



**SOUTH  
CAROLINA  
CHAPTER**

## *Newsletter Quarterly* 2022; JULY



Sandy Dimke



Sandra Renee Smith



Joanna Biondillillo



Melinda Welker

### **OUTREACH:** *Board Development and a Special Thank You*

Thank you so much for your active membership within the SC Chapter of NAWA. Our Chapter provides exhibits, events and activities for the membership. When you joined the National Association of Women Artists, Inc., it was required and requested on the application that every member contribute at least 6 hours each year to the organization. Since NAWA is a volunteer organization, we need your help now. Two SC Chapter Board positions are currently open. These positions will not take more than a few hours per month. Help is always available from our current board and me, your Chapter president as you learn your responsibilities. I am personally calling on you to help your Chapter, so that it remains professionally active within the arts community of South Carolina and is sustainable for years to come. If you are interested, please email [art.nawasc@gmail.com](mailto:art.nawasc@gmail.com) and we can set up a time to discuss your interest in working with a dynamic team of women artists who are dedicated to their art, and to helping women advance their careers through exhibitions and professional development. We need you.

With deepest gratitude, we thank Joanna Biondillillo for her service to the SC Chapter Board, and NAWA. Joanna offered the most valuable thing an arts organization can ask of a volunteer — her time. The Chapter appreciates all she gave to women artists in the United States and South Carolina in particular. The Board wishes her well in her art and life as she moves to her next works and projects.

### **NAWASC:** *Big News*

We have great news regarding our exhibitions.

Coming to your inbox this fall: the prospectus for *Poetry & Art*, an online exhibit that explores connections. Working with South Carolina poet Lisa Hammond, this exhibit asks SC Chapter artists to explore the connections between their own work and Hammond's visually stimulating poetry.

We are excited to announce *The NAWA Sisterhood: Connection and Inspiration Through Our Membership*. This exhibit, hosted at the Myrtle Beach Art Museum, is designed to have participants look to the work of fellow NAWA members, past or present, to create a new work of their own. We may look to the works of any historical NAWA member such as Mary Cassatt, Suzanne Valadon, or Anna Hyatt Huntington from our past, or look to those in our current membership, whether well-known or deserving of recognition. You may choose an artist whose work has impacted your own style, or a colleague that has influenced your work, or you might pay homage to a NAWA artist from our organization's history. The objective is for you to choose an artist with whom you find a connection or inspiration. Then, create a work and write brief description or "story" of why you chose to feature this artist. This exhibit will take place in January–March 2024 and the prospectus will come to you in 2023 so you have plenty of time to develop your ideas for this fantastic museum show celebrating the NAWA story and enduring legacy.

We are working on other exhibitions at prominent locations. Please consider giving back to your Chapter by assisting with exhibits. Email to volunteer, [art.nawasc@gmail.com](mailto:art.nawasc@gmail.com).

### UPDATE: *Professional Development*

Do you have artist friends who are candidates to join NAWA? We are always seeking new members, both on the National and the SC Chapter levels. To support our potential new members, we are offering to guide them through the NAWA application process. The deadline to apply for membership is September 15. Our Chapter will hold a Zoom meeting on August 11, from 6:00–7:30pm to review portfolios and offer suggestions to achieve membership. Help us build our Chapter by reaching out to a prospective new member and inviting them to join us for this tutorial session. Current and prospective members can RSVP at [art.nawasc@gmail.com](mailto:art.nawasc@gmail.com). To see the National membership application visit <https://thenawa.org/membership-application-sept-2022/>

### ADVERTISING: *Our Members Out in the World*

We want to give you, our members, the opportunity to promote your exhibits, workshops, publications – anything related to your art practice that you wish to advertise. Please send your announcements to [art.nawasc@gmail.com](mailto:art.nawasc@gmail.com). Our publication is quarterly; here are the upcoming deadlines for submitting your information.

Deadline	Newsletter publication date	To advertise your events happening during
October 1, 2022	Late October 2022	November 2022–January 2023
January 1, 2023	Late January 2023	February 2023–April 2023
April 1, 2023	Late April 2023	May 2023–July 2023
July 1, 2023	Late July 2023	August 2023–October 2023

### Books for Sale: *Lisa Anne Cullen*

*Little Orange Honey Hood: A Carolina Folktale*: On Blossom's Carolina–swamp journey to deliver medicine to Grandma, she meets a hungry alligator.

*Three Wild Pigs: A Carolina Folktale*: Lulu, Pop, and Grandpaw Curly are caught by surprise when Hurricane Wolf threatens to huff and puff and blow their coastal Carolina houses down.

Lisa Anne Cullen is an artist, illustrator, author, and instructor. Her picture–books are published through the USC Press/Young Palmetto Books. <https://uscpress.com/Search?q=lisa+anne+cullen>

**Currently On Exhibit:** *Saundra Renee Smith*

Gullah artist, Saundra Renee Smith's exhibit, "How We Git Gullah" is currently at the Art League of Hilton Head Island and runs from July 6 through August 13.

**Retreats and Workshops:** *Fran Gardner*

Fran Gardner leads creativity retreats that make space for thoughtful discussion, bold experimentation, and transformative insights that will strengthen your craft and clarify your creative intent. Through supportive critique sessions and private one-on-ones with Fran you'll identify new, exciting paths for your work in community with other artists. Contact her at [fran@frangardnerart.com](mailto:fran@frangardnerart.com) for upcoming dates and locations.

**Artist Interview:** *Rose Cofield*

Rose Cofield had a recent interview published with the magazine, SouthCarolinaVoyager. Follow this link to read about her work: <https://southcarolinavoyager.com/interview/conversations-with-rose-cofield/>

**COMMUNICATIONS:** *Let Us Promote You*

We need you to help us promote you and our organization. Send images of you and your work, social media contacts, website address, biographies, and artist statements. We will pull from this information to keep the nawasc.org website current so that it is a useful tool for you to promote your work. To make this easier for all of us, please use this link to share your information.

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/SCChapterNAWA/NAWASouthCarolinaChapterMemberInformation>

**MEMBER FEATURE:** *Patti Robbins*, Large scale painter with a passion for color and pattern.



**Elevator Pitch:** Art is part of my daily life. I work every day regardless of inspiration. I am a conscientious worker able to get the job done.

**Sources of inspiration:** We live on 5 acres on the central coast of California with donkeys and chickens, flowers, and weeds. The sunny days and vistas inspire me.

**Process:** I am a shopper, collector, and borrower. I find objects that speak to me to paint. I set up still life's then make sketches that aren't detailed. I rearrange, then I go for it. I do a lot of prep work way ahead of time, often stocking up on canvas and preparing them, so I always have the right size ready to suit my mood.

**Art Crush:** Jimmy Wright and Van Gogh for their sunflowers and Janet Fish, of course.



**Indispensable tool:** Toothpicks, the big, long ones for sandwiches, to poke into the clogged paint tube but then I find myself drawing with them.

**Best part of your studio:** Big windows and doors that open to a view of the ocean.

**Because you are artsy people expect...** That we are crazy, so I can dress how I want!

**Superpower:** Patience.

**Arch nemesis:** Technology

**How does the art life spill over:** In the kitchen, I love to cook, shop, chop, and marinate. A little of this and a little of that. It is like painting.

**Where did you go that impacted where you are:** In 1995, we went to China to adopt our daughter. Some of my most favorite paintings were of that time period and the beautiful Chinese children. We also went to Italy and I have many paintings from there and hope to go back.

**Why NAWA:** I was part of Women Painters West which has been around since 1920 and read about an artist who was a NAWA member, so I joined. I am now a member of all 3 Chapters.

**Brush with Fame:** 2007 in a show *Personal Totems* at Adelphi University Gallery juried by Faith Ringgold.

**What's next:** May of 2023, I will have a solo show at Gallery Los Olivos in Santa Barbara County. Find out more about Patti and her art at [pattirobbinsartist.com](http://pattirobbinsartist.com).

### MEMBER SUCCESS: *Susan Irish*

**So Susan, what is it like to win first place in back-to-back exhibits – first place award at Spring Fusion (SC Chapter) and first place award at On the Edge (National)?** Having work in *On the Edge* at the Vendue's Gallery 26 during Piccolo Spoleto was, in itself, a big deal! Then to see the show, to see my work alongside my National NAWA sisters was very validating. My mission is to advocate for Mother Nature through my art so creating paintings for this type of theme is what I do all day long. There are other artists contemplating deep matters, too. **Judith Carlin's** piece with a figure straddling a shifting iceberg. **Donna Haig Friedman's** angst filled portraits. I could barely look at **Patty Turner's** piece on gun violence. It makes me cry to think about it still. Powerful!

So when the award announcements were made, I didn't believe I would hear my name called at the National level especially because I had recently won at the SC level. I was, of course, quite delighted! And I was truly honored to win 1st place among such stellar work. I was genuinely grateful for the camaraderie of the moment: the photos, the comments on social media, telling my family. But it wasn't until the next day when it really hit me as I climbed the stairs and I went into my studio. I said out loud to myself, "well, Susan, you ARE a professional, time to get to work."

### MEMBERSHIP: *Important Date Change*

This fall you will receive information about renewing your membership with the SC Chapter. We are moving our membership renewal period beginning November 1 and ending November 30 (firm). We ask that every member send images of you and your work, social media contacts, website address, biographies, and artist statements. We will pull from this information to keep the [nawasc.org](http://nawasc.org) website current so that it is a useful tool for you to promote your work. To make this easier for all of us, please use the link to share your updated information. Update your membership information at <https://www.cognitofirms.com/SCChapterNAWA/NAWASouthCarolinaChapterMemberInformation>.

**Questions? Note that our email address has changed.**

[art.nawasc@gmail.com](mailto:art.nawasc@gmail.com)

NAWA SC is proud to be a part of the National Association of Women Artists and further the national mission in our state of South Carolina – to promote awareness of, and interest in, visual art created by women in the United States. Please contact [art.nawasc@gmail.com](mailto:art.nawasc@gmail.com) if you have questions about this news update, have news to share or wish to join the NAWA SC Chapter. To learn more about our members and our chapter, scan the QR code to visit <https://nawasc.org>.

