President’s Message

It’s planning time for the 2018 FLAG year! Each summer the Executive Board begins to plan for the upcoming FLAG year. The planning includes:

- Securing and scheduling six programs during the year
- Working with the Gallery Committee to plan the art shows
- Determining and securing art related trips and workshops

While some planning has been done, with your help we can perhaps do other things. Part of our September program time will be devoted to seeking input from you on other specific activities and objectives for FLAG. This is an opportunity to hear from you on what you think FLAG should be doing and where it should head. FLAG has grown in recent years and we want to keep our momentum going. At the same time, we rely on you and your fellow members to not just support and embrace the already planned activities, but to help develop new activities and objectives for FLAG.

Please give thoughtful time to this before our September meeting. We need to know what you are interested in learning about, where you might like to go on short trips, who you know that would enjoy participating in FLAG activities, who you know that might provide interesting programs and workshops and perhaps more things not yet considered.

Let’s keep our momentum going! Be sure to attend our meetings and provide helpful feedback to guide FLAG in the coming year. You can find a list of upcoming programs in each of our newsletters.

Carla S. Hutchings
President of FLAG

FLAG at the Kaolin Festival

FLAG will be well represented at the Kaolin Festival in Sandersville on October 14! Our FLAG Gallery at 118 Malone Street on the Square in Sandersville will be open. FLAG will also offer a booth on the “Street of Dreams” at the Kaolin Festival at Linton Park (near SES). Volunteers to staff the booth are needed in 2 hour shifts. Although the main purpose of the booth is to distribute information about FLAG, members may sell unframed prints, photographs, and other small items at the booth. More information will be available soon.

To volunteer to staff the booth or to place items in the booth, please email Carla Hutchings at cshutchings@gmail.com.
**Helen Aikman to Speak**

*Lyle Lansdell*

Helen Aikman, owner/operator of the former Fire House Gallery in Louisville, Georgia, will speak at the July 10 FLAG meeting. Hear about her innovative methods and her contribution to the community, as well as to the arts, during the very successful 11-year run of the Fire House Gallery.

Helen Aikman is a Washington, DC native, who visited Georgia for the first time in 2003. During that trip, on a drive through the Georgia countryside, she and her friend and colleague Kathleen Galvin happened upon an abandoned fire station in Louisville, Georgia. For reasons they can’t fully explain even today, they bought the fire station ... in a town in the middle of nowhere ... where they knew no one. After a year-plus of renovation, they opened The Fire House Gallery, a venue dedicated to exhibiting the work of cutting edge professional artists.

Over the next decade, The Fire House Gallery hosted 100 shows, each kicked off with a lively opening reception catered by Helen and Kathleen and their young staff. These events brought artists and art lovers from all across the South and beyond, and created an important cultural destination in Louisville, all the while adding zest to life of local resident. The Fire House Gallery also engaged in important arts-based community outreach in partnership with the Jefferson County Public Schools.

In 2015, The Fire House Gallery closed, and Helen and Kathleen donated the building to the Louisville Downtown Development Authority. Today it is operated a commercial space and a bed and breakfast by the current owner, Jenny Smith.

Helen works, as she has for the past 17 years, as a risk analyst and contracts manager for a large Canadian IT consultancy. She now divides her time between Atlanta and Louisville and DC, where both of her children live. Her daughter and son-in-law are expecting her first grandchild in October.

**Upcoming Programs**

July 10, 2017 - Helen Aikman, former Fire House Gallery owner

September 11, 2017 - FLAG Year in Review

November 6, 2017 - Abandoned Rural America Project
Vernon Layton Portrait Donated to FLAG
Tonia Marynell

In April FLAG was contacted through the website by Cecil Coke and his sister Rena Coke Ravnan about a portrait of their cousin Professor Eugene Marks of Augusta painted by Vernon Layton in 1944. They had already contacted Nancy Glaser of the Augusta Museum of History. The museum was interested in Prof. Marks’ music and papers but not the portrait. Mrs. Glaser told them who painted the portrait and that Vernon Layton was a world famous portrait painter from Sandersville. Therefore they found FLAG on the internet and contacted us. Here is the original email from Rena Coke Ravnan:

*My brother and I inherited a portrait painted by Vernon Layton in 1944, and we wondered if the Fall Line Artist Guild would be interested in accepting it as a donation. The subject is our grandmother’s cousin, Professor Eugene Marks, a pianist from Augusta GA who also traveled to New York and Austria but spent summers with our family in Macon. Our late father was a professional photographer here in Macon, and we were told by him that the painting was done from a photograph that he took of “Cousin Eugene.”

*My brother is downsizing and doesn’t have room for the painting anymore (it hung over my grandmother’s mantel for years, and then in my brother’s house); unfortunately I don’t have a space for it, either. We would love for it to return to the artist’s home town in Washington County. Please let us know if you are interested, or can suggest other contacts.*

Many of you may remember “Coke’s Camera” stores in Macon and Middle Georgia. Cecil and Rena’s father and uncle were the owners of those stores as well as being photographers.

On Wednesday May 3 Cecil and Rena delivered the portrait to the FLAG Gallery. Gallery Chair and a student of Vernon Layton, Tonia Marynell was there to receive it. “They really want to see the painting restored and placed in an appreciative and proper setting. They enjoyed learning more about Mr. Layton from me and that his wife and children are still in Washington County,” stated Tonia. The portrait will hang above the mantel in the FLAG Gallery for the present. Hopefully FLAG will be able to restore this beautiful portrait or donate it to a group who can so it will be preserved as a sample of Washington County’s most famous artist- Vernon Layton.

Valton Murray’s One-Man Show at the Marlor House
Tonia Marynell

FLAG member and internationally known folk artist Valton Murray has a one-man exhibition at the Allied Arts in Milledgeville at The Marlor House. The exhibit goes through August 11, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please if you are in Milledgeville go by and support Valton by stopping by The Marlor House at 201 North Wayne Street, 478-452-3950 and view the exhibit. Valton is a self-taught artist whose work is unique and tells the stories of his life growing up in rural Georgia. He has won numerous awards and his work is in the collections of celebrities like Bill Gates and Dan Akryod.
A Decade or So, and Adventures of and Art Critic, shows opened Sunday, May 7, 2017 in the FLAG Gallery. The exhibit closed Saturday, June 30th. Images from the opening along with a detail of James Blackburn’s Io from the collection of Sarah Lansdell.
**Gallery News**

*Tonia Marynell*

The latest two exhibits: A Decade (Or So) of Travel Photos-The Photographic Adventures of William Rawlings and David Brooker and Adventures of an Art Critic - The Collection of Sarah Wilkerson Lansdell opened on May 7 and closed on June 30. Both have been great exhibits showcasing the talent of two local photographers and the lovely and diverse art collection of Sarah Lansdell. We thank them so much for participating in these exhibits. Thank you to all who came to the Gallery to view the work. If you did not get down to see it you really missed seeing some quality works. The FLAG Gallery even had an original Picasso hanging in it!

The next exhibit is for the Sam Goodrich Memorial Art Auction to Benefit the Washington County Animal Shelter which opens on July 16 and ends on August 24. Artists are donating original paintings, drawings, photographs, sculpture, crafts and archival prints and card sets to the auction. There will be a variety of subject matter to choose from and reasonable starting bids. This will be a silent auction. Bidders can view the art on the FLAG website falllineartistguild.org and in the FLAG Gallery at 118 Malone Street in Sandersonville. Bidders must come to the Gallery to bid on the art they want or can email their bid to the FLAG website. The bidding ends at midnight on August 22. Winning bids will be notified by email or phone on August 24th. The winning bidders can pay for and pick up their winning bids on August 24, 25 and 26 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on those days. If the winning bidder does not pick up their piece during these times it will be offered to the next bidder. FLAG will keep the earned money from the auction in their care and will give it to the Animal Shelter as is needed and approved. The animals need us and this is a great way to honor the memory of our beloved friend Sam Goodrich. Sam was the founding vice president of FLAG and the one who named the organization. He loved animals. When he passed away it was his wish that people make donations in his name to the Washington County Animal Shelter.

The FLAG Annual Exhibit will open September 17 and will end on October 28. Please be working on your entries so we will have another great exhibit this year. The Gallery Committee is opening this exhibit earlier this year and leaving it up much longer so it can be viewed by more people. It will of course still be part of the Kaolin Festival festivities. More information on all of this can be found on the FLAG website.

THE FLAG CHRISTMAS SHOPPE will open from November 26 - December 23. Details will be available on the website, next newsletter and Facebook.

**Gallery Chairman Tonia Marynell Says Good-Bye**

*Tonia Marynell*

I have enjoyed being the gallery chair this past year and proud of what has been accomplished. I could have never done it without my team-Shirley Chapman, Eric Johnson, Shaun Veal, Carol Gardner, and Tammy Summerlin. They were always so dedicated and did whatever I asked them to do to get these exhibits done and have them look as professional as possible. It was a lot of work and sometimes my ambition was a little overwhelming. But mediocrity is not in my vocabulary. We also could have not done it without the few dedicated volunteers who gave their time to open the Gallery in an effort to give Washington County a better cultural way of life. One thing is apparent is that we need more people to step up and volunteer. When the same people are doing all the work they eventually grow weary. We need more dedicated volunteers. I hope the next Gallery Chair whoever they are will grow and improve on what we have done. It is time for me to dedicate my abilities to new ventures before my time and energy slips away. Best of luck to FLAG.
Support FLAG with Amazon Smile

Did you know that the Fall Line Artist Guild can receive a cash donation every time you use Amazon? The next time you want to purchase something on Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com (or google “amazon smile”) and log in using your regular Amazon username and password. A page will come up and allow you to search for a charity. Select the Fall Line Artist Guild, LLC as your designated charity.

When you make your purchase, FLAG will receive a cash donation of 0.5% of the purchase amount. It is important to know that although you will need to log in to Amazon Smile each and every time, FLAG will remain your designated charity each time you use Amazon Smile.

Won’t you start helping our organization by using Amazon Smile for your online shopping? It’s easy!

You’re Invited

The Washington County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Labor Day Weekend Mini Festival, “Paint the Town” in Sandersville. On Friday evening, there will be “Glow in the Dark” Disc Golf. On Saturday, a 5K Color Run in the morning and a Shop WACO First and Concert on the Square from 6:00 – 11:00 p.m. On Sunday afternoon, the Splash Pad will be open and an ice cream truck will be available. Sounds like a lot of fun! FLAG members and friends are invited to be out on Saturday evening to take photographs, and post them on Facebook, or to set up and paint some of the scenes. Spread the news and be a part of the Labor Day fun!

Trip Anyone?

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 30 to take a road trip to the Morris Museum in Augusta. The trip will include a tour of the permanent collection at the Morris Museum, which includes a wide variety of art styles, and visits to some of the galleries on Broad Street. The trip will begin at the Sandersville School parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Tickets and travel will be $10.00 per person. If interested email Carla Hutchings at cshutchings@gmail.com.
Memberships for 2016-17 (August-July)

Anderson, Ashley (Associate)
Anderson, Dale
Andrews, Sara
Ballard, Regina
Barker, Steve
Bassaloff, Patrick (Associate)
Blackstone, Ida (Active)
Blackstone, Peggy (Active)
Blackstone, William (Supporter)
Boatright, Jenny
Brickhouse, Ann K.
Brown, Eva (Student)
Burge, Elaine
Burgess Pigment (Sponsor)
Burlay, Conni F. (Associate)
Burten, Eamie J.
Butts, Takeisha (Student)
Citizens Bank of the South (Sponsor)
Chamma, Dana Wiggins (Associate)
Chapman, Henry (Associate)
Chapman, Kelsey (Associate)
Chapman, Shirley (Supporter)
Cheatham, Sid
Christopher, James B.
Christina Power Photography (Associate)
City of Sandersville (Sponsor)
Coggins, Joseph
Cummings, Carolyn
Daniel, Jonkeius (Student)
Gardner, Carol
The Geo. D. Warthen Bank (Patron)
Goodrich, Paula (Supporter)
G'Segner, Susan
Hall, Gloria
Hall, Liam (Student)
Hall, Maclaine (Student)
Hall, Rachel (Student)
Hall, Sara P.
Hudson, Oran L. (Dick)
Hutchings, Carla (Supporter)
Hutchings, Chris
Irwin, Chris (Patron)
Irwin, Ray (Patron)
Jet Food Stores (Sponsor)
Johnson, Eric
Jones, Anne
Jones, Betty
Kunze, Charles
Lee, Charles
Lee, Jeanie
Lewis, Deidra
Marynell, Tonia
May, Deborah (Supporter)
Murphy, Mary (Associate)
Murray, Valton
Muzyka, Peter M.
Newsome, Jonathan (Supporter)
Newsome, Nathalie (Supporter)
Philips, William B.
Queensborough Bank (Sponsor)
Raiford, Bob (Associate)
Raiford, Georgia
Rawlings, William
Renfroe, Gene
Reynolds, Cynthia (Associate)
Reynolds, Tyler K. (Student)
Smith, Barbara D. (Associate)
Smith, Caleb (Student)
Story, Debby
Strange, Bobby
Summerlin, Tammy
Tarbutton, Ben & Nancy (Sponsor)
Thiele Kaolin Company (Sponsor)
Ursy, Kathleen
Veal, Mary Kaye
Veal, Shaun
Washington EMC (Sponsor)
Wheeler, Lisa
Wolfe, Sarella
Wolgast, Maryllis

2017 - 2018 Membership

Membership year is August to July.

Mail form below and your dues to:

Fall Line Artist Guild, P.O. Box 1172, Sandersville, Georgia 31082

Please print your information.

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: ___________ Zip: ______

Email: ______________________________________ Phone: ______________

For more information
web: falllineartistguild.org/membership
Email: info@falllineartistguild.org
Facebook: facebook.com/falllineartistguild

2017-18 Membership:

___ Active Student, $10
___ Active Adult, $30
___ Associate Member, $30
___ Sponsor, $100-$499
___ Patron, $500
___ Supporter, $50-$99
FLAG Membership Meeting
Monday, July 10, 2017
6:30 p.m.
Operations Center
The Geo. D. Warthen Bank
Sandersville