



# GVAL Art Vine

Newsletter of the Gilbert Visual Art League ~ Issue #2 ~ March/April 2011

**Our mission is to create a venue for local artists to show their work and be recognized for their talents. The league strives to increase artistic awareness and appreciation in their community and surrounding areas.**

Joining the Gilbert Visual Art League (GVAL), a non-profit organization, helps support the fine art in your community. Members and those thinking about joining are welcome to attend our monthly meetings where you will associate with other artists and participate in activities designed to develop your skills. Membership also gives you access to exclusive show venues, a discounted entry fee in the Annual Art Show and eligible to become a juried member of Arizona Art Alliance. You must be a juried member in order to participate in MOST shows and venues offered through the Arizona Art Alliance. For more information about the organization go to <http://gval.org/> or write to **Gilbert Visual Art League, PO BOX 2651, Gilbert, AZ 85299** Telephone: 480.545.4515.

## What's Inside

### Page 2

- Around the Town
- Map
- Artwork of the Month
- GVAL Shows/ Venues

### Page 3

- Last Meeting
- Board Information

### Page 4

- AZ Art Alliance News & Workshops

### Page 5

- Schedule of Events for 2011
- Officers and Board
- History of GVAL

### Page 6 & 7

- Featured Artists

## GUEST PRESENTER FOR APRIL 7TH

### Raleigh Kinney



He will demo watercolors and discuss his plein air techniques, and field questions. Over the past 30 years, Raleigh Kinney's watercolors have evolved into a natural distinctive style that brings subject matter to a larger than life look. Doing so, has won the acclaim of countless watercolor and art devotees all over the world.

Raleigh's Plein Air painting of Catalina Island "When Evening Shadows Fall" was selected for the Nov. 2000 prestigious "Plein Air Painters of America" show on Catalina Island sponsored by the Society for the advancement of Plein Air Painting. He has been listed in "Who's Who In The West", "In America", and "In The World".



Sign-in and 50/50 purchase at 6:30 pm ~ Critique of artworks follows ~ Guest Presenter at 7:00 pm ~ 8:00 pm ~ Refreshments break ~ Vote on Artwork of the Month ~ Drawing for 50/50 **50% goes to the league and 50% you win!**

**GVAL** hosts a monthly membership meeting at the **Gilbert Historical Museum.**

*Everyone* is welcome to join us at 6:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month for club news and refreshments.

Members are encouraged to bring a piece of art in any media for critique.

**Meeting location:**  
The Gilbert Historical Museum,  
10 S. Gilbert Road  
Gilbert, AZ  
(SW corner of Gilbert and Elliot). Parking is available on the North side of the building.

**Board Meetings:**  
6:00-6:30 prior to the General Meeting.

# Around the Town

## Artwork of the Month

1<sup>st</sup> Place "Simply Treasures"  
'Kai' Lockhart



**Ostrich Festival** in Chandler this weekend at MC Queen/German  
**Fine Arts Festival** in Scottsdale at Center for the Performing Arts Plaza  
**Art Classes at Jerry's Artarama 4421 S. Rural Road; Tempe, AZ**

The first Saturday of each month, **Michelle Cornelius** is offering a class on pet portraits in charcoal from 1:30 to 4:30. Please contact Michelle at [mozaic@mindspring.com](mailto:mozaic@mindspring.com) for more information.



## Elizabeth Cress-Sweet

An avid art supporter, Elizabeth has won several awards in acting, directing and choreography and the only drawing she had to do were stage and costume design. At the first Mayor's **Breakfast for the Arts**, she had been nominated for three awards and was presented with the prestigious **Community Leadership for the Art Award**. This award is given for being an active individual who provides on-going, meaningful and needed contributions to the Arts community.

Elizabeth has worked tirelessly to resurrect the **Lobby for Arts Program** in Gilbert and watches it expand to again include the Courthouse and now the Town Center lobby. More businesses are interested in displaying art as are other town departments.

She is a Co-Founder of the **Gilbert Global Village Festival** which continues to display the variety of artistic talent in Gilbert and the East Valley. Elizabeth holds two degrees, and has been a small business owner.

For more information, contact Elizabeth at [elizabeth9@cox.net](mailto:elizabeth9@cox.net)

### Artwork of the Month Rules

1. You must have attended 3 meetings as a dues paid member in the last 12 calendar months.
2. A two dimensional art must be framed or on gallery wrapped canvas must be 1 1/2" minimum.
3. If you have had your art critiqued at that meeting, you may not also enter it in "Artwork of the Month" unless there are special circumstances.
4. If you are a first, second, or third place winner, please remain after the meeting to be photographed for the Art Vine.
5. Each artist may win first place only once a year (January to November).
6. All monthly first place winners will bring a piece of artwork to the December meeting to vie for "Artist of the Year." Monthly winners may enter any piece of work they wish in the December "Artist of the Year" contest. This allows sales and lets artists exhibit what they feel is their best effort.

Last year, Department Head of Visual Arts at Gilbert High School, Shalei Webb, began to create a deeper connection with our community through Art Walk. Not only does Art Walk function as a way for us to reach out to our community, but it is also a fund raiser for TAP (Transition Assistance Program) Scholarships. These scholarships go to special education students to help with tuition, uniforms for jobs, or other things they might need to begin their lives out of high school.

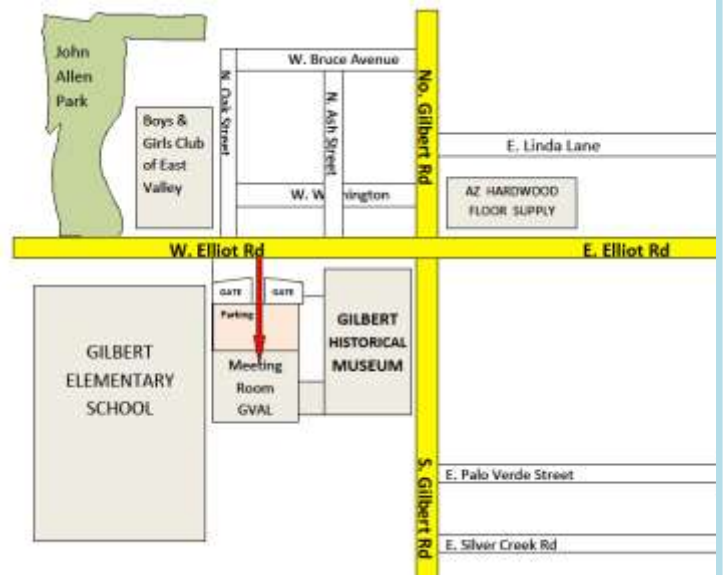
We are excited to invite members of GVAL to participate in our event this year and are hoping some members will be interested in setting up their artwork for display or sale. Artists interested in participating need to fill out a registration form and submit it to me by April 15th. Participation is free, although we ask artists to donate 20% of all sales to TAP Scholarships. Artists are responsible for their own set up and tear down, as well as equipment needed before, during, and after the event.

Four years ago, Manny Rios, a student here at GHS, participated in Lucerne's Cow Decorating Contest, meant to promote dairy products. Manny won an honorable mention in the contest and was given the opportunity to bring his drawings to life using a 'real' fiberglass cow. The cow depicts 'The Great Chicago Fire' (and how the cow was the cause!) the cow will be displayed at Gilbert Town Hall from February 10th into April.

Thank you so much in advance for your participation and support!  
Shalei Webb, Visual Arts Department Chair, (480) 773-8143  
Gilbert High School, 1101 E. Elliot Rd., Gilbert, Az 85296

For registration form please go to:  
<http://sn123w.snt123.mail.live.com/default.aspx?wa=wsignin1.0>

### MAP to GVAL Meetings



# Last Meeting.....

50/50 was won by John Priddy \$15.

March 3<sup>rd</sup> Guest Presenter

Last meeting we welcomed Penny Benjamin Peterson. Her artistic talents, imagination, creativity and willingness to share with us, shows her graciousness. Among her busy schedule, she is at the **Fine Art Celebration in Scottsdale** until end of March; a volunteer and supporter of various organizations and donates her talent and art to many foundations. For more information, please visit her website <http://www.pbenjaminpeterson.com>

Thank you, Penny



*"I look at the sky, mountains and desert landscape in order to draw on it for inspiration. A wonderful sense of belonging, a connection to Mother Earth is felt. Life experiences are universal and mine speak in rich color, texture, shapes and brush strokes. Surface scratches are made and sometimes words appear. A metamorphosis takes place that is symbolic of our lives. The subtle and dramatic changes seem to mirror my life. The interrelationship of texture, color and how they influence each viewer intrigues me. When my paintings evoke an emotional reaction, I have communicated well."*

By Penny Benjamin Peterson

Chairperson	Michelle Cornelius ***
Vice Chairperson	Isabela Huin: ***
Arizona Art Alliance Rep	Isabela Huin: ***
Art Show Coordinator	Jean Smith
Artist Coordinator	Diane Fales: ***
Meeting coordinator	OPEN
Secretary	Marsha Blumm
Membership	Jennifer O'hare
Website/Blog	Jasmine Holmes
Editor Newsletter	Karen Lockhart
Board Committee Member	Deb Randall

Please let Michelle Cornelius know if you would like to run for any of the above positions, intend to continue, switch or no longer want to do your position.

\*\*\* denotes change / will no longer office

We will be **nominating candidates at the April 7<sup>th</sup>** Meeting and running a list of candidates in the May Issue with **Elections held May 5<sup>th</sup>**.



**AZ Art Alliance Gallery**  
**The Pavilions at Talking Stick**  
**Indian Bend Rd. & the 101**

"Enriching Life  
Through Art"

(the shopping center's name is changing slightly...but we are in the same location, just east of Sports Authority)

**AZ Art Alliance Gallery is open Wednesday- Sunday, 10:00AM – 5:00PM**

**You are cordially invited to view some extraordinary fine art at the Spring Show and the Veterinary Art Competition. Both Shows are on view **Now through April 3, 2011** at your AZ Art Alliance Gallery.**

**\*\*\*AZ Art Alliance Spring Show & Sale\*\*\***

This fine art show features work created by AZ Art Alliance Juried Artists...paintings, drawings, sculptures, gourds, glass, photography, jewelry, etc...and, of course, our great Gift Shop area. Please come and be inspired by the beautiful art work! Scottsdale Artists League has over twenty members participating in the Art Alliance Spring Show & Sale, and over twenty members participating in the Veterinary Art Competition (see below).

**\*\*\*250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Veterinary Medicine – Veterinary Art Competition\*\*\***

This themed fine art show is a collaboration of the AZ Art Alliance and the Arizona Veterinary Medical Association (AzVMA) in celebration of 2011 as World Veterinary Year. This statewide competition features both 2-D and 3-D fine art work created to honor the role that Veterinary Medicine plays in our lives and in the lives of our animal friends. . The AZ Art Alliance Gallery is proud to host this Special Event.

**Gallery Cycle 5 Coming Soon:** Art Alliance Juried Artists, remember to get your CD in by March 25<sup>th</sup> to participate. Cycle 5 will run April 6 – June 26, 2011.

**To be a Participating Artist in AZ Art Alliance Shows,** you must belong to an Art Alliance member league (such as SAL), and be juried into the AZ Art Alliance. You can get a jury application from the Art Alliance website [www.azartalliance.com](http://www.azartalliance.com) or through Alliance Rep Isabela Huin at [isabelahuin@hotmail.com](mailto:isabelahuin@hotmail.com) .

Check the Art Alliance website (as above) for more information regarding our Outreach Programs, Workshops, Newsletters, etc.

**AAA PAVILIONS GALLERY WORKSHOPS**

**DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND THIS Digital Photography Workshop WILL AGAIN BE PRESENTED MARCH 19TH AT THE ARIZONA ART ALLIANCE GALLERY IN SCOTTSDALE.**

Learn how to take control of your digital camera with internationally published photographer Joel Wolfson. **Digital Photo Basics in Scottsdale, AZ March 19, 2011 (9AM-5PM)** For those new to digital photography. Do you love to take photos but don't quite understand your digital camera? What is a pixel anyway? In conjunction with Arizona Art Alliance, this is an introduction to digital photography. You'll walk away understanding how to take your camera off full automatic and use the controls on your camera to your creative advantage. We start with the basics and shooting out in the field to reinforce the techniques you learn in the class. We then evaluate the photos you shot and learn the creative ways to capture the kind of images you really want. **Location:** Arizona Art Alliance Gallery, 9011 E. Indian Bend, Suite E-1 in Scottsdale Pavilions. We only accept very small groups so we can emphasize individualized instruction with a hands-on learn-by-doing approach.

\$129 per person includes full day workshop both field and classroom, snacks, and beverages and part of the proceeds benefit the Arizona Art Alliance. [Register online and get more details](#)

# GVAL Schedule of Events for 2011

January	General Meeting
February	General Meeting
March	General Meeting
April 7 <sup>th</sup>	General Meeting / Nominations for Officers and Positions
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	General Meeting / Elections of Officers and Positions Annual Art Show Challenge & Lesson by Jean Smith
June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	No General Meeting This is our summer social. Games and usually ice cream or get together at a restaurant
July / August	No General Meetings or Functions
September 1 <sup>st</sup>	General Meeting Presentation of Show Challenge Artworks
October 6 <sup>th</sup>	General Meeting
November	No General Meeting / Annual Art Festival in Gilbert
December 1 <sup>st</sup>	Social Christmas Event

## GVAL Officers and Positions

### Chairperson

- Michelle Cornelius 480-545-4515  
[mozaic@mindspring.com](mailto:mozaic@mindspring.com)

### Co-Chairperson and AZ Art Alliance Rep

- Isabela Huin 480-926-1725  
[isabelahuin@hotmail.com](mailto:isabelahuin@hotmail.com)

### Secretary/Treasurer/ Membership

- Marsha Blumm 480-226-0832  
[mblumm@cox.net](mailto:mblumm@cox.net)

### Meeting Coordinator

- Open

### Artist Coordinator

- Diane Fales 480-497-1132  
[dfales1@cox.net](mailto:dfales1@cox.net)

### Website

- Jasmine Holmes 480-219-9069  
[newsletter@gval.org](mailto:newsletter@gval.org)

### Annual Art Show Coordinator

- Jean Smith 480-497-0677  
[jeanaes@aol.com](mailto:jeanaes@aol.com)

### Newsletter

- Karen Lockhart 602-+803-0931  
[gvalartvine@hotmail.com](mailto:gvalartvine@hotmail.com)

## A Little History of GVAL

In 2003, The Gilbert Visual Art League (GVAL) was started as a part of the Gilbert Fine Arts Association (GFAA) so the group could focus on promoting visual and performing arts within the community. From 2003 to 2005, GVAL operated within the GFAA under the direction of Chuck Lambson and Tammy Cowden. In the summer of 2006, Georgia Mulholland, Lana Leibow, Helen Marquardt, and Andy Kirchberg incorporated GVAL as a separate non-profit organization so they could put more emphasis on the visual art focus of the club.

Since its creation, the league's mission has been to promote and support the visual arts with Gilbert, AZ. GVAL has hosted six annual community fine art shows starting in 2003. We have partnered with the Gilbert Historical Museum to host the art shows and monthly meetings. We also receive support from the Town of Gilbert. GVAL is always looking for ways to grow within our community. We had a booth at the 2009 Global Village Festival and are hoping to coordinate a second annual art show in the near future.

OUR SPONSOR AND SUPPORTER THE TOWN OF GILBERT



<http://www.gilbertaz.gov/default.cfm>

# Featured Artist



*Leona Stachura*

At age of 88 my daughter signed me up for an art class and I went kicking and screaming protesting of my inability to paint. But she persevered and dragged me along. She set up an easel, squirted out paint onto a palette, stuck a brush into my hand and said "Paint!" So I did. And lo and behold – I took to painting like duck to water. I love working in acrylics and find that they suit my techniques and that I paint very fast.



NFS

" This was my very first painting I did."

Born in Czechoslovakia I grew up an only child to parents who believed education and culture was an intricate part of life. Our home was filled with books, art and classical music. My husband believed anything was possible and we instilled the same values in our daughters as my parents did with me. Having lived an incredibly busy life running a manufacturing business and later a Bed and Breakfast in our home, we sold everything after retirement. We just got tired of the cold and snow. And with our daughters and their sons, we moved to Gilbert, Arizona in 1990. I am enjoying my first great grandson and I absolutely love the fact I no longer have to shovel snow!!!



Chosen for **ART IN THE LOBBY**  
Leona's works are currently on display and into the month of April at the **Gilbert Courthouse**, 50 East Civic Center Drive, Gilbert, AZ 85296

You may contact her at [Leona\\_Stachura@hotmail.com](mailto:Leona_Stachura@hotmail.com) for more information.

# Featured Artist

*Michele Bourquin*

“Though I work in oils, graphite and silver point, my "real job" is in the horse show industry and most of my work is commissions from that world and specialize in portraits of horses, pets and people. Horses and art have always been my two driving forces. The art I come by honestly as my mother and brother are both artists. The love of horses, however, was a family mystery. I began riding at 8 and continue to be active today, showing hunter/jumpers as well as riding dressage. My husband and I own 7 horses, several of which live with us at our home in Gilbert, AZ. along with 3 dog, 4 cats and assorted other creatures. I have artwork in private collections throughout the country. Many people start out with a portrait and end up buying other unrelated works later on. My most recent work just shipped to Bend, Oregon to a nationally known trainer. I have also just been notified that a drawing I submitted to the Chronicle of the Horse, a national weekly publication for the sport horse industry, has been accepted for the cover.”



Come see my work in the Veterinary Show at the AZ Art Alliance Gallery in the Talking Stick Pavilion. Visit my website: <http://michelebourquin.com/index.htm> or contact me via email: [Michele@MicheleBourquin.com](mailto:Michele@MicheleBourquin.com)



GVAL Art Vine

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Gilbert, AZ 85299

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HERE  
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TO: