

Dear Members,

As I sit down to write this message, I feel very philosophical. At a time of peace and joy due to our upcoming holidays. I am feeling sad due to the loss of a dear family member but also, I feel a lot of peace for him and his family because he suffered for over 4 years —and we suffered along with him. THIS Experience has caused me to reflect ONCE AGAIN on MY wonderful time as your PRESIDENT FOR THE LAST 3-1/2 YEARS! I have learned a lesson to appreciate everything I have had up to this time with my health, my family and friends and- of course-MY ART AND YOU!!!!

As your outgoing President, I realize how lucky I have been to have had such a wonderful and exciting experience as your President. This was so POSITIVE BECAUSE OF MY VERY SUPPORTIVE EXECUTIVE BOARD. They have NOT only efficiently fulfilled their duties but have continued to flourish and expand their support in so many ways. This has made my job as President not only easier, but very enjoyable and has allowed me to further expand my role in so many ways which (OF COURSE) has benefited the members of OAG. You will hear more about them SOON!!! THANKS GO to ALL OUR BOARD MEMBERS!!! SPECIAL THANKS GO TO CATHY BURNSIDE (RECORDING SECRETARY) FOR HELPING ME WITH HER EXTRA IDEAS AND SUPPORT!!! THANKS TO VEEP SUSAN FINK FOR PLANNING OUR CALENDAR SO FAR IN ADVANCE, THAT IT IS AN INCENTIVE TO US OLD FOLKS TO LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO SEE ALL HER PLANNED DEMOS!!!! THANKS TO TREASURER MARCELLE SCHVIMMER FOR DOING ALL THAT SERIOUS STUFF ...AND SHE STILL SMILES!!!! THANKS TO MEMBERSHIP CHAIR ARLENE WELLS FOR KEEPING US INFORMED OF MEMBERSHIP CHANGES AND MAKING US LEGAL WITH STATING WE HAVE A QUORUM FOR VOTING!!!

THANKS TO ALL INVOLVED IN OUR CIRCUIT: NEWCOMER COMMUNITY OUTREACH CHAIR: Cynthia Alicea; TEAM LEADERS and their CO-Chairs: Lucy Pinkstaff, Carmen Santiago; Arlene Wells, Debbie Ceres; Gail Bannock, Mary Haley Rocks; Marlyn Busse and all our WONDERFUL CIRCUIT PARTICIPANTS FOR YOUR SUPPORT WITH THEIR GREAT ART AND COVGRATULATIONS TO THOSE WHO SUCCESSFULLY SOLD SOME OF THEIR ART!!!

Special Thanks go to Jan Tindall for the Pop Up shows she has organized for the last 2 years for OAG and for her hard work to try n get us a third one at the Ocala Civic Theater. Our Show coming up this year has been cancelled unfortunately!!!

MUCH THANKS GOES TO OUR SPONSORS: MESA DE NOTTE, WORLD EQUESTRIAN CENTER, MILANOS Italian Ristorante, WHITES FURNITURE and HONDA OF OCALA for your generosity and support....WE HOPE OUR MEMBERS ARE SHOWING THEIR THANKS WITH THEIR BUSINESS!!!! THESE SITES ARE OUR OWN FREE ADVERTISING, SO WE APPRECIATE YOUR ART AND SUPPORT OF THEM!!!!!!

Thanks to the Blue Star Mothers of Ocala for their support of OAG and our country and the sacrifices THEY are making, and we hope to donate more from our Sales to show our appreciation!!!!

Thanks also to our FUN GROUP of ART VENTURERS and to Susan Fink (and now ALSO Marilyn Busse) for their involvement in helping us to explore unknown areas of art interest!!!! This has helped us develop lots of nice art friendships!!!!

THANKS SO MUCH FOR THE HELP AND SUPPORT OF BARBARA FIFE? WE love Chelsea Art Center and all you are doing to help OAG become a more updated functioning art group with all your media help, etc.

Thanks to Corresponding Secretary Lynn King...for developing some cool Ideas to help us raise money...like our 50/50 and Featured Artists Wall at Chelsea.

THANKS TO NEWCOMER JOHN ELLIOTT WHO HAS TAKEN ON THE AREA OF PUBLICITY WHICH IS MUCH NEED TO HELP FOSTER PARTICIPATION IN OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVITIES!!!

Thanks to all the lovely Members of our ARTISTS BOOK CLUB...what an energetic group and so creative and fun!!!! I LOVE THAT you are always up to an adventure. Thanks Ruth, Catherine S., Lynn, Peggy and Carrol, Marilyn, Lucy and Cynthia (TO NAME A FEW) and to the 2 new gals for all your work here and in other areas of need!!!! You ARE SO NICE THAT MY OTHER VILLAGES BOOK CLUB WANTS TO KNOW WHEN THEY CAN JOIN US AGAIN TO DISCUSS ANOTHER BOOK WITH Us????? Their 3rd time with us!!! WOWO!!!

Thanks to Debby, Lisa, Marge, and all in our Theater group for fun TIMES!!! See you in February!!!!

Thanks go to Ginny, Karen, Marilyn, John, and Barbara Fife, who have been working behind the scenes for our 75th ANNIVERSARY!!!!

LASTLY- Thanks to you all for realizing how important it is to support ALL the venues we have been working on for YOU —to support it with your ART ——if you can't do so otherwise!!!!—— especially our February ART SHOW AT CHELSEA: “Wonder, Whimsy and Wild” ...we kept it a LOOSE THEME so everyone can be inspired to create with FREEDOM!!! WE NEED YOUR ART, SO PLEASE PLAN NOW!!!! CHECK WEBSITE FOR APPLICATION AND LOOK FOR IT IN YOUR EMAILS— COMING SOON!!!

After ALL this reflecting, you can see that I have been truly blessed as your president, thank you so much!!!

Wishing you a Happy Hanukkah , Merry Christmas , Happy Kwanza!!!!.....and definitely : A VERY HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR 2025—

Love, Your President- Leona (LEE) ASTA

PAINT! PAINT! PAINT!!! APPLICATIONS!!! APPLICATIONS!!!! APPLICATIONS!!!!
RECEPTION!!!!RECEPTION!!!!RECEPTION!!!!