

## ■ Art Calendar

### January 19 – March 7

#### *Why We Can't Wait*

*Perspective Gallery, Squires Student Center, Virginia Tech*

*Gallery hours: Noon – 8 p.m., Tues.–Fri.; Noon – 5 p.m., Sat.; and 1–5 p.m., Sun.*

This annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. student exhibition celebrates his 1964 publication, "Why We Can't Wait," about the non-violent movement against racial segregation. This multimedia exhibit of artwork by Virginia Tech students and staff gives voice to the statement, "Why We Can't Wait" for racial justice.

### January 27

#### *Hahn Horticulture Garden presents*

#### *Lyman Whitaker, Wind Sculptor*

*Via Zoom*

Meet and chat with the Utah based sculptor who created three kinetic wind sculptures that will be installed in the Hahn Horticulture Garden in January. For more information and registration, visit <https://hahngarden.vt.edu>.

### February 12, March 12

#### *BRAA Monthly Lunch (Virtual)*

*Via Zoom • 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.*

The February meeting will be held online via Zoom. Watch for email notification on how to join or logon from the website at <https://www.blacksburgart.org/meetings>. This month's Art Spot will be a show and tell, so feel free to share your creations. March's speaker to be announced at a later date.

### May 21-23

#### *Fluid Acrylic on Yupo*

*Christiansburg Moose Lodge • 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.*

Tracy Budd will teach this three-day workshop in acrylic on Yupo, a synthetic plastic watercolor paper. Different techniques will be explored for controlling and not controlling the paint to build a beautiful, exciting surface. Stencils, rollers and markers, along with fluid paint will be used to layer and build intriguing surfaces and integrate representational subject matter into the paintings. More information to follow, or visit <https://www.blacksburgart.org/> for updates.

## A virtual chat with Dave Angle

As told to Gerri Young

This month we feature **Dave Angle**, whose hometown is Shawsville (Christiansburg).

**A little bit about your family:** Diane Relf (another BRAA member) is my wife of 40 years and we have two grown godsons.

**Do you have a pet?** Unfortunately, we lost both our cat and dog last winter and have not been found by the right ones to adopt us yet.

**Why do you belong to BRAA and how long have you been a member?** Diane added me to her membership as a family several years ago. Not sure when, as she forgot to tell me.

**What media do you work in?**

**Which is your favorite?** Watercolor, oil, photography, etc. Photography for shows, building materials as a career, and whatever Diane is inspired to recycle when she needs help with it.

**How long have you been actively pursuing artistic endeavors?** I started taking and showing photos as a teenager and young adult but stopped for many years. I have been showing again since Diane started selecting her favorites and having them printed and making me frame them.



*Dave Angle, left, at work installing a public art project.*



*Travel offers many opportunities for Angle's photography, as in this lovely view of Mt. Fuji.*

**Do you have any work in a current show?**

I had a show at See Mark Optical until this month; and two scheduled through BRAA for next year.

**Do you have a favorite art/other media instructor?**

Yes. My wife Diane! She teaches at home. **Why?** She teaches me how to make art out of rusted car parts, saw blades and other things that would ordinarily be tossed (and thankfully cost so much less than diamonds!) so that I can help with the parts she is not physically able to handle.

**How has COVID impacted your usual creative practice?**

I am gardening and sailing more. Creating less.

**If you weren't doing art, what would you be doing?** Sailing, dreaming about sailing,

## Create for a Cause — the Leaf Card Project

by Diane Relf

Last fall BRAA members were inspired by a nearness to nature. It started with the “Leaves of the Tree” exhibit at the Radford University Art Museum with original works made from dried leaves from local artists Charlie Brouwer and Jennifer L. Hand and a second gallery themed on leaves by artists throughout the area. BRAA members were primed to respond when I posted on Facebook about paintings on Ginkgo leaves by Gu Houxin. He makes them look like butterflies. Enthusiastic discussion led to the BRAA board developing a special event: Create for a Cause — the Leaf Card Project. Members were asked to create cards from leaves for senior center residents in the New River Valley.



It became a community effort with two locations serving as sites for picking up pressed leaves and returning note cards (the Moose Lodge in Christiansburg and New River Art and Fiber in Blacksburg). Over 75 cards were made to ensure every resident at the Blacksburg English Meadows Senior Living Community would receive one.

Ten artists made cards to share with our community for this special BRAA event. The resulting leaf art took the forms of butterflies, birds, fish, snow scenes, bouquets, and flowers from a number of different types of pressed leaves. Some were made solely with leaves and adhesive. Some were painted with

acrylics. Artist Charlotte Chan painted poppies, butterflies, kites and birds in acrylic using Passion Flower and Ginko leaves.

In this time of Covid-19, the neighbors in senior communities could not get out to see the autumn leaves. They could not gain the benefits of being near nature that have helped sustain us in the last months. So we sincerely hope that our efforts will give them a touch of nature and a smile. It has lifted the spirits of the artist to be able to spend some time creating with nature, knowing that it would be valued as a gift.



A few artists shared how they made their cards —

**Robi Sallee:** I collected leaves including ferns. Since I was in a bit of a hurry, I ironed them instead of pressing them. After sorting the leaves by color, I arranged the leaves in floral patterns. Once I found a pattern that I liked, I used acrylic gel as a glue to adhere them to the front of blank cards. After they dried, I carefully pressed them again with a warm iron. I sealed the designs with more acrylic gel.

**Sue Hossack:** I used some handmade paper I made years ago, but never knew what to use it for; it turned out very useful! I had embedded items (including leaves!) into the paper when I was making it. I coated my leaves with Mod Podge first to seal them, then painted the designs using acrylic paints. For some of the butterflies, I used two leaves but mostly I used just one if it was a good shape. I used more Mod Podge to get a nice shine, and used heavy acrylic gel medium to stick them to the paper.



The cards were given to the residents at a special party on December 17 and were enthusiastically received and appreciated. The photos shown here appeared on the English Meadows FaceBook page and were well received by family and friends.

If any members of BRAA would like beautiful, pressed leaves to make cards to cheer up the short days of winter, I have plenty and would love to share them. You can make them for yourself or as gifts for Heritage Hall, the VA Hospital or anywhere you would like. Just send me an email at [dianerelf@icloud.com](mailto:dianerelf@icloud.com).

## Online Learning Opportunities

The absence of in-person classes has led many of us to explore online options. Following are ideas from your fellow members. **Please share** your positive online class experiences by emailing [newsletter@blacksburgart.org](mailto:newsletter@blacksburgart.org) and we'll include this information in future newsletters.

From **Pat Bevan** —

One day a couple months ago I was on YouTube viewing painting demonstrations by some of my favorite pastel artists to get some inspiration and ideas for techniques and compositions for upcoming paintings. I was going a little stir-crazy due to restrictions because of COVID.

I came across a video by one of my favorite pastellists — **Marla Baggetta**. After watching the video painting demonstration, I listened to Marla share information about her online workshops and lessons. Intrigued, I went to the URL she provided.

Wow! What I found was workshops in different media — watercolor, oil and acrylic as well as pastel. I also saw a course on color theory and year-long online lessons in pastel.

I signed up for the color course and the online lessons on the spot. And I have been thrilled with the content (the videos, critiques and PDF student materials) and the energy and clarity with which Marla presents her ideas. She even has provided a Facebook page for each workshop so students can interact and get critiques from each other and from Marla.

I cannot imagine having a better learning experience even in a face-to-face situation.

Online art workshops may not be for everyone and Marla's painting style might not jibe with what you wish to pursue, but if you are itching for some inspiration and some learning comradery, I highly recommend Marla's online offerings.

Here is the main URL in case you want to check things out — <https://paintinglessonswithmarla.com/>

Happy Painting!

From **Gerri Young** —

I have taken many classes with an excellent artist, **Amy D'Apice** (<http://artconspiracy.net/>). First I had an

## ■ Kudos

**Sally Mook** received the Outstanding Achievement Award at the Virginia Watercolor Society's annual exhibit in Richmond for her painting, "The End." **Vera Dickerson's** painting, "Talk, Not Text" received an Award of Excellence. **Charlotte Chan** and **Michele Walter** reached signature member status in the society.



"The End" by Sally Mook

## Members share knowledge through teaching

**Paula Golden** is teaching at the Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival again. Visit [www.quiltfest.com](http://www.quiltfest.com) to register for a variety of virtual workshops including hers: Mariner's Compass Drafting, ABC's of Applique (how to prepare your applique pieces in seven different ways for hand stitching — some work for machine, too) and Applique Paula's Way (including some great tips for those of us who are gaining more wisdom = getting older).

**Betty Moore** will again be teaching for the Art Lovers Club at the Blacksburg Recreation Center. Join fellow artists or would-be artists for a weekly opportunity to learn and share painting and drawing skills. Sessions will be held from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, March 16 through May 18 in the Blacksburg Community Center Art Room. For more information, visit [www.blacksburg.gov/recreation](http://www.blacksburg.gov/recreation) or contact Joy Herbert at 540-443-1142. ■

## Volunteer needed

Make 2021 the year you become more involved in your BRAA! A meeting coordinator is needed to facilitate the monthly luncheons, annual meeting, and other occasional events. Duties include reserving space, securing Art Spot speakers for luncheons, and coordinating refreshments for some events. If interested, please contact Charlotte Chan at [president@blacksburgart.org](mailto:president@blacksburgart.org).

An all volunteer organization since 1950, your BRAA's survival depends on the involvement of its members. Just a very few hours each month can make a big difference! ■

## Have you paid your dues?

If renewing your 2021 BRAA membership has slipped your mind, now's the time! Renewing and paying your dues is very easy with our new online system. Just follow this link to renew now: <https://www.blacksburgart.org/joinus> And if you prefer not to pay online, you will see several other options on this site.

Coming together as artists to collectively support each other during this challenging time is more important than ever. Your membership is important and appreciated, and we hope you'll stay connected. ■

*"Nature is infinitely creative. It is always producing the possibility of new beginnings."*

~ Marianne Williamson

## ■ Now showing

January 15 – April 15  
(unless noted otherwise)

**Dave Angle**, Warm Hearth Village Center, Blacksburg

**Charlotte Chan**, Pointe West Management, Blacksburg

**Pam Goff**, Shaheen Law Firm, Blacksburg

**Teri Hoover**, Zeppolis, Blacksburg and Montgomery Museum, Christiansburg (thru February)

**Delbert Jones**, See Mark Optical, Blacksburg

**Ruth Lefko**, Main Street Inn, Blacksburg

**Cheryl Mackian**, Glade Church, Blacksburg

**Diane Relf**, Long and Foster Realty, Blacksburg, and Warm Hearth Village Center, Blacksburg

**Robi Sallee**, Bluefield College, Bluefield, Va. (until April)

**Karen Sewell**, First Bank & Trust, Christiansburg

**Lois Stephens**, Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Blacksburg

**Michele Walter**, Blacksburg Transit

**Gerri Young**, Brown Insurance, Blacksburg



Teri Hoover's painting, "This Way," is included in her exhibit at Montgomery Museum.

## ■ New members

A hearty welcome to new BRAA members **Margaret Sue Turner Wright** and **Patricia T. Carr**.

## ■ online opportunities

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in-person week with her at the wonderful Kanuga Watermedia Workshops in Hendersonville, NC. She is high energy, very creative, talented and well qualified with degrees in art and teaching at the university level. She is an American living and working in Thailand and does a bang up job of teaching online. You can find her class offerings at her web and on Facebook. She truly helps me stay sane in these trying times.



*This watercolor by Gerri Young was created during her online classes with Amy D'Apice.*

**“The horizon leans forward, offering you space to place new steps of change.”**

*~ Maya Angelou*



*The art featured in this month's nameplate is "Blue Ridge Brilliance" (above, acrylic on canvas with semi-precious gemstones — amethyst, quartz crystals, geodes, opals, crazy lace jasper, peridot, and lapis, 12x24") by Pam Goff. This and more of her work is on display at Shaheen Law Firm in Blacksburg until mid-April.*

## ■ Dave Angle

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working on sailing related projects in the part of her studio Diane shares with me. Oh, and watching the Washington football team!

**Do you have a studio?** Diane and I share a 20' x 30' two-story barn which we frequently use to finish projects.

**How frequently do you create?** Almost every time she asks.

**What tip or trick do you wish you had known about when you began making art?** That helping Diane, especially with public art installations, can get me lots and lots of support for sailing and getting gadgets for my sailboat.

**If magic was real, what spell would you try to learn first?** Controlling the wind. ■

### 2021 h'Arts on Main cancelled

The h'Arts on Main planning team has made the decision not to hold its arts festival in 2021. The group is committed to continuing to research ways to hold this event again in 2022, but until they are safe from the COVID-19 virus and can ensure the health and safety of participants and attendees, they feel compelled to cancel the 2021 festivities.

Please watch for updates about the bigger and better event to be planned for 2022!



### Making BRAA Work —

**Charlotte Chan**, president  
**Alisa Colpitts**, vice president and workshop chair

**Marvi Stine**, treasurer

**Sue Hossack**, secretary and web administrator

**Gerri Young**, past president

**Ava Howard**, membership chair

**Vacant**,

community gallery committee

**Teri Hoover**, marketing chair

**Vacant**, member meeting chair

**Lois Stephens**, newsletter chair

**Linda Correll**, public art chair

**Betty Moore**, education/outreach chair

**Jesse Burgardt**, New River Biennial chair



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Lois Stephens, Gerri Young, Teri Hoover, Pat Bevan, newsletter editorial board