



April 2016

Newsletter

To stay up to date and see job postings throughout the year please join the [facebook group](#)

A long time coming...

It has been quite awhile since a newsletter has gone out and I apologize for the delay. If someone would like to volunteer to help complete it please email Chelsey, Thank you!
artofchelsey@gmail.com



Upcoming Events:

- Beauty and the Beast Chalk Walk – Indian Rocks Beach, FL | April 2nd | [INFO](#)
- Spring Fever in the Garden - Winter Garden, FL | April 9 | [INFO](#)
- Palatka Chalk Explosion – Palatka, FL | April 9th | [INFO](#)
- Saint Johns River Festival of the Arts –Sanford, FL | April 30th | [INFO](#)
- Paseo Pastel – St. Augustine, FL | Returning in 2017 | [Website](#)
- Busker Festival – Eustis, FL | May 14 | [INFO](#)
- ArtHaus Street Painting Festival – Port Orange, FL | October 1-2 | [INFO TBA](#)
- Marietta Chalktoberfest – Marietta, GA | October 8-9 | [INFO](#)
- Clearwater Beach Chalk Walk – Clearwater, FL | October 21-23 | [INFO](#)
- Sarasota Chalk Festival –Venice, FL | November 11-14 | [INFO](#)

Shows are always listed on the website, let us know if we missed one.

Sunday's FCAA Meeting!

Despite the rain, Safety Harbor was a lot of fun, it is always great to see so many smiling faces out there creating art! Sunday afternoon was the FCAA meeting and again, despite the rain, we got a few things accomplished like electing our new FCAA President.... Janet Tombros!

Letter from our President

My fellow chalkers, I address you as the new President of Florida Chalk Artist Association. We are an organization of chalkers, people with common interest, an interest in Chalk Festivals and Street Painting events.....

Seriously, FCAA was organized to assist fellow chalk artist with information about upcoming Festivals, Chalk related work and Activities and to connect Events and Businesses with chalk artists. We will update you in Newsletters and on FaceBook postings about events and issues that

TIME TO RENEW!

If you have not yet renewed your FCAA membership please do so. You can contact Theresa if you have any questions.

Membership dues are \$5 per year and can be paid by cash or check payable to: FCAA or Florida Chalk Artists Assn

Please write the following information on a 3x5 card:

NAME:
ADDRESS:
PHONE NUMBER:
EMAIL ADDRESS:
HOW MANY STREET PAINTING EVENTS YOU HAVE DONE?

Mail this 3x5 card and \$5 to FCAA
Treasurer Theresa Hawkins
FCAA

c/o Theresa Hawkins
4229 Conway Place Circle
Orlando, FL 32812-7992

THANK YOU!

List of Board Members:

Janet Tombros - President
Email - jptartist@gmail.com

Julie Graden - Member at Large
Email - juliearts3@verizon.net

Kim MacEwen - Secretary
Email - hobbit269@bellsouth.net

Theresa Hawkins - Treasurer
Email - mamat10@cfl.rr.com

Lee Jones - Master of Awards
Email - leighjones0710@gmail.com

Cass Womack - Webmaster
Email - CassWomack@gmail.com

Chelsey Austin - Facebook
Email - artofchelsey@gmail.com

concern us as chalk artists.

In this organization we like to keep the atmosphere light and friendly by hosting an annual Chalk Artist Party. I will ask the Social Committee to organize a convenient location (usually a festival where we know many FCAA members will participate). Be looking for an announcement soon.

There are some issues on the table that the board will be addressing this year (nothing earth shattering as I've previously stated, we like to keep things light).

So, my fellow Chalk Artist, I welcome your questions and ideas on how to move this organization forward.

-Janet Tombros

Staying Cool on the Pavement in the Florida Sun! By Beth Shistle

As the late Spring chalk art season approaches and some summer chalking opportunities may come your way, here are some thoughts and tips from my experiences and observations as a chalk artist on staying cool when the weather heats up.

Dress for the heat. What you choose for your attire can have a big impact on how comfortable you stay chalking during the day. Obviously wear loose, light colored clothing to reflect the sun. Exchange heavy chalk festival t-shirts for lighter varieties that breathe. Select shirts that breathe. Outdoor sporting good stores are great places to find clothing specifically designed to help you feel cool. Columbia makes t-shirts called "Zero Rules" with Omni-freeze that has cooling technology. Small circles react with your sweat combined with high performance wicking to keep you cool. These garments won Nat'l Geographic's Gear of the Year for 2013. Wearing Sandals allow feet to breathe better and your whole body to feel cooler. Just remember as you exchange your winter cover ups for lighter, shorter attire to use the sunscreen(Even on your feet)! Neutrogena makes a fantastic sunscreen that just sprays on. It is called Ultra Sheer Body Mist Sunscreen and has a broad spectrum SPF 70. It is invisible, weightless with a clean feel that won't make you feel sticky and icky while chalking in the sun.

Bring your own shade. Wear a hat. Besides giving you that artistic personal style, hats can give protection from the sun and heat. My favorite again comes from the outdoor sporting goods store. I chose one with a wide brim all the way around, providing lots of shade for the face and back of the neck. It has an optional sliding bead under the chin strap and adjusts at the brim to keep the hat secure on those windy chalk festivals even the ones by the water. Some hats are even treated with repellent to keep away mosquitoes and gnats.

Besides hats, chalk artist sometimes bring their own shade in other forms such as tent canopies and umbrellas. Canopies such as the pop-up like you find at Wal-mart are wonderful if the sun is straight overhead and if it is not windy. Even though they provide a large area of shade, they are not my first choice for a couple of reasons. Because of the angle of the sun, you may end up shading your neighbor, which they



We have new chalk friends!

Check them out:

<http://www.gachalkartists.org/>

Special Announcements!

Congratulations to Michelle Hawkins on getting married this past weekend!

If you would like to see something in the upcoming newsletter please email Chelsey at artofchelsey@gmail.com

will love you for, while you are still stuck working in the sun. Or you may have to set up over your neighbor's spot to shade your own, for which they might not love you so much. Large umbrellas especially the ones that have built in angle adjustment work very well. Securing them is the trick. I have in the past lugged out a patio umbrella weight. Way too cumbersome! I have found that clamping the large umbrella securely to my rolling cart with a large clamp works fairly well, but not when really windy. Watch out for that wind! Umbrellas and tents can be blown over easily into your fellow chalkers or adoring fans unless they are securely weighted down. Being a light traveler, my favorite shade to bring along is a small umbrella with a screw on type clamp. It is a dark color, but it has a silver reflective lining that works very well keeping it cool underneath. The clamp is strong enough to securely fasten it to my rolling cart. The stem is bendable so I can tilt it in any direction. With this umbrella I don't have to bother my neighbors too much. I can easily roll my cart around my spot anywhere I need the shade.

Here are a couple of other tricks that keep you from becoming overheated in the hot sun. Keep a small cooler filled with ice floating in a couple inches of water. Wear a bandana around your neck. Have an extra one in the ice water. When your bandana gets warm, exchange it out for a chilly damp one. Some chalk artists wear a stretchy turtleneck-like band called a Balaclava that can be moistened with cold water. Balaclavas and Neck Gaiters (like fishermen use) can be used the same as a way as the bandana, except they can be pulled all the way up over your head like a hood to keep the sun off and the head cool. Frogg toggs makes an all sport "Chilly Pad" towel that is an all purpose evaporative cooling towel that can be placed around the back of the neck to cool down and keep cool. All of these items can be kept in the iced water in the cooler until ready to use.

The cooler can also serve as a place to put the water bottles the festival brings you so it doesn't get hot before you get a chance to drink it. Which brings me to my next tip. Drink, drink, drink that water! Stay hydrated! I cannot stress this enough. I found that my energy level stays much higher when I take frequent breaks to drink lots of water.

Plan ahead to chalk efficiently. A little pre-planning can help you be efficient with your time so you can take more breaks or longer breaks from 1:00 - 3:00 when the sun seems to be the hottest and still finish your masterpiece. Arrive at the festival a little earlier to get more work done when it is cool. Plan ahead for strategies to help your artwork be completed more quickly. Pouncing all or combining pouncing with gridding helps to make the work go a little faster. Use a larger chalk such as Crayola or Eternity Chalks as an under layer or to chalk large spaces like backgrounds. This saves time. Pace yourself. Plan to work smarter, harder and faster in the morning. Take more breaks in the afternoon. Sometimes working the most complicated part of the piece in the morning when I am fresh allows me to get the easier larger spots done later, when I am not able to concentrate as much in the hotter part of the day.

You don't always have the choice of where you get to chalk, whether you are in the shade most of the day, part of the day or you are in full sun all day. You can, however, with a little planning and preparation stay more comfortable and enjoy your late spring and early summer chalking experiences.

PS The most outrageous thing I have ever done to stay cool during a "middle of the summer" chalking gig was to bring an electric fan and a very long extension cord. I really hate the heat.

Beth Shistle,
Chalk Artist, DeLand, FL

Palatka Chalk Explosion

Arts Council of Greater Palatka
Street Art Festival

Our Guest Artists for 2016

Beatrice Flag



Beth Shistle



Tim Ritter



Julie Graden



Nancy Naulty



Be sure to follow us on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FloridaChalkArtistsAssociation> and <http://floridachalkartists.org/>