



FEBRUARY 2026

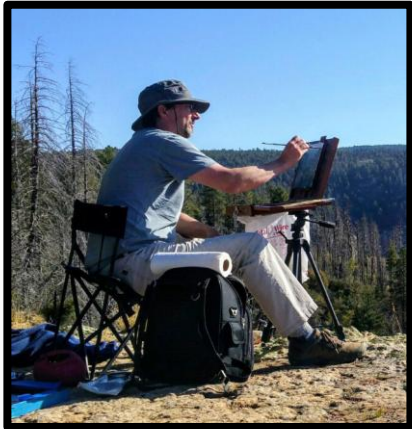


MARCH PRESENTER

**GVAL Meeting
Thurs. March 5th**

Tom Conner

Tom grew up in North Carolina and was drawing and painting from an early age. He graduated from North Carolina State University's School of Design with a degree in architecture while continuing to pursue drawing and painting in his free time. It was after moving to Arizona that his true arts education began, in the deserts and forests of the southwest. Developing a love of great open spaces, hiking, camping and rock climbing soon filled his free time, where he absorbed the beauty of nature and learned to observe his surroundings. Since then he has explored his love of the natural world through painting, both plein air and studio works, always in the pursuit of capturing greater truths. The essential quest for him in both painting and architecture are similar; light and form are in partnership to reveal the nature of one another. Every painting seeks to explore this dynamic.



FEBRUARY PRESENTER



Guest speaker and professional photographer Katherine McClure shared her expertise and experience in photography at Thursday's monthly meeting. GVAL Members left the meeting with a better understanding of light, its attributes, and how it can be used to an artist's advantage, when setting up composition, best practices for taking photos of art, and the basic mechanics of a camera. Her presentation was extremely informative. Please take a moment to visit Katherine's website and view her amazing photographs at

<https://kathy-mcclure.pixels.com/>



ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Congratulations to Rosalie Vaccaro! She is GVAL's February Artist of the month. Rosalie's winning painting is titled "Silver Dancer." It is oil with silver leaf. The painting is 22X28. Learn more about Rosalie's art at <https://www.rosalietrullivaccaro.com>

Artist Spotlight Dale Kesel

Dale grew up in East Lansing Michigan. He had a strong interest in photography since childhood. He doesn't appear in many of his family photos because he was always behind the camera – dating back to the days of the Kodak Brownie camera.

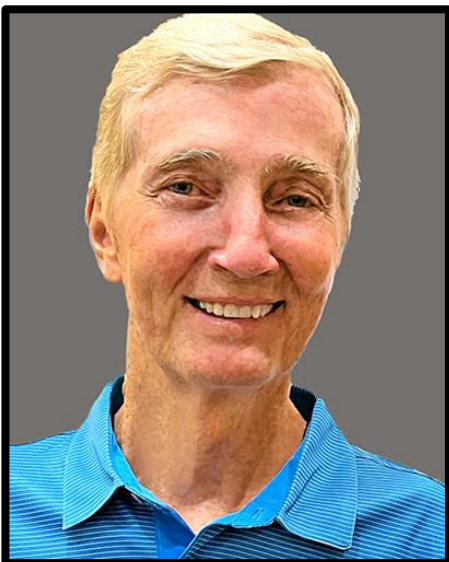
After graduating from college, Dale worked in the Advertising Agency business in Detroit and NYC for 20 years; which advanced his learning and perspective regarding the creation of compelling images!

He moved to Phoenix in 1991 and opened his photography studio—Spectrum Photography and Digital Imaging.

While operating the Studio, he taught photography for 11 years at South Mountain CC. Teaching others gave him deeper insight into what makes for the most powerful Photographic image. .

He has led photography workshops throughout Southwest—AZ, UT, NM, CA and CO—for past 20 years.

See more from his website at www.keselimages.com



Dale Kesel

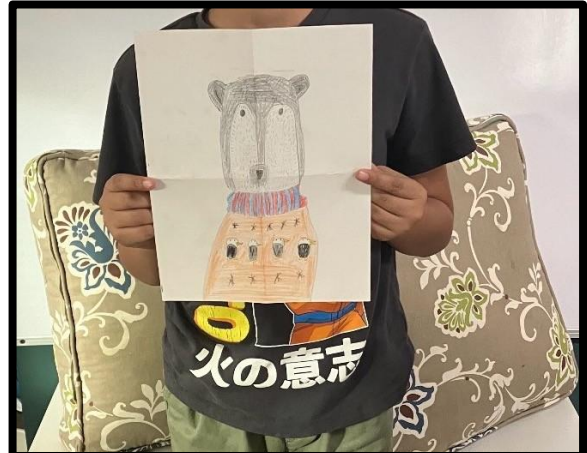


Community Outreach

"Hearts and Flowers", a mixed media acrylic and torn paper collage was taught by GVAL volunteers Pamela Hendricks and Karen Kruder at HD South this Valentine's Day.

GVAL Art Volunteers at House of Refuge; Christina Rosepapa and Karen Kruder led the children drawing the cutest polar bears.

Thank you to our recent GVAL Art Volunteers: Anita Moser, Lynne Fox, Peter Eobbi, Linda Taylor, Pam Hendricks, Karen Kruder and Christina Rosepapa. We love and appreciate our art volunteers and art students.





SNEAK PEEK!

**FINE ART SHOW
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

We are going to have an amazing fine art show! With about 150 entries, our juror, Bruce Marion will be making final selections this week. Artists will get notification early next week (or sooner) if their art is juried into the show.

We do need sponsors for the show and there are many opportunities to help out and participate. Businesses, groups and individuals can participate by donating gift cards, cash, gift baskets or coupons that will be raffled away at our opening.

For more information visit: <https://gval.org/sponsorship-opportunities/>

We appreciate your support!