

## JOAN DIGIORGIO

This week we're featuring one of our newest board members, our newly "minted" treasurer, Joni DiGiorgio. She also holds the position of number one helper at our LAA/Sound View Plantation Member Gallery. When first meeting Joni, she impresses as a quiet gal with a bit of intrigue. However, once she gets talking, that's when the fun really begins. Full of life with an effervescent and dry sense of humor, she'll definitely be the board member who'll keep us in line this year! I know all of you will truly enjoy getting to know her. In fact, you'll appreciate her bio below as her personality really shines through from word one to the 500th!



The life of Joan DiGiorgio in 500 words or less (all according to Joni).

“Long Island girl. Born in Brooklyn...raised in Massapequa....all my degrees are from Long Island schools.

Associate Degree in Marketing and Merchandising...Nassau Community College. BA with minor in Education, Masters in Education---Hofstra University

Professional Diploma...CW Post...this allowed me to be a boss and make children cry if they exhibited inappropriate behavior (sometimes teachers as well.)

Started teaching Business subjects in 1969 (ancient times.)

Around 1977, I was part owner of a craft store until the recession in the 1980's made running a business tricky. Just as well, as the big store (Michael's) was getting ready to change the craft world. This was before scrapbooking but you name the craft and I did it and also taught it.

Took classes in tole painting (with Priscilla Hauser) and taught it in my store. My painting background is primarily with oils and consisted of painting folksy things on wood and metal. Also painted in the rosemaling style, again basically with oils and on wood.

My claim to fame is teaching Penny Thompson how to tole paint with oils and then watched her paint anything that stood still (I still remember that the sky light in her kitchen had clusters of grapes adorning it). Penny moved on to watercolor and I packed away my brushes and paints. In the late 1990's or so, I took a class with Penny on watercolor and became mildly interested in that medium.

Moved to Savannah in 2004 and never unpacked any art stuff. Didn't really have any interest until I took a class with Savannah's Sharon Saseen. I enjoy working with paper and mixed media materials. I think that was when I joined the LAA as part of the class fee included membership. I take art classes for fun and sometimes actually finish a piece!

I've always enjoyed looking at the art in Plantation and appreciate the talent that results in the end product whether it's painting, ceramics, jewelry, or photography.

And now...I can play a small part in keeping art alive on Skidaway!”