

RAEA MISSION:



RETIRED ART EDUCATORS INTEREST GROUP

To conduct programs of professional activities for state and national events;

To encourage continued personal involvement and development in art education;

To inform State Associations and NAEA of concerns relevant to members of long - standing;

To encourage and support, as well as provide mentorship for, student members of the NAEA.

RAEA

JULY E-BULLETIN 2018

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!

**From the
President**

**Woody
Duncan**

**New
Mexico**

I hope everyone is having a wonderful start to your Summer. It does seem strange that we still measure our lives by the end of the school year – even after retirement. If you are like me you need clues, like the morning paper, to even know the date or the day of the week. Retired folks do need clues: On our last cruise they changed the carpets in the elevators telling us if the day was Monday, Tuesday, Etc. I do need clues.

As I type this message, my car is totally packed for tomorrow's drive to Taos, New Mexico. I've been driving to Taos for the same watercolor workshop since 1985. One would think that by now I would have learned something. But, we all know that repetition is an effective tool in education. I hope that you have some exciting travel plans for the months ahead. If so, please send a few words to Dean and Bob so they can post them in future e-bulletins.

Personally, besides having success, this year, getting accepted into major watercolor shows and winning awards – our new mayor has appointed me to the Albuquerque Arts Board. I've attended a couple sessions so far and I'm starting to learn how our city spends the one percent for art around the community.

While in Taos next week, besides: visiting with old friends, drinking wine, enjoying the good food, and doing a little painting, I've been asked to teach the same hands-on workshop about "Collograph Printmaking" that I presented at NAEA in Seattle. This is an invitation, If you are ever out this way – we stay at the Historic Sagebrush Inn in Taos – I love it there.

Below is my watercolor "This End Up" which won an award in the New Mexico Watercolor Society Spring Exhibition. Just another reason to love Albuquerque – the annual Balloon Fiesta every October.

RAEA will again hold its "Silent Auction 2019" in Boston. I want to thank Anne Becker for stepping forward to handle the Silent Auction. I also want to reassure Anne that we all step in and do whatever needs doing for the auction. So, please plan to contribute an original piece of "gift-able" art. We want the next year's auction to be a great success so we can continue with the RAEA awards. By, "gift-able", I mean something the buyer would cherish, something you would be proud to give a friend. The "RAEA Silent Auction" will be held in conjunction with the "Opening Night Event" in Boston. Any NAEA member may donate items for the auction. Please consider donating an item of original art for the next auction in Boston, March 14-16, 2019. We accept donations of your original art even if you are not attending the convention. So, remind all NAEA members that they can donate too.

I do hope you will be attending NAEA in Boston in 2019 - and be sure to attend the RAEA sessions - I'd love to meet everyone in person. Please feel free to contact me - you can search "Woody Duncan" on Facebook or check out my blog at the top of my website homepage at www.taospaint.com. my home phone is 505-344-3613 or best use my cell at 913-963-1472.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

DEBI WEST

**SOUTH
CAROLINA**

Hello, I'm Debi West and I'm thrilled that Dean Johns asked me to write an article about my new life as a "retired-ish" art educator. Here's a quick look at what this new normal looks like for me:

I worked in Gwinnett County Georgia for 25 years and was fortunate to work at the elementary level as well as the secondary level. I loved every second of teaching kids through the vehicle of the visual arts, but 60+ hours a week in the classroom began to take its toll so on my doctor's orders, I left a career that I dedicated my life too. It was not an easy decision, but in hindsight, it's the best decision I've made in a long time! But to say that I am retired would probably be a lie.

Since I left the classroom, I have been extremely busy as I'm sure most of you can relate. I have started a new consulting company where I am working with teachers and students by sharing successful teaching strategies. I am specifically sharing the powers of project based learning and hands-on experiences for our students and how this helps them authentically learn and retain what they learn! We have all been privy to this for years, so I am now sharing this "art teaching magic" with schools and districts across the nation. WESTpectations Educational Consulting has been a goal of mine for some time, so its nice to see it begin to grow wings!



Working with classroom teachers in Atlanta

I am also teaching children's art camps and adult drawing and painting courses out of our local Art League. When I moved to Hilton Head the first thing I did was head over to the local Art League and introduce myself. I was thrilled to be able to donate some of my art supplies and art room materials to their academy and within 2 months I was asked to join their board. It's been exciting to be a part of this organization and share my years of experience with them. I am hosting monthly "Lunch with the Masters" lectures at our local library and started our monthly Family Friday FUN Nights where families come and make a collaborative theme-based art work.



A family at last month's family fun night



I also have had the opportunity to work with our local Neighborhood Outreach program where I'm bringing service learning art projects to the community. We painted rocks and turned these into Kindness Rocks and I'm hoping to work with the community to help build a Kindness Rocks Garden on the island.

Painting rocks with these awesome kiddos!

I am super excited to be working with the Art of Education and started writing articles for them last summer. I write 3 articles a month and last month I started working with them as an adjunct instructor through their on-line courses. I am currently teaching printmaking and absolutely love working with teachers who are pursuing their graduate degrees and hearing their stories about their art teaching joys! I currently have 14 students from literally, across the WORLD! From Saudi Arabia, Australia, NY, Massachusetts, Oregon and Missouri, just to name a few and our weekly discussions are just incredible! I have also been writing yearlong theme-based series articles with Arts & Activities magazine for the past 5 years.


And I'm making my own Art! A lot of it! Now that I have the time to work in my garage studio I am painting, drawing, collaging and making my jewelry. I'm now able to attend more art festivals and exhibit

My daughter and me at the LEAF festival in Black Mountain NC last month



So, now you can see why I call myself “retired-ISH”! I work about 40 hours a month, bring in decent money and my health is better than it's been in quite a while. As I mentioned, leaving the classroom was a difficult decision for me and I miss my students so much but still talk with them frequently; but my body spoke and I had to listen. I have found that retiring didn't mean I had to leave a profession that fuels me because I'm pretty sure I will be in the field of art and art education for the rest of my life!

Me with my new SC license plate - always an ARTTCHR!

An illustration of several stage spotlights hanging from a rig, with three red squares positioned above them. The spotlights are black with yellow lenses, and some are angled towards the viewer.

COMMIT TO RAEA

COMMIT to exhibiting in the RAEA Members E-Gallery. When submitting work please include YOUR NAME AND STATE, THE TITLE OF THE WORK, THE MEDIUM AND SIZE, AND A SHORT DESCRIPTIVE COMMENT. HELP MAKE THE E-GALLERY A SUCCESS.

COMMIT to keeping us updated on member news; changes in RAEA State/Province leadership, gallery exhibits, milestones, deaths.

COMMIT to creating new opportunities for yourself and those around you!

YOU ARE THE RAEA!!! DO YOUR PART TO MAKE THE RAEA A VITAL ISSUES GROUP OF THE NAEA!

SEND Dean Johns the name and contact information of your state/province representative.

COMMIT to informing the editors of subjects you would like to see addressed.

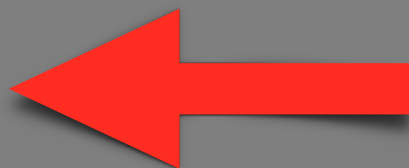
COMMIT to contributing an article for inclusion in the E-Bulletin.

COMMIT to contributing artwork and/or sponsoring an auction table for the RAEA Silent Auction at the NAEA Convention (the only revenue source for RAEA).



DEADLINE FOR ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE E-BULLETIN IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION: DECEMBER 15 FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY 15 FOR MARCH, APRIL 15 FOR MAY, JUNE 15 FOR JULY, AUGUST 15 FOR SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER 15 FOR NOVEMBER.

NEXT DEADLINE IS AUGUST 15



THE RAEA E-BULLETIN IS SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO CURRENT MEMBERS OF NAEA WHOSE MEMBERSHIP DESIGNATION IS “RETIRED” AND WHO HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS ON FILE WITH NAEA. SPECIAL ISSUES ARE PUBLISHED AS NEED ARISES.

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BOSTON



**JOIN US AT NAEA IN BOSTON, MASS
MARCH 14 - 16, 2019**

