

LivArt: February 2023 Edition

(Greater Livingston County Arts Council Newsletter)

Greater Livingston County Arts Council is a 501c3 organization.

GLCAC Board:

Vickie Fitzgerald, President

Nancy Flessner, Secretary

Pam Beeson, Treasurer

Brenda Thompson

Brian Gabor

Teresa Beard-Lowell,

Committee Liaison

Dates to Remember:

March 5, 2023: 4:00 Jury Session

March 8, 2023 at 4:00
GLCAC Board Meeting

March 8, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.: Swinging Bridges Committee Meeting

March 17, 2023:
Art Attack!
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
and/or
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

April 1, 2023: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Retreat



Thanks to the Property Committee (**John Gahm, Mike Rodino, Dan Fitzgerald, and John Fitzgerald**) for doing demo work in the Upstairs and saving us BIG BUCKS!

Upstairs Renovation...

Gary Boldt and **Durham Electric** have started work on the upstairs bathroom. They are waiting on **Smith's Plumbing and Heating** to come in and replumb the whole thing. Past efforts to use the existing plumbing have been a bit soggy (Just ask **Dan Fitzgerald!**) so Smith's will be putting in new pipes all the way down to the basement!

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ART ATTACK!

3rd Friday **Art Attack!** will be March 17 this month. You can plan to come from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and/or from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Art Classroom. **Art Attack!** will be a time for vendor and patron members to bring an art project (or craft) and spend time with your fellow artists talking about art, working on one of your personal projects, socializing, or just hanging out!

Due to time limits and keeping costs down, **Art Attack!** will not include pottery activities (unless you are enrolled in a class on the Art Attack days). Otherwise, just any old other project that you want to do. Please feel free to bring a snack to share (not required).

Gallery Committee News...

Because of continuing construction, there will be no March gallery show. April will be the poetry show this year, so be thinking of pieces that you can submit for poets to respond to in verse. Poetry will be showing up soon for your enjoyment and inspiration.

Jury Committee News...

2023 Jury dates are March 5, June 4, and September 10, starting at 4:00 p.m. However, please remember that if you are working and someone comes in between jury sessions and is very excited about becoming a vendor member, the jury committee will consider having a special session to review new work. If that happens, please get their information to **Teresa Beard-Lowell** and she will take care of things.

Pottery Studio Committee News...

Three six-week pottery sessions are scheduled for this year so far, with **Pam Beeson** leading the way with a wheel-throwing class.

Membership Committee News

If you haven't already, please pay your dues soon.

Vickie Fitzgerald is currently the Membership Committee Chair, but we need someone who has more time to devote to membership. We need a new chairperson and one or two committee members. This committee is important and needs some structuring. Please talk to **Vickie** if you are interested.

Thinking of you:

There have been GLCAC sightings of **Brenda Thompson**, **Mike Ingles**, and **John and Sue Drummet**, who have had several health issues this year. So nice to see you back!

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Spring/Summer Classes Needed:

Classes and workshops are still an important part of our overall mission to make the visual arts available to everyone in the Greater Livingston County area. People are asking for kids project workshops, adult workshops, drawing classes, painting classes, and anything else we can think up! If you have an idea for a class or workshop but are a little nervous about taking one on, talk to **Juli Fraher**. She will help you get set up for success and even find you a helper, if you would like one.

Thanks to **Pam Beeson** for offering her heart bowl workshop. As you can see, her students were enjoying themselves!!



Newsletter Update:

You may have noticed a change in newsletter format (and noticed that it is not that good!) That is because **Vickie Fitzgerald** is acting as interim Newsletter editor. We are still looking for someone to take over this position, so please search your heart and consider volunteering. If your skill is in the writing/spelling area and if you are good at meeting deadlines, this position is for you! **In the meantime, Vickie is hoping to put out the newsletter around the 15th of each month. You can help! Please direct all newsletter items and photos to our Art Folk email (www.pontiaccommunityartcenter@gmail.com). Deadline for items will be the 10th of each month. Please make a note of this monthly deadline in your calendars.**

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Why not enter the MCAC Annual Amateur Show?

Our art pals at Mclean County Arts Center are hosting their 96th Annual Amateur McLean County Arts Exhibition. They are accepting submissions for jurying until noon on February 20th. For more details, see their facebook page or go to www.mcac.wildapricot.org

February 15, 2023 GLCAC Board Meeting

Members Present: **Vickie Fitzgerald, Pam Beeson, Brenda Thompson, and Teresa Beard-Lowell**

Also Present: **Mike Rodino**, Property Committee

Secretary, **Nancy Flessner**, was not present but the January minutes were read and approved. (These minutes were published in the January LivArt Newsletter.)

Treasurer, **Pam Beeson**, reported that we currently have \$8,312.23. Accounting for bills paid and upcoming bills, this leaves GLCAC short around \$10,000 to complete the current upstairs renovation project. President, **Vickie Fitzgerald**, reported that she is seeking donations and grants to offset our investment in the project and is confident that some will be received. To keep work on track, the Fitzgeralds will loan GLCAC the additional funds needed to pay for the work, up to \$11,000 at no interest. The agreement is that GLCA will repay the amount when it becomes available.

Old Business: Brief discussions and “wrap-up” of outstanding dues, renovations and financing, inactive members, artist bios, and upcoming retreat were discussed. No new information offered. It was also mentioned that the 2023 Retreat meeting place is not firmed up and will be announced later.

New Business: The board discussed a Swinging Bridges vendor application and voted it not suitable for this year, acknowledged a donation from **Thrivent** on behalf of **Dave Flessner**, and approved purchasing postcards for each gallery show to be used by the artist and the art center to advertise said upcoming show. **Amy Eppel**, from **Evenglow Lodge**, has offered GLCAC picture frames and some art left from the Harold Cunningham collection. The board suggested that we look over and discuss at the Retreat.

The next GLCAC Board Meeting will be at 4:00 on Wednesday, March 8.

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February 15, 2023 Swinging Bridges Committee Meeting

Liz Vincent and Mary Jones from City of Pontiac Tourism department met with **Pam Beeson, Brenda Thompson, Vickie Fitzgerald, Rita Hock, Lisa Green, and John Gahm** on Wednesday, February 15. The City of Pontiac will, again, assist GLCAC with the 2023 Swinging Bridges Arts Festival. Along with things too many to mention here, they will take care of getting permission to close down the 200 block of Madison Street; provide picnic tables, chairs, and trash receptacles; bring in the performance trailer that we used last year for musicians, reserve the Eagle, and help with publicity.

At our request, the Red Carpet Corridor Committee has moved the event back to 2 days! This should help to encourage visitors to stay in Pontiac a little longer than they have been able to do in the past. The GLCAC committee continues to work on attracting music, art and food vendors.

The committee mentioned that, along with helping during the festival, all GLCAC members can help in other ways, too.

- Anyone who has old jewelry, clock parts, interesting metal pieces, please get them to **Teresa Lowell** to add to her collection of goodies for our Steam Punk Made From Junk tent.
- Encourage artist friends and/or acquaintances to join us as vendors and let **Darlene Miller** know.
- Talk to **Brenda Thompson** if you know of any food truck vendors who might want to set up.
- Encourage friends, neighbors, family, and total strangers to attend our festival!
- Mark calendars and prepare to help out during the festival weekend.

The next meeting of the Swinging Bridges Committee will be at 5:30 on Wednesday, March 8. Anyone interested in helping with the planning is invited to attend.