



Blue Heron Chapter of the Sumi-e Society of America

Blue Heron News

September 2022

Announcements: 2022-23 Chapter Meetings

- **September 18** — Please bring cards to the Chapter meeting at Kempsville Christian Church to cheer those in hospital care.
- **October 1** — Booth at Children's Festival at Waterside in Norfolk (see [page 3](#) for details).
- **October 28** — Reception for Pagoda Exhibition (see [page 3](#) for show details and times for painting drop off).
- **December 9** — Start of Suffolk Art Gallery Exhibition (details TBA).

Date	Time	Location	Program
September 18, 2022	2-4 PM	Kempsville Christian Church	Dianne Milner, Kimono Origami
October 16, 2022	2-4 PM	Westminster Canterbury	Joan Lok, Different Species of Macaws
November 20, 2022	2-4 PM	Kempsville Christian Church	Joe Nicholas, Roosters
December 18, 2021	2-4 PM	Kempsville Christian Church	Holiday Card Exchange

Messages from the Board

Chapter Co-Presidents:

Betty and Mary Ann

Dear Painters,

The theme for our two years as co-presidents is “2022-2024 Live the dash! Paint!” Do you see the dash between 2022 and 2024? The dash is all those days between the two years. We hope to fill those days with many opportunities to learn and paint Sumi-e and enjoy our community of artists. Dream your painting and paint your dream. Engage your passion and create Chi. Share your artwork with others. That is the inspiration and plan!

Just this year alone, our schedule includes exhibitions at the Pagoda, Suffolk Art Gallery, Paul Street Gallery, and Norfolk Botanical Garden. At each one, we know exceptional art will be displayed and enjoyed by many. Thank you, Bill Larkin and Mike Lane, for organizing the exhibitions. Thank you, Blue Heron members, for sharing your art.

Many thanks for Gail Goodman’s planning and negotiations. Joan Lok, a master artist and teacher, will be with us Saturday to Sunday, October 15--16, 2022. Joan’s artwork was chosen to fly into space with the James Webb Telescope. If she is amazing enough for extraterrestrials, Joan will be amazing for us. At the workshop, she will teach lessons about traditional and modern Sumi-e subjects. See this newsletter for details. Sign up – just four seats are left. What a special post-COVID opportunity to learn and paint together!

The Blue Heron Board has volunteered for 730 days of leadership and to inspire you to “Live the dash! Paint!” Be an active member, and we hope you will enjoy every Blue Heron Sumi-e moment.

Chapter Treasurer:

Karen Bess

As of today, we have 38 members. Here are three new members:

- Edith Greene
- Penny Pickel
- Susan Swanson

We'd love to grow our membership, so please ask members to reach out to former members and invite some new folks.

Exhibits Co-Chair:

Bill Larkin

Dear Blue Heron Members,

Blue Heron will exhibit at Pagoda Gardens starting in October and running through the end of the year. Hanging will take place September 26th, with the reception from 5pm to 7pm on October 28th.

There is space for 20 paintings. For artists' convenience, we will accept paintings at the September meeting. Otherwise, paintings must be dropped off at the Pagoda on the 28th of September by noon.

Also, Blue Heron will have a booth at the Childrens' Festival at Waterside in Norfolk October 1st. We need volunteers to introduce children and their parents to Sumi-e. In addition, we will need donations of rice paper and ink.

External Workshops Chair:

Gail Goodman

Hello to all Sumi-e painters in the Blue Heron Chapter—and Invite your painting friends!

The summer of 2022 is coming to a close. Guess what? we are moving closer to the deadline of the signup registration for our in-house, in-person workshop with Joan Lok. She will be coming up from Florida to do one fabulous presentation at Westminster Canterbury. She will be here to guide and help you create a master painting, either in splashed ink, a colorful macaw, or a traditional landscape.



This is a great opportunity to brush up on forgotten skills, resume friendships with Chapter friends, and just have lots of fun exploring and creating new painted works, under Joan's guidance. Lunch will be provided both days. Joan will also offer materials for sale, such as books, brushes, paper etc.

Her skills are wide and deep, and she will bring a wealth of information to help improve your painting. We are so privileged to have her agree to join us, as well as the long list of other guest artists who have come to teach us Sumi-e painting skills.

I'm going to share the YouTube link where Joan outlines the weekend agenda for October 15 and 16 (Saturday and Sunday: <https://youtu.be/aAGrxG2xTBA>). You can send registration checks (\$175.00) to Gail Goodman, 7329 Ruthven Road, Norfolk, VA 23505, made payable to Blue Heron Chapter, SSA before the end of September. And I'm attaching a supply list and other information about the workshop to this email.

Please consider supporting this opportunity and also get creative while painting at the same time.

Internal Workshops Chair:

Dianne Milner

- Carve your own seal! Norene Spencer will present a chop/seal class.
- There is a \$27.99 charge for the seal. There is a \$10.00 class fee for members of Blue Heron and \$20.00 for non-members.
- The class is limited to 10 people.
- The class will be held at the Fred Heutte Center in Norfolk with details to follow. (Supplies, starting times, parking, etc.)

To reserve your space, contact me, Dianne Milner, at (757) 403-9200 by text or phone call. Registration is complete when I receive payment.

Make check payable to: Blue Heron, S.S.A.

Mail to: Dianne Milner, 7714 Castleton Place, Norfolk, VA 23505

Calendar Chair:

Donna Wynn

Hi Blue Heron Members!

I want you to know that we have only 13 calendars left out of our original order of 50. We are so happy with your responses!

We will have the remaining 13 at the meeting next week, so be thinking about who you would like to gift for the holidays. They are only \$12 each and make a terrific gift idea. If there is a big response, of course, we can print some more, but we need to sell the remaining ones first. Remember, this is a source of pride for our organization and a wonderful way to share the artistry of this amazing group of ours!

Secretary:

Bonnie Campbell-Kuhn

Blue Heron Members,

The Sumi-e Society of America is offering an opportunity to submit articles or artwork to be published or collected for future publications. I will list some criteria sent by Anne Klein, Quarterly Editor:

- If you have authored articles before or done research on topics that can contribute to our articles, that is great...please come along.
- If you have limited experience in writing and researching but are interested in trying your hand at it as a life-long learning opportunity or simply generating ideas for topics, please raise your hand.
- If you are interested in "signing up" or curious to learn more about this opportunity, please contact me (Anne Klein) so we can explore what might be possible for you. I will be most happy to answer any questions.
(email: editor@ssaquarterly.org)

Of course, this is open only too SSA Members. I strongly encourage each BH member to join SSA in order to benefit from the exceptional Quarterly Magazine, which is filled with educational information and artwork which delights and inspires.

Contact me if you would like more information about joining our National Society.

Advantages of Belonging to the National Sumi-e Society

Gail Goodman

This weekend, several of our Blue Heron Chapter Members are participating in a very affordable three-day workshop sponsored by the National Sumi-e Society.

Dongfeng Li is the guest demonstrator, and his instruction during this workshop is excellent: He focuses on plum blossom, peony, birds, chicks, bees, lotus, trees, rocks, waterfall, cloud and foggy, and traditional and splashed ink.



This workshop has been fantastic because he doesn't just paint and let you watch, but he instructs every step of every subject — and then shows you another way to adapt the painting to perhaps make the style looser.



The Juried Exhibition will be online this year and will soon post the winning paintings for all to see. In addition to your membership, you also receive a quarterly magazine publication where you can read articles about painting, see lots of member work, and chapter (including our news) blogs. Membership is from January to December 31. You can visit the website:



<http://sumiesociety.org> for registration and dues information.

Inspirations and Acknowledgements

"There is nothing more truly artistic than to love people."

Van Gogh

Thank you, Gail Goodman for the internal workshop on asemic and square word writing.

"Gail, your workshop was packed with information and exploration. I'm fascinated with mark making, trying calligraphy in new ways, and stimulating creative potential. Thank you for sharing your passion with us!"

— Cathy





Thank you, Norene Spencer for the internal workshop on Tarashikomi.

*"I had a great time today.
It was a fun and useful workshop."
Barbara*

Thank you, Joe Nicholas for the internal workshop on brush strokes.

*"Every time I am with Joe I learn valuable lessons. His skill and technique and willingness to share his vast knowledge and experience."
– Bonnie*



Thank you, Cathy Peyton for organizing the Annual Chapter luncheon.

This year's Blue Heron Chapter luncheon was held on June 26, 2022, at Geisha Japanese Steakhouse in the Greenbrier area of Chesapeake. The membership had a great turnout. Cathy Peyton served as host and emcee. Rose Burroughs read a special tribute that she had written for Mike Lane about his education, teaching, history in China, and love of the North Carolina marshes. After the tribute, members exchanged Sumi-e paintings that they had created.



Everyone was glad to be together for such a joyous occasion.
– Cathy

Closeup of Rose Burroughs

Rose Burroughs

Family: Rose was born Oct. 6, 1932, in South Haven, K.S., the third of six children. She taught her oldest sister to oil paint. She painted on all kinds of saw blades and sold them all the time. Her second sister painted with oils but specialized in chalk portraits. Her Momma drew comic paper characters. She had two wonderful half-brothers who were around Benita's age. She lives with Benita, the best daughter in the world. Rose was married on May 14th, 1954, on NBC-TV to Bill Burroughs. Bill passed on June 26, 2007.

Occupation: R.N. She started the Cardiac Rehab in 1976 at Norfolk General Hospital. She was one of the first staff members on the east coast inpatient and outpatient program and one of the first CCU nurses in Tidewater. She helped open the CCU in Leigh Memorial Hospital in 1974. She is licensed and practiced in VA, FL, W.VA, KS, and MN.

Education: Rose graduated high school in Wellington, KS; She won a scholarship to nurse training at the Mayo Clinic in 1950 and graduated St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, MN in 1954. She attended FSU home nursing program in 1955. She did not finish the degree because Bill had been transferred. Rose worked in the T.B. sanatorium in Tallahassee, FL until a cure was found. Then she worked at Miami Heart Institute in 1956. She was an adjunct teacher at ODU, Norfolk State, Tidewater Community College, Cardiac Rehab.



Of what achievement are you most proud?

Child of the Lord, not my work, but His work because He died for me.

Department Head at S.N.G.

Married 54 years.

Who or what inspires you?

- My husband always encouraged me in everything. My daughter inspires me now. Many of my pictures hang in her home. (My own gallery.)
- Nature inspires me: All the beautiful scenes, flowers, animals created for our enjoyment.
- Art Teachers like Joan Grosch and Mike Lane (other artists) inspire me.

If a snapshot were taken of you enjoying a perfect day, what would it look like?

Going to art class, seeing friends, and going to lunch after. Learning something new.

If you could give your ten-year-old self one piece of advice, what would it be?

Be on time and complete your work to the best of your ability. Do more than necessary.

If you could invite three famous people to dinner, living or dead, who would they be?

C.S. Lewis, Billy Graham, and John Singer Sargent, the American artist.

How did you become a painter?

I started oil painting in 1962 at three of the Norfolk Rec. Centers. In 200, when Bill died, Cathy Peyton came over and took me to Sumi-e art class at Titustown. I'm still taking classes there.

What words of wisdom can you share with someone who does Sumi-e?

When you attend a class, the teacher gives a demo. Paint what they paint. Do not go off and paint something totally different, because you come to class to learn. Otherwise, you are wasting their time and yours.

Favorite Painting Tool: The round brushes.

Comfort Food: Fruits.

Favorite Movie: Gone With the Wind.

Celebrity Twin: Leslie Caron (others said). She is 90, like me; she was a star in the 50's; and then she married and became a stay-at-home mom.

First Celebrity Crush: Clark Gable.

Theme Song: Now it is *I Can Only Imagine*. It was *I Love You for Sentimental Reasons*.

Pet Peeve: Liars.

Favorite Gadget: Microwave.

Favorite Things to Do: Sumi-e painting; golf for 20 years, from age 64 to 85; it was cooking for others.

Books you would recommend: First, the Bible; "Outlander" (series); "Cave man" (history).

Add anything else you would like to share with Blue Heron members: Make a point of complimenting others: A kind word might make their day. Be thankful to be able to help others and for those that help you.

Art shows entered:

1. Virginia Beach unjuried boardwalk art show in the 1960s.
2. Annual Senior Art shows at PrimePlus since 2008.
3. Quarterly Winter Haven art shows from 2007-2017.
4. All Sumi-e art shows and workshops since 2008: won several ribbons.

A note from Rose's daughter Benita:

As the person who lives with this amazing artist, I have to mention a few things: First, I thank God every morning Mom and I wake up. Every day she creates something, whether it's artwork, poems, or beating me in Skip-bo. She touches m heart every day, and I am so very proud to be the daughter of Rose Burroughs, Child of God.

Reflections on the Joe Nicholas' Internal Workshop

Donna Wynn



For those of you who were able to attend the workshop with Joe Nicholas, I believe I speak for all of us: It was truly an artist's gift! It was last of the three incredible series in-house workshops, all carefully planned by Dianne Milner. She did an amazing job finding a perfect location and preparing the space that felt comfortable and happy for all of us that attended. Thank you Dianne, so much goes into behind-the-scenes to make it all a success, and we are all truly grateful.

Two hours flew by as we watched Joe do his magic with so many styles of brushes, carefully executing beautiful brushstrokes. We crowded around him like new students wanting to grab as much of his knowledge and experience as we could.

He makes Sumi-e painting look so effortless, and I know I strive to be better each and every day as I pick up my brushes and paint. He led us through many exercises, and with each exercise came a wonderful handout to work with!

Joe is a master, and as he laughed and shared along the way, we were all truly grateful for the experience of being in his presence that Saturday morning!!! He demonstrated flowers, branches, stems, birds, color blending on our brushes, and how to paint a fish (my favorite). He just inspired us to paint, to practice, and if it doesn't turn out, not to worry; just try again.

As he walked around the room to critique and guide us, he noticed I was painting my petals in the wrong direction; who knew? Ever since, I have been painting my flower petals from the Outside in!!!! Thanks Joe!!!

I leave you with one thing, something Masha said, and it stuck with me "Just Dance with your brush". Sumi-e painting is unlike any other form. Masha is so right, and I wrote that little bit of wisdom on a card; it sits on my art table as a reminder! Let's just enjoy the time we get to spend with our supplies and those expensive brushes we just had to have, and enjoy the process, dancing with our brushes, breathing in all the goodness we can stand.

What a gift this guild is to me. Thank you for welcoming me in with open arms all those years ago. I pinch myself, still grateful for the friendships formed and the painting wisdom I have acquired by many of you!

Sumi-e Painter's Cards

Jill Valentine

I have found an outlet for my one-of-a-kind original hand-painted note cards. It's the Bayside Artisan Shoppes on Independence Blvd. I will have an ongoing display there of small paintings and note cards. This is a four-month experiment to see if my work will sell. I will let you all know how it goes.

