



# Beaver Valley Artists

Official Newsletter of the Beaver Valley Artists

November 2014

**Next Meeting**  
 Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>  
**Merrick Art Gallery**

**\*Program\***  
**Gail Beem – Pastels**

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**December Holiday Dinner**  
**Date to be discussed**  
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Refreshments for the November meeting compliments of  
**Laurie Fillinger and Suzanne Perkins**

Gail grew up in Connecticut, but currently lives in the Pittsburgh, PA area. After teaching for a while, raising her three children, and almost completing a PhD, she decided to return to her first love—painting—painting with color. Landscapes afforded her a vehicle for expression and while she still loves the landscape, she began to feel hemmed in. And so she began a journey in abstracts as a way to further express herself through the language of COLOR.

Art has a spiritual aspect—it comes from within. Color is her mode of expression. Colors are her words. Color is a language in and of itself, full of vibration, energy, and expression. She paints spontaneously, intuitively, allowing the color to flow in a multitude of possibilities, arranging and rearranging those “words” in an exploration of possibility, to express herself through the language of color.

An exploration in color, an exploration of possibility, each piece emerges and develops, expressing the joy and energy she experiences in the world around her. Then, like the poet, she leaves it and gives it

to the viewer to whom it then belongs, the freedom to find his/her own truth and beauty. Her paintings, like a piece of poetry, are an invitation to join her in a response to the world.

## AWARDS

- 1st Place Award Pastel Painters of Maine 13th International Juried Exhibition for Pastels Only
- Mr. Fred Rogers Fine Arts Regional Juried Exhibition 2011 Merit Award
- Three Rivers Arts Festival 2009 Honor Award
- Richeson 75 International Pastel 2009 Honor Award
- Associated Artists of Pittsburgh 98th Annual Exhibition Louise and Robert Kahn Award
- Three Rivers Arts Festival Emerging Artist Scholarship Award 2008



## Member News:

Welcome to new members **Ruth Stone** and **Cicily Tarapchak!**

**Mary Mason** has been asked to participate in a four person show at the East Street Gallery, November 2<sup>nd</sup> to December 6<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome to come to the opening on November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2pm – 5pm. **Mary** was also accepted into PSA's annual show.

Congratulations to **Irene Ackerman** on her sale at the Cranberry Artists Network show.

**Carol Volz Begley, PSA**, had a pastel landscape accepted into the juried national exhibition of the Pastel Society of New Hampshire. This painting won an award with the juror citing the great use of shapes, color, values and pastels. Carol also had two pastels accepted into the Degas Pastel Society's National Exhibition.

Many BVA members won awards in Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church Seventeenth Annual Juried Art Show. **Anna Marie Ricciardi** was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place for her digital photography entry *Pinwheels*. **Joe Horzempa** received 1<sup>st</sup> place in painting, **Norma Nicely** received 2<sup>nd</sup> place in painting, while **Susan Giles Ireton** received 2<sup>nd</sup> place in pottery.

**Suzanne Perkins** and **Laurie Fillinger** would like to volunteer to bring back the Snacks! We will provide the Snack for November and we hope to have a couple people sign up to volunteer to bring something in the following months. They will try to call/text/email the week of the meeting to remind you if you do! Because we do want to utilize all the time we can for the guest, we are proposing to have the Snack at the beginning of the meeting, We thought having it ready by 6:45 as a Meet & Greet would be appropriate.

## Bring suggestions for a Christmas get together!

		
<b>Pastilla</b>	<b>Ron Nigro</b>	<b>Kathi DePasse</b>
	<b>Mary B. Mason</b>	Opening Reception <b>Sunday, November 2</b> 2:00 - 5:00 pm Show runs through December 6

Franklin Center 4240 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh <http://www.eastsidegallery.com/>



Sweetwater Center for the Arts is now accepting submissions for our 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday mART. This nine-day juried event will be held from November 30<sup>th</sup>-December 7, 2014. All Entries Must Be Received By Wednesday, October 29, 2014.

Visit <http://www.sweetwaterartcenter.org/call-for-artists/>

**As many of you know, I tried last year to give words of inspiration with each newsletter. Duane Cacali joined BVA last year as a new member. He is a very accomplished artist, and is a member of both Pittsburgh Society of Artists and Associated Artists of Pittsburgh. And not to embarrass him or Jean Sirko, but a cool fact is that Jean was his high school art teacher.**

**Duane wrote this article about what helps shape a person into a better artist. I hope you all start to think about what you think makes you a better artist. If anyone else would like to add their statement to a future newsletter, either email Jocelyn or me.**

**Kathy Bischak**

**Duane Cacali:** What I have found that helps to shape me into being a better artist is:

**A. Believe in yourself:** Don't let others take from you what you feel can and will work for you. If you have a good idea, vision or technique play it out. Give your ideas time to be tested.

**B. Perseverance:** I feel you must have a whole lot of this. Without perseverance and I mean a strong perseverance you can't and won't go very far as an artist who wants to exhibit their work. Don't be pushy, don't get discouraged and don't give up.

**C. Creativity:** Most artists have it but sometimes get overwhelmed by so many art techniques and styles. Artists should discover what they like most and develop that skill, but still remain open to new media and other styles of art. Art is very subjective and always changing. Remaining open minded will allow receptivity to new ideas and enhance creativity.

**D. Rejection:** No one likes to feel left out but if your piece of art did not get into an exhibition you probably are not alone. Look at it this way: Every juror has their opinion. What they choose may not be what you like but another juror may feel differently about your art. Another exhibition will come up and the piece that did not get in may make it into another exhibition. If it doesn't, then create something new and try again. Keep focused and remember that most artists are creating art because they love what they are doing.

**E. Socializing:** Get out of your studio. Go visit one of your artist friends, have lunch with them. Go to exhibitions openings. Mingle with someone new and let them talk about their art. When they are finished you can talk about yours. It's a two way street. You learn something every time another artist speaks to you and they learn something from you.

**F. Stay Connected:** Keep in touch with your art association. Read the newsletters. Go to the meetings and most important step up and volunteer to help at your art association. There are plenty of things that have to be done and nice people to work with. Read books, visit art galleries, take classes, use the internet and enter all the exhibitions you want to enter. If you don't enter your work, how will anyone ever know who you are and what you can do? You have to market yourself. No one can do it as well as you.

**G. Being a member of an Artist's association:** This by far has helped me the most. Belonging to a good artists' association makes it easier to meet fellow artists to exchange honest constructive interest in each others art works. The association can offer good seminars to promote personal enrichment. Plus the associations have well planned opening receptions for exhibitions where the artists can not only display their work but they can also talk about it. Art Associations sponsor juried exhibitions with and without themes that stimulate artists to enter and create new pieces of art work. Also being an active member in an art association gives the artist the ability to make long-lasting friendships with other artists. With these relationships artists can stay connected and encourage and support each others art.

**Duane also added:**

Getting into my first juried exhibition was so gratifying. It was fantastic. I felt I had arrived as an artist. The truth is I was just beginning to become a better artist. I had to learn that although you submit your best work, sometimes you just don't get in. When I got an OUT letter for a piece of art I had entered it never felt good. Then some of my best art came after not getting into a juried art exhibition. A few days or a week later I would sit down and think about what can I do to create art that is better. So I would create something new. Sometimes those pieces got juried into an exhibition. And if it did not get in I would start all over again. I work with art because I appreciate it; I am a part of it and love creating it.

**Membership Dues: Individual: \$20 Family: \$25  
Dues increase by \$5 after November.**

Make checks payable to: Beaver Valley Artists.

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Send newsletter submissions to:

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**For BVA news visit The Beaver Valley Artists at [beavervalleyartists.org](http://beavervalleyartists.org) or on  
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Beaver-Valley-Artists/175072079247112>**

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