



**SOUTH  
CAROLINA  
CHAPTER**

## Newsletter Quarterly: June 2024

### Welcome: President Meyriel Edge

When asked by the SC Chapter nominating committee to take on the Presidency, Meyriel said, “I look forward to this new role. I realize how much I love NAWA and, because it has helped me tremendously with my work, I accepted because I want to reciprocate in some way.”



Meyriel’s roots are in Wales and upon moving to the USA, in 1980, now has dual citizenship. She often returns to Wales to paint, travel, see family and inhale Wales’ magical character. She was raised in her parents’ 15th century village pub they opened a few years after the end of WWII. After her parents passed, various people took over the pub, but it never succeeded. A few years ago it closed. Then the village folk stepped in to buy it. It not only revived, but it won Best Community Pub. This year, Meyriel has been invited to give a presentation there to speak about her life and work to the community. Meyriel said, “I am thrilled to be doing it....sort of helping to link the past with the present.”

When not painting, Meyriel helps transport her triplet granddaughters around their hectic lives in SC and beyond. Her high school art teaching career spanned the UK and USA, with “retirement” giving her the gift of time in which to pursue the endless stack of ideas that have been marinating in her head.

Without a President this past year, board members have worked together to keep the SC Chapter active, including: Secretary, Sandy Dimke; Membership, Susan Irish; Website Manager, Emi Sisk; Social Media, Rhian Swain; Exhibitions, Staci Swider; and Treasurer Melinda Welker. NAWA SC board meetings are also attended by NAWA’s President and Executive Director. Both

keep us abreast of happenings at National and are available to answer questions on how the Chapter can proceed with new ideas. Volunteering with our Chapter, gives the opportunity to make more friends in art, allows your ideas to shape our organization, and is a way to give back to NAWA.

## Welcome: Vice President Susan Hammond

This year, we welcome and thank Susan Hammond for taking on the position of Vice President. A SC Chapter founding member in 2018, Susan is also directly involved with NAWA National, having held Executive Board positions as well as the Executive Directorship. After obtaining her BFA and MFA from William Patterson University, she worked for the Department of Defense as a Technical Equipment Illustrator. This work stirred her interest in capturing photographic images. A contemporary fine art photographer, Susan has studied with some the greats: Robert Farber, Ralph Gibson, Douglas Kirkland, Mary Ellen Mark, and Joyce Tenneyson, among others.



## Welcome: Social Media Manager Rhian Swain

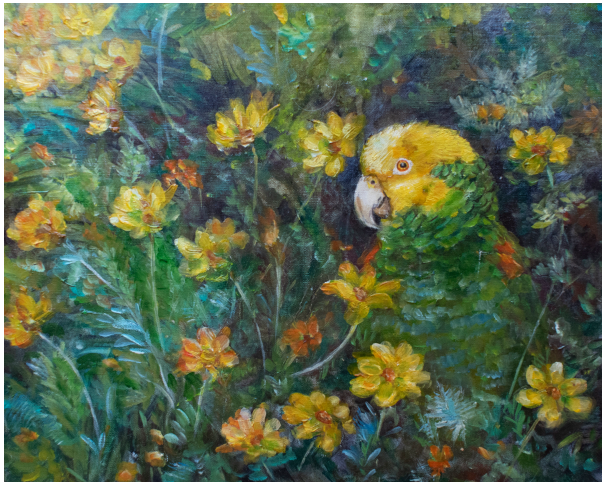
We also welcome Rhian Swain who has volunteered to manage our social media platforms. Rhian is a painter, photographer, and illustrator who grew up all over the world. She is president and owner of Redwolf Advertising in Augusta, GA and currently serves as the Augusta Art Council's Board President. She is well known for her *Arts in the Heart* artwork, used to promote that festival for the past 24 years. In 2023, Rhian received an NEA Grant to create an exhibit titled: *Breaking the Barriers: Women Who Impacted the Arts*. In Fall of 2024 she will be guest curator for exhibits at the Jessye Norman School of the Arts and the Laney Museum of Black History.



## How to Contact a NAWA SC Board Member:

When you wish to contact a member of the NAWA SC Chapter board, e-mail to: [art.nawasc.org](mailto:art.nawasc.org). Please put the name of the department you wish to contact in the subject line of your email, such as Membership, Exhibitions, President, Social Media, Newsletter, etc.

## New Members:



Since Fall 2023, our Chapter grew by 16 new members. We are delighted to welcome each of you and look forward to your participation. If you would like your art included in our newsletters, please send a photo to [art.nawasc@gmail.com](mailto:art.nawasc@gmail.com) with Newsletter in the email subject line.

*My Amazon*, by Pamela Urban Moore.

## Welcome New Members -

Jill Baratta, Tenafly, NJ; Margaret Demarest, Conway, SC; Peggy Epton, Hayesville, NC; Mary Ann Browning Ford, Bluffton, SC; Leslie Hamrick, Tulsa, OK; Deidre Hayes, Aiken, SC; Ursula Jeffcoat, Florence, SC; Carson Kapp, New Smyrna Beach, FL; Cassandra Kokenos, Longs, SC; Carol Larson, Petaluma, CA; Flavia Lovatelli, Columbia, SC; Linda McCune, Greer, SC; Pamela Urban Moore, Aiken SC; Diane Salamon, Tulsa, OK; Emi Sisk, Mount Airy, NC; and Rhian Swain, Augusta, GA.

## Happenings - Looking Ahead:



Major Upcoming  
Exhibit -  
Brookgreen  
Gardens,  
Murrells Inlet, SC

Photo by Melinda Welker

*Brookgreen Inspires - Women Create* is the theme for our May 3- July 20, 2025 exhibit to be held at one of the prestigious Brookgreen Gardens galleries in Murrells Inlet, SC. The visionaries behind Brookgreen Gardens were Anna Hyatt and Archer Milton Huntington. Anna, a NAWA member in the early 1900s, originally planned Brookgreen to showcase her sculptures and SC flora and fauna. It is now considered one of the preeminent sculpture gardens exhibiting American sculpture from the 19th century to the present. It is meaningful to our members to have the opportunity to continue the NAWA sisterhood through Anna Hyatt Huntington's legacy at Brookgreen Gardens. Exhibit Chair is Staci Swider. The prospectus will be out soon, but check our website: [nawasc.org](http://nawasc.org), which lists key dates for the Brookgreen Gardens exhibit.

## Exhibit opportunity: South Carolina Department of Commerce

The South Carolina Department of Commerce offers an opportunity to South Carolina resident members of our Chapter to exhibit their work at their new offices at 1201 Main Street, Suite 1600, Columbia, SC. Exhibits change quarterly. Membership Chair, Susan Irish developed this satellite gallery for our members. If you are interested to exhibit your work at this venue, contact [art.nawasc@gmail.com](mailto:art.nawasc@gmail.com) and put Membership in the subject line.

## Joint Chapter Exhibit:

*By Heart*, a joint exhibit with NAWA FL Chapter, will be held from Sept 23 - Nov. 6, 2024 at the Annette Howell-Turner Center for the Arts in Valdosta, GA. SC Chapter member Pat Zalisko and FL Chapter member Annette Crosby are co-exhibition coordinators. Each applicant is allowed up to three entries for this exhibit and there is no size limit on entries. The prospectus will be out soon.

## Chapter Informals:

Thank you to Exhibit Chair Staci Swider for her excellent management of our recent NAWA Sisterhood exhibit as well as to all members who participated. To further promote the Sisterhood theme, look for ways to connect and develop friendships with other NAWA members. Be the first in your geographic location to set-up a lunch, studio visit or etc to become better acquainted with our members. It is amazing how sharing information about each other's artistic life can build on your own.



*Three Boss Women: Mixed Media by Muffy Clark Gill*

## Member Highlights this Quarter:

**Members - please share your good news! We want to promote your art achievements in our newsletters and social media. Please send your information to: [art.nawasc.org](mailto:art.nawasc.org) and put Social Media in the email subject line.**



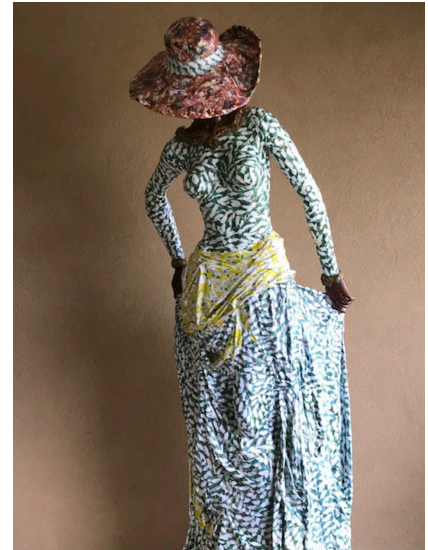
Nancy Jacey won the People's Choice Award at the 2024 Artfields for her 2D work titled: *New Beginnings*. Art medium is Prisma color, Holbein and Polychromos Colored pencils.

Congratulations to Sheila Grabarsky for her Second Place Award in the NAWA Tomayko Foundation *Today* Exhibit. Her work, titled: *How'd We Get Here* is a 24" x 36" acrylic. Four additional SC Chapter artists had their work juried into this Pittsburg, PA Exhibit: Elizabeth Miller McCue, Maily Morhous, Jennifer Jean Okumura, and Melinda Welker.



Emi Sisk has been juried into the Hollis Taggart, NY exhibit (July 11 - Sept 7, 2024). The exhibit's theme is *Asian Influences and Traditions as Traced through American Abstraction*. Emi's watercolor on paper is titled: *Winged Enlightenment*. Emi was contacted by the gallery through her website.

The Women in the Arts Recognition Award was presented to Bernice Tate by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Bernice's innovation of "fused continuity" goes beyond contributing to her artistic field in mastery of technique, which the award requires. Sculpture: *Daughter of the Wind*; 6'8" in height.



Catherine Conrad's art was accepted into Prelude 2024 - Artists of the Upstate Juried Exhibition at Greenville, SC's *Artisphere*. Her work is also now being exhibited at the SC Department of Commerce satellite gallery. Catherine also opened her studio as part of Spartanburg County's Open Doors Studio Tour.

Catherine's art titled: *Prelude*;  
Encaustic and pine needles on wood; 11 x 12 1.5



Marianne Stillwagon held a solo exhibit at the Society of Bluffton Artists this Spring, with the theme of *Carolina Colors*. This piece, titled: *Coming in for a Landing*, is an acrylic; 20" x 25"

Meyriel Edge held a solo exhibit at the Charleston County Library, titled: *The Edge of Time II*. Included in the exhibit was this oil on canvas: *Cats and Kumquats*; 24" x 36"

