

LivArt: April 2023 Edition

(Greater Livingston County Arts Council Newsletter)

Greater Liv Co. Arts Council
209 W. Madison St.
Pontiac, Illinois 61764
Ph.: (815) 419-2472
Email: glcacnfp@gmail.com
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:

April 15, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Slow Art Day in Pontiac

April 19, 2023 at 4:00

Swinging Bridges Committee meeting. All are welcome!

April 21, 2023:

Art Attack!

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

and/or

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

April 21 and 22, 2023:

Moving Sale at Krystal Lyon's house

April 26: Artwork to show to Poets due today

April 30 – May 7: Artwork for May poetry show due

May 6-7: Swinging Bridges Arts Festival!

May 11, 2023: Poetry Show set-up

May 13: Poetry Show opening



Be sure to check out the changes/improvements in Kathy Zehr's upstairs studio, thanks to this crew!



T-Shirt Orders

Be sure to pre-order your Swinging Bridges T-Shirt!

Sign-up sheet is at the desk.

1. Sign your name and select size and number
2. Select Vendor 200
3. Pay \$20.00 plus 1.45 Tax

Total Cost: \$21.45

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Look What Has Been Going on at GLCAC!



Jan Dunn and Normandy Lyon taking advantage of extra studio time that came with the Open Studio Class for experienced ceramicists.



Mini-wheel on loan from **Vickie**. Here is **Pam**, making it look easy (on left). Come in and give it a try... and thanks to volunteer, **Jenny Lyons**, for helping with our April gallery show!



Thanks to **Juli Fraher** and helper, **Vickie Fitzgerald**, for working with 12 Girl Scouts to earn their art badges. They made some *WILD* bunnies!

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So nice to have our new gallery ready for the April Permanent Collection Show.

Pictured: **Mayor Bill Alvey, Sue Strauch, Dan Fitzgerald, Pam Lyons, and John Gahm.**

Upstairs Renovation...

Renovations are nearly complete! Gary Boldt and Smith's Plumbing and Heating are finished! Woodwork stain, decorating, and cleanup left! It will be SO NICE to have running water for the artists upstairs and a bathroom for all!

ART ATTACK!

3rd Friday **Art Attack!** will be April 21 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...

The **GLCAC Permanent Collection Show** will run until Sunday, May 7th.

Poets of the **Pontiac Chapter of the Illinois State Poetry Society** have submitted poems for the **Poetry Show**. They are in the pink notebook on the shelf in the kitchen as usual. Take a photo or make a copy of the poem and sign your name on the poem in the notebook if you wish to use it for inspiration.

If you have a piece of art you would like a poet to write about, please take a photo of it and send it to Kathleen Murphy at kathleenzmurphy@mail.com

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If it is a 3-D piece, take photos from multiple angles. Please include your name and title for each piece and submit photos by **Wednesday, April 26** for consideration by the poets. (But sooner is better.)

We ask that all pieces be at the Art Center by **Sunday, May 7 but not before Sunday, April 30**. Pieces need to be ready to display or hang and a card filled out for the display. If you need more information or clarification, please call **Connie Kostelc** at 815-848-4058 or **Vickie Fitzgerald** at (309) 310-1281.

Since we are using the Joe Bailey Gallery for guest shows this year, (or artists that have not had a show before) this and the Halloween show might be the only times you have this year to show in the Joe Bailey Gallery. We will be having a reception with readings on **Saturday, May 13**.

Events Committee

2023 Calendar of Events

April 15 (Slow Art Day): visitors are invited to slowly view the art of the GLCAC Permanent Collection in Joe Bailey Gallery or to the Pontiac Public Library. Pam has helped with advertising. At the art center, we will host refreshments in the classroom that day. Nancy will bake cookies, and Brenda will prepare lemonade and coffee; decorate the tables.

May 26: National Road Trip Day (See article below.)

September 9 through September 20 (Art Walk): We are changing the dates to September to see if there is better community participation then. Perhaps August was too warm, too busy with school starting, too costly for parents who just shopped for school clothes and supplies.

August 29-30: Ask shops about participation.

September 1: Donated art from members due

September 8: Deliver art to participating businesses.

September 16: GLCAC **Bonfire** at Flessner's country place, Cullom. Details to come.

September 21: Pick up art and make calls to winning bids.

November 3-4: Pop Up Vendors on Holiday Wishes weekend.

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

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National Road Trip Day is May 26!

Wally's will sponsor the event with the City of Pontiac. **GLCAC will participate in the Retail Road Trip through town by selling Rt 66 items.** The City will create a map of participating businesses to encourage visitors to shop! Please bring in your Rt 66 magnets, bookmarks, cards, jewelry, pottery, photographs, ornaments, etc. Let's fill the shop with lots of desirable items for the month of May!

Jury Committee News...

2023 remaining Jury dates are 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...

Open Studio Pottery Class March 6-April 10, 2023

The first session of this six week class proved to be a success. In order to attend the class a student must have taken at least one pottery class taught by **Pam** or **Vickie**. Six students paid \$120 each for the opportunity to create with 12 lbs of clay on their own. There were no lessons, no suggested pieces, no "teachers." **Pam**, **Vickie**, and **Brenda** took turns being facilitators of the Monday night sessions. Facilitators helped locate materials, reminded the class of procedures in the studio, oversaw clean up, encouraged attendees, and locked up the building. Students are already asking for another Open Studio Class (and Brenda is planning one)!

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. Please talk to **Vickie** if you are interested. Also, it is April. If you have not paid dues and signed your 2023 contract, then you are not a vendor member.

New VIP Logo



Tourist season is almost here! When you see people wearing a button with this logo, they are City of Pontiac VIP's. Give them a free postcard, which will be at the desk. New design coming soon!

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New Look for the GLCAC Flower Pot this year: Doing our Part to Save the Monarchs

Our favorite flower pot tender, **Dan Fitzgerald**, will be planting the flowerpot with monarchs in mind this summer, in an effort to support the mayor's pledge...

Main Street manager **Mary Jones** spoke to the council regarding "**Mayors' Monarch Pledge**." Jones said that she has spoken with different businesses, groups, and people in trying to formulate a plan.

"They brought up concerns with the way downtown was perceived, the landscaping in particular (and) ways that we could get the community to be more involved," Jones told the council. "What we came up with is to take three of those downtown planted flower beds and support native pollinator plants to support native pollinators, like our state insect, the Monarch butterfly."

Jones said that the normal Monarch butterfly migration path through Illinois follows Route 66, which brings them through the Pontiac area.

Jones also pointed out that the Mayors' Monarch Pledge is a commitment from mayors from across North America to save the Monarch. She stated that the actions already designed meet requirements to sign the pledge and signing the pledge gets international recognition for supporting the Monarch. This was approved 9-0. "I think it's a great idea," Mayor Bill Alvey said. "I'm all in favor!"

Thinking of you:

We are a tough group, but sometimes there are bumps along the way. Thinking of **Connie Kostelc, Teresa Beard-Lowell, Barb Cook, Mike Rodino, Jane Diaz, Kathy Zehr, and John and Sue Drummet**.

We also wish a fond farewell to **Krystal Lyon**, who will be moving back to North Augusta, South Carolina at the end of this month to spend more time with family. In the immortal words of **Dorothy**, "There's no place like home!" (Except for Pontiac, Illinois...so please come back and visit often!)

A Big Thanks to:

John McGlasson for donating a Dr. Lockie painting to our permanent collection and to **Todd Rich** for his donation of a Stephen Adsit painting.

Again, also thanks to Property Committee members, **Mike Rodino, Dan Fitzgerald, John Fitzgerald, and John Gahm** for continuing to work with Gary Boldt and Smith Plumbing and Heating on renovations

John Gahm for painting the new restroom 5 or 6 times! (It looks great, by the way!)

Bank of Pontiac for their donation of \$500 toward upstairs renovations.

Pam Beeson for her superhuman effort to clean the floor in the Joe Bailey Gallery.

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

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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.

A Big Thanks to Jane Diaz!

She scheduled a "walk thru" with the Webelos (boy scouts) from 6:30-7:30 Tuesday evening (April 17, 2023). Jane says, "It was a hit! The boys had some great questions and they enjoyed the variety in the show. We talked about how in some, the same subject was portrayed in different types of art. They liked the studios too and had some great remarks about what was up there. The elevator ride was quite the conversation!

They wanted to know what was on for this summer for classes for kids. I said they would have to come back closer to summer and check. Several of them had never been to the art center so I told them they were welcome to come back ANY time and that things changed upstairs every month."

Newsletter Update

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.**

Odds and Ends

- The DAR has ended its plastic bottle cap collection, so we will no longer be collecting bottle caps at the art center, but Cornell Grade School has started collecting aluminum pop-top tabs. If you all want to save those, we will make sure that they get to the Cornell kiddies.
- Swinging Bridges Arts festival is coming up. A big thanks to committee members **Joyce Cole, Brenda Thompson, Pam Beeson, Teresa Beard-Lowell, Vickie Fitzgerald, Lisa Green, John Gahm, and Darlene Miller** for their hard work in planning the upcoming event. Also thanks to **Liz Vincent, Mary Jones, and the City of Pontiac** for helping us to make things come together. Please mark your calendars for that weekend (May 6-7) and say "Yes!" when you are called to help out. This is one of those events that truly take a village!
- **Be a billboard!** Invite your friends, family, and outright strangers to come downtown and enjoy all of the fun things that there are to do that weekend.
- **Photos wanted.** If you have art center-related photos that you would like to see in the , newsletter, please email them to the Art Folk email address shown below. We have one main photographer, and (s)he can't be there all of the time and when all of the fun things are happening.

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April 12, 2023 GLCAC Board Meeting (in brief)

Present: Vickie, Pam, Brenda, Nancy

Absent: Brian, Teresa

Secretary's Report: accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report: balance on hand: \$1,919.85

The following discussions were held:

- Building update expenses are mostly paid, except for Smith's Plumbing. We do not have the final bill yet, but the estimate is \$9,900. Fitzgeralds will loan GLCAC monies needed with no interest, to be paid back as funds come in. The board voted that Pam Beeson will have authority to sign a simple loan agreement for the loan and that the situation will be reviewed in December if GLCAC still owes monies at that time.

- **An annual meeting has been rescheduled for July 12. PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND.**

Two important issues will be addressed: first, continuing issues with filling shifts (as explained below) and discussion regarding current governing structure (as indicated in the outline below).***

- GLCAC will participate in a save the butterfly event on June 3 at Block 59. Help is needed and more information will follow.
- Pam is still researching the right fit for us for a corporate credit card
- Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by **Brenda Thompson**, Substitute Secretary

FIRST IMPORTANT ISSUE TO DISCUSS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING: Concern over filling shifts

- There are **54-60 shifts** per month, depending on length of months and extra evening shifts.
- Last year, we had 29 vendors. 5 alternative duties; 5 worked about half of the time, 1 person worked twice, and we average 3-5 people who are unable to work due to illness, surgery, family trips, etc. so, really, we could count **on less than 20 people** to work shifts.
- **As of now**, we have 27 members. Right now, several are unable to work due to medical situations. 4 have alternative duties. **This is putting a lot of strain on a few people. Please be thinking about this.**

SECOND IMPORTANT ISSUE TO DISCUSS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING: Discuss, evaluate, and possibly change governing structure.

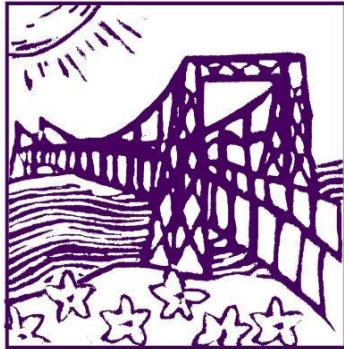
Items to consider:

1. **Up until now, there was a need for consistency in personnel while structuring and learning the law. The goals were to:**
 - a. **Get legal parts in order**
 - i. **Registering and reporting yearly to**
 1. **Illinois Secretary of State**
 2. **Illinois Revenue Service (nfp)**
 3. **US Revenue Service**
 4. **Illinois Sales Tax Exemption**
 5. **Illinois Property Tax Exemption**
 6. **Insurance**
 7. **Local and state inspections**
 - b. **Raise funds to make improvements to the building to a point where structural and functional issues are stable and to get those improvements completed.**
 - c. **Provide a consistent framework for the group to operate and to adhere to that framework**

With these things being mostly done, let's talk about how to proceed! 😊

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Swinging Bridges Arts Festival



Saturday, May 6th

- 9:00-4:00 · Fine Art Vendors
- GLCAC kids' make-and-take
- GLCAC Steampunk from Junk make-and-take
- Art Station kids' make-and-take
- Selfie Stations
- 10:00-12:00 ·Learn to Play the ukelele by Uke 66 at The Eagle Theater
- 11:00-2:00 ·Touch a Truck -Block 59 by City of Pontiac
- 12:30 ·Dancercenter Performance
- 2:00 ·Dancercenter Performance
- 2:30-3:45 ·Ukelele Student Concert
- 4:00-7:00 The Riker Maneuver

Sunday, May 7th

- 9:00-3:00 ·Fine Art Vendors
- GLCAC kids' make-and-take
- GLCAC Steampunk from Junk make-and-take
- Art Station kids' make-and-take
- Selfie Stations
- 9:00-12:00 ·Pontiac Public Library Story Time make-and-take
- 10:00-12:00 ·John Kattke
- 11:00-11:30 ·Dave Herzog's Marionettes at The Eagle Theater
- Noon - 2:00 ·Master Gardeners plant a succulent
- 1:00-1:30 ·Dave Herzog's Marionettes at The Eagle Theater
- 1:00 ·Ukelele Concert

All events are free

With special thanks to...



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