



President's Message

In a painting workshop recently we got into a discussion of spirituality in art... spiritual artists, spiritual paintings, spiritual techniques. At one point I blurted out, "This is just me, but I think it's arrogant to say someone is a spiritual artist or that a painting is spiritual." The room went silent for a moment. But then we got into a terrific conversation about what we each meant by "spiritual": returning to and inspired by the Creator, showing honest emotion, painting from the heart, painting what you love, creating beauty.

Now my husband a minister, and our professional lives have centered around helping others get in touch with the spiritual, however defined. So I've been thinking about what I mean by spirituality in art. Let me know what you think.

Approaching art from a spiritual perspective requires courage. Who am I? What is my authentic story? What am I willing to expose to others in my artwork? What am I afraid to paint and what do I do about that?

It invites vulnerability. Where am I on the "perfection scale"? A hard one for me, but I'm getting better! Am I comfortable enough to show my imperfections through the imperfections in my artwork? What do those imperfections say about who I really am? What critics are "sitting on my shoulder", whispering in my ear about what and how I should paint?

Spirituality reveals itself through silence and listening. What do I hear when I take the time to wait, meditate, sit in silence before I begin?

What do I reflect on about the subject matter? about color choices? about composition? about what to leave out? Where are the silent places in my artwork?

It opens up infinite possibilities. It blows my mind over and over to acknowledge that as creative human beings we are never finished, that there is always another way, another interpretation, a new variation. Those painters who manage the discipline to paint every day know the truth of this and I envy them and their discipline.

It promotes connection. For me, God is in the connections I experience with loved ones, strangers, animals, nature, the universe. What I imagine when I paint is that there is a middle ground between the subject I am painting and me, a place where the reality of the subject and my experience of the subject meet. It's that middle ground that I want to understand and express in my painting.

As human beings we all have the capacity for spiritual creativity and connection. Not "arrogant" in the slightest!

The GVAA Board is looking at more ways for members to get connected. Holly, Elizabeth and Adria invite you to sketch the urban landscape with them once a month. (See next page.) We are also planning to schedule occasional artist demonstrations by some of our talented members. Stay tuned.

2016 GVAA membership dues are due! Please fill out the membership renewal form on page 7, and with your check made payable to GVAA for \$25, please send asap to GVAA, P.O. Box 435, Goleta, CA 93116. Thanks.



Goleta Valley Art Association

Upcoming Events, Opportunities & Announcements

Please join Adria Abraham, Elizabeth Flanagan, and Holly Hungett in an informal **SKETCH-OUT** on February 27. from 1:30-3:30p. Bring your sketch books, pens/pencils, etc., and meet in the arch of the SB Courthouse at 1:30p. We will sketch on location for about 45 minutes, then go to another close location for more sketching. You can sketch inside or outside, depending on the weather. We are trying to get a monthly event going, look for us in each newsletter! This is a fun opportunity to sketch in a group, and all skill levels are welcome. Although we are not officially affiliated with URBAN SKETCHERS, we can model our group after this idea; check them out [HERE](#) and check out the “blog” link for sketches from around the world!! Questions? Email Holly hollyh@sbceo.org

The S.B. International Orchid Show invites you to enter their **Art Show** managed by the Santa Barbara Art Association. Please click [HERE](#) or go to SBorchidshow.com and select Exhibitors/Vendors and then Art/Photography for details. You can enter online, or pay a late fee and enter at the ingathering on Wednesday, March 2. All entries must be wired to hang and have an orchid theme.

Call to all artists: March show at the Faulkner Gallery, managed by the SBAA, is a juried show by Dittee Wolf, and is open to all artists. Ingathering is Monday, February 29 from 10a-12:30p. Pick up unselected art 3-4p the same day. May submit 1 or 2 entries at \$10 each. All 2 dimensional pieces must be wired and ready to hang. No theme or size limitation. All media is welcome including photography, but anything requiring a pedestal must be safe for display in a public area. First Thursday Reception, 5-8p on March 3. Takedown March 28, 10a-12p. Do not enter if you or a surrogate cannot make the takedown.

CALENDAR IS AVAILABLE on www.tgvaa.org

Goleta Library Ingatherings: 10:30a-1p, pick up unselected artworks 3-5p. Critique & takedown 6:15-8p.

Wednesday, January 27	Critique & Takedown	Goleta Library
Tuesday, February 2, Juror, Arturo Tello	Ingathering 11a-1p	Cabrillo Arts Center
Monday, February 29	Takedown 9a-2p	Cabrillo Arts Center
Friday, April 1, Juror TBA	Ingathering	Goleta Library
Wednesday, April 27	Critique & Takedown	Goleta Library

*****There will not be a GVAA Library Show in March*****



Members Events

Pamela Benham's painting will be shown in the exhibition *Nor' Easter* at the New Britain Museum of American Art, in Connecticut, from January 9 through February 14. Three of her oils were juried into *ABSTRACTS* at the Atrium Gallery of the Ventura County Government Center, showing from January 15 through March 1. Reception is Friday January 29, 5:30-7p.



Ruth Ellen Hoag's painting, *Master Class*, below, has been juried into American Watercolor Society's 149th Annual International Exhibition to be held in the historic Salmagundi Club in New York City, April 4-23. Ruth will be the guest juror and will be doing a painting demonstration Thursday, March 10 at 7p followed by a workshop Friday, March 11, 9a-4p at the San Fernando Valley Arts and Cultural Center.



Terre Martin Sanitate has two paintings on display at Gallery 113 for the month of January.

Attila and Eva Danila are participating in a show at Rancho Santa Barbara Gallery 333 from February 13 to June.

Karen Schroeder's show *Elementary* is on exhibition at the Good Cup Coffee Shop on the Mesa through February. Her print is shown right.

Rica Coulter would like to say a special thank you to those who took the time to stop by her November Solo Show at the Faulkner. The many kind thoughts and comments left by those who signed the guest book meant a great deal, and were greatly appreciated!

Elizabeth Flanagan has three watercolor, pen and pencil pieces, *Thinking of You*, *Pilgrim Soul* and *Colors of My Life* in the Santa Barbara Sculptors Guild show at the Faulkner Gallery. *Thinking of You* was awarded 3rd place for 2 dimensional art. The show will run through January 29. She also has a mixed media piece *Into the Forest* at the Casa Magazine Gallery show, running through January 29.

Good News! Congratulations!

Gail Lovell sold a watercolor titled *Daisies* from her daughter's flower shop.

Marie Arnold sold a painting from the Faulkner Holiday show.

Terre Martin Sanitate sold two paintings in December, one at Gallery 113 and another at the SBAA Holiday show at the Faulkner Gallery.





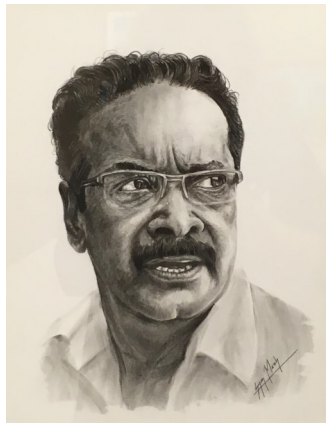
Juror's Awards January

Juror Rick Stich

Mahrokh Bonderson	<i>Sun Rises from Her Basket</i>	oil
Attila Danila	<i>Any Objection?</i>	oil
Carrie Givens	<i>Storm Breakers</i>	pastel
Holly Hungett	<i>A Walk in the Woods</i>	watercolor
Kelly Rangel	<i>Full Moon Rising Over Gaviota</i>	oil
Martha Shilliday	<i>Saddle –Billed Storke</i>	watercolor



Artichoke III by Jerilynne Nibbe



Portait Dad by Siyooj

People's Choice Awards December

First Place:	Ann Russell	<i>Naptime</i>	watercolor
Second Place:	Tie: Bruce Birkland	<i>Tropical Magritte</i>	acrylic
	Carrie Givens	<i>Sexton Cork Oak</i>	pastel
Third Place:	Cheryl Guthrie	<i>Iditarod Hopeful</i>	oil

Arturo Tello is the February Juror at the Cabrillo Arts Pavilion show. The ingathering takes place at the Pavilion located at 1118 East Cabrillo, S.B. Between 11a-1p, and takedown is Monday February 29 from 9a-2p. It is a beautiful venue overlooking the Pacific, please join in making this another fruitful show of the GVAA membership's talents. We are very honored, to once again have Arturo Tello as our juror. Arturo is a well-known local landscape painter. His works are filled with an intimacy and deep reverence and love for our local landscape. He is a co-founder of The Oak Group and is active in many local environmental and preservation organizations. Visit his web site [HERE](#).



Lighthearted,
Not
Lightheaded
 By, Meg Ricks

Mezmerizing Refelctions
in Paris
 By,
 Judy Nienow



WORKSHOPS CLASSES OPPORTUNITIES

Consider joining SCAPE, as members are showing their work in a juried show, FARM TO WALL, at the Goleta Library from February 2-29, to **benefit the Fairview Gardens**. Submissions of your favorite farm themes, farm scenes, orchards or gardens, preferably of the surrounding Goodlands of Goleta, will be given special consideration by the Juror, Thomas Van Stein. Ingathering is Tuesday, February 2 at the Goleta Library from 9-11a. Due to limited wall space, canvas size is not to exceed 18" x 24". Limit 3 entries per artist. Canvases less than 1 1/2 " thick must be framed. Please call Myla Kato for further information:805-637-5999. A reception will be held at the library on Saturday, February 20, from 2-5p with awards announced at 4p. Takedown will be Sunday, February 28. Please arrange with a fellow artist if you cannot be present to collect your work.

Whistle Stop Art Studios at 220 W. Canon Perdido, Suite D, is sponsoring a popular workshop with renowned artist, **William "Skip" Lawrence** for two five-day workshops, "Artistic Exploration," February 22-26 (**one space available**) and February 29 - March 4 (**two spaces available**). Skip's workshops are based in creativity and are designed to allow you to paint the subjects you like in the most honest, thoughtful and creative way. Email Ruth@ruthellenhoag.com or call 805-689-0858 for information, or to request a flyer about Skip and what he says about this workshop.

Whistle Stop Art Studios announces **Ruth Armitage's** new workshop, "ABCs of Abstraction" on March 7-9, 2016. The workshop is open to both acrylic and watercolor painters. Join Ruth for an in-depth exploration of abstract painting. You'll learn how limiting your means of expression can free you to explore painting ideas. Email Ruth@ruthellenhoag.com or call 689-0858 for more information, or to request a flyer about the workshop or the award winning Portland based artist. Only two spaces left.

Whistle Stop Art Studios Winter Classes are in session. Join a Friday or Saturday class, 10a-1p. All levels of experience are welcome. For more information, email Ruth@ruthellenhoag.com or call 689-0858.

We have a varied and rich art community~ click on the **name** to make a connection!

Santa Barbara Art Association SBAA <http://sbartassoc.org/>
Southern California Artists Painting for the Environment SCAPE <http://www.s-c-a-p-e.org/>
Abstract Art Collective AAC <http://abstractartcollective.com/>
The Oak Group <http://www.oakgroup.org/>
Santa Barbara Print Makers <http://www.sbprintmakers.com/>
Los Padres Watercolor Society (no current website) Contact: Jacqui Bravo JacquiBrav@aol.com
Santa Barbara Arts Collaborative <http://www.sbarts collaborative.org>

Friendly Reminders:

Please notify Janet Hart, our Sunshine gal, at rjhart1@verizon.net if you know of someone needing encouragement or cheer.

Please pay your due\$, see next page.

Please update your Directories:

And welcome new members:

Apologies for my technical editing problems seen below

Jane Hurd

jhurd@janehurd.com

Linda Collins

ifc96796@gmail.com

Siyooj Maroly

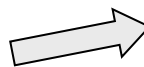
siyooj@gmail.com

Cathy Winton

cwinton99@gmail.com



LIKE us on FACEBOOK !



Please share some news or any information that might be of interest to us all about your shows, art sales, awards, publications, art activities, jpeg images and / or web addresses.



P.O. Box 435

Goleta, CA 93116

805.898.9424 www.tgvaa.org

2015

GVAA OFFICERS

President

ANNE ANDERSON

annewander48@gmail.com

Vice President

ELIZABETH FLANAGAN

euflanagan@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

ADRIA ABRAHAM

jrsaaahome@msn.com

Social Secretary

JAN SMITH

jansmith.sb@gmail.com

Treasurer

CAROL DIXON

dixon@education.ucsb.edu

Director

MARIE ARNOLD

marie.arnold@verizon.net

Director & Web Master

HEIDI BRATT

hrbratt@cox.net

Newsletter Editor

CHERYL GUTHRIE

cherylmguthrie@gmail.com

*****please send information for the upcoming Newsletter by the 10th of next month! ****



Goleta Valley Art Association

Membership Renewal

The Goleta Valley Art Association is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, which depends upon the willing participation of all our members.

Please check off your interests and skills below to show ways in which you can help GVAA. Feel free to write in any relevant skills not listed below. Thank you!

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| Ingatherings/Shows | Publicity | Technology | Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ingathering | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hanging | <input type="checkbox"/> Brochures/Flyers | <input type="checkbox"/> Database/e-lists | <input type="checkbox"/> Field trips |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Receptions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cashiering | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor shows | <input type="checkbox"/> Press contacts | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juror Selection | | | |

Please share any comments and suggestions.

Please provide a brief biographical sketch. (Continue on reverse as needed.)

Please renew my membership. A check for my dues is attached.

Name _____

Date _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

Email _____ Website _____

Dues are \$25/year, payable by Feb. 28 to retain membership and to be included in our directory. Dues are prorated to \$15 for new members joining after Aug. 31.

Make check payable to "GVAA" and mail to : GVAA, P.O. Box 435, Goleta, CA 93116.