

DuPage Art League School & Gallery

May 2021

Still Trying to Say Goodbye

Letter from the outgoing president, Dan Anderson

With Alzheimer's disease the "long goodbye" is a given, but that shouldn't be the case with a simple change of administration at the Art League. Of course, these aren't normal times, so here I am writing one more President's Letter. It's a favor for Diana Mitchell and Carol Kincaid who have so graciously agreed to complete the second year of my term. Their job is being made more time consuming by the challenge of recruiting people to fill vacancies on our Board and to work the front desk.

This would be a good time to remind everyone that our much-loved DuPage Art League is a volunteer-driven organization. Without volunteers we wouldn't exist. Fortunately, the various tasks have been divided up such that no one assignment is very time consuming. And there are some tangible rewards provided for doing things such as a shift at the front desk. So don't be bashful about raising your hand and volunteering. Since Diana Mitchell is preparing to get her knee replaced in early May, please express your interest to Carol Kincaid by email at jeffkin2@comcast.net.

And I hope that by the time you receive this newsletter you will have had a chance to experience our new website. Once the Covid class size restrictions are lifted, members and the public will be able to register for classes online. Until that time, members will continue to sign up at the desk or by phone five days before the schedule is released online to the public. It is a perk of membership! It took us two years to get this done (and we still are de-bugging the system a little), but one of the many advantages of this new system is the way it makes working the front desk even easier.

And finally, a well-deserved tip of the hat to Ellen Rottsoik. When the Covid-19 problem hit, Ellen stepped up and offered to teach additional classes and deal with the challenge of protecting students from the virus. On top of everything else, she's a great art teacher. Recognizing this, the Board of Directors voted at our April meeting to make Ellen an Honorary Lifetime Member. Congratulations Ellen!

Monday Night Program

Sue Thomas | VP Activities



Ben Calvert, who is a third generation printmaker showed us how you can make a two color woodblock print without a press in our April Zoom Demo.

Not only does he have a creative mind, but also an infectious laugh. He brought along so many large prints, I was surprised to see them all fit in his van.

Ben will be teaching his printing process again at DPAL starting this summer. He will bring all the supplies, all you need to bring is your imagination. Check your class schedule.

Alliance of Fine Art (AFA) Best of the Best Show

DuPage Art League is the location of the annual AFA Best of the Best Show. The dates are May 1 to 26, 2021. The **Virtual Awards Reception** will take place on Saturday, May 15 from 2 to 3PM.

AFA is made up of 12 member art leagues which include Addison Art League, Downers Grove Artists Guild, DuPage Art League, Elmhurst Artists Guild, LaGrange Artists Guild, Lemont Artists Guild, Midwest Collage Society, Naperville Art League, Oak Brook Art League, Plainfield Art League, Studio 630, and Yellow House Artists. The AFA website is allianceoffineart.org.

The DuPage Art League members showing this year are Rasda Arjmand, Kristina Davis, Carol Kincaid, Valerie Lorimer, Diane Nawrocki, Terry Niccoli, and Dale Olsen. They won Best of Show in the past year.

The DuPage Art League does not discriminate nor tolerates harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, national origin, genetic information, or any other characteristic.

Gallery I – Animals

Judged by Kenneth Call

Best of Show

Chris Hughes, *Pride*, Acrylic

I just loved the colors and how they went so well together. Had a very interesting placement of the bird, off center. As I stared at this piece, it seemed to be moving and floating across the board. I got the feeling of hundreds of eyes following me across the room.

Theme Award

Vicki Liszewski, *Cock of the Walk*, Watercolor

What stood out to me is the beautiful, well-defined bird against a muted, almost one-color background. All the details were in the right spot and showed an adept at inferring texture and shape.

Special Merit Awards

Benita Brewer, *Attitude*, Watercolor

Nice drawing and composition. Nice movement of figure. Frame is okay but would've preferred a neutral mat.

Lori Tucker, *Jasiri (at Brookfield Zoo)*, Photography

The photo shows very nice balance, with the sharp details and more out of focus in the background. Love the contrast of light and dark. Has beautiful diagonal composition.

Kathy Manning, *Tchotchke*, Watercolor

The painting was beautiful, subtle colors, a full range of values and a lot of soft edges along with hard edges giving it a very well-rounded dimension.

Merit Awards

Theresa Lyon, *Bella*, Oil

Kenneth Kloss, *Lascaux France*, Cave Art, Watercolor

Sandra Winter, *Owl on Stump*, Colored Pencil

Carol Krzyzak, *Peeking Out*, Acrylic

Jeff Zawada, *Bird Dog*, Pen and Ink and Watercolor

Wilda Kemp, *La Poussin Metalique*, Polymer Clay, Jewelry

Joan Kalmanek, *Elephant Walk*, Photography

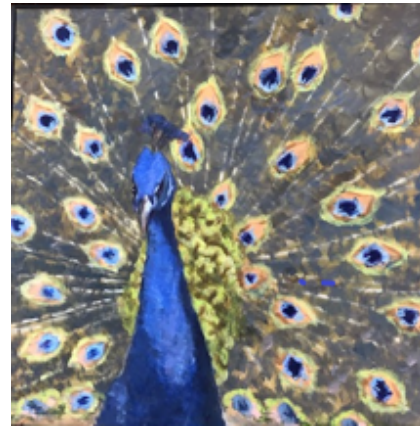
Gayle Bartell, *Grackles Sunbathing*, Pastel

M. Kent Goebel, *Safe Spot*, Charcoal

Diana Nawrocki, *Mates*, Textile

Janet Kloss, *Sadie, Ready for Signal*, Acrylic

Pamela Mitroff, *Giraffe with Hitchhiker*, Colored Pencil



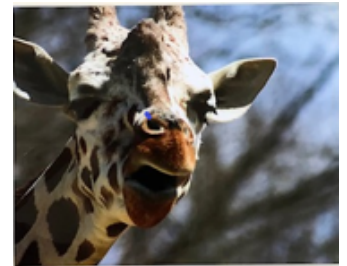
Best of Show: Chris Hughes
Pride, Acrylic



Theme Award: Vicki Liszewski
Cock of the Walk, Watercolor



Special Merit: Benita Brewer
Attitude, Watercolor



Special Merit: Lori Tucker
Jasiri (at Brookfield Zoo),
Photography



Special Merit: Kathy Manning
Tchotchke, Watercolor

NEWSLETTERS/E-BLAST SUBMITTALS

vlorimer@yahoo.com

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: vlorimer@yahoo.com and copy susanjurkus@att.net by the 15th of the month.

Acceptable formats for submissions include Word documents or PDF files for text and 300dpi JPG for images). Please proof/verify your information before submitting. **Use minimal formatting; send photos, flyers, images as attachments to your email (not as part of the email body).**

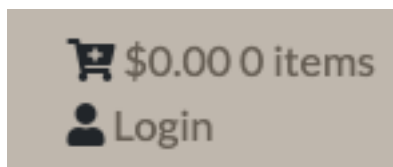
The New Computer System is Live!

Yvonne Thompson, Business Manager

Those of you who have shared an email address with us have already been notified of this long awaited news, but for the members who get their newsletter mailed to them this maybe the first time you have heard. Hooray! Yes we are finally **live**!

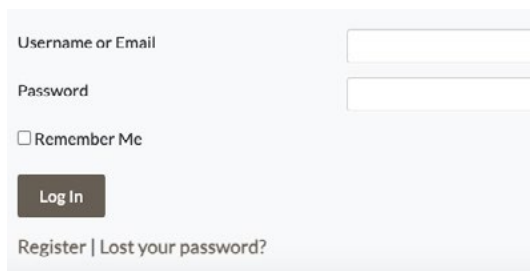
You won't be able to sign up for classes online just yet, but you can at least set up your password if you think you would like to use this online feature in the future. Of course you do need to have an email address to make an online purchase...just like Amazon!

So to set up your password go to dupageartleague.org and click on the login button which is just under the shopping cart on the far right, top of the screen. It looks like this:



The next page to open is where you can enter your information, but if this is your first time you will have to set up your password, so click on "Lost Password"

Do not click on the "Register" button. As a member you are already in the system. Any email you have given us will be your username. If we have no email for you, you can enter it when you go to lost password. A link will be sent to your email address and by following that you can set up your password. If at any time you forget it, you can just repeat the lost password steps again. This is in the center of the page and looks like this:



If you are not sure if you have signed up for a class (when the summer classes start), you can check your account from any computer or smart phone. Your accounts are so secure that the staffers no longer have access to your purchase history. For your convenience we have set up a kiosk in Gallery I so you can access your account when you are at the Art League.

You can do other things on the new website. You can change how you receive your newsletter, pay your membership and even make a donation. The teachers also will have all your contact info when you sign up for their class and like you, they will be able to access it from home. We are so fancy now! :o)

If you are having trouble accessing your account, ask one of the staffers or contact me for help.

Barbara Meiser

Yvonne Thompson | Gift Shop, Yuletide Treasures and Business Manager

Barb served on the Mailing Committee, but I think I first met her over 12 years ago during one Yuletide Treasures. She loved everything textiles and even took a workshop with Janan Hudek. When I started making needle felted Christmas ornaments, Barbara was hooked. She would ask me to phone her when I was taking in more so she could get the "first pick"! When Janan and I did an Artisan Afternoon's in needle felting for donations for "Raise the Roof" (the replacement of the roof trusses) Barbara was the first one to sign up.



One day she took me aside and asked if she could donate a larger amount to the League, but it had to be anonymous. It was for no other reason than "I don't want people to treat me differently". I promised that the only people who would know would be the ones who handled the check, and I would ask them not to mention it. And so as the years went on, Barbara would often say "Can you meet me at the League? I have something else to give you" and I knew once again she would be wanting to make an anonymous donation to the League. This went on for some time and once she even bought a donation book from the cart for about 300 times what it was priced at, just so she could give money to the League.

Well Barbara's husband David called me with the sad news that she had passed. I have lost a friend...I just hope Barb, you forgive me for finally letting others know "our little secret".

A memorial fund has been set up in Barbara's name that many of their friends and family have already donated. Even though Barb has gone on to greater things she still is helping the Art League. Till we meet again Barb dear.

Gallery I Schedule

May - "Best of the Best" by invitation only
June - "Volunteer Show" by invitation only
July - "Lazy Days of Summer", Drop-off June 23-24

Frida Kahlo Celebration

Misty Alvis | VP Publicity & Promotions

Frida Celebration is coming to downtown Wheaton this summer! Help us do our part by filling our windows with Frida/Latin inspired art in June. Any member can participate.

Gallery I and II will also have the same theme but is open to *DPAL volunteers only*. Entries for windows and galleries are due May 26-27.

Behind the Scenes at the DuPage Art League



Diana Mitchell...Incoming Co-President

President 2012-2016, President Emeritus 2016-2020

Diana's favorite medium is soft pastels.

When Diana steps into her repeat performance as president (jointly with Carol Kincaid), she will be sporting a brand new knee joint and ready to dance a jig!

A Little Bit of History

A photograph from Press Publications dated October 1970



WHEATON MAYOR Margaret Hamilton, right, affirms American Art Week, Nov. 1 to 7, with a proclamation and a visit to the DuPage Art League gallery with Glen Ellyn artist Elizabeth Bramsen. DuPage Art League, 303 W. Front St., Wheaton, will observe American Art Week with the opening of the open craft show Sunday, Nov. 1, from 1 to 5 p.m. The gallery may also be visited week days from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays until 9 p.m. Theme for 1970 American Art Week, as announced by Mrs. Frank Gross, Illinois Director is "Art in the World of Youth and Adults." She states, "The measure of a great state is taken by its works of art and Illinois has a glorious record."

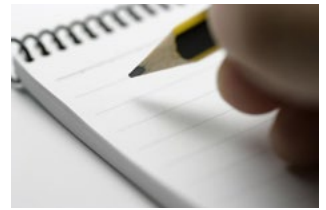
Just for Laughs...

When you tap your pockets
and you can't feel your phone



Board Notes

April 8, 2021



- Treasurer Pat Thorson reported that membership, donations and gallery sales lag last year which is to be expected because of the impact of Covid19. However, gift shop and gallery sales continue to improve. Gallery year-to-date sales are actually higher than this time last year.
- The new computer system, which is set to begin use in a few days, requires the staff to enter transactions in a different order in order to apply discounts on classes. In order to provide the best service to our members a "work around" was developed to handle this issue if it is a problem.
- DPAL continues to add members. Sixteen new members joined last month.
- Sue Thomas, who heads up Activities, reported that last month 74 people registered for Ben Calvert's program and 49 attended. Villa St. Benedict sent the Wheaton library a nice letter saying how much residents enjoyed attending these programs. In the fall the plan is to try to do a hybrid of in-person programs that are still also available via video.
- Misty Alvis, Publicity and Promotion, reported that eight pieces of art were sold during the Women's Art Exhibition. Everyone agreed she did an outstanding job with this year's exhibit and it was a great opportunity to get publicity outside our own building. Misty also said that a big thank you should go out to Liesl Mann for fixing the chalkboard that stands by the front door and also for doing such a beautiful job in writing the message on it.
- Margaret Bucholz reported that last month's show had 46 participants with a total of 67 entries. She had a question about whether the price restriction on a second item could be raised from \$125 to \$200. The board agreed with that suggestion. Invitations have gone out to volunteers for the June Volunteer show. The show will not be judged.
- Yvonne Thompson said that reconciling sales at the end of the day is much easier on the new system. She has created manuals for the staffers working on the new system that should make the transition much easier. Everyone has been trained and the new system is set to go live at the front desk on Monday, April 12.



"I'd like to help you, but it appears
you're overdrawn."



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