

President's Message from Robert Burridge!

This is my 6th Online President's Message.

I live and work in California and recently found of interest the Artists' Bill of Rights for California artists. Each state has its own "bill of rights," so check your local legislature and see how your state impacts and supports you as an artist. I continue to be amazed when I hear artists lamenting over their lack of rights. Here are some facts: 1. The artist owns the copyrights to his or her image forever... plus 75 years after the artist's death. 2. The artist shall be entitled to a royalty upon resale of his or her work of art if the seller resides in California or if the sale takes place in California, provided the work is resold for \$1,000 or more. (Good luck tracking the resale of your work!) 3. The artist has the right to know who has purchased his or her work, provided the artist gives the consignee (i.e., gallery) a specific written notice requesting the name and address of the purchaser before the work is sold. (We put that clause in our contracts with the galleries or other selling venues.) 4. The artist has the right to have his or her works free from the claims of the dealer's creditors. This last one is very important, since galleries have been known to go out of business and attach your paintings as their assets for their creditors. Become familiar with the bankruptcy laws for your particular state and for any other state you exhibit your work. The Artists' Bill of Rights and other details are published by Peter H. Karlen, Professional Law Corporation in La Jolla, California. (619) 454-9696. Check your state for specifics.

In my President's Messages, I spew about this and that, thinking of ways to inspire your creative souls! This month I remind you of something you may not think much about... Your Sketchbook. It is that humble little tool we artists may not consider to be of much value; but for me, the sketchbook teaches me everything I need to know about art. It is my memory bank, my backup for saved ideas and is a surefire way to clear out all that mind chatter before I start a painting. It is where I put my painting goals. Not only just for sketching, your sketchbook is your central headquarters to write your daily journaling, thoughts and new brainstorm. I suggest you own several of these and scatter these sketchbooks everywhere! You never know when or where a good idea will hit you. I do one more thing -- I get ownership of my sketchbooks by painting and collaging the front and back covers. The books are small works of art and my daily travel companion.

Looking at the stacks of my sketchbooks, I see a physical affirmation of my profession.

Carrying around my sketchbook also “advertises” that I am an artist and works as my business card. It’s a conversation opener. I encourage you to buy several at a time, paint the covers and place them throughout your studio and home. I prefer the spiral bound so the cover folds back for support.

Linda Gunn teaches a wonderful Sketchbook workshop! Maybe we can get a few valuable insights from her too.

Robert Genn wrote a very interesting article in his twice weekly newsletter on the subject of Acrylic Paint! “Acrylic Snobs” dated June 2. If you wish to subscribe to his newsletter, log on to <http://www.painterskeys.com> (it’s free!)

ISAP continues to make improvements and is streamlining the efficiency of its operation.

During this growth, the Board Members are asking for new and additional personnel to assist and coordinate upcoming programs. Anyone interested may contact us!

Best email address is RBurridgepaints@aol.com

Happy painting!

Love, peace and friendship,

Bob