

# Gilbert Visual Art League



MAY/JUNE

ART  
VINE

**SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!!**

## JUNE 4<sup>th</sup> MEETING

Our final GVAL Member Meeting of the season was a great success! The June meeting was a potluck social and silent auction fundraiser at HD South in Gilbert. Our new season will begin with our September Monthly Meeting. We hope you will join this wonderful group of artists for another informative, fun-filled meeting. It will be held Thursday September 3rd at 6:30 with a guest artist presenting.





# May Demo by Jerry Salinas

GVAL had the privilege of a great demo May 7<sup>th</sup> by renowned artist Jerry Salinas. He demonstrated a landscape painting in the one hour time limit! Amazing use of a limited palette on a warm landscape. Jerry stepped in at the last moment when another artist was ill. We appreciate his dedication and delight in his moving narration as he worked. Jerry has work in several galleries and also shows in the Celebration of Fine Art each spring. You can also take classes with him at the Scottsdale Artists School. Look up his wonderful art at <https://jerrysalinas.com/>



## MAY ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Congratulations to Heather Coen, GVAL May Artist of the Month! "Jackson Valley" 12 by 24 Oil

# BOARD MEMBERS

GVAL BOARD 2026-27 was announced at our June meeting! The board members are pictured here except for Curtis Jackson and Jane Bradley. We appreciate those who voted. Here is the GVAL Board for 2026-27

Co-Presidents

John Priddy & Donna Finter

Co-Vice Presidents

Jean Smith & Sharon Hess

Secretary

Karen Kruder

Treasurer

Curtis Jackson

Art Show Coordinators

Peter Eobbi & Christina Rosepapa

Community Outreach Coordinator

Donna Finter

Fund Raising and Grants Coordinator

Lynne Fox

Hospitality and Social Coordinators

Suzanne Rios & Olivia Shelton

Meeting Coordinator

Rosalie Vaccaro

Membership Coordinator

Lisa Schwab

Newsletter Coordinator

Jane Bradley

Public Relations & Marketing Coordinator

Suzanne Rios

Special Events and Venues Coordinator

Linda Taylor

Website Coordinator

Christina Rosepapa

Our board is unpaid but we do our best for you year round. There will be no member meeting in July or August. GVAL's Facebook and Instagram will be active. The Instagram account is @gilbertartists.. There will be a few GVAL email messages, especially near the end of August.

Make time this summer to explore our beautiful website [GVAL.org](http://GVAL.org).

Contact us through our email at [hello2@GVAL.org](mailto:hello2@GVAL.org) to be a part of our online Member Gallery or to ask general GVAL questions



# SUMMER CHALLENGE



Are you ready to take on the GVAL SUMMER ART CHALLENGE? Sharon Hess announced it at our June 4th meeting! The member participants will take their finished Summer Challenge pieces and an unaltered photo of their reference to the next member meeting on Thursday, September 3rd to be considered for the September Artist of the Month. The winner will receive a ribbon, publicity on GVAL's website, social media and Art Vine newsletter, and will be considered for Artist of the Year!

Here are the directions: Find a photo or take a photo. Cut it in 3 or 4 pieces. Rearrange them out of order. Draw, paint or build your out of order artwork. If you create a drawing or painting, it must be in a frame and wired or on canvas at least 1 1/2 " deep, wired, and have painted edges. This is great practice for an upcoming art show. Let's see how creative we can be!

## ARTIST OF THE YEAR



Please join us in congratulating GVAL member Elvie Becker on being selected as the 2025-2026 Artist of the Year.

In January, Elvie's peers voted her Artist of the Month for her 12x12 oil painting 'The Blankie', which qualified her to be considered for this prestigious recognition. Last night at the June meeting, her peers voted Elvie, as Artist of the Year. She received her ribbon, and a \$50 gift certificate for art supplies. Elvie's artistic focus is primarily on portraits, although she also creates landscapes. Discover more of her work by visiting her website: <https://elvie-becker.pixels.com/>

# SPOTLIGHT ON CAROL WEALE

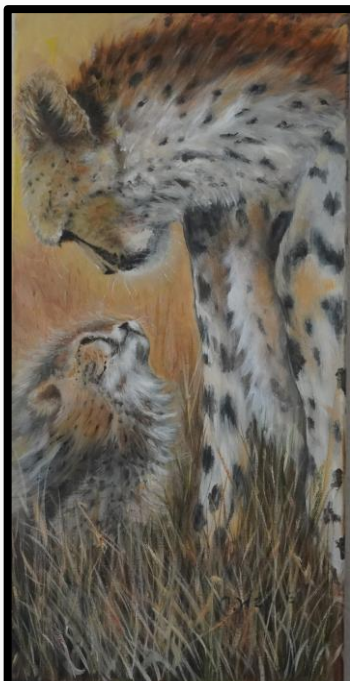
Carol started drawing swans, elephants & small animals at about the age of 5. She added trees and cars and then silly cartoons.

In her early years, juggling a job & family, she had no formal training but managed to get a commission of three Irish Setters that was done in Pastel. She spent long nights when family members were sleeping going thru National Geographic for pics of Big Cats, mainly Cheetahs & Cougars to draw. The conservation of the Cheetah was an important issue and still is to her. Carol also has an interest in landscapes & flowers. She has worked in Pen & Ink, Acrylic, charcoal, a short time in watercolor. She now paints in oils.

In 2000 she moved to Arizona. She took a handful of lessons from random people, none of whom seemed to meet her needs. Then she met Jane Bradley and was very excited again about painting. Thanks to Jane for all her encouragement and for sharing her talents.

Since then, she has entered a few competitions and was awarded Artistic Excellence for a painting of a lion and two cheetah paintings were also finalists in an online juried show.

Carol says art is a joy!



# SPOTLIGHT ON CAROL WEALE



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our GVAL Art Volunteers continue to share art in the East Valley. Here are a few examples of many art lessons they taught.

Sally Tazelaar led the children making diorama clay bird nests at House of Refuge in Mesa. Donna Finter and Gail Bruder-Werner taught Field of Flower acrylic landscapes to families in Mesa.

Donna Finter taught children desert abstract design using permanent markers and watercolors. Pam Hendricks and Donna Finter partnered to lead a class on Sunflower acrylic painting at HD South in Gilbert. Merrie Taverna and Gail Bruder-Werner led children making cats and dogs using collage methods.

GVAL volunteer led art lessons will continue during the summer at Verena Retirement Community in Gilbert and House of Refuge in Mesa. All seven of GVAL's art programs will resume in the fall.





GVAL is taking a summer break until we resume in September. Enjoy summer vacations and creating your summer challenge art project. • • GVAL is active year round on Facebook and Instagram. Please share some of your current artwork or your art accomplishments during the summer. Email photos and your accomplishments to [help2@gval.org](mailto:help2@gval.org). We love celebrating you and your art!♥