

## LivArt: September 2023 Edition

(Greater Livingston County Arts Council Newsletter)

Greater Liv Co. Arts Council  
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GLCAC is a 501c(3)  
organization

**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:**

**October 5, 2023**

**Set-up for October Show**

3:30

**October 7, 2023**

**“Pandora’s Box” Group Show**

**Opening**

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**October 20, 2023:**

**Art Attack!**

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

and/or

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**November 2, 2023**

**Set-up for November Show**

**November 4, 2023**

**Opening for the November show**

from 5:00 – 7:00 pm.

**November 6, 2023**

**Gallery Committee Meeting**

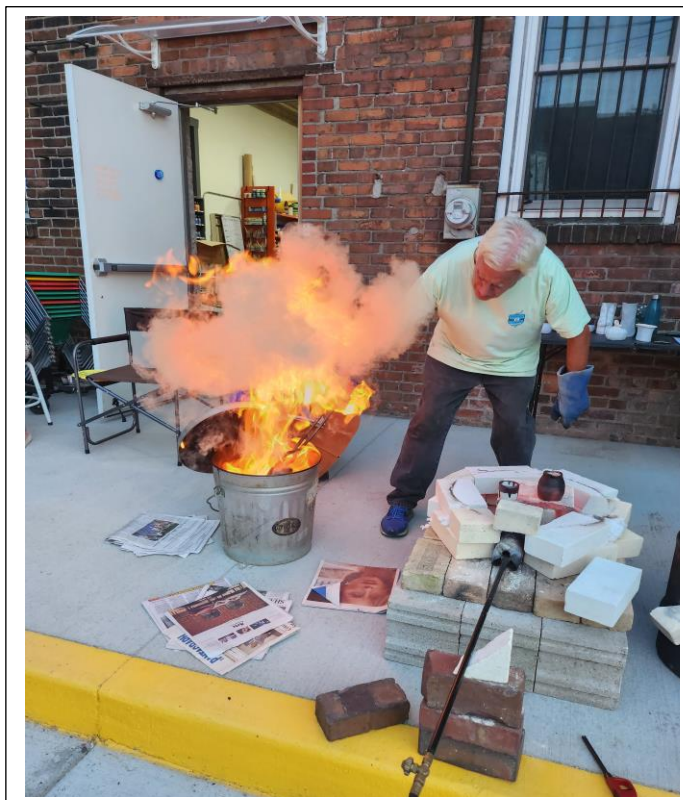
1:00

**November 30, 2023**

**Take-down for November Show**

**January 2024: GLCAC Winter**

**Celebration – Details to follow**



### **Raku Firing Demonstration by Bob Sear**

GLCAC, with the help of **Thrivent Financial**, held a Raku firing demonstration by **Bob Sear (thanks Bob!)** at the Art Center. Twenty-three people attended the event. Bob used his home-made Raku kiln, fired by a blow torch, to fire several different firings of pieces made by members of the pottery studio and himself. The process of kiln firing, followed by placing the pieces in a small, lidded tin waste can of burning newspapers and ending by placing the pieces in water was held on the new patio. After the demonstration, participants had lunch. Drawings were held for the fired pieces. Everyone took home a unique piece of pottery, as well as learned about this unique technique of pottery firing. Thank you to **Pam Beeson** for preparing the food and ordering the supplies and to **Ray Lovell** for helping us out with extra fire bricks. Thanks to everyone who helped to glaze and make pieces to fire.

**A Big Thanks to Nancy Flessner and**

for sponsoring the Raku Firing event held on Sunday, September 24!



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**Congratulations Christine, Dan, and John Gahm!  
Wow! You all make us look Good!**



This painting, by **Christine Bennett-Weber**, was in a show at the Westclox Gallery in Peru, Illinois entitled, "From Harm to Healing." It was selected to be on the cover of a national Publication!

### **Breath**

Every day I breathe the air  
around me,  
feeling it enter my lungs,  
filling my body with life.  
What a gift I have been given,  
this deepness that surrounds me,  
letting me go through  
one more day,  
one more minute  
of living.

~ Dan Fitzgerald

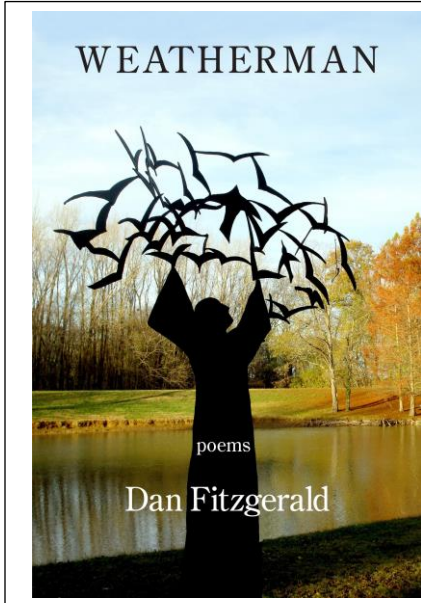
Dan Fitzgerald's poem was featured on the September 29 Highland Park Poetry facebook page!



Photographer, **John Gahm**, is another example of the talent here at the art center. His photo of an iceberg reflected on water won a national photograph award. He is pictured here with the winning photo and the camera lens that was the prize!

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### Coming Soon!

**Dan Fitzgerald** is in the first editing of his new book of poems, which will be published later this fall or early January.

Watch for the announcement for his **book signing!** (Check out the cover, too. That's Dan's photograph!)

### Artists

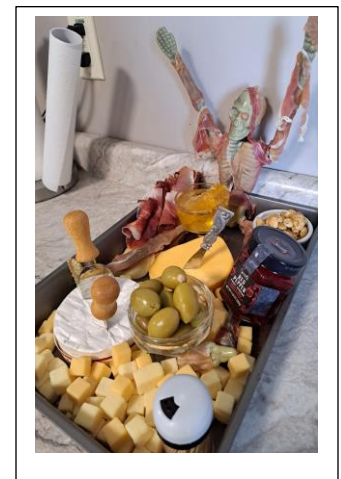
Remember that our December show is a cash-and-carry holiday show. It will be in the upstairs gallery this year, so start (if you haven't already) making gift art to bring in!

## Annual Picnic at Flessner's on September 30, 2023

### Christine and Joe



**Brenda, Kathy, Mark, and Karen**



**Spooky hors d'oeuvres**  
By Clo

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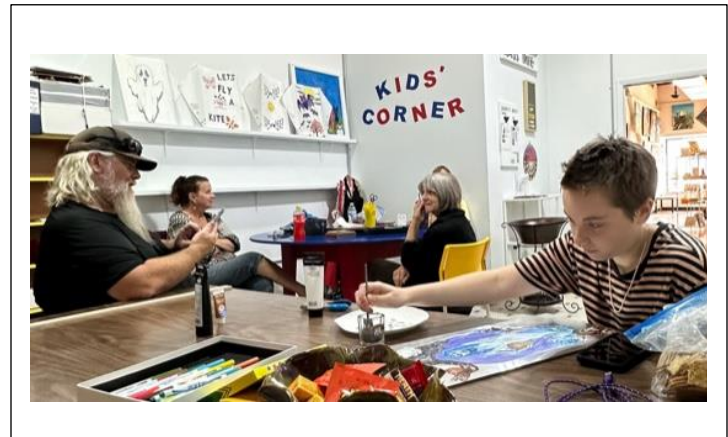
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**There is always something going on at the art center!**



Our pinch pot pumpkin class had to make do with “pinch-hitter,” Vickie Fitzgerald while Juli Fraher recovers from a fall. They made:

**FIVE LITTLE PUMPKINS!**



**Kite-Making Activity Cosponsored by Route 66  
Kites and GLCAC**

**Anne & Mike Stephenson** and his mother, **Joyce Bialecke**, brought kite kits and the knowledge to decorate and to put them together. **Clo Mayback** worked the morning shift and **Joyce Cole** worked afternoon shift. **Lisa Green** and **Brenda Thompson** of the Special Events Committee joined the group. Clo, Lisa, Anne, and Joyce Bialecke decorated kites.

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### **ART ATTACK!**

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday **Art Attack!** will be October 20th 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.

### **Gallery Committee News...**

**October Show:** “Pandora’s Box.” This is a group show that will run from Saturday, October 7 – Thursday, October 26.

**November Show:** **Spoon River Bottom Metals** will bring metal sculptures, just in time for Christmas!

**December:** GLCAC members are invited to bring Christmas gift-related items for the holiday show.

### **Events Committee**

**The annual Art Walk** was a success, again! Over \$500 was raised, making our \$500 scholarship for a Livingston County Senior available to be presented this spring. Eighteen artists and stores partnered together for visitors to explore and bid on some amazing pieces of art. The City of Pontiac made flyers and Juli Fraher made door/window signs to place in each store advertising the event. Thank you to all of the donating artists, the participating businesses and to everyone who helped to make this event a success.

**January 2024:** first annual **GLCAC Winter Celebration**. Details to come.

### **Jury Committee News - Welcome to new artists:**

**Karen Compton (Fused Glass)**

**CJ Bridger (Photography)**

**Kyle Fajardo (Oil Pastels)**

### **Pottery Committee News...Pottery Studio Guidelines Clarified**

The GLCAC pottery studio is a place for people in the community to come and learn about pottery making and to practice their pottery skills. It is not a production studio. It is here to serve hobby potters and would-be potters who are learning and creating pottery for their own enjoyment and personal use. Those wanting to sell their art (jury into the sales gallery) should have their own supplies, pottery studio, and kiln.

With that being said, any member or person who has taken at least one hand-building class or wheel-throwing class and wants to make pottery for their personal use may fire independently made work at the art center. (The firing policy, along with firing rates, is available in the **Blue Book** at the desk.

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## **Artist Statements PLEASE**

To make our art gallery even better than it already is, we would like to create artist cards for each vendor to display next to your artwork and to have on file to include with your pieces as they sell. Please write up your artist statement with information about you, your art, your inspiration, any recognition/awards, and anything else that you would like to include. One or two paragraphs are fine. **Christine Bennett-Weber and Joyce Cole** will collect and organize these and **Pam Beeson (and possibly Darlene Miller?)** will do photographs for these. Please do this soon and plan to bring a written copy to the office, or email to **Art Folk**. **These take time to do and we want all of them finished as soon as possible.**

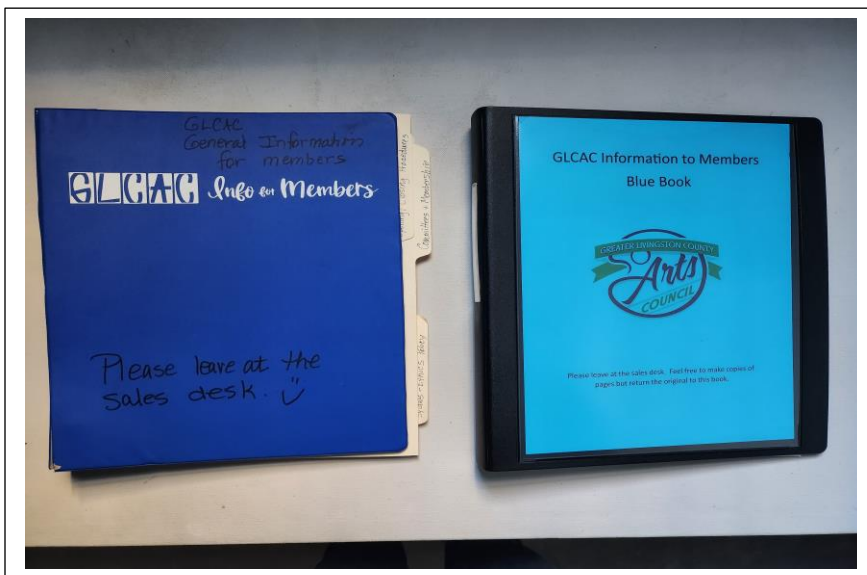
## **Thinking of you:**

We are a tough group, but sometimes there are bumps along the way. Thinking of **Juli Fraher and John Fitzgerald...**

## **2024 Calendar Planned**

The GLCAC Board will be developing a 2024 Calendar of Events for the upcoming year. Events and dates that we know already will be included. Please set up your committee meeting dates and times so that we can add those in. Another attempt at better communication.

## **New Blue Book**



**Need to know something about GLCAC? Check the BLUE BOOK. It is on the shelf under the sales desk. NOTICE, too, that it has a new look. The OLD one is on the left, and the new one is on the right.**

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## GLCAC September Board Meeting Minutes

The Greater Livingston County Arts Council held their regular board meeting on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 starting at 6:30 pm at the Art Center.

Present: Vickie, Pam, Brenda, Teresa and Nancy

Secretary Report: Accepted as presented

Treasurer Report: Balance on hand is approximately \$2,354.51. Accepted as presented:

Old Business:

- The August 16, 2023 Committee Chairperson meeting was a success
- Insurance has gone up about \$550 per year. We paid \$820 down and will make payments of \$250 per month for nine months
- The Annual Art Walk was a success, raising approximately \$550
- Joyce and Christine will be asked to begin working on artist cards. Pam will meet with them to see if they need any assistance
- The Raku firing by Bob Sear was a huge success. A big thanks to Pam for all of her hard work getting pieces to fire and food
- The Annual Picnic will be held on September 30, 2023 at the Flessner's

New Business

- Vickie and Brenda met with the owner of a restaurant in Odell about hanging some of the artist's art work in their business. It was decided to present the option to the members and to let them deal with the owner on a one-to-one basis
- A Pottery meeting was held before this meeting with active pottery members. New guidelines were discussed and pricing of firing was also discussed.
- The Blue Notebook for the store front needs revision and will be worked on. Nancy will talk with Juli about getting a digital calendar for 2024 and the central calendar in the kitchen area will be kept up to date
- Board members were asked to begin recording their duties so that in case of an emergency others can step in and take care of activities

Other Business

A discussion was held on future jury submissions. We are running out of space in the front and are questioning the possibility of limiting the number of items/size of items/and number of members that the space will hold.

Submitted by Nancy Flessner – Secretary

**Please direct all newsletter items and photos to our Art Folk email:**

**([www.pontiaccommunityartcenter@gmail.com](mailto:www.pontiaccommunityartcenter@gmail.com)). Deadline for items will be the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please make a note of this monthly deadline in your calendars.**