



Artists United

Newsletter — March 2021

Next Month's Meeting

Tuesday, April 6

12 noon — on your computer with Zoom

Program

APRIL 6TH ...Zoom Presenter
GRETCHEN EVANS PARKER
"CREATION AND INSPIRATION,
GOURD PAINTING, STRAW BASKETS
AND MORE"

April Artwork of the Month Theme

Out my Window (or Imagination)

DEADLINE

Submit your jpeg for Artwork of the Month to the club email address artistsunitedclub@gmail.com

By April 4 (earlier appreciated)



Nancy Bogni, The Temptress

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A Few Thoughts from Debra

At our March 2 General Membership Meeting, I shared a quote from Hannah Wilke, American painter, sculptor, photographer, and performance artist who once stated, "I have to lose my mind to be able to concentrate." I love this quote because, while it is a bit shocking at first (I LIKE having a functioning mind), it also showcases the idea that our logical, careful, socialized minds often squash our creativity, our risk taking, in life and in our art. I have been thinking about risk taking in art, and trying my darnedest to get out of my so-called comfort zone.

Debbie Horne's presentation on oil painting at our March 2 gathering was just what I needed. *Oil? Me? Yeah! Why not!?* the

(Continued on page 2)



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next day I had a Zoom session with my 7 year old grandson and we both painted landscapes. Mine was in oil, and I might just bring it to our next Artwork of the Month showing as “*Outside the Window (of my Imagination)*.” How about you? What has helped you go in new directions? (And, remember, the Zoom account is available to any of us who want to do artsy stuff with a friend or family member.)

A few reminders:

- The Highline Historical Museum is open Fridays to Sundays, 1 to 5 PM, and we are currently featuring the art of Chris Gonvers, Pat Kelley, and Rachel Baker (who sold a painting at the opening!) Contact me if you would like to show your work (per my earlier email to you.)
- Please let me know ASAP if you would like to participate in the Burien Farmer’s Market, beginning next month. Details were in the newsletter the last few times.
- Hope to see you March 12, 5:30 PM on Zoom for Paint ‘n Sip with Honey Bee Barker.
- The CDC says it is safe for fully vaccinated folks to gather in small groups indoors (I offer my dining room and deck—interested?)
- Paul Illian is ready to host Plein Air outings. Contact him if you are interested.
- When the Nominating Team contacts you about serving as an officer or communications “guru,” please take a deep breath and say “sure.” There will be plenty of mentoring for you.

- If you need the new members’ only password for the website, please contact me.

I close with one more quote, this one from Pal Klee, German born expressionist, cubist, and surrealist painter. He once said “*The artist’s sense of freedom demands its right, the right to develop, as great nature herself develops.*” And, remember, my friends, nature is full of mutations, as are we as artists. So let’s stretch ourselves, and see what develops.

Take care of yourself and each other. I look forward to seeing you on April 6, or sooner. (Board Meeting is March 16, 4 PM, Zoom, and all are welcome.)

Affectionately,
Debra



Paul Illian, Wikeva Afternoon



Help Wanted Department, Part I **NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

The AU Board has organized a Nominating Committee (Linda Logie, Tom Fletcher and Karen Smith) to find members to fill the four elected positions on the board: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Any member interested in holding one of these offices should contact any member of the Committee. Here are brief descriptions of each position:

President - shall:

- ♦ preside over meetings,
- ♦ appoint chairpersons to committees not filled by the nominating committee,
- ♦ enforce the by-laws and standing rules,
- ♦ Serve as a liaison (or appoint someone) to Burien Arts.

Vice-President – shall:

- ♦ preside over meetings and fulfill other necessary duties in the absence of the President,
- ♦ fulfill other duties for the benefit of the membership if requested by the President or the Board.

Secretary- shall:

- ♦ record minutes of all meetings,
- ♦ attend to correspondence as required,
- ♦ preside over meetings in the temporary absence of the President and Vice-President.

Treasurer- shall

- ♦ receive all monies, and record all receipts and disbursements of the club,
- ♦ maintain an accurate record of members' payments of dues and fees, event revenues, reimbursements, and donations,
- ♦ pay all bills of written invoices and receipts,

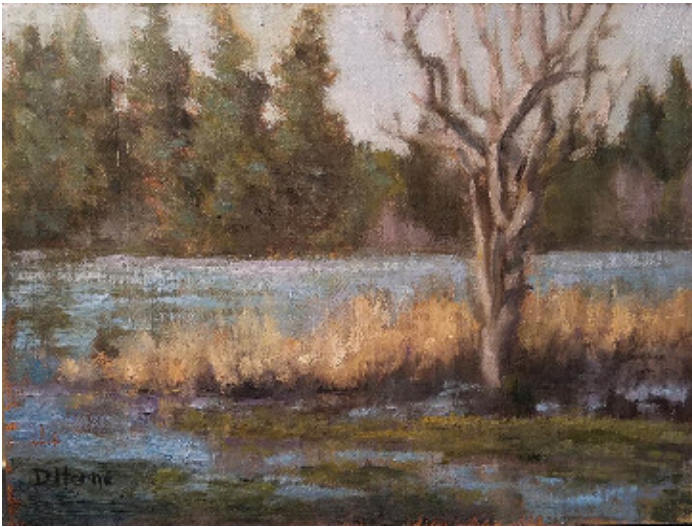
- ♦ notify the President, Membership Coordinator, and Communications Coordinator of all new or changed membership dues and fees status,
- ♦ prepare a monthly report with expenditures, monies received and balance.

The Committee will be meeting between now and the end of April to prepare a slate of candidates. Each candidate will be contacted by a member of the Committee to gain agreement to run and serve. The Committee will announce the slate of candidates at the May meeting. Any member in good standing may nominate additional candidates - with the candidate's acceptance - for any of the four positions. Voting will occur at that May meeting and the winners announced Newly elected officers will take office the following September and serve from September 1 through August 31 for a term of two years.

Karen Smith



Patricia Layden – Wind, beaded amulet pouch



Debbie Horne, Out My Window, oil



Debry Valpey — At the Sea, pastels



Chris Gonvers, Birds in the Wind, digital photograph

Help Wanted Department, Part 2

Artists United is looking for a replacement for Newsletter Editor/Communications person. Summer, while we are not very active is a good time to get your arms around this position.

Edit and produce the newsletter for email on the weekend following our monthly meeting. Almost all the content is prepared by other people so the editor simply puts it together. (3-4 hours a month).

Edit and produce the Howler (meeting reminder) for email on the weekend before the monthly meeting. Again, most of the content is prepared by other people and a simple email reminder would do — although our membership seems to enjoy the Howler. (2-3 hours a month)

Four other tasks yer faithful editor has been doing — but that could quite readily be taken on by a second person or persons..

Check the club's email address regularly to respond to mail coming from our website or members. Forward mail as needed to reach the right person in our leadership.

Maintain the Artists United email list. We keep the email list on GOOGLGROUPS. Add new members to that list. Learning to use GOOGLGROUPS takes about a half hour.

As long as we are meeting virtually, assist our program presenters with setup for Zoom.

Prepare a POWERPOINT (or KEYNOTE on a Mac) show for Artwork of the Month.



Crank Letter Department

“What do I want from Artists United?”

That’s a question that every member of any group should ask from time to time.

The second question, of course, is *“What can I give to Artists United apart from my annual dues?”*

You may find the answer to the second one in the HELP WANTED articles on page 2 and 3. But I digress.

Both of these are questions to ask **yourself!** Here are some of my answers to the first one (at least for today)..

- A community of people who are passionate about art of all kinds and who enjoy being in the company of like-minded people.
- A community of people who actually make art themselves and who are committed to doing it well.
- A community of people who are respectful of and appreciative of work dissimilar in content or medium from their own.
- A community of people who are willing to turn up consistently so that I can become familiar with their work and they with mine.

Artists United does pretty well with this list — at least for me — until we get to the last one. I belonged to a group of 8 that met every other week for almost 20 years. I miss my friends Bryan, or Craig, or Katrina or ... who I could trust to say *“That print stinks! It isn’t up to your standards!”* or *“Wow, that looks like a new direction in your work — keep it up.”*

ronh



Linda Logie— Earth, Wind, and Mostly Fire,
Liquid Acrylic Pour Paint



Laura Scheuffele



Patricia Layden, Stormy Sky, Watercolor



ARTWORK of the MONTH - or not?

When we met in person, Artwork of the Month was whatever anyone wanted to submit for a possible “place of honor” in the next months installation in our space at the Buri-en Community Center or later in the Highline Heritage Museum. There was also a table for show-and-tell or critique.

When everything shut down and our meetings went virtual, voting on Artwork of the Month seem too complicated, so we decided to simply showcase all art submitted both at our monthly online meetings and in the newsletter. To make things more interesting, we decided to suggest a theme for each month as a challenge (see the January 2021 howler for more on the whys and wherefore of the themes and alternatives).

The “theme” is not mandatory; you can submit new work of whatever subject, reworked old work, or, heck, whatever you want. The idea of the theme is just an invitation to try something different, to get out of our favorite rut, to have fun experimenting.

When we are back together again in person we can rethink together how we want to do Artwork of the Month.

Patricia Layden



Sharon Hitt – Storm Coming, acrylic



Myong Sweet – End of Life, mixed media on canvas



Poetry Corner

simple gifts

breathe deeply today
that sweet old song reminds us
breath our simple gift

gifted at our birth
proclaiming our existence
celebrating life

life mirrors our cries
our struggles to know our strength
as the world takes note

takes note of one more
sputtering, flailing body
becoming itself

a self that honors
and one that both hides and seeks
invites confusion

confusion of rights
confusion of one's purpose
confusion of worth

worth risk being love
time is your companion
relax my dear one

one day you will know
life embraces all our days
and the sun shall rise.

Debra Valpey, 2020

Artists United Club

Our goals are to encourage artistic development and
to bring art into the local community.

Meetings are at NOON on the first Tuesday,
September - June (except when they aren't) at:
Normandy Park Cove, npcove.org
1500 SW Shorebrook Dr
Normandy Park, 98166

During the pandemic closures they are conducted on
Zoom.

Artists United

PO Box 66902
Burien WA 98166
artistsunitedclub@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/
ArtistUnitedClubSouthKingCounty/photos

2019-2020 Artists United
Officers & Chairpersons

- President: Debra Valpey
Vice-President: Karen Smith
Secretary: OPEN
Treasurer: Jann Volk
Membership: Paul Illian
Programs: Linda Logie
Juried Show: Doug Early
Art Fair (Cove Show): Tom Fletcher,
Newsletter: Ron Hammond
Website: Doug Early
Facebook Page: Tom Fletcher
Storage: Tom Fletcher, Anita Corby
Artwork of the Month: Patricia Layden
Hospitality/Kitchen: Linda Logie

To contact any officer or chairperson, email
artistsunitedclub@gmail.com