



# Artists United

## August 2019 Newsletter

### Next Month's Meeting

**Tuesday, September 3**  
**12 noon — Normandy Park Cove**  
**Program to be announced.**

### Board Changes

Sad to say, our newly elected board will soon have two new members. Co-president Barbara Harris has resigned (see her letter in the adjoining column.).

Your officers hope to present a candidate to replace Barbara on the board at the September meeting.

Also sad to say (but delighted for her) membership coordinator Tracy Lemoine is moving to her dream town, Port Townsend, at the end of August so is also resigning. Paul Illian has volunteered to become our membership coordinator.

Your officers are working on a plan to streamline our membership and communication processes and in the bargain to improve member access to club information (see story "Help Wanted" on page 2.)

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August 6, 2019

Dear Fellow Artists,

I regret to tell you that I need to resign my office of co-president as soon as possible or at the latest September 30. I was really looking forward to serving this year. During the several summer meetings Debra and I shared many exciting ideas for the club. I hope you understand how much I value the club, but my life circumstances have recently changed, the biggest news is that we are downsizing our home of 42 years, getting the house ready to sell, selling it, and moving to Wesley by next June. I am sorry that I can't fill the job, but I will serve as co-president and help find a replacement until September 30. My desire is to continue my connection with Artists United as a member and friend.

Sincerely,

Barbara Harris



## “Paint-Out” Gathering at the Cove — August 6

What fun it is to just join with new and established friends to make art. Several folks gathered at the Cove for an unstructured "Paint-Out" during our regularly scheduled club time.

Paul Illian guided a prospective member through a dramatic black and white rocks study (maybe he will do one for us during a Club Meeting?)

Shannan and Debra took some time to exchange ideas on the transition of the President's responsibilities.

Don Zimmerman did plein aire work, and several others did their own thing while seated at tables on the deck with a great view of seagulls, happy pooches and their owners, and other wonderful bits of nature.

If you are interested in organizing other casual "Paint-In or Outs", please consider doing so through our new email tools —

[AUClub@googlegroups.com](mailto:AUClub@googlegroups.com)

We could even gather in a member's front or back yard? Or in a park?

--Submitted by Debra Valpey .

## Art at the Burien Community Center



### Opening Reception August 6 for Burien Arts Featured Artist, Tracy Lemoine.

This is Tracy's first show of her photographs — all of animals and birds (here speaking about a photograph of a great blue heron landing on its nest.)

Tracy also has three paintings in the Artists United Summer Show "Beneath a Summer Sky".

Both shows are on open during community center hours through August.

## Help Wanted!

President Debra Valpey, new Membership coordinator Paul Illian, and newsletter editor Ron Hammond propose establishing a **SHORT TERM** task force to streamline our membership record-keeping, strengthen member access to contact information, and improve the effectiveness of our website.

We cannot do this alone! We are seeking a tech-savvy person to join the effort and at least one person to help identify what the membership's communication needs are.

If the notion of being in on this important activity appeals to you — email [Debra-Valpey@gmail.com](mailto:Debra-Valpey@gmail.com).



## President's Message

Welcome to our New Year!

As your incoming president I want to welcome all of you and share a few thoughts before our first General Membership Meeting on September 3 at noon at the Cove. As always, visitors are welcome. Your new board has met over the summer to explore ideas related to response to last year's survey. What a creative, brilliant and "thinking outside the box" group you are! A special welcome to our new board members and team leads...you are appreciated!

By now you have learned of Barbara Harris's resignation as Co-President. Our current by-laws do not address this situation so I propose the following:

- a.) Let me know (before our next general meeting) if you would like to serve with me as co-president or as our vice-president for at least the following year.  
**note:** If you get a recruitment call from me in the meantime, please consider saying yes.
- b.) The Board (according to our old by-laws) will vote on all the candidates who come rushing forth.
- c.) We will have a group vote to endorse the Board Recommendation at our September General Meeting. (Such a vote is not mandatory, according to our by-laws, but it feels good to me.)

Speaking of By-Laws, we need to look at our again. A team (Barbara Harris, Kits Morgan and me) has volunteered to do so and will meet between now

and the October meeting where we will vote their suggestions up or down. there is a question of whether or not we even need by-laws as we are not incorporated. Perhaps they will simple recommend a set of guidelines which can be amended as needed. Stay tuned.

Club communication will be a priority this coming year and I have upmost confidence in Ron Hammond (email and newsletter Guru) and Paul Illian (membership Swami) to lead us in positive directions.

Our new Program Team (Clare Parfitt, Sheryl "Honey B" Blood, and Alba Romera welcome your ideas and will strive to incorporate those you shared in our survey, including some prospective Field Trips and "Art Ins" at various venues.

Please put September 3 from 6 to 7:30 PM at our Burien Community Center Gallery on your calendar for our monthly reception. We will feature the work of Linda Logie, Linda Jorza, Sharon McConnell (pending) and me. There are sill slots open for later months. See the sign up sheet at the meeting

See you on September 3rd and feel free to contact me any time if you have questions or concerns.

Here is a thought for today: "When I can look life in the eyes/Grown calm and very coldly wise/Life will have given me the truth/And taken in exchange—my youth." (Sara Teasedall, poet)

Not a bad swap, in my opinion...Yours?  
Sincerely, Debra Valpey, A.U. President



## AU Board Meeting August 2, 2019 Summary

*This first board meeting of the new club year was very busy so even the summary is quite long. That said, we are setting the stage for our entire year's activities so it's worth a read*

### Old Business

**Cove Show** – coming up, Claire has been making the publicity pieces, there is already a waiting list, no hanging grids, shared booths, will be discussed during social time at general meeting rather than business meeting time

**Community Folk Arts Gallery is closing**

**Community Center schedule** – Hanging for September is covered. Debra will get the schedule for Community Center hanging and send it to Ron.

**Burien Arts 20/20** – changing name to BAM Burien Art Market, no silent auction this year, each participant does 9 panels 8X8 that sell for \$40. Artist and Burien Arts split 50/50, there will be a store to replace the auction, everything less than \$100

**Arts Aglow** is seeking face painters for the event this year in September

**Meeting with Gina Kallman**, City of Burien – discussion about a studio tour, undetermined date, seeking artists to participate, Debra will get info to Ron

**Heritage Museum** has a shop and will possibly have room for some art, interested people contact Nancy McKay

**Shelly Park** is interested in an Art District in Burien

**Phoenix Tea** has the Burien Cultural website that need work, they also have a small gallery in the back (Scarlet Ibis)

### New Business

**Communications** – Ron will put the newsletter out earlier in the month, shortly After the general meeting so news is timelier, then send a Blast later in the month with

reminder of the next meeting, he will send out a new deadline for items for the newsletter. He wants to simplify the website since there are not many hits on it.

**By-Laws team** – Debra wants to revise the by-laws and possibly just have operating procedures including job descriptions, goal is to have them ready for approval at the second October general meeting. Kits, Barb and Debra volunteered to be on the team

**Board Vacancies:** Membership coordinator Tracy is moving at the end of the month, so the position will be open, Paul has expressed some willingness to take over the position, Tricia will help for the first couple of months since September and October are busy keeping track of dues and Cove Show payments.

Barb needs to step down as co-president but will stay on until no later than Oct 31st. Nominations will be taken at the September general meeting

**Treasurer packet** to be given to Jan at the end of this meeting

**Artwork of the month:** before social time each artist will be given a limited time to say something about their work (single sentence) vote during social time, Tricia has ideas for themes for the months.

**Program changes** – Debra to give her book to Claire and Honey Bee after the meeting tonight

**Results of survey** – Debra will have copies for interested board members at the next meeting

**New brochure** – is it time for a new one? Brief discussion to be picked up next time

**Digital projector**, the club should have one, Barb is to do more research

**Next meeting** – 3rd Monday of the month, 9/16 4:00 at Debra's house



### Editor’s Opinion

#### What do you say about your art?

I go to the BFA show at Cornish nearly every year. There is a little something for everybody there — much quite well done — but the student’s statements are larded up with theoretical artobabble that would stun a stoat. You see that a lot in the gallery world.

Last year there was one project, oil on thick (2 inches or so) slabs of clear acrylic about one foot square that was exceptionally appealing. The young woman had painted the same, simple, Degas-like drawing on each surface of the plastic. Looking at either side you saw both images but not quite in register since she didn’t get them

*He liked drawing very much.*

(the only words written on Edgar Degas’ tombstone}

exactly the same on both surfaces. When you looked at the edge you could see part of each image and a lot of internal reflections from both. They were fascinating and interesting pieces. (She had a show of them at a professional gallery shortly after graduation.)

I asked her how she had come up with this idea. She said that she was playing with the materials and stumbled on to it by sheer accident. Her artist’s statement said the same in a slightly more formal way. **Yes!** Degas would have been proud of her.

### 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 through May, at

Normandy Park Cove,  
1500 SW Shorebrook Dr  
Normandy Park, 98166  
[npcove.org](http://npcove.org)

**Artists United**  
PO Box 66902  
Burien WA 98166  
[artistsunitedclub.com](http://artistsunitedclub.com)

### 2019-2020 Artists United Officers & Chairpersons

- Co-Presidents..... Debra Valpey,  
Barbara Harris
- Secretary .....Kits Morgan
- Treasurer: .....Jan Volk
- Membership: .....Paul Illian
- Programs: .....Clare Parfitt, Sheryl Blood,  
Alba Romera
- Juried Show: . Doug Early, Shannan Folina
- Art Fair (Cove Show): ..... Tom Fletcher,  
Linda Jorza, Danny Bobrow
- Newsletter/website: ..... Ron Hammond
- Storage: .....Tom Fletcher, Anita Corby
- Artwork of the Month: ..... Patricia Layden
- Hospitality/Kitchen: Linda Logie,  
Louise Hones, Debbie Horne

To contact any officer or chairperson, email [artistsunitedclub@gmail.com](mailto:artistsunitedclub@gmail.com)