE NEWS  
 FAYETTE SOCIETY OF FINE ART  
 AUGUST 2023

July's demo was presented by Michael Montgomery. Michael has a very lively talk about how he got into the world of art and eventually ended up creating fine art. He decided to teach himself art because he didn't get good feedback from his college professors at UGA. Michael is from Macon, Ga and started out getting great exposure making buttons and graphics for water bottles. Right after he married, he went to New York and went to Mad Magazine and was told that he needed to move to a city where illustrated art is purchased. So he and his wife relocated to New York where he practiced a lot and when into Manhattan and showed his work to many people. The Tribune called and he was hired to illustrate! Newspapers at the time only registered black and white. It was very difficult to create the illustrations without making mistakes. Someone told him about a Blue pen (Non repro blue) that the camera couldn't see and suddenly drawing was SO easy!

Michael moved back to Georgia with his family and began working for Ad agencies, books and etc. He said he never knew of anyone doing a small art piece and then blowing it up; it's always the other way around because when you reduce a piece, the mistakes are also reduced. When Michael was producing political cartoons he never worked in color. He learned to illustrate by going to the library

and learning from illustrators annuals but the learning was very slow. The way illustration works is that there was a 'stable' of illustrators and the editors knew what each artist could do well and there wasn't any crossover. Michael enjoyed the work as an illustrator because you were given parameters (usually something like what was needed and how many pages) and a deadline so it was like a puzzle to solve. It was all business and they wanted to work with you to make the two of you money. An illustrator's job was to make their wishes look good so that you'd get other jobs.

As an artist, he found it harder because the artist makes all the decisions (so he said he usually would ask the wife!). Michael said he could easily start obsessing over something and end up stuck. He moved from illustrations to artist because things like computers and adobe Photoshop came along and were much faster and cheaper. Progress has chipped away at traditional illustration. Michael said he found it hard to come up with ideas. It was the opposite of what he always had done. He found it hard to come up with the problem or the story.

Michael says he will paint from anything that works. The only thing that counts is the final product. He likes to print out he drawings big – at the size he plans to paint (he has a big printer) and then critiques it; making changes and then reprints the piece to start painting the subject. Michael says he practices a lot and has over 70 sketchbooks full of drawings trying to get ideas down. The last thing in working a portrait is to put the highlights in the eyes. He works progressively from the bottom moving up the subject to the focus of interest area. Michael uses oils with Alkyd resin and Gamblin (Galkid) medium to mix with the oil to speed up drying time. He started out painting on illustration board because it was cheaper. He has done a lot of sports stuff for schools and some sells while others don't. He has been doing commissions and painting in fine art for four years. Michael does not teach but we all learned from his presentation that he has a wonderful way with telling a story!



## President's Message

Hello artists and friends of the arts!

As the temps begin to drop from the high 90's, and leaves begin to change, it's the perfect time to enjoy making art outdoors. Whether you're into Plein Air painting, showing in one of our local outdoor festivals, or just enjoying browsing at local art events and upcoming studio tours, that time of year is upon us!

To find opportunities for making art outdoors, please check out the Southside Sketcher's page on Facebook or Instagram. This wonderful group of artists coordinates dates and beautiful locations all over our area, and everyone is invited to come as you are to make art! You can draw, do photography, or paint at your leisure.

There are a couple of upcoming special opportunities for participating in outdoor events for our members. Please stay tuned for the artist calls coming out soon!

Be sure to check out upcoming events and mark your calendars, as October-November are full of great arts opportunities!

Yours in the arts,  
Gwen Brown

## 2023 FSOFA Officer

President	Gwen Brown
Vice President	Nancy Allgood
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Barbara Kelly
Secretary	JD Dirkschneider
Treasurer	Ted Dirkschneider
Webmaster	Rachel Mashburn
Demo Coordinator	Katy Farr
Editor	Kayre Pierce

## Area Bank and Library Display Schedule

	<b>The First Bank</b> formally the Heritage Bank, N. Jeff Davis	<b>Synovus,</b> Hwy 54W	<b>Peachtree City Library</b>
<b>Sept 1</b>	Vicki Turner	Linda Hawley	Ina Jones/Dave Jones
<b>Oct 1</b>	Susanna Howle	Neil Crane	Ina Jones/Dave Jones

# ANNOUNCEMENTS:

## Meeting

We are meeting Fayette County Library at 1821 Heritage pkwy in Fayetteville on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month. Our next meeting is **Sept 11 @ 6:30 p.m.** For our September meeting, we will have a three member panel including Barbara Omerod, Barbara Kelly and Vicki Turner. Each will bring some artwork and talk about their art journey and their work followed by a Q and A.

**Thank  
You**

Thank you for your donations for door prizes for our monthly meetings! We love door prizes! If you have something that we can add to our 'vault' of prizes, please bring the items to Susanna Howle at one of the meetings.

**Please Note:** Fayette Senior Services has updated their Artist Gallery Agreement waivers. All artists displaying at Fayette Senior Services, please fill out the new form in their book. A copy of the updated form can be found in the Member's Area of our website at [www.fsofa.org](http://www.fsofa.org) on the Fayette Senior Services page.



**FSOFA Member Art Call!** Please send Rachel, our new webmaster, good quality photos of some of your best work, so she can incorporate them into the website design. If you don't yet have an artist profile and you'd like one, please send a short bio, along with good photos of 3-5 of your best pieces, and your social media links to Rachel at [canvasforone@gmail.com](mailto:canvasforone@gmail.com)

Join our own [Fayette Society of Fine Art Public Facebook Page](#), or the private [FSOFA Member's only group](#) to stay connected to the local arts scene, and to share your progress as an artist!



# Opportunities:

**Social Media Coordinator:** This person would manage our public Facebook Page, working with our Webmaster and Marketing team to promote our upcoming demo artist and monthly meeting, re-share local art themed events, and exhibits, etc. Shares would be 2+ times per week, and interacting on the page to build a following among the local arts community. Training is available.

**Official Photographer(s):** Do you enjoy photography and attending arts events? I would like to have several photographers who could be on the lookout for great shots, could share photos from our meetings, FSOFA art exhibits, and could help with headshots or group photos from time to time. You would work with our marketing team to promote the Art Society and our local artists! If you can help, please text Gwen at 770-461-5787 or email at [hi\\_itsgwen@yahoo.com](mailto:hi_itsgwen@yahoo.com)

## ART Events: Ongoing...

*Newnan Coweta Arts Association is now hosting a First Friday gallery walk on the first Friday of every month from 6-8 PM. It's a great way to meet other local artists, and a fun date or family night! Follow the [NCAA on Facebook](#) to keep up with their activities and events.*



The September-October Art Initiative featured show at the Peachtree City Library will be 8 members of the Peachtree City Photography Club, "A Walk on the Wild side". Reception: Saturday September 16, 3-4:30. Public welcomed. Viewing is during Library hours.



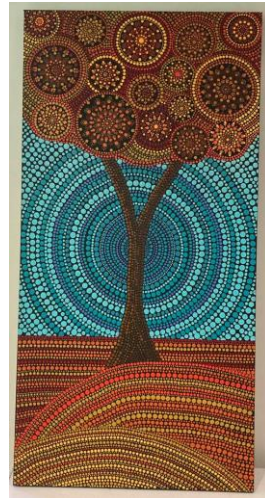
The Southside Sketchers are taking a break from the heat! Please continue to watch the Southside Sketchers' social media pages for paint-outs! Locations, dates & times of all paint-outs are available on the group's Instagram account (@SouthsideSketchersPlainAir) or on their Facebook page (Southside Sketchers Plain Air)





## CANVAS CORNER

This month, we want to highlight, Theresa Ackerly, a new member. Theresa works in Acrylics. Her website is [teresaackerlyart.com](http://teresaackerlyart.com) or you can find her work on Instagram @teresaackerly. Check out her story on Instagram!



## Prayer and Care List

- Please keep the family of Vicky Turner in your prayers. Her son in law, Steve Boyd is fighting stomach cancer.
- Please pray for Sherri and Dennis Anderson. Dennis is sick with pneumonia, and Sheri is caring for him.
- Please keep Dennis Brown, father of Rachel Mashburn in your prayers as he has received a cancer diagnosis, and is starting treatment.

We missed that Cindy Lockwood is recovering from surgery last month! Please keep her in your prayers.

We are always happy to share your Care and Prayer requests. Our members can't offer support if we don't know! Please email by the 22nd of each month for inclusion in the newsletter to Kayre Pierce ([pier85@bellsouth.net](mailto:pier85@bellsouth.net)).

