

Editorial COMMENTARY

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

Summer Is Over

I know the slow Summer season is over in the Carolina art community when I turn my computer on in the morning and 60 e-mails have come in since I turned it off in the late evening of the day before and that happens every following morning. Many of those e-mails are from performing arts groups, about art classes or workshops (which we don't cover), or political requests for money - from both sides. But many others are from PR folks who are cranking it up after the long hot Summer. It's time to start thinking about the Fall, although it will still be warm - too warm at times, but the calendar says it's Fall.

We went from a 55 page issue in August to 73 pages for our Sept. issue. That's a big transition, but after all these years I'm ready for it - no longer surprised by the increase in traffic. Linda and I took a five day vacation to Florida, but I worked every day on e-mail that helped keep me from being rolled over when we got back home. That's the good thing about e-mail - it follows you where ever you go as long as you have internet service and a device to capture it and process it. My laptop is like an American Express card - I don't leave home without it, and then pack it away until next year.

If you didn't send us an e-mail about the exhibit you'll be presenting in September - too bad, but if it extends into October - the next deadline you shouldn't miss is Sept. 24 at 5pm.

We're All Getting Older

The sad truth is - we're all getting older and some of us will be passing on. Where are we passing on to? Well I guess some hope to a place where you always have a major exhibit you're working on to take

place at a major venue next month. Or maybe you're going to a place where every artist makes their deadline to get you the work you have to put on display next week. Or in my case, a place where everyone sending us a press release is also sending us a paid ad to go with that press release.

Those places might seem nice, they might be the places you dream about when things go wrong, but as nice as it sounds, I'm not ready to go there just yet. I'm still willing to stay here where none of that ever happens, it's just a far away dream. But because of the age of the art community I know - the folks I started out with 30 years ago, who are getting older and older - some folks are passing on - hopefully to that place they dreamed of while they were still here.

In August, one of my *Carolina Art* friends, Laura Spong, passed on. I haven't talked with her in a number of years as I wasn't traveling that much as our publication is delivered each month in cyber space and opportunities to get away from my computer are shrinking, but there was a time - back in the day - when I looked forward to our monthly discussions when I delivered our publication to Columbia, SC. No trip to Columbia was complete without a visit to Vista Studios and a stop at Laura's studio there.

We exchanged info - what I knew from around the Carolinas and what she knew of what was happening in Columbia. Many times it was the same old, same old, but occasionally we both learned something we might not have found out about for months, if ever.

For someone who's favorite art is abstract art, I was always interested to see her work from month to month. Put those two things together - abstract art and info - what could be better? We'll miss you Laura.

Whimsy Joy© by Roz

Now on display and for sale at Roadside Seafood
807 Folly Road on James Island • Charleston, SC

Lila's "Blue Porpoise" -- "Floating Along"

It feels that mental health is "congruency; allowing each of us to choose to "float along".

To have a good life, Roz suggests,
"we all say what we mean, mean what we say,
& do what we say".



I am gorgeous...
Can't you see I'm really cute!
Put me on your personal
mousepad for \$12.00



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