

AUGUST Newsletter HAMDEN ART LEAGUE

Hello everyone and welcome to August. It's hard to believe that summer is almost gone. September will soon be here and we need to start thinking about the coming 2020-2021 year for Hamden Art League. The Board wants HAL to be there both during and after the Covid 19 pandemic, and we trust you will agree.

Before Covid, HAL's coffers were low because of payments to our excellent artist presenters and some necessary technology purchases. Then we had to cancel our *Goldenbells* exhibit which was our chance to increase our revenue for the current year. Now we are faced with some uncertainty for the 2020-2021 year. Here are our current plans as of today.

Our *plein air* group has been meeting weekly at different locales in our area – social distancing and wearing masks of course. In late summer or early fall we will have a virtual show of our work on our website hamdenartleague.org, so everyone can see what we've been painting.

We plan to have our *Silverbells* exhibit (virtually) around the holidays. The show will be judged, and we will award the prizes that we had planned for the *Goldenbells* this spring. We are still working on creating an online critique group in which an artist may send in a photo of his/her work and receive helpful suggestions from fellow artists. I have been participating in this activity with another club and find it very helpful, especially when I am "stuck."

Let me suggest a different way of handling membership dues for the 2020-2021 year. Because of our uncertainties, we will ask you to contribute an amount equal to your regular yearly dues...\$25. Know that some of our expenses continue despite the shutdown (insurance, website fees, mailings, etc.) However, we are not insisting that you pay your dues this year. We want you as a HAL member and, more importantly, want you to be a satisfied and ongoing member. Our heartfelt thanks goes out to everyone who decides to volunteer their dues for this 2020-2021 year. *Please mail checks to our Treasurer, Diane Chandler, 204 High Street, Wallingford, CT 06492.*

Stay safe, and keep painting with joy.

Regards,

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