

# Three Rivers Artist Guild

SERVING ARTISTS IN OREGON CITY AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Volume 7

April 2014 Member Newsletter

Issue 4

**Linda Merry Gross**

President

president@threeriversartistguild.com

**Tara Choate**

Vice President

vp@threeriversartistguild.com

Webmaster

webmaster@threeriversartistguild.com

**Joe Escriva**

Treasurer

treasurer@threeriversartistguild.com

**Marianne Ryder**

Secretary

secretary@threeriversartistguild.com

**Ellen Nawrocki**

Gallery Chair

gallery@threeriversartistguild.com

**Sue Thomas**

Membership Coordinator

membership@threeriversartistguild.com

**Cherilyn SunRidge**

Public Relations Coordinator

publicrelations@threeriversartistguild.com

**Kerin Dimeler-Laurence**

Newsletter Publisher

newsletter@threeriversartistguild.com

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**Mark your calendars!**

The next TRAG General Member meeting will be on Monday, April 14 at 7PM at the Pioneer Community Center.

**Get ready to whip up your creativity!**

Come to the April meeting prepared to have your creative spark reignited. Starting with a Creativity Hit List, you'll identify some areas in your art and life in need of a creative boost. Then you'll work out a plan to deliberately cause some creative tension: the best way to amp up your ability to create. We'll wrap up with a small group exercise called Thunderstorming, or brainstorming on steroids.

Please leave your inner critic and judges robes at the door.

-Susan Schenk

**Fiber and Yarn Swap at this month's meeting!**

Are you a fiber enthusiast? Do you have too much yarn or fiber and want to clear out? Bring unwanted (but usable) yarn and fiber to this month's meeting. We will have a table set up for the swap. Need more yarn? Bring a grocery bag and fill it up!

If you have other items of interest to fiber crafters that you'd like to bring, please do!

**See you Monday at 7p.m.!**

**Got an idea for TRAG?**

Let us know!

suggestions@threeriversartistguild.com

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**Find Motivation**



Law of Attraction,  
p. 10

# Get involved in your Guild!

## Plein Air Group Springs into Action!

Three Rivers Art Guild has formed a Plein Air Group. Guild members and the PA committee will comb for locations and post dates, times and places for artists to gather together to practice art in the field. If we are lucky we may be joined by someone playing the guitar, drawing or even spinning fiber. A typical Plein Air Location is picked for the view as well as parking, restrooms, light, accessibility and quiet. Locations will include scenic places, viewpoints, parks and preserves as well as city or semi-rural locations with historical architecture, or unique features like bridges, waterfalls, old barns, and rose gardens.

Our beginning schedule is listed to the right. Once the weather improves, upcoming gatherings will be posted online at [threeriversartistguild.com](http://threeriversartistguild.com) and on our facebook page. To receive an email reminder about upcoming gatherings please send a request to get on the roster to [pleinair@threeriversartistguild.com](mailto:pleinair@threeriversartistguild.com).

Times to meet are typically from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m, with the chance for some early morning or twilight sessions for long summer days. Since there is no host for most paint outs the best way to join is to get directions online and gather your gear and a friend or two and show up. A contact person may be listed with the schedule if you get lost or have a question. Weather may cause cancellations.

Etiquette: Leave no paint or debris behind, thank hosts. Respect the privacy and quiet of artists working while remembering that these are semi-social gatherings and artists usually take a rest period together to have a sack lunch. Have a safe and enjoyable time.

If you would like to suggest a public location or have a place to offer please let us know and we will see if we can get it on the schedule.

TRAG PA Planning committee

Robin, Bonnie, Susan, Janice, Kerin, Tara.

Plein Air Paint-outs are beginning!

Tentative schedule for the next two months:

### April:

- Saturday 12th: Ladd's Addition
- Saturday 19th: Canemah Bluff
- Tuesday 22nd: O.C. Promenade
- Saturday 26th: L.O. Community Park

### May:

- Saturday 3rd: Gathering of the Guilds
- Saturday 24th: Women' Forum/Crown Point
- Saturday 31st: Philip Foster Farm (?)

We will continue to add dates to this list as we confirm locations. If you would like to be on the Plein Air mailing list, please email [pleinair@threeriversartistguild.com](mailto:pleinair@threeriversartistguild.com).

Note: for the first month, all notifications of upcoming events will be sent to the entire guild mailing list to give all interested parties time to get on the Plein Air list. After that, the schedule will only be sent out to the Plein Air list! If you want to be notified of events, you'll want to be on that list.



Claude Monet Painting by the Edge of a Wood (1885) by John Singer Sargent. Oil on canvas. 54.0 x 64.8 cm. Tate Gallery, London.

Get in touch with the Plein Air Committee!

[pleinair@threeriversartistguild.com](mailto:pleinair@threeriversartistguild.com)

Robin Berry • Bonnie Burlew • Susan Schenk • Janice MacDonald  
Kerin Dimeler-Laurence • Tara Choate

# TRAG General Meeting Minutes

Three Rivers Artist Guild General Meeting - March 10, 2014

7:00 PM, at the Pioneer Center

Welcome: Guests and new members were introduced. There were 47 members/guests present.

Linda Merry shared the TRAG newspaper ads now appearing in the Clackamas Review/Oregon City News, and Trail End News.

Secretary Report: Marianne Ryder gave the Secretary report. No corrections or additions to the 1-13-2014 general meeting minutes published in the newsletter. Minutes are approved and filed.

Treasurer Report: Joe Escrava gave the Treasurer report.

Membership Report: Sue Thomas gave the membership report.

Newsletter Report: Kerin Dimeler-Laurence gave the Newsletter report and Plein Air report.

Gallery report. Ellen Nawrocki gave the TRAG Gallery report.

Bistro Living Room: Beth Daniels reported.

Carnegie Art Show: Lynda Orzen reported.

First City Celebration: Tonya Meyers reported.

March Meeting:

Various members announced calls to artists, workshops, the new plein air group, exhibition opportunities at local spaces, 221, and the TRAG Gallery.

Guest speaker Celeste Bergin spoke about "Resistance and Art" and discussed her artwork and plein air painting experience.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 14, 2014 at the Pioneer Center.

Meeting adjourned, 8:13 PM.

## Looking for some expert advice?

Below is a short list compiled of some experts in their field. If you know of others, please let [webmaster@threeriversartistguild.com](mailto:webmaster@threeriversartistguild.com) know, so we can post it on our website.

- Artsy Shark (Gallerist) - [www.artsyshark.com](http://www.artsyshark.com)
- Holly Sugrue (Videos) - [www.hollysugrue.com](http://www.hollysugrue.com)
- Jessica Kupferman (Branding) - [www.jessicakupferman.com](http://www.jessicakupferman.com)
- Launch Grow Joy (Pinterest) - [www.launchgrowjoy.com](http://www.launchgrowjoy.com)
- Laura C. George (Facebook) - [www.lauracgeorge.com](http://www.lauracgeorge.com)
- Living a Creative Life (Coach) - [www.livingacreativelife.com](http://www.livingacreativelife.com)
- Stahle Law (Art Legal) - [www.stahlelaw.com](http://www.stahlelaw.com)
- Sue B. Zimmerman (Instagram) - [www.suezimmerman.com](http://www.suezimmerman.com)
- Tara Reed Design (licensing) - [www.artlicensingblog.com](http://www.artlicensingblog.com)
- The Abundant Artist (Coach) - [www.theabundantartist.com](http://www.theabundantartist.com)
- The Art World Demystified (grants/funding) - [www.theart](http://www.theart)
- The Thriving Artist (Coach) - [www.thethrivingartist.com](http://www.thethrivingartist.com)
- Zenplicity (Virtual Assitant/Mail Chimp) - [www.zenplicity.com](http://www.zenplicity.com)
- Laura Valenti (Portfolio Building) - [www.valentijelen.com](http://www.valentijelen.com)

## Welcome New Members!

Sharon Menke of Kalona Photography and Design, from Battle Ground, WA, helps run the Manor Grange Market on the 4th Saturday of each month and has a booth there. She can be reached at [Kalona@KalonaPhotography.com](mailto:Kalona@KalonaPhotography.com) and her website [KalonaPhotography.com](http://KalonaPhotography.com) shows her photography; she also does web development and graphic design.

*Are you a new member? Want to be featured here? Contact Membership Coordinator Sue Thomas: [membership@threeriversartistguild.com](mailto:membership@threeriversartistguild.com)*

Three Rivers Artist Guild operates a gallery located at 502 7th Street (Corner of 7th and Center Street), in Oregon City. We share a space with The Friends of the Library Bookstore.

## Gallery News

### The 2nd Quarter Rotation is Bursting with Life!

Spring has definitely sprung into the Gallery. It is full to bursting with dazzling jewelry, colorful paintings, and spectacular sculptural work.

If you haven't been in to see the new art yet, you're missing out! You'll want to check out the gorgeous beaded baskets and vinyl record bowls by Jo Dee Post.



In our jewelry case you'll find stunning seahorse rendered in sterling silver by Thomas Tietze, and on the walls are some wonderfully whimsical works by our youngest guild member, Lindsey Lyons.

The next few months will go by quickly - be sure to stop in to the gallery and bring your friends!

Are you currently showing or have shown in a gallery? Share the gallery name, address, telephone number and/or website with our [webmaster@threeriversartistguild.com](mailto:webmaster@threeriversartistguild.com) and we'll keep a handy list for all our members to peruse and use.

## Want to be the next Artist of the Month?

Contact Ellen Nawrocki about showing your work in the Three Rivers Artist Guild Gallery!  
gallery@threeriversartistguild.com

Don't forget! You must be a paid member to show in the gallery! Please bring your payment to the general meeting or contact Sue Thomas:  
membership@threeriversartistguild.com

### April 2014 Artist of the Month: Anita Reuther

# Artist of the Month

## Anita Reuther Collage

**From** her cozy studio, Anita reaches out to capture the world of nature in a stunning range of media. From the unforgiving precision of pen and ink to the subtle washes of watercolor, Anita's gallery-quality artwork has delighted viewers for years. Her newest works, though, mark a new adventure into collage.



"Working in mixed media reminds me how much passion I have to create from an accumulation of pieces", she tells us, "assembling ordinary materials into an alluring composition." She chemically alters magazine pages, creating abstract fields of color which she cuts and tears into a finished work.

This painstaking process gives her collages an especially "painterly" feel, much like the work of classic Impressionists. Look closely at the woodland path in "A Walk before the Rain" or the black-feathered bird in "All is Good on the Western Front," and it is hard to see the subtle scraps of paper that make the images sing.

Anita's creativity is "in the genes," she says, but adds that her artistic "inner voice is becoming stronger with age." Now retired from the workforce, she can carve out more time for her artistic muse. In addition to the collage collection at the Three Rivers Artist Guild Gallery, you can find her work at the Artist Exhibit Program at the Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center (1500 Division St., Oregon City) and later this year at the Gresham Art Festival on Saturday, July 19th. You can also reach her at [anitar2@aol.com](mailto:anitar2@aol.com).



## Community Happenings

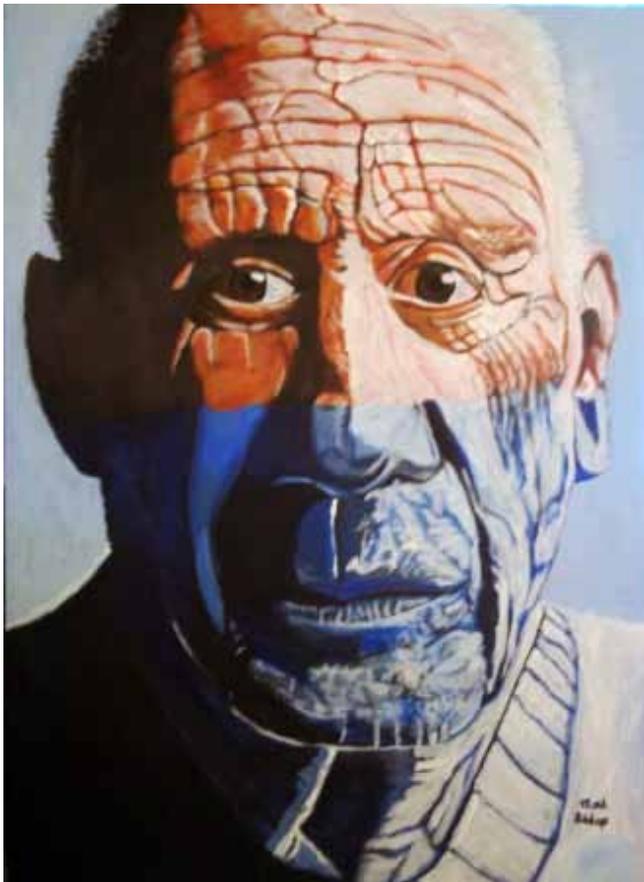
Mark Bishop is currently showing his acrylic paintings on the third floor of the Developmental Disabilities Building on 2051 Kaen Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045, through the Clackamas Arts Alliance Public Art.

"Everything I paint is an expression of myself, even the portraits that I paint. The normal way your supposed to paint portraits is to envelope yourself in the person your painting and express them, not yourself. I'm not a supporter of this approach. A painting is nothing more than an image and it is important that an artist to render the image with great clarity and extreme detail."

See Mark's work March 13 – June 12, 2014

[markbishopart@yahoo.com](mailto:markbishopart@yahoo.com)

503-631-3346



• The youth at SMYRC - A Program of Q Center (PDX's LGBT Center) are in need of your assistance. In August the youth will be showing their art work in the Arron Q Center's Aaron Hall Gallery but the program is in need of art supplies such as:

• 12"x12" canvas (as many as we can get.)

• Drawing paper

• Picture frames

• oil paint

• acrylic paint

• water color paint

• color pencils

• drawing markers

• glitter

• And Also gift cards to craft and art stores will help.

• If can make a donation please email me at [tsol1982@gmail.com](mailto:tsol1982@gmail.com) or drop supplies at either the Q Center or SMYRC or at the next TRAG meeting. Also all donations are taxed deductible and I can get them a tax receipt. Thanks!

• Frankie Olivo

• Jill Francis who owns "That Furniture Girl" on Seventh Street in the old Classic piano building has a great deal of old old frames. Some are in poor condition that could be painted or fixed up and others are just wonderfully old and antique. Please let the membership know about the frames.

• Dairy Queen is across the street.

• Next to the "That Furniture Girl" shop is the new "up scale" women's consignment store which also has a few antiques. They just opened this past weekend. Two great places to browse and maybe make a purchase.

• Glenda Richards

• Anita Reuther would like to share a booth with a 2D artist for Carnegie Arts Show at the Library grounds on June 21st and First City Celebration, on Main Street on July 26th.

• If you are interested contact Anita at 971-219-1454 or [anitar2@aol.com](mailto:anitar2@aol.com)

# Calls for Artists

**Gresham Arts Festival: The Tradition Continues**  
Downtown arts festival

The City of Gresham will present the 2014 Gresham Arts Festival on Saturday, July 19, continuing the annual summer tradition of a regional celebration of art, artists, music and community.

Talented artisans from around the Pacific Northwest will showcase work in historic downtown Gresham from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the third Saturday in July.

Stay tuned for more details about the 2014 Gresham Arts Festival.

The City is excited to work with fine artisans to present at the Gresham Arts Festival.

The cost of a booth space is \$90. Contact

Jill Bradley, Communications, 503-618-2420 or Jill.Bradley@GreshamOregon.gov.

Apply online: <http://greshamoregon.gov/play/arts-and-culture/artfestivalform.aspx?ekfrm=285231>



Looking for Call to Artists information? Be sure to sign up for:

RACC (Regional Arts & Culture Council) at [www.racc.org](http://www.racc.org)

Clackamas Arts Alliance at [www.clackamasartsalliance.org](http://www.clackamasartsalliance.org)

Both sites offer a phenomenal call to artist section.

## Hopkins Demonstration Forest of Arts

Indoor and Outdoor Juried Art Show and Sale

Sat., Oct. 4th, 10AM-5PM & Sun., Oct 5th, 10AM-5PM

The Three Rivers Artist Guild is joining with the Hopkins Demonstration Forest (16750 S. Brockway, Oregon City) for a unique weekend event celebrating art made from, about and in the forest! Some activities will take place in the forest itself, but another key focus will be a juried art sale and show in Hopkins Hall as well as several locations in the workshop and tent spaces. The 2013 was such a successful event, we decided to continue with the show and expand the art component.

Twelve 6X9 foot spaces are available inside Hopkins Forest Hall, seven spaces in the workshop area and 6 spaces outside for 10X10 foot canopies. (You must provide your own canopies and display equipment.) All spaces will be \$45.00 per space. Artists will be responsible for their own set-up and cashiering during the event. The artwork can take any form, but its components or content must present some aspect of Pacific Northwest forests. Examples include photography, wood turning/carving, basketry, painting, and paper-making. Other art forms will be considered on a piece by piece basis. Artwork with a specific connection to the Hopkins Demonstration Forest is especially welcome.

Lynda Orzen at [orzep@comcast.net](mailto:orzep@comcast.net) is the contact person for this event. Please contact her for more information, or if you'd like to be juried for the show, please Email her your artist information and three to five jpegs showing your work. You will receive an artist registration form if you are chosen to participate.



To describe the mood and visual characteristics to the average person, ask yourself these questions:

How does its ambiance feel?

What undertones does it evoke?

How does its essence effect your spirit?

The average person will become enchanted with your artwork when you talk about its mood using descriptive adjectives.

\*If you have trouble with this, ask your friends to describe their feelings about your artwork using descriptive adjectives.

Always mention the colors, but make sure you use words that describe the colors and their effect.

For example, green is the color of grass, the leaves of trees, and seaweed. Green represents growth and healing. Red is the color of blood, roses, and hot chilis. It's a very passionate color. Red can mean anger or desire.

Use words such as lustrous, shadowy, radiant, glossy, and saturated when describing colors. These words articulate the depth of the color.

The average person will see your artwork in a different light if you describe it using words that connect your artwork to the smell and feeling of everyday objects.

Put yourself in the mindset of the average person.

The average person knows little about art and your art-making process. For them, it all boils down to dollar bills.

The bad thing about the average person is that they earn money by doing things they don't love. They have a lot of bills to pay. They don't have the luxury of being creative. They don't have a lot of money to spend on art.

But the great thing about the average person; they see money through the eyes of emotion. If they want something bad enough, they'll find a way to get money to buy what they want.

What you have to do is create that emotional connection between your artwork and the average person.

Think about how you can make them FEEL your artwork

with words.

The average person isn't looking for a landscape painting filled with farmland and barns. Their soul's yearning for a striking piece of artwork for their entranceway that'll greet visitors with a warm blast of dazzling sunlight which conjures their memories of the many summer times they spent on grandpa's farm. Complete with the intoxicating aroma of a freshly cut hayfield, and the glistening golden blades of hay.

The average person can feel artwork if it's vividly described, creating an unwavering emotional connection.

Art isn't passive. Use action words to describe it.

Richard Serra once said, "Drawing is a verb." Using only sheets of paper, he created a list of the infinitives of 84 verbs including to roll, to crease, to fold, to store, etc. This list also provided 24 possible contexts within which these verbs could be used including of gravity, of entropy, of nature, etc. Serra described this list as a series of actions related to the artist and the creative process. He used it to guide himself while creating in multiple mediums.

To determine which action words to use when describing your artwork to the average person, ask yourself these questions:

-What does the piece do?  
Perhaps it charms and inspires.

-What'll the average person do with it?  
Perhaps they'll luxuriate in it.

-Does it make a statement?  
Perhaps it creates a serene atmosphere.

The average person isn't passive when it comes to buying art. They either love it or they don't. Describe your creations using action words so the average person will take action and buy your art.

The use of words to describe artwork is completely subjective, and artwork may mean different things to different people. However, with effort, imagination, and practice, you can give the average person a more lively and interesting experience while viewing your art.

*Autumn Tompkins / Cory Huff on The Abundant Artist*



## Finding Time (and motivation) for My Art: Using the Law of Attraction

On a plane I asked my seatmate what she did. She glibly replied, "I'm an artist." She didn't hesitate to say it. That word artist always stuck in my throat. Wasn't there an external standard you had to meet to claim the A-word? I did not have an art degree, but I loved making art and I was getting better at it. But still, I couldn't claim it.

In *The Artist's Way*, Julia Cameron wrote about moving to New York City and feeling like an outsider. In response, she made a list of how she would know when she became a bona fide New Yorker. Her list was a starting point to move into a new identity. Inspired, I did the same, creating my list "25 Ways I'll Know I'm an Artist." I included internal and external validations; things I had control over and others that were gifts from the universe, beyond my direct influence. I posted the list in my hodgepodge studio and shared it with a trusted supporter. I read it often and opened myself to opportunities to check off items. It wasn't a to-do list. It was more of a progress report; a way of measuring my growth. The Law of Attraction, as told in

the best seller, *The Secret*, works by focusing on what you want, not how you'll get it.

To my delight (but not surprise) I've been able to easily attract ways to accomplish much of my list, even items that I hesitated to write down because they seemed unattainable at the beginning. Some required a lot of work, but others just seemed to happen. Serendipity? Magic? Coincidence? The explanation is more down to earth. By writing them down, I was now tuned in to possibilities; finding opportunities I would have missed if I hadn't been looking for them.

If you want to move from where you are now, make a list of tangible ways you'll know when you've gotten to where you want to be. Include as many senses as you can and think on a grander scale than is comfortable. And, be prepared to keep updating your list as you attract what you want and as accomplishments pile up.

## **25 Signs of My Success as an Artist; 25 Ways I know I'm an Artist**

**Mission: Creating beautiful art which brings so much joy to people that they pay me handsomely for the pleasure of owning my art.**

1. Business cards that say Artist and feature my art.
2. An artist statement that moves people.
3. Prizes, blue ribbons, best of show awards.
4. Articles about my art: magazines, newspaper and television.
5. Overheard comments that my work is joyful, elegant, artful, liberating, provocative, appealing, emotional and beautiful.
6. Monthly exhibits and receptions; Galleries call me.
7. Scholarships or fellowships to study with masters.
8. A compelling web site; e-shopping, ETSY sales.
9. Hearing my teachers encourage me in art classes.
10. Monthly commissions and sales. A special bank account for my art.
11. Consulting with a powerful art mentor and guide.
12. Professional artist marketing materials: website, postcards, mailing list, business cards.
13. Entering and winning contests, calls to artists and competitions.
14. Art classes and art travel shared with my husband.
15. Pieces at Art Museum Rental Gallery.
16. Contributions to a positive critique group.
17. Expanded studio; expanded consciousness.
18. A regular circle of artist associates. Art dates.
19. People say "your work makes me smile." People tell me they bought my work as a gift for someone.
20. Travel to my exhibits in other cities/countries. A big inaugural show in L.A.
21. My work in public places for public viewing.
22. At least a dozen works on display at any one time.
23. Letters from other artists that I've inspired. Invitations to collaborate.
24. Praise from people I don't know about the sacred experience in my work.
25. Donations of my art to financially support good causes.

- Susan Schenk

*Article originally appeared in ClothPaperScissors Magazine.*