



# Artists United

Newsletter — July 2020

## August 2020 Meeting

Tuesday, August 4

12 noon — at your home again

### Program

Patti Curtis, owner of Fogue gallery in Georgetown, a co-op gallery for artists over 50, will speak about her the gallery and her knowledge of marketing art.

### *Artwork of the Month Theme for August*

“Beach”, but it could also be interpreted as empty beach, imaginary beach, beach critters or paraphernalia, or even “beached”.

### *July Artwork of the Month*

Patricia's challenge to us this month was to make a piece for a favorite book — any book, any time in your life..

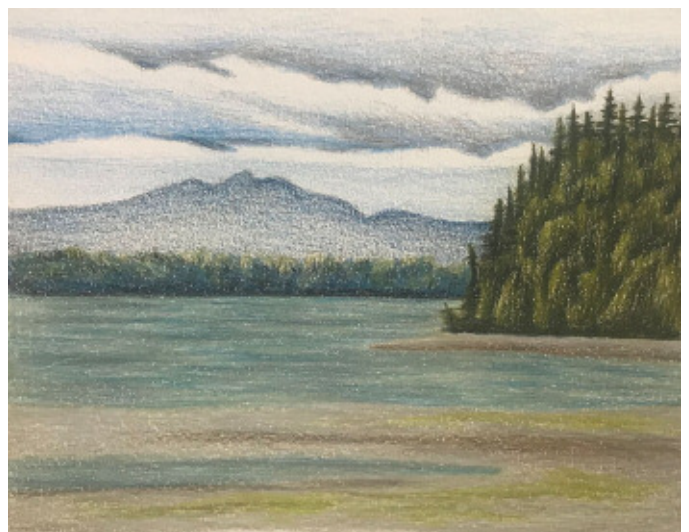
We had eight entries and there was a little something for everybody among them.

[I hope everybody else had as much fun with this as I did — ronh.]

With no venue we again declared all eight entries to be the winner. They are scattered through this newsletter.

## In This Issue

August Meeting .....	1
Artwork of the month.....	throughout
En Plein Air Painting with Paul.....	2
Artist Trust Web Site Webinar.....	2
Burien Arts Grant Applications.....	2
Fanfare: Linda Logie at Page 2 .....	2
July Meeting Notes .....	3
Debra's Dabblings .....	4
From the Facebook World .....	5
AU Art Fair (aka Cove Show).....	5
Art Talk (Karen's Blog) .....	6,7
Book Review .....	8
A Tidbit from Debra .....	9
Crank Letter Department.....	9



Clare Parfitt, Snow Falling on Cedars

*Since 1949 — Seventy years of promoting art and encouraging artists.*



# OPPORTUNITIES

## Plein Air Painting at the Highline Botanical Garden

The flowers are in full bloom at the Highline Botanical Garden.

This is an invitation to join Paul Ilian for an En Plein Air painting opportunity on July 14.

Starting at 9 AM I will be somewhere near the Monet Arches in the Rose Garden. This gives us 3 hours of prime lighting for painting.

## Continuing Education for Artists from Artist Trust

Tips for Your Artist Website with Lydia Boss – Friday, July 17 at 1pm. Helpful tips for building your artist website and developing your online presence. You'll learn best practices for creating a successful website, including choosing a domain name, finding the right template, and developing your visual identity. <https://artisttrust.org> to register.

## 2021 Burien Arts and Culture Grant

Applications are now available. Applications are due August 14, 2020. Application and guidelines are here: [https://burienwa.gov/residents/resident\\_resources/grant\\_opportunities/arts\\_culture\\_grant](https://burienwa.gov/residents/resident_resources/grant_opportunities/arts_culture_grant)



## Linda Logie At Page2

PAGE 2 BOOKS will feature alcohol ink on ceramic tile artwork by Linda Logie. The showing will run from August 1st through the 31st.

PAGE 2 BOOKS is located at 560 SW 152nd St, in Burien. Current hours are Tuesday thru Friday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.



Ron Hammond, frontispiece for "The Spoon Riven Anthology", a book of poems written in the voices of people buried in a rural cemetery.



## *A.U. General Business Meeting, July 7, 2020-Minutes*

Call to Order, Welcome. Louise Gupta, visitor, was welcomed. 19 members were present.

### **Board and Committee reports,**

Cove, BCC & HHM are still closed. Debra cited BA20/20 Fundraiser Call for Artists and HHM video taping of AU artists in action (contact Debra for more info)

Art Fair: Send Clare Parfitt your entries for flyer. Contact Tom Fletcher if you have not signed up. Tom will send reservation and deposit, and ask for additional days if we're still in Phase 3.

V. P.-Karen S.: no report

Secretary was absent, so Debra took notes. That is why they are weird. Let Debra know if anyone needs a condolence card.

Treasurer, Jann V. was absent.

### **Committee Chair Reports**

Communications:-Ron H.: Newsletter deadline is July 10.

Programs—Clare P.: August presenter is Fogue Gallery owner.

Membership-Paul I.: 70 paid up members.

Venues-Tom F.: See above reference to Art Fair.

Artwork of the Month-Tricia L: Aug. theme is "beach". Please read your Newsletter & visit Website & Facebook pages.

Shows, Receptions, etc: Paul I is hosting Plein Aire painting—check your Newsletter. Donna Ch. suggested field trip to Ellensburg to paint. Contact her if interested.

### **New Business**

FYI. The Board is working on streamlining

and updating our budget and financial management practices. We may be moving our storage out of its present location and changing bank and Credit Card locations. This is important work that affects us all. Next Board Meeting is July 20, 4 PM on Zoom. Let Debra know if you wish to attend.

Program Presentation: Ron H presented on Preston Singletary, a native American glass artist working to create NEW Native art (rather than just recovering older art)

After Ron's presentation, attendees shared recent works, and chatted about art in general (and in particular!) Good Discussion!

Submitted by *Debra Valpey*, (let her know if corrections are needed.)



Rachel Baker, Alice and the Cheshire cat.



## *Debra's Dabbling in matters of the heART—July, 2020*

Greetings in these difficult times where we struggle to stay connected while minding our “bubbles.”

Our July General Membership Meeting (19 attended) was great fun. Those who did not attend were missed.

By the way, if you are not attending our Zoom meetings because of difficulty signing on, please let Ron Hammond or me or VP Karen Smith know and we will help you. If you are not attending because the Zoom camera is not kind to your looks, please know that WE ARE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT ON THAT ONE. In short, we miss you! If you would like to attend our next Board Meeting please let me know so I can send you a link (July 20, Monday, 4 PM, on club Zoom Account.)

While our regular venues remain closed (let me know if you have still not retrieved your art from February's displays at BCC and HHM and I will help you get them), please note that many coffee shops and retail establishments in the area are open and may very well love to display your art. We published a list of those a while back. Let Ron or me know if you need that list again. Plans are heading forth for our Artists United Art Fair; nevertheless it will not be able to happen as usual unless we are in Stage 4 for reopening. So, if you see folks around town not wearing masks, ask them why they don't appreciate art—could lead into an interesting discussion eh? Maybe you can even carry a few disposables around with you and offer them one? Also, consider responding to Burien Art's Call for Artists

fundraiser where you paint on wooden panels (provided) and reap 50% of the sale price. Ron recently sent you this link. Highline Art Museum is featuring videos of artists in action; contact me if you are interested in participating. And Burien Parks and Recreation is hosting “Tips for your Artists Website” webinar (see July 7 Minutes for the links) and Burien Arts and Culture Grant Applications are available until August 14 (again see July 7 minutes for link). I sent you these links via email when I invited you to the July Membership Meeting so you should have them in your own email.

Our Web site has a new refreshed look and even a “members only” section that will feature our minutes, correspondence, and calls for artists. Contact Doug Early or Ron H for the password. And enjoy Karen Smith's timely blogs. Rest assured, our gallery pages are in the process of being updated and expanded, per Doug. Tom Fletcher has also refreshed our Facebook page and he welcomes your artwork and comments.

I close this message with a few words from the Fantasy writer, Neil Gaiman, “The world always seems brighter when you've just made something that wasn't there before.” So, my friends, make something “new” (?) even if you have to steal bits and pieces from someone else. The end result WILL be new when YOU are finished.

Fondly,

*Debra*



### *From the FACEBOOK World*

Remember that our club has a Facebook (FB) page and that all members are welcome to put items on the page.

Members with FB access should upload their own photos of their work.

Please post a maximum of a few per week if you can, then keep coming back to add more.

Those without FB access can send me some photos and I will try to add them to the page.

I will also post the artworks of the month.

Also post ANY art related item on the page. Post the shows you are doing, where people can view your art (promote the local business that is kind enough to let you hang your artwork there), classes that you are teaching, plein air outings you want to do...whatever.

Please invite as many friends as possible to "like" this page: art lovers, neighbors, friends, artists...invite everyone of your FB friends in fact. Many of the people who have liked the page are my friends. These people do come to The Cove Show and buy art.

To access this FB page, copy the below link into the URL line, or just type Artists United Club while on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/ArtistUnitedClubSouthKingCounty/photos>

*Tom Fletcher*

### *Artists United Art Fair (aka Cove Show)*

This is the final call to sign up for the show. Anybody who has not yet signed up has one last chance to request a spot: Full booth = 50 Share with someone else = \$25. You select a booth partner, or we can help you find someone.

Clair is laying out the show flyer. We want all mediums represented in the show but Clair will have the final say in who is in the flyer.

We will not complete or print the flyer until we are reasonably sure the show will go on. We want to be prepared so we are not scrambling at the last minute to get everything ready if we can have a show.

*Tom Fletcher*



Karen Smith The parrot on Long John Silver's shoulder (Treasure Island)

## Art Talk

### Loving Vincent

Is it Van Gogh or Van Goff? Or, possibly, Van Goch, where the 'ch' is pronounced like the 'ch' in loch – a kind of guttural, Scottish sound. According to Grammarphobia, this last one is the closest to the Dutch pronunciation. However you say his name, Vincent Van Gogh was one of a kind.

Once, when I was in New York City on business and had a few free hours, I walked to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, I wanted to see the Exhibit on 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> century armor. I figured I could manage that in a couple of hours. I never made it to see the armor; instead, I bought a ticket to see a special exhibit of Van Gogh paintings from the final months of his life, the months he spent in a hospital in Arles, France in addition to those final months he spent at the Yellow House in Auvers. It was an amazing exhibition and very vivid in my mind all the years later. Especially interesting were the self-portraits. The colors, sometimes strange, vivid, and the poses almost identical. There were maybe 100 of his 800 or 900 paintings in the museum, all of them exceptional. To think that this self-taught artist completed that many paintings, not to mention drawings, watercolors, and even an etching, in such a short time – less than 10 years – is stunning. I spent my entire free time that afternoon looking at Van Gogh.

Today, I found a film – Loving Vincent – online and watched it. As the promotion materials says, “On 27th July 1890 a gaunt figure stumbled down a drowsy high street at twilight in the small French country town of Auvers. The man was carrying nothing; his hands clasped to a



Debra Valpey, Raggedy Besties



Louise Hones — Corona Pastel



fresh bullet wound leaking blood from his belly. This was Vincent van Gogh, then a little-known artist, now the most famous artist in the world. His tragic death has long been known; what has remained a mystery is how and why he came to be shot. Loving Vincent tells that story.”

The story centers on Armand Roulin, the son of the Post Master of Arles. His father asks him who to deliver to Van Gogh’s brother, Theo, a letter Vincent wrote the week before he died. Grudgingly, the son agrees to deliver the letter. He finds, however, that Theo Van Gogh died soon after Vincent did, so there is no brother to deliver the letter to. During his travels to find Theo and deliver the letter, the Post Master’s son talks to people who knew Van Gogh and finds a mystery surrounding Van Gogh’s assumed suicide. The story line is intriguing.

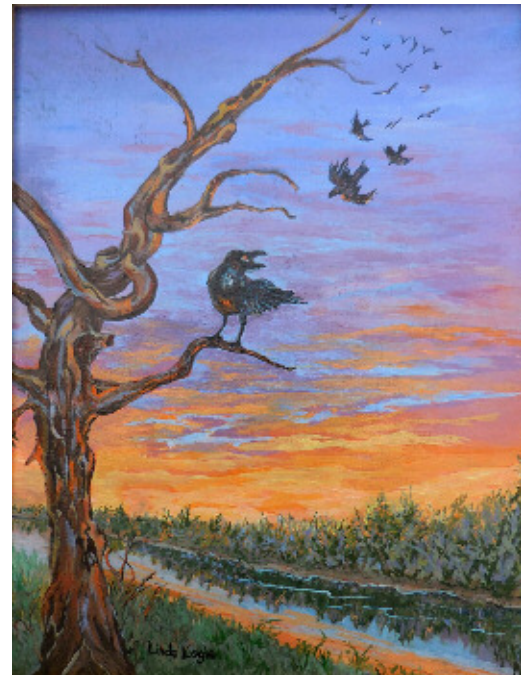
The film production is nothing short of extraordinary. One hundred artists painted 65,000 frames of the film on Canvas, with oil paint in Van Gogh’s style. The result is a one of a kind, painted, animated film about Vincent Van Gogh. One of a kind, just like the artist. This film shows how the film-makers re-imagined the paintings of Vincent Van Gogh into the medium of film, using the very technology – oil painting – that Vincent used himself. You can find a lot more detail, plus paintings of the cast, at [lovingvincent.com](http://lovingvincent.com). The blogs are very interesting.

This feature-length painted animation - the first film of its kind - is an artistic experience in itself and I recommend you see it. It’s available for streaming on Kanopy, Hoopla, and Hulu. It’s also available for rent on Amazon.

*Karen Smith*



Patricia Layden “Ruth” from Louise Penny’s Inspector Gamache series...



Linda Logie — “Ravens Roost” The Raven from Edgar Allan Poe’s poem in a twisted, misformed tree calling to his flock to roost at the end of the day.



## *Book Review*

Three dates. Three locations. Three characters. One painting. Dominic Smith combines these elements in his intriguing book **THE LAST PAINTING OF SARA DEVOS**.

The story spans 400 years, starting in the mid 1630s in Holland and the Dutch Golden Age of Painting.

The first character in this setting is the artist Sara DeVos. She's based on a real artist, Judith Leyster, who was one of very few women admitted to the Guild of St. Luke named in honor of the Evangelist Luke, the patron saint of artists. It was rare for women to belong to this Guild, which controlled much of an artist's success. The author has done a lot of research on artists of the Golden Age and the restrictions on women artists in particular. Women were to paint still life, flowers, scenes of everyday life, and portraits. They were specifically forbidden to paint outdoor scenes – landscapes.

Moving from the 1630s, the story continues in the United States in the Mid 50s – specifically in New York City. The character here, the second, is Marty DeGroot, a lawyer of Dutch ancestry who owns "At the Edge of the Woods", a winter-set landscape painting by DeVos from 1636. This painting, along with others, was handed down through generations to DeGroot. In spring 1957, this piece, the only known surviving painting by DeVos, is stolen from its spot over the DeGroot's bed in their mid-town apartment.

Our third character, Australian Eleanor (Ellie) Shipley, is a PhD student in Art History at Columbia. She lives in a tiny apartment in Brooklyn where she

supports herself and her studies by restoring old paintings. Her specialty is painters of the Dutch Golden Age. She is approached by a British dealer interested in having her touch up a painting. Only not really. He shows her photographs of DeVos' painting and asks if she could replicate it for insurance purposes. Many art collectors have duplicates painted to protect valuable works of art. It is 1957, autumn. She accepts the job and creates an almost flawless copy of the DeVos painting.

Fast forward to Sydney, Australia in the year 2000. Ellie's career has blossomed and she is celebrating the publication of her book **DUTCH WOMEN PAINTERS OF THE GOLDEN AGE**. She's curating an exhibit of 17th Century Women Artists at the Art Museum of New South Wales. She oversees the delivery of DeVos' "At the Edge of the Woods" coming from a collector in Leiden. The museum then gets notification of another "At the Edge of the Woods" being loaned by an elderly gentleman from New York. Only Ellie knows that one of these paintings is a forgery and that its discovery could ruin not only her career but her life.

**THE LAST PAINTING OF SARA DEVOS**, by Dominic Smith, is an overlapping story of the original artist, the collector and the forger, moving back and forth from Mid Century New York City, to 17th Century Holland, to 21st Century Australia. It's an entertaining story as well as one that might teach you some interesting facts about life as an artist in 1637 Holland, techniques of forging a painting in 1950s America, and how paintings are authenticated in a Sydney Art Museum in the year 2000. I highly recommend it.

*Karen Smith*





### Editor’s Opinion (crank letter department)

Karen, in her Art Talk post, gives the movie LOVING VINCENT a rave review. Boy, did she get that right! Equally spectacular is the “making of” movie — It is about one and a half hours — free on Vimeo <https://vimeo.com/419355136>.

Here’s a link to a 6+ minute sample but the Vimeo version is way better.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QE9Q\\_7bfHsM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QE9Q_7bfHsM)

### *A Tidbit from Debra*

Dear Art Buddies. You will be AMAZED at this short video. The artist draws a woman's face from infancy to very old age. Give yourself four minutes, relax, and enjoy the magic.

*Debra*

(copy this link and paste it into your browser)

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/9iz25365s5xvqba/La%20vie.mp4?dl=0>

### 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 June (except when they aren’t) at:

Normandy Park Cove, [npcove.org](http://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.com](http://artistsunitedclub.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/ArtistUnitedClubSouthKingCounty/photos>

### 2019-2020 Artists United Officers & Chairpersons

- President: .....Debra Valpey
- Vice-President: .....Karen Smith
- Secretary: .....Kits Morgan
- Treasurer:..... Jann Volk
- Membership: .....Paul Illian
- Programs: ..... Clare Parfitt
- Juried Show: ... Doug Early, Shannon Folia
- 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](mailto:artistsunitedclub@gmail.com)