

# Three Rivers Artist Guild

SERVING ARTISTS IN OREGON CITY AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Volume 9

September 2016 Member Newsletter

Issue 9

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**Lynda Orzen**

Past President

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**Mark your calendars!**

The next TRAG General Member meeting will be on Monday, September 12 at 7PM at the Pioneer Community Center.

Greetings, Members!

Mark your calendars for Monday, September 12. TRAG is holding our general meeting at the Pioneer Center at 7:00 p.m.

Vldn Taylor will be speaking about HDR photography and John Trax will demonstrate the use of reverse polarization for fine art reproduction photography.

TRAG would not exist without member participation. We thank you!

Linda-Merry Gross

President, Three Rivers Artist Guild

**Got an idea for TRAG?**

Let us know!

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

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**A Visit to the Festival**



OCFotA, p.9

## TRAG General Meeting Minutes

TRAG MEETING MINUTES – General Membership  
08-8-2016

Meeting Location: Pioneer Community Center  
(Downstairs), Oregon City Attendance: 28 members 3  
guest/new members

Called to order @ 7:08 pm., by Linda Merry Goss, President

Welcome and acknowledgement of guests, new members:  
opened floor to Board Members to give reports:

Treasurer's report given

Secretary's report given

Lynda Orzen gave an update on the progression of the  
OCFOTA as well as giving another call for volunteers.

We were very fortunate to have several members "show  
and tell" of how they go about accomplishing their various  
arts.

Linda Merry Goss shared the good news that the Holiday  
Show is a go! Holly Kroening and Peggy have agreed to  
co-chair the event. The Holiday Show will be on Dec.  
3-4th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

## Danna Barnes' Paintings Lift Spirits In Artist Exhibit Program

Danna's heartfelt acrylics of country landscapes, seascapes and wild west themes bring a smile to her viewers. Now they're also bringing a light-hearted feel to the Sunnyside Health and Wellness Clinic through the Clackamas County Arts Alliance's Artist Exhibit Program! Located at 9775 SE Sunnyside Rd, Suite 200 in Clackamas (at I-205 Exit 14), her work will be on display from August 9th through November 8th. See more at [www.clackamasartsalliance.org](http://www.clackamasartsalliance.org).



## Oregon City Festival of the Arts 2016

Recap by Lynda Orzen

The guild now has its first major event under its belt. What a grand event it was, even with the hot, hot temperatures for set up on Friday and opening day Saturday. I want to thank all the volunteers that braved the heat to assist with set-up on Friday. We tried to keep everyone well hydrated, volunteers and artists alike!

On Saturday, Mick Gross hooked up a misting station on the awning of the TRAG tent. It was a life-saver for our volunteers and guests. I'd watch someone approach the tent and stop right under the mister and just stand there with a smile on their face! One woman was so hot; she was about to leave the festival until we got her under the mister. If it's hot for the 2017 event, you can be certain we'll have several misting stations throughout the site.

Our guests loved the venue for the festival and enjoyed exploring the grounds and the Interpretive Center. They were able to visit with artists on the lawn and then learn about the history of Oregon City inside the facilities. We asked several non-profits to join us for the event and share information about their organizations. The Friends of the Oregon City Library had a book sale, the Library Foundation was sharing information about support for our new facility and the Woman's Club of Oregon City was selling water as a fundraiser.

Holly Kroening and her helpers were busy all weekend with the children's art activities. Although I think I also saw some rather large children at the activities tables too! They had the area set up with fun cut-outs, bright colors and several wonderful projects.



Trieste Andrews wore two hats for the weekend, Entertainment and Food! Both were very well received, especially the Voodoo donuts on Sunday. The Interpretive

center set up tables with umbrellas out on the deck and sold adult drinks. There were quite a few people enjoying the food and drink while listening to music or just visiting. The main attraction on Sunday was the Willamette Falls Symphony which brought a nice group to enjoy the presentation. We also had performances by Maralee's Dance Studio, Harmony Road Music, the New History Minstrels, Youth Music Project, Tai Chi demonstration, Uncommon Harmonies and Havilah, Trieste's very talented daughter!



Janice Gunderson and her volunteers manned the Silent Auction booth for the weekend. The Chamber of Commerce members donated about \$1000 in goods for the auction. Our artists were also extremely generous with their donations. Still waiting on a final count from the auction items. Any remaining funds will be used for the 2017 event.

The festival committee created a survey for the artists to receive feedback on the event. We want to know what worked and what we need to work on for 2017. Some of the questions asked were how could we make the event better in 2017. We'll be discussing the answers at our review meeting. Some suggestions we really have no control over like the weather, but others like layout, entertainment and food selections, are ones we can improve.

This festival was run by a very small staff which is something we will need to remedy for the 2017 event. A handful of people did a majority of work and unfortunately some of the work did not get done. This was seen in the volunteer coordination, artist set-up, and breakdown.

Volunteers did a fantastic job with the resources at hand and went out of their way to assist artists and other volunteers. Volunteer hours for the weekend was over 400 hours!

A big thank you to everyone who participated in this event whether you were a volunteer or artist. The event got many kudos from local residents. Some mentioned that this event was something the city has needed for years! They want to see it back again next year. So now we'll begin planning the Oregon City Festival of the Arts for 2017!





## Gallery Spotlight

Three Rivers Artist Guild operates a gallery located inside the Singer Hill Cafe at 623 7th Street.

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## Gallery News

### Three Rivers Gallery & Gifts has space for classes!

Now is the time to sign up to teach classes for 2105. Get on the calendar and share your passion for art.

The policy is as follows:

Class Fee - \$ 40 per day, payable in advance to TRAG.

Class Hours - anytime between:

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday

Suggested Number of Participants - ten or fewer

Classes need not be art oriented. (Poetry, writing, crafts welcome)

Instructor should bring supplies.

Pack out garbage and leave space neat and tidy.

No loud noises (musical instruments) or odors (Oil paints) allowed.

Space covered by liability insurance.

Questions and sign up to be directed to [classes@threeriversartistguild.com](mailto:classes@threeriversartistguild.com)

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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 the Gallery Committee Chairs about showing your work at Three Rivers Gallery and Gifts!  
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

## September 2016 Artist of the Month: W.E. "Wes" Sanders

# Artist of the Month

## W.E. "Wes" Sanders Photography

**Wes** Sanders' striking images seem to be everywhere! His peaceful view of the historic Arch Bridge linking Oregon City to West Linn is currently gracing the cover of the new Beavercreek Telephone Coop's (BCT) 2016-2017 Oregon Trail Directory ([www.bctyellowpages.com](http://www.bctyellowpages.com)). "I won two Blazer tickets," Wes shared, thrilled with his good fortune.



His work is also on display at the Guild's 221 Gallery in the City's Planning Department at 221 Molalla Avenue, Oregon City. Here, his camera lens leaps halfway across the globe, targeting fascinating images of African wildlife. "Camouflaged Cheetah" blends the tawny hues of the black-spotted feline with its tawny background, while "Drying African Darter" spreads finely-flared black feathers against its gray and green surround.



Wes is also participating in the Clackamas County Arts Alliance's 2016 Artist Exhibit Program, bringing local artists' work to the County's public buildings. Several of his photographs will be on display at the Development Services Building's 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Lobby at 150 Beavercreek Rd., Oregon City, from mid-September through early December. Learn more at [www.clackamasartsalliance.org](http://www.clackamasartsalliance.org).



A man of many mediums, Wes also takes on graphic arts projects, recently producing a fascinating book on the "nine lives" of a close friend. Part biography and part art review, it weaves images and text into a cohesive tribute. Learn more about Wes' work at [www.VisionsbyWes.com](http://www.VisionsbyWes.com) and reach him at [wes97068@gmail.com](mailto:wes97068@gmail.com).

## Rose Farm Plein Air Gathering Welcomes Artists, Visitors

The weather was perfect for this year's August 6th plein air event – sunny but not too warm, and with just a little breeze. Artists relaxed as they worked or just dropped by to visit, enjoying the “open house” feel of the special gathering.

Watercolorist Ed Turpin, who serves on the Board of the McLoughlin Memorial Association (MMA), settled under a canopy displaying his historical portraits of Dr. John McLoughlin and Rose Farm's Holmes family members. “I thought up the ‘Art on the Lawn,’ idea,” he shared, adding “I come every year.”



Nearby, Rosemary Southworth worked on her pastel landscape of Oregon City's Arch Bridge. “I'm taking classes from [Guild member] Melissa Gannon,” she

explained, “first watercolors and now pastels. I like pastels because you work with your hands when you're blending in. You're really ‘in the medium.’”

Guild President Linda Merry pulled out her two palettes for warm and cool-toned watercolors. “It's fun to see the different artists and mediums,” she reflected. “I'm so glad for our continuing partnership with Rose Farm.”

Guild member Richard Gaffield found a patch of shade in the backyard, with a great view of the home's roof lines and tall trees. He smiled as he looked out over his leafy surroundings,



adding “That's why I like plein air events.”

Several other Guild members shared in the event,

including Sharon Crocetti, Beth Daniell, Coordinator Judith McDonald, Doug Owen, Wes Sanders and Billie Shults. Wes and Billie took the home tour, which Sharon had enjoyed last



September. “The history lesson given by the docent was so good,” she noted, “that it was hard to have it come to an end.”

Coordinator Denyse McGriff welcomed guests and invited them to share in the elegant refreshments on the wide front porch. A vase of roses and rose-themed napkins set the tone, while a large punch bowl of lemonade (complete



with lemonade ice ring) and McTavish Oregon-shaped shortbread satisfied afternoon appetites.

Denyse also pointed out something new this year – Rose Farm-themed artwork on display for the month of August inside the house. Richard Gaffield's “Holmes House and Catalpa” and Kristy Stephens' “William Holmes House” were both created at last year's Art on the Lawn Event. Between the two, Susan Thomas' “Tree and Rose at the Holmes House” contrasted the rough twisted trunk of the aged tree with the fresh bright blooms of summer roses. “That's a Cecile Brunner rose,” shared Denyse, who had purchased the painting.

Linda Merry reflected happily on our Rose Farm partnership. “We've partnered for four years running,” she explained. Each year's plein air gathering adds a bit more to Rose Farm's long history of hospitality.

# WSO Fall 2016 Convention Schedule – TRAG Volunteer Request

Three Rivers Artist Guild is delighted to assist the Watercolor Society of Oregon this year at their convention being held in Oregon City.

Below is a list of volunteer opportunities.

If you are able to give of your time, contact Tara Choate at tarachoate130@gmail.com

## Terms

**Room Minion** – Answer questions, fetch things, able to listen and participate after initial “getting started” rush. At end of session, asked to facilitate cleaning room for next event.

**Paper Runner** – Be on hand to collect papers (such as liability waivers)

**Lunch Runner** – Go to Singer hill Café to pick up lunches, be available to hand them out

Note: TRAG volunteers are welcome to attend the Sunday lecture by Juror Francesco Fontana for free. (11am-1pm: Juror Francesco Fontana lecture and demo at Pauling Auditorium on the Clackamas Community College Campus, 19600 Molalla Ave, Oregon City, OR 97045)

Locations: Unless otherwise noted, all locations are either Pioneer Center (615 5th St, Oregon City, OR 97045) or Aitkenson Church (710 6th St, Oregon City, OR 97045)

## Friday – October 7, 2016

1pm-5pm	Breakout Session: Historic Homes	Pioneer Center	Room Minion - 1
1:00pm-2pm	Jet Boat Tours	Jon Storm Park	Paper Runner - 1

## Saturday – October 8, 2016

8am-12pm	Willamette Falls	VFW (104 Tumwater Dr., Oregon City, OR 97045)	Room Minion – 1.5 (share)
8am-12pm	Bridges	Best Western Rivershore (meet) (1900 Clackamette Dr., Oregon City, OR 97045) – Paint at Jon Storm Park	Room Minion – 1.5 (share)
9am-11am	Working in a Series: Why and How?	Pioneer Center Big Hall	Room Minion - 1
9am-11am	Falls, Rivers & Streams	Pioneer Center Basement	Room Minion - 1
9am-11am	What’s Perspective Got to Do With It?	Aitkenson 1	Room Minion - 1
9am-11am	Collage (cutting up a painting)	Aitkenson 2	Room Minion - 1
9am-11am	Working Wet Into Wet	Aitkenson 3	Room Minion - 1
9am-11am	Historic Walking Tour with Spirit of Oregon City	meet at Pioneer Center	Room Minion - 1
9am-11am	Canemah Photo Hike with Bob Bresky	meet at Pioneer Center; go to 4th Ave, Oregon City, OR 97045	Room Minion – 1.5 (share)
10:30am-1pm	Lunches	From Singer Hill	Lunch Runner - 2
11:15am-12:15pm	Juror Critique 1	Pioneer Center Big Hall	Room Minion - 1
12:45pm-1:45pm	Juror Critique 2	Pioneer Center Big Hall	Room Minion - 1
1:00pm-4pm	Paint Out at Villa Catalana Vineyard	Villa Catalana Vineyard (11900 S Criteser Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045)	Room Minion – 1.5 (share)
2:00-4:00 pm	Maybe Winning Awards with Strong Paintings?	Pioneer Center Big Hall	Room Minion - 1
2:00-4:00 pm	Composition Round Robin	Pioneer Center Basement	Room Minion - 1
2:00-4:00 pm	Gauche Lecture	Aitkenson 1	Room Minion - 1
2:00-4:00 pm	Paint a Pioneer (Figure Painting) (period clothing)	Aitkenson 2	Room Minion - 1
2:00-4:00 pm	Hashtag 101	Aitkenson 3	Room Minion - 1

## “Waterlilies”

### Mixed Watermedia Workshop

Like to paint beautiful flowers? Looking for a different more natural way to mask out whites? Want to make good use of acrylic inks and watercolors? Play with textures? We will explore all this and more! We will use white gouache to mask the flower, spray and squirt acrylic inks over that and when we've washed off the masking paint we'll finish with watercolor and ink. Bring several pieces of paper, watercolors, acrylic inks, saran wrap, white gouache and a hair dryer. Bring your own photo references or use the ones supplied. Plan to have FUN! Class will include a demo.

**Saturday, September 24 • 10:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.**

At the Gladstone Senior Center

1050 Portland Avenue in Gladstone, OR

Questions: Call Melissa at 503-557-3963

Cost: \$55.00

To register call 503-557-3963.

Or download registration form at:

***[www.melissagannon.com/workshops](http://www.melissagannon.com/workshops)***

See my work at: ***[www.melissagannon.com](http://www.melissagannon.com)***.

***Space is limited so register now!!!***



# Oregon City Festival of the Arts

## By Judith Elliot McDonald

The very first artist I encountered when I began to stroll beautiful Abernethy Green at this year's Oregon City Festival of the Arts was Bruce Fontaine. I felt as if his brightly colored thrown and sculpted clay pieces walked right out to me and said hello. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

I'm new to Oregon City, and I was excited to find out more about the local visual art scene. So I joined the Three Rivers Artist Guild and discovered that the concept of an annual arts festival was being revived. Gauging by this year's two-day Festival, held on August 13 and 14 at the End of the Oregon Trail, the local art scene is apparently rich, varied and thriving.

More than fifty-five artists and artisans showed their unique and exciting work. Jewelers, potters, painters, photographers, metal artists, assemblers, they were all there, their original and colorful work shining in the bright sunlight. All of the art work in this show was juried by a panel of peers.

A corral of food vendors filled the air with the aroma of grilled meats and other goodies. Tables set with some very creative children's art projects kept small faces in smiles. Musicians and performances of all types entertained and amused groups of festival-goers and vendors alike. There was even a silent auction sponsored by the Guild. All of my senses were being satisfied at once.



But back to Bruce Fontaine. Bruce takes his inspiration from the art of the ancient and indigenous people of Mezzo America. His anthropomorphic masks, vessels and totems are charming and totally captivating. His fish heads with wonderful lyrical facial expressions, poised on the end of a plantable stick, make great garden art. In

fact, as I was passing by, a woman came over to the booth and said that she had ten or twelve of these 'fish sticks' in her garden, and everyone loved them.

Cheri Bosserman offered her fine handcrafted silver

jewelry with semi-precious gemstones. She also works in metal clay, a process that was new to me, where silver bits are mixed with a binder, then after crafting, the binder gets burned away leaving almost pure silver. She likes to work in copper and bronze as well. Cheri, who lives in Oregon City, started making jewelry at the age of sixteen, but came back to it about five years ago. Her work is finely detailed and has an earthy authenticity about it.



My eye was pulled into a booth with some gorgeous pieces of porcelain. Ha Austin is a ceramicist whose work is scheduled to be featured, I am excited to say, at the Three Rivers gallery in November. I am sure it will be a terrific show, as her work is astonishing. The crystalline glazes on her pieces have great depth and richness.

Her color palette falls largely into the greens and blues with decorative patterns inspired by the natural world. The edges, or lips on her vessels are very fine, which is something I appreciate in fine ceramics.

Debby Radakovich and her Grateful Creations, offered us a win-win opportunity. We can buy her beautiful and interesting assemblages for which she uses all recycled materials, cast-off objects and formerly loved and forgotten material, and creates new and very original works. Then, she donates her profits to charity. Everybody, including the



environment, wins. She told me that this was her first time showing her work at a festival, and I certainly hope she continues, because she has a very creative eye and a big heart.



Jo Dee Post creates wildly imaginative beaded objects, plates, baskets, containers of all kinds. Some of her pieces have an almost African sensibility, others seem inspired more by a south of the border feeling. Whatever the style, they are all bright and happy pieces, fun to look at and I'm sure fun to own.

She beads new pieces as well as vintage wire baskets and vessels.

The soft hues of watercolor landscapes led me to the next booth. John Merritt Miller was a school teacher most of his life, but his love for the landscape of the Northwest keeps him at his easel. Using mostly watercolor with some acrylics, he creates charming vignettes of the Oregon and Washington countryside, lakes and rivers. His work has a sense of familiarity about it. You know you've seen that barn, or that turn in the river. He creates a view out a window that you would never tire of seeing.

The Davis Brothers grew up playing in their automotive metal shop. Years of experimentation later, they now make a dazzling array of metal wall sculptures, powder-coated garden art, and an assortment of whimsical flowers, fish, dragonflies, great blue herons, and dragons, each with its own signature heat-cured surface.



Here are a few more of the artists I was able to visit:

Christina Fowler-Thais makes bold, strong pieces of body

ornamentation using silver, bronze, and copper with stones and beads.;

Mitzi Fordyce has been interested in dragons for just about her whole life, and she offers intriguing and fantastic dragons of all styles and sizes which blazed and sparkled in the afternoon sun.



Dr. Betsy Ellen Soifer said goodbye to life and death decisions when she left an Emergency Medicine practice. She now takes old household items and turns them into crazy fantastical creations to hang on the wall, or place in your garden, or ward off evil spirits at your front door. She chooses what seem to be mostly kitchen items, sieves, whisks, copper trays,

funnels, and welds together some pretty adorable/terrifying sculptures.

Elisa Saucy makes some lovely natural-themed silver jewelry with semi-precious stones, and she has one of the most interesting booths, with all of her items displayed on lovely slate slabs, the smooth silver and the slate in a very attractive textural juxtaposition. Striking.



Beavercreek Nature Photography showed some exciting animal close-ups and panoramas, all within-house custom framing. Steve and Sandy Ingalls must have the patience of Job to achieve some of their rare photos.

In the center of all this creativity, children attending the Festival were invited to participate in several of their own creative opportunities. They were able to create CD fish



(which have to be seen to be believed – see photo), and they could paint paper plate fish. Kids also had the opportunity to create marbled paper using shaving cream and color. Smiles all around.

By now you must be wondering, well how did this all happen? Well it happened with the indefatigable efforts of chair Lynda Orzen, and her dozens of volunteer collaborators which included Linda Merry Gross with the giant job of marketing; Janice Gunderson handled all the details of the Silent Auction; Holly Kroening came up with some fabulous ideas for the Children’s Art, and brought together a mountain of supplies for the little artistes. The two-days of continuous original live performance

entertainment was coordinated by Trieste Andrews. The jury of artists who chose the exhibitors was empaneled and coordinated by Kerin Dimeler-Laurence, who also handled signage for the event.

Linda Merry and Lynda oversaw the TRAG information booth, and Carol Wagner kept an eye on expenditures.

I wish I had had time to spend an hour with each and every one of the fantastic artists and artisans at the festival, but time would not allow. All told, I would say it was a great success. I plan to stick around here in my new home, so I can’t wait for next year (with a collective prayer for slightly cooler weather).

