



LYDIA BUTLER GEORGE is Marshall County Art Guild's Artist of the Month for May 2014. She says that... "I was born and raised in Middle Tennessee having lived in Lewisburg a short time when I was in grades 2 through 7. Currently my husband, Phillip, and I live and work in two places, Smyrna, Tennessee, where we work together in Phillip's law practice, and Lewisburg, Tennessee, where we are proud owners of Pickers Creek Winery. We have two beautiful daughters, Alli and Abby, a "bonus" daughter, Dani, who was once our exchange student from Brazil and who is married to our special son-in-law, Artur. I am "Nana" to Dani's two precious daughters, Lia and Nara. We also have Bella, the "winery dog" and two cats, Bo and Meechie.

I have always loved other's art and all things creative and colorful. My mom says that growing up I constantly wanted to make "crafty" things, but I never really explored my creative side until a late-in-life trip to Italy inspired me. I was in awe of all of the beautiful mosaics I saw everywhere. By chance, prior to leaving Nashville, I had picked up a magazine in the airport to read on the plane. I didn't get a chance to look at it until the flight home and there just happened to be an article in it that showed you how to make garden mosaics. I couldn't wait to get home and try it. I started with flower pots from broken pottery and plates (and let me tell you there is something very therapeutic about breaking plates with a hammer), and graduated to lazy susans, trays, mirrors and frames and pretty much any surface that will take glue and grout. Phillip once told the girls "don't stand still too long or mom will mosaic you!" I especially like to mosaic guitars (that are no longer suitable for playing music), which fits right in with the name and theme of the winery, "Pickers Creek".

The mosaics led to an interest in learning to paint. I practiced on my own and took lessons and workshops whenever I could find the time. I was also inspired by a collage artist and have tried my hand at collage art. I enjoy continuing to practice and learn and improve and find it all very relaxing after the hectic pace of my everyday life. Art is something that should make you happy, and it certainly has brought a new joy to my life."

The Marshall County Art Guild will be holding an artist reception for the artist of the month on the first Friday of each month from 6pm – 8pm at the Gallery located at 123 W. Commerce. Refreshments will be served and the public is welcome to attend. Please feel free to tour our Gallery and Studio.

The selected ARTIST for each month will have their art displayed in the MCAG's front gallery window. The artist's work will also be posted on Marshall County Art Guild's website, facebook page, monthly newsletter & submitted as a press release(s) in our community paper (s).