

The ACGOW Gallery News

ACGOW Founded 1992

July 2018

For more ACGOW news, visit the ACGOW website
<http://www.westerlyarts.com/>

ACGOW Board of Directors

President: Arlene Piacquadio
Interim Vice President: Donna Mazzone
Treasurer: Ardie Harrison
Recording Secretary: Nancy Gardner
Corresponding Secretary: Lynn Anderson

ACGOW Committees

Artists, Affiliates, Snowbirds Membership:
Donna Mazzone
Associate Membership: Carey Williams
Annual Appeal: Nancy Nielsen, Patty Nunes, Jane Rollins, Lisle Ann Jackson, Sandy Webb
BRAG: Kristie Foss
DBA: Carey Williams
Fund Raising/Art Heist: Lora Cobden, Kathleen Hemenway, Nancy Gardner, Gary Fuller, Nancy Virbila, Judith Kaplan, Helen Roy, Doug Rice
Training: Patty Nunes, Kristie Foss
Curating Committee: Laurie Gavitt, Anna Shaw
Lighting and Maintenance: Charlie Liguori, Robert Wilkinson, John Mcguire, James Pepitone
Newsletter with Photography: Dave Brierley
Posters: Greg Eident
PR/Advertising/Facebook/MailChimp:
Madeline Beaudry, Lois Lawrence, Jane Rollins, Rose Mary Gates, Rick Petrocelli
Regional Show: Gail Giancaspro
Show Themes, Scheduling, and Assignments:
Gail Giancaspro, Patty Nunes, Lynn Anderson, Madeline Beaudry, Jane Rollins
Supply Purchases: Roberta MacGregor
Visiting Artists: Open
Website: Rose Mary Gates, Lisle Ann Jackson, Kay Pere
Westerly Arts Café/Events/Gallery Space Design:
Francesca Fay, Mimi Huszer Fagnant, Arlene Piacquadio, Betsie Withey, Lynn Anderson
WRAP: Arlene Piacquadio (on WRAP board), Robin Halpren Ruder

Help needed: **Visiting Artists** chair needed
Posters: to help Greg Eident

Please contact a relevant committee or board member if you have questions or concerns

President's Message – Move to the Westerly Railroad Station on Track

President Arlene Piacquadio invited the ACGOW Board to write the President's Message for July while she was on vacation.



After months of wondering, ACGOW now has a license with the state Department of Transportation to use the Westerly Railroad Station as our art gallery while our permanent space as part of the United Theater Renovation Project. **Ardie Harrison**, ACGOW Treasurer, has been working with Land Trust attorney **Tom Liguori** to make this happen and Ardie will continue to coordinate the move. Westerly Sun article [Learn more . . .](#)

The ACGOW board was eager to do a walk-around of our new quarters as soon as we received the keys last week so that we could report in full to the ACGOW membership at our next member's meeting July 2, which will be held at 6:00pm, as usual, at our Canal Street gallery. All ACGOW members in all categories of membership are encouraged to attend this meeting to hear about our new space, participate in the plans for our move, and ask questions.

As this newsletter goes to press we plan to have our July Show and opening at 7 Canal St. We will deliver art for the show to 7 Canal have the opening, as scheduled on Friday, July 6, and the show will be open, as scheduled throughout the month of July.

As soon as the July Show is hung, we will begin work on our new gallery space at the train station. This will include a complete cleanup, construction of exhibit walls, transfer of our lighting system, and transport of everything from the current gallery to the new space.

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President's message continued

Our president has vowed that we will finish the July Show on Canal Street and open the August show on August 3 at the Westerly Railroad Station. **Ardie Harrison** has taken on the challenging job of coordinating the move. Clearly, the logistics and timing of this move will be critical. Meeting the challenge will depend on ACGOW marshaling our famous cooperative spirit to make this work. We have confidence that our membership will step up, as we always do, with energy, creativity and cooperation. Each of us will have an important part in this move.

Those of you who were with us when we moved seven years ago from our original home at 12 High Street know that we made that move without missing a beat - we can do it again. Not only that, but we will make the move while continuing all our other activities, like plans for the Art Heist, which will take place in Watch Hill in August, and all the actives already scheduled for fall and winter. Please give some thought to what you can contribute. We need everyone. This is a tremendous opportunity to show ourselves and Westerly what we know is true - that the ACGOW membership is equal to this challenge.

Attend the meeting to add your thoughts, your enthusiasm, and your energy to this important project. It's going to be an interesting summer.

Fasten your seatbelts. Here we go!

ACGOW Calendar of Events

Sunday, July 1 – Last day of June show

Monday, July 2 – Members' meeting 6 p.m.; bring in artwork for the July show to current gallery

Tuesday, July 3 – Hang July show "**Positively Negative**" - **Shape & Space**

Friday, July 6 – July show opening reception; 5 – 8 p.m.

Sunday, July 29 – Last day of July show

Friday, August 3 – Ribbon-cutting and opening reception for the August show in the Westerly Railroad Station 5 – 8 p.m. Details will follow.

Saturday, August 11 – Art Heist 2018 (see sidebar for details)

Art Heist Benefits by Community Support for Its Success

Mimi Huszer Fagnant is coordinating the food to Art Heist 2018. ACGOW members will be contributing tasty food appetizers and **Nancy Gardner** (Watch Hill Oysters) will provide oysters on the half shell.

Additional tasty food will be donated by **The Breachway Grill** and **Pick Pockets**.

Beverages will be donated by **The Tapped Apple**, **Charlestown Liquors**, and **Dick's Wine and Spirits**.

Pleasant Acres will donate flower arrangements.

Meet the New ACGOW Members

Linda King artist mixed media/collage/acrylic lkingartist@gmail.com

Fordan Bernardi has changed his membership status to associate

(Reminder: don't forget to update your ACGOW members email list and remember to put "ACGOW" first in the subject line of email correspondence.) Make sure your ACGOW website information is up to date.

Art Heist 2018

Art Heist 2018 is about to occur. The date is Saturday, August 11, and the location is the same as last year at The Livery in Watch Hill. The hours are 6 – 8 p.m. Free parking will be available behind The Livery.

Art Heist coordinator **Nancy Gardner** has said that Sunday, July 1, is the last day to have donated artwork photographed by **Greg Eident** for the catalogue. Each catalogue will cost \$5. Art Heist artwork is on display in BRAG. Thanks to the generosity of donors, there are 7 three dimensional and 39 two dimensional artwork to be "heisted."

Each artwork donor will get one ticket to Art Heist. **Tickets are now on sale at the gallery for \$25** for non-artwork donors and the public who wish to attend, but not "heist." The general public will pay \$150 per person for a ticket to "heist" one piece of artwork.

Art Heist tickets will be randomly pulled out of a hat. When a person's name is called by MC **Lora Cobden**, that person will get to "heist" a work of art.

View **Greg Eident's** poster on the last page



General News about ACGOW Members and Activities

- **The July 2018 show committee** will be Laurie Gavitt Co-chair, Co-chair; Lora Cobden, James Pepitone, Paul Flanagan
- The July featured artists are wall – **Donna Mazzone**; window – **Madeline Beaudry**
- **The August 2018 show committee** will be Betsy Withey Co-chair, Mimi Huszer-Fagnant - Co-chair; Robin Halpren-Ruder, Charlie Liguori, Robert Wilkinson, Madeline Beaudry
- The August featured artists are: **Ardie Harrison and James Pepitone**
- **More details will follow about the transition to the Westerly Railroad Station concerning show logistics. Good planning will mean that no show or featured artist will be deleted due to the move.**
- A helpful way for ACGOW artists to market his or her artwork is to have a webpage listed under Members on the home page of the ACGOW website. Artist webpages are indicated by the underlined names. To investigate creating a webpage, contact the website committee members **Rose Mary Gates and Lisle Ann Jackson** for details.

Highlights from 2017 Art Heist – More Fun Ahead on August 11, 2018



Our New Home - Westerly Railroad Station History Overview



The current Westerly, RI, railroad station was built in 1912-13 in the Spanish Colonial Revival style to serve passengers of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad. This building is the third structure on this site. Amtrak closed the station's ticket office in October 2016, thereby ceasing all ticketing and passenger assistance services. Amtrak now states that railroad passengers may disembark in Westerly, but cannot buy tickets here. Passenger tickets may be purchased online.

The first Westerly railroad station opened in November 1837, for the New York, Providence, and Boston Railroad. In 1872, it was superseded by a new railroad station on the current site.

“Through the Lens” - Nancy Virbila

I joined ACGOW in November 2017. We moved from New Jersey three years ago to be closer to my son and his family. When we first moved up here I was so busy setting in that I didn't do that much artwork. I felt I didn't have enough inventory to join ACGOW. I visited the gallery and loved it and I wanted to meet and talk with fellow artists and have a venue to show my work. In the fall of 2017 I felt I was ready to apply. I really have enjoyed being a member. I enjoy hanging the shows and helping out at the Regional Exhibit.

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Nancy Virbila in her studio

I was always artistic, but never seriously pursued learning more. I was a stay-at-home mom and when my son started school, I decided to get my college degree. After several years of being a "non-traditional" student (i.e., older) I earned my BFA in Art and Design. I got a job working at an art gallery and frame shop where I learned picture framing. I also have taken collage workshops with noted collage artists learning their techniques and how they prepare and apply their papers. I now do demos and workshops on my own.

My medium is collage/mixed media. When I was in college, one of the professors had us study reknown artists. One of the artists was Henri Matisse. When he could no longer paint, he used scissors to create abstract collages. The professor set up a female nude, a draped background, and a large potted plant. We had to do quick pencil sketches of the scene. She handed the students a big piece of Masonite and had the class create a collage in the style of Matisse. I never looked back! I had found my passion!

I work solely in collage/mixed media. I work on heavy watercolor paper, printmaking paper, or canvas. I usually put a coat of gesso on my piece to help with all the liquids I use. I paint some sort of background with acrylic or watercolor attaching the papers with clear matte medium or archival glue. Sometimes I paint watercolor paper in the desired colors. My love of music inspires me to often incorporate sheet music into the compositions. I love the way a torn piece of paper can become something, whether it be an object or part of the design. Paper becomes my "brush"! When the piece is complete, I put it a heat press to ensure that the papers are permanently adhered. I then unify the composition with a coat of UV varnish. I do all my own framing and matting.

My studio is in the basement where we installed cheery carpet squares in various colors. It is full of work tables paper drawer, cabinets; books a mat cutter; heat press; and framing supplies.



Nancy's studio

What might another ACGOW member not know about you? An artistic talent I wish I had is to play a musical instrument. I love many kinds of music. When I put music notes in my pieces I title the piece with some musical reference, no matter how obscure. I get it even if nobody else gets it! It makes me happy!

Examples of artwork by Nancy Virbila



"October Song".



"Into the Mystic"

June Show and Reception – June 1, 2018



Fine art and glowers made a great combination. The Ocean Community YMCA Garden Club provided many neat flower arrangements to parallel paintings that were in the show



This annual matching of paintings and flower arrangements is always very popular.

June Featured Artists

Window Artist – Mimi Huszer Fagnant



Wall Artist – Greg Eident
1st place Viewer's Choice



ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE GALLERY OF WESTERLY

PRESENTS

THE 3RD ANNUAL

ART HEIST

SATURDAY

AUGUST 11TH, 2018
FROM 6PM-8PM

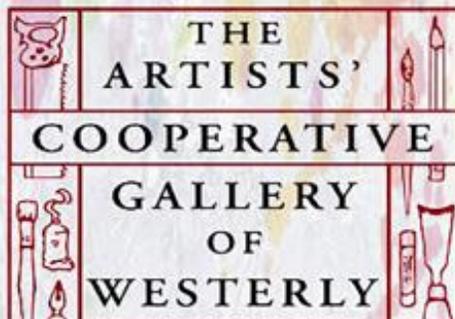
IT'S A HEIST, BUT ITS LEGAL...

YOU CAN **HEIST** AN ARTWORK WITH THE PURCHASE OF A TICKET
-OR JUST COME AND ENJOY THE EVENT, WINE AND APPETIZERS-
(FEATURING WATCH HILL OYSTERS)

EVENT HELD AT: THE LIVERY - 1 BAY STREET; WESTERLY, RI 02891
(WATCH HILL)

TICKETS: \$1.50 (INCLUDES 2 ENTRIES TO EVENT AND 1 HEIST)
\$25 ATTENDANCE ONLY (PER PERSON)

TO PURCHASE TICKETS AND SEE BROCHURE OF ARTWORKS TO BE STOLEN:
--VISIT THE ARTISTS COOPERATIVE GALLERY OF WESTERLY--



7 CANAL STREET
WESTERLY, RI 02981

PHONE: (401) 596-2221

WWW.WESTERLYARTS.COM

HOURS: WED-SAT/ 11AM-7PM
SUN/1PM-5PM