

LivArt: March 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:

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

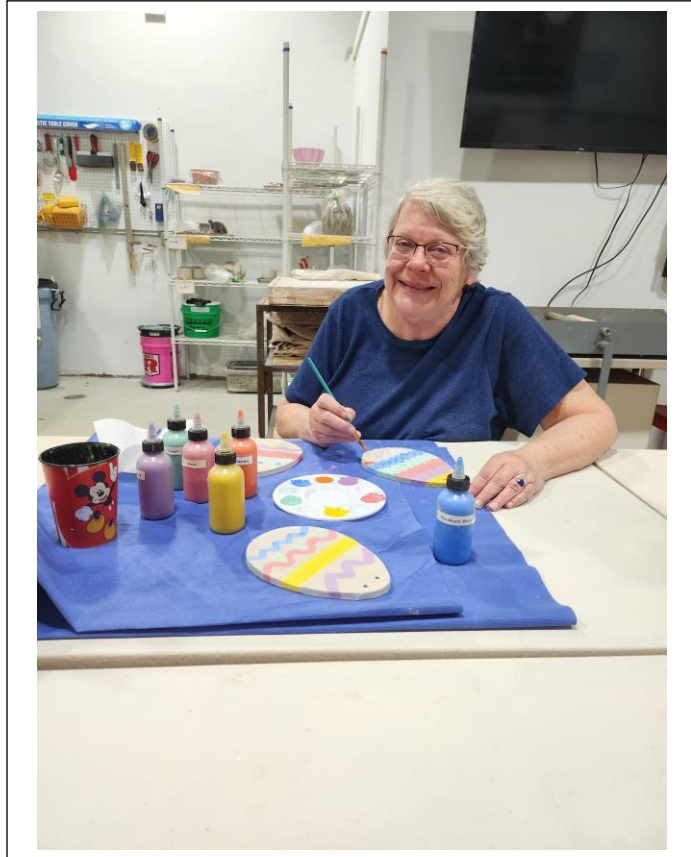
April 1, 2023: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Opening Reception for
GLCAC Permanent
Collection Show

April 5, 2023 at 4:00:
Swinging Bridges Mtg.

April 12, 2023 at 4:00
GLCAC Board Meeting

April 15, 2023 from
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Slow Art Day in Pontiac

April 21, 2023:
Art Attack!
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
and/or
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



Juli Fraher putting on underglaze for a kids Easter Project.

IMPORTANT!

Please plan to attend the annual

GLCAC Retreat

Date: Saturday, April 1, 2023

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Heartland Community College
(Upstairs in the library building)

There is so much to celebrate... and there is so much to discuss as we go forward. We need to talk about some very important issues. Please make an effort to attend.

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MCAC Annual Amateur Show News

The Mclean County Arts Center is hosting the 96th Annual Amateur McLean County Arts Exhibition. Three hundred pieces of artwork were entered this year, and 150 were selected for the show. We are proud to say that seven GLCAC members juried in! Works by **Mike Rodino** (Sculpture), **Darlene Miller** (Photography), **John Fitzgerald** (Painting), **Dan Fitzgerald** (Photography), and **Jim Woodburn** (Sculpture) are shown below.



Mike Rodino



Darlene Miller



John Fitzgerald

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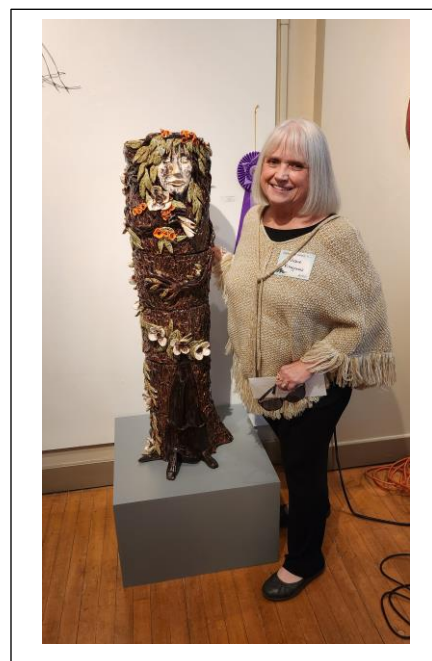
Dan Fitzgerald



Jim Woodburn

MCAC Annual Amateur Show News, continued...

Two who juried in, placed! **Joyce Cole** placed Second in the Painting category and **Vickie Fitzgerald's** ceramic sculpture was Best in Show!



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Upstairs Renovation...

Renovations are finally back in motion upstairs! Gary Boldt and Smith's Plumbing and Heating may be finished soon! Smith's is doing the major plumbing work this week. Once that is in, Gary Boldt should be able to wrap things up soon. 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!

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...

The April Show will be a showing of works from the **GLCAC Permanent Collection**, comprised of works that have been donated to GLCAC. Several of the works are by members of the original Amitytown Society of Painters, and most are by local artists.

Special Events

We will be introducing a new event on **April 15: Slow Art Day on Route 66!!** The event was founded in 2010 and is a global event to encourage people to enjoy looking at and appreciating art. Bloomington hosted 9 sites last year and they plan for 15 this year. Our goal at this moment is 3-5 sites.

Slow looking is simply learning through observation. Some works of art may not inspire a sense of connection until you have looked at them and thought about them for a while. Initially a 3-5 minute observing time is suggested. Here are some tips for observing:

- Let your eyes do the work and questions will emerge.
- If the flow stops, close your eyes or look away for a few moments before looking back again.
- You can also change your position to look from a different perspective. What do you see now?
- As you keep looking, you will discover and notice more features and details.

You can Slow Look at art alone or with someone. When you look and discuss with others you will build off the observations they bring up to share. Perhaps you will see something you hadn't noticed before. Some Slow Lookers take notebooks with them to record thoughts in, and/or to sketch in. There is no need for art historical knowledge or art skills in order to participate in Slow Looking.

GLCAC will be one site for Pontiac's Slow Art Day on Route 66 event. The Committee will have some signs in the Joe Bailey Gallery (with a little help from Pam!) with suggestions for how to "Slow Look" while guests

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view the Permanent Collection Show on display in April. **Vickie** will be seeking a few other sites to add to the Pontiac Event. She has already gotten the **Pontiac Public Library** on board! If you have other location site suggestions, please let us know.

Nancy, Brenda, Darlene, Lisa, Vickie, Pam

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...

Activity in the pottery studio has been picking up again this spring. There is a 6 week open studio for experienced ceramicists in session right now, along with one day workshops led by **Pam Beeson** and **Juli Fraher**. After these, **Vickie Fitzgerald** will have a pottery hand-building class. Watch postings in the classroom for other classes being offered by GLCAC.

Membership Committee News

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

The Membership Committee needs some structuring. **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 is an opportunity for 2 or 3 people to sit down together and decide how to encourage new membership and serve current membership in the best possible ways. Please talk to **Vickie** if you are interested.

Thinking of you:

Several members have been under the weather this month. Hope to see you back on your feet soon, **Teresa Beard-Lowell, Christine Bennet-Weber, Barb Cook, and Kathy Zehr. Brenda Thompson and John and Sue Drummet:** So nice to see you back!

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A Big Thanks to:

John Gahm for donating our new Hot Tea Maker! Feel free to use it, but please leave it clean for the next person. Also, thanks to John for working extra shifts! We have so many members who are unable to work shifts right now! You have been a lifesaver, John!

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.

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.

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.**

March 8, 2023 Swinging Bridges Meeting

Good News! The Route 66 Red Carpet Corridor Committee has moved the weekend back to a two-day event! This should help us because we are the pick-up point for the Pontiac souvenir offered to people who are driving from Chicago to Springfield. The last two years, drivers had to collect all of the souvenirs in all of the participating towns in a single day. They would rush in to the art center, grab the souvenir, and rush out! We are hoping that they will spend a little more time with us now that they have 2 days to collect the souvenirs.

The committee continues to work on making this year's Swinging Bridges Art Festival the best one ever! To attract more visitors for our Art Vendors, we are including several other activities (musical and performance, in

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keeping with our arts theme). So far, we have booked “She Said So,” The Riker Maneuver,” and John Kattke (Bloose Brothers) for musical entertainment. We will also have a “Learn the Ukelele” opportunity. Those who sign up will learn to play a song on the ukelele and then do a performance on Sunday afternoon. We are still searching for one more local group of musicians.

Also planned are the ever-popular “Old Coots Giving Advice” tent, make-and-take tents for kids (provided by us, as well as the area Master Gardeners and The Art Station from Normal. On Sunday morning, Kristin Holzhauser, Library Director from Pontiac Public Library will host a combination story-telling/art craft time.

Dave Herzog’s Marionettes will return to do 2 shows on Saturday, and a big thanks to **Rita Hock** for helping us find a wonderful food vendor!

However, we are still in need of more fine art vendors. If you know anyone who does art shows (not craft or resale items), please encourage them to join us on that weekend! We have indoor and outdoor space this year.

March 8, 2023 GLCAC Board Meeting

Present: Vickie, Pam, Brenda

Absent: Nancy, Brian, Teresa

Secretary’s Report: accepted as presented.

Treasurer’s Report: balance on hand: \$7,890.09.

Boldt has been paid \$2,248.86 for Gallery; however, he is owed \$5,900 to finish the work.

Durham Electric has been paid \$360 for work done but still has \$1,200 of future work.

There was \$160 donated via a facebook birthday Fundraiser (by Bob McCoy?)

The following discussions were held:

- Upstairs: we need to create a panel to close the opening between the elevator and the new wall.
- Grant Update: we are still waiting to hear about grant applications
- Artist Bios: work in progress.
- Retreat: April 1, 2023 at Heartland: 9 am.
- Mortgage: as of March 8, 2023 principal owed for our mortgage is **\$25,119.10**. Yay!
- We need to bring up discussion of the make-up of the GLCAC Board at the Retreat. The members of the original board are still acting as the current board. The bylaws indicate two-year rotations.
- The GLCAC Permanent Collection Show is in April in the Joe Bailey Gallery. The paintings need to be cataloged and framed. Work date of March 15, 2023 is to scheduled from 10 am to 5 pm.to do this.
- Vickie emailed the sales tax exemption information this week.

While it was mailed in time, it is still missing. (*Editor’s update: Sales Tax Exemption arrived March 14.*)

- Vickie made a motion for the GLCAC Board to apply for a corporate credit card. Brenda seconded. Motion carried.

- Next Board Meeting is April 12, 2023.

- Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by **Brenda Thompson**, Substitute Secretary