



# Beaver Valley Artists

## Newsletter

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020 Page 1

### Letter from the president



Hello Everyone,

*I hope this finds you well as we now enter our Ninth! month of this crazy virus time. I hope you have been able to keep the creativity flowing, even a little bit. Some of our members have been posting their art online, and seeing it encourages me.*

*Some members have joined monthly challenges with other artists. Recently, Inktober has taken off. Started by one artist, it has become a phenomenon among artists, with unique interpretations of daily themes.*

*There are challenges led by online art forums and some sponsored by art supply companies. These challenges are usually free. Inktober, Strada Easel, Jerry's Artarama weekly contest, I'm sure there are many out there! You don't have to sign up to participate in some of them, although that is usually encouraged in order to share the results with other artists. You can be a "silent" participant with no pressure to complete every part of the challenge.*

*Or, start your own challenge, either publicly for others to join in, or create your own private challenge for yourself. You never even have to show anyone else your work if you prefer not to. Some successful artists do this regularly as a way to learn and grow.*

#### Beaver Valley Artists upcoming schedule

*Here are some updates on our current plans for meeting, assuming the state guidelines will allow it then: We won't meet in February. We will plan to meet on March 11th, the second Thursday of the month. This March meeting will include a Group Critique. Then, we will most likely meet in April. We are hoping to have a program or presentation set up for April.*

*Our annual show is scheduled from Sunday, April 25th thru Thursday, May 13th. May 13th is also our meeting, and we plan the Juror Critique for that meeting. We haven't set the drop off dates for our art, but they will be some time in April.*

*The show opening will be on April 25th. There will probably still be limits on how many people can be in the gallery at one time. The weather should be warm enough that we can use the veranda and garden areas to accommodate people. The recent Merrick Masters Exhibition showed us how this could be done.*

*There will be an option to move our show to summer, but for now, we are going ahead with plans for April.*

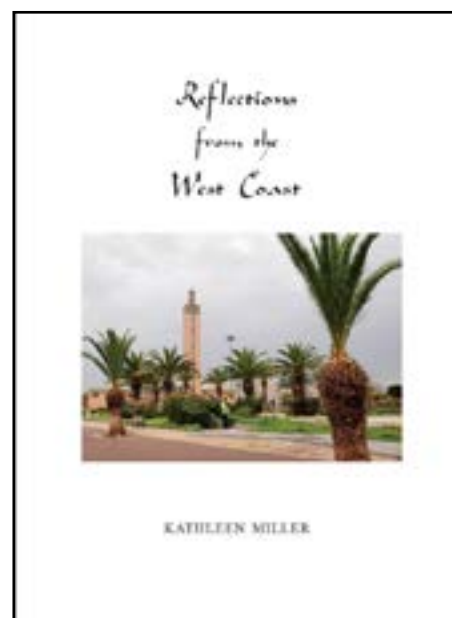
*As soon as we know more, we will let you know. Your membership dues from last year will carry over through this year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or ideas.*

*Be well and be creative.*

Jennie

### MEMBER NEWS

Kathleen Miller recently published a paper back book "Reflections from the West Coast." about her life and adventures in Morocco. It is for sale at Amazon.com. Many of her paintings illustrate the story.



This Lucinette Alvarado piece will be available at her shop soon! [www.etsy.com/shop/LucinettesDesigns](http://www.etsy.com/shop/LucinettesDesigns)





### James Tobin - Art & Music

James Tobin is an award winning artist and musician from Dormont, Pennsylvania who now resides in Beaver County. He works in digital art, photography, video and acrylic and is strongly influenced by impressionism and surrealism.

He has shown his art in shows, galleries and businesses throughout Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia. He has been a featured artist at the Oglebay Institute Stifel Fine Arts Center and Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Art Crawl. In 2019 he had a very successful joint show with his wife Debra at Merrick Art Gallery and his artwork can also be found at Bottlebrush Gallery for the Arts in Harmony PA.

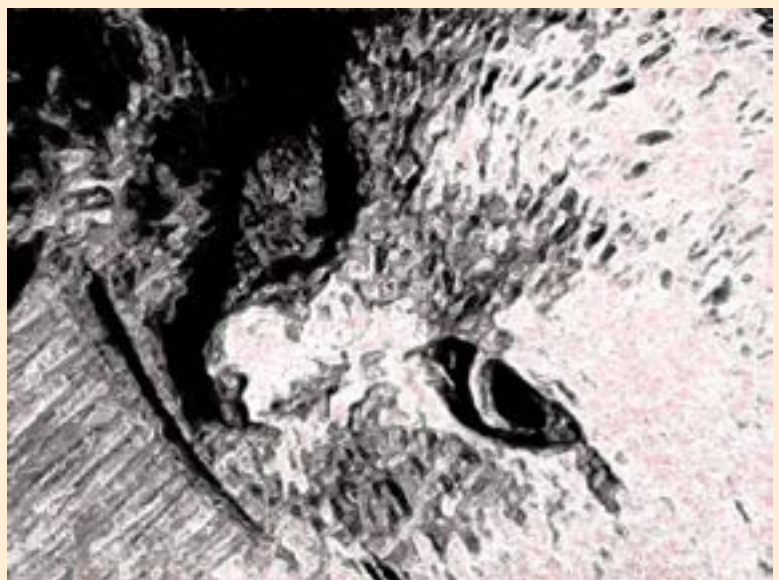
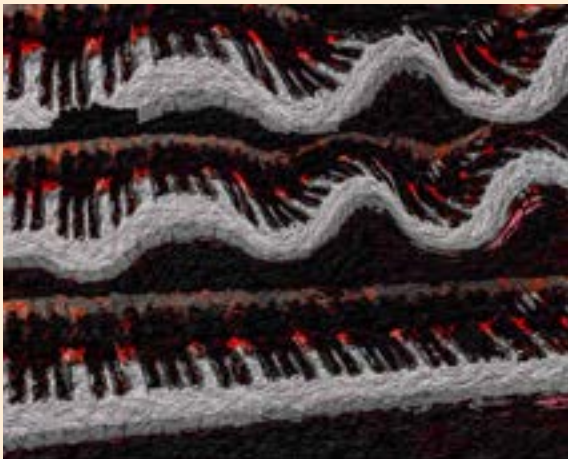
He is the Vice President of the Cranberry Artists Network and a member of the Pittsburgh Society of Artists, Beaver Valley Artists and North Hills Art Center.

James is a songwriter/performer who plays live shows and has produced multiple music cds which are available on Amazon, iTunes, Spotify and Soundcloud. He is also co-owner of Tobin Studios in Ambridge, PA where he teaches guitar.

Art website: <https://jamestobinart.com/>

Music website: <https://jamestobinmusic.com>

Email: [jamestobin@yahoo.com](mailto:jamestobin@yahoo.com)



# WHAT IS INKTOBER?

By Debbie Tobin

Hello all! I have been participating in a fun artist challenge called Inktober and I would like to encourage you all to join in! I spend about an hour each day doing an ink drawing and then I post it to the Inktober social media pages. I have shared some of my ink drawings here as examples.

Jake Parker created Inktober in 2009 as a challenge to improve his inking skills and develop positive drawing habits. It has since grown into a worldwide endeavor with thousands of artists taking on the challenge every year.

There are two ways to Participate:

1. Inktober Classic - 31 days 31 drawings
2. Inktober 52 - One drawing a week all year long

Inktober rules:

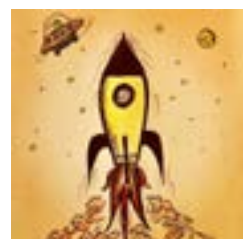
- 1) Make a drawing in ink (you can do a pencil under-drawing if you want). There are also prompt lists available if you need some inspiration.
- 2) Post it\*
- 3) Hashtag it with #inktober and #inktober2020
- 4) Repeat

Note: you can do it daily, or go the half-marathon route and post every other day, or just do the 5K and post once a week. What ever you decide, just be consistent with it. Inktober is about growing and improving and forming positive habits, so the more you're consistent the better.

That's it! Now go make something beautiful.

\*Post it on any social media account you want or just post it on your refrigerator. The point is to share your art with someone. :)

More information can be found at <https://inktober.com/>





MEMBER NEWS

This November [James](#) and [Debbie Tobin](#) will be among the artists showing pieces in the Art of Coffee show at Wunderbar in Harmony, PA.



This November [Colleen Tittiger](#), [James Tobin](#) and [Debbie Tobin](#) will be among the artists participating in the North Hills Art Center Hearing the Whispers& Roars, benefitting Crisis Center North, which is on view in the gallery through Nov 6th. A portion of art sales helps CCN with their fight against domestic violence. The show is also available online:

<https://youtu.be/pg1VnZ1BSZw>



# Free Webinar!

Use Blogging to Build Your Art Business with Becky Sciuolo of Artisan Advantage Tuesday, November 10th • 12 pm or 7 pm



Registration is now open for How to Use Blogging to Build Your Art Business. This free presentation will explain how to use blogging to create an effective marketing system for your visual art. All participants will also receive a complimentary

“How to set up your blog” guide.

This presentation uses my personal experience and real-life examples to outline a system any visual artist can use. The information is relevant for many popular web platforms such as WordPress, Weebly, Square-space, or FASO. Learn how to consistently share work with an audience across various marketing channels such as social media and email marketing using an easy to use blogging platform as the driver for your business.

My goal is for you to gain a new enthusiasm for building a web presence, whether you are starting from scratch or improving upon an existing website. I will offer tools and advice for starting and maintaining this system in a manageable way.

Reserve your spot by clicking on your preferred session timeslot at

<https://www.artisan-advantage.com/free-november-webinar-blogging-to-build-your-art-business/?fbclid=IwAR0COYN2ijqyk4q1uJvad2nNy3ThN2fs31-REV1L7Vp8c3O95Eb1C-c32zvg>



## Call For Artists

Thank you for your interest in the Girty's Woods Holiday Art and Gift Auction

The fundraiser will be hosted on December 4th via a Facebook Live Stream. We will have two drop off dates and times, Nov 12 from 4-8pm or Nov 14th from 11-2pm to 28 Grant Ave, Millvale, PA 15209. All works of art will need to be to Tupelo Honey Teas by November 14th. Works will be posted at least a week ahead of time for people to browse.

Artists will split the final price with Girty's Woods 50%/50%, unless the artist wishes to donate more towards the cause. Please let us know upon drop off if you'd like to donate more.

Works of art should be able to be transported by the purchaser. We will not be shipping art or delivering art. Please keep the size and weight of your item reasonable. In addition, this is a local fundraiser, so price cap on what you value a single item will be \$500. Please keep all items family friendly as we will be having a kids art in the auction too. All mediums WELCOME! Email Questions to [danielle@tupelohoneyteas.com](mailto:danielle@tupelohoneyteas.com)

If you want to donate a piece we will need by Nov 1st:

- What your item is
- A short artist bio/description of piece (to be read night of auction)
- Size of your piece and weight
- Value
- A picture of your item

### What is Girty's Woods?

Girty's Woods is a 155 Acre property that sits between Millvale and Reserve. Allegheny Land Trust is attempting to purchase it to create a community park, with trails. While a county grant, has been received, the overall goal is still about half way to completion. The deadline for the entire goal is March 31, 2021. This fundraiser can help us add much needed funds towards saving this land for future generations.



## General Information

### Website

[beavervalleyartists.com](http://beavervalleyartists.com)

### Email

beavervalleyartists@gmail.com

### Facebook

[@BeaverValleyArtistsNow](https://www.facebook.com/BeaverValleyArtistsNow)

### Beaver Valley Artists Board

[Jennie Johnstone](#) - President  
jennjo@comcast.net

[Debra Tobin](#) - Vice President  
debratobin@ymail.com

[Colleen Tittiger](#) - Secretary  
tittiger@comcast.net

Lynn Roberts - Treasurer  
724-480-7112

[Laurie Fillinger](#) - Programs  
724-847-3495

[Mary Jane Hadley](#) - Membership  
724-776-1955

[Kathy Bischak](#) - Publicity  
kbischak@comcast.net  
Phone: 724-728-4658



### Membership Dues:

No payment of dues will be required for this membership year.



### Send Newsletter submissions to:

[Debra Tobin](#)  
beavervalleyartists@gmail.com



### Send Social Media submissions to:

Kathy Bischak  
kbischak@comcast.net

### PennState VIRAL IMAGINATIONS

Viral Imaginations: COVID-19 is a gallery and archive about Pennsylvanians' experiences during corona virus. Submit a work of visual art or creative writing, or just visit the gallery pages. Join the Viral Imaginations community!

<https://viralimagination.psu.edu/?fbclid=IwAR3iQT1DHBek7JZt6zLZlOPJ4O-J2mzWpcoNoanevg03M7NDTtZLqtI70cuM>

### Hoyt Regional 2021 Call for Artists

Artists are invited to submit electronic entries for the 48th Hoyt Regional Juried Exhibition. Elaine A. King, freelance curator and art critic, will select works and award winners for the exhibition.

Deadline for Entries: February 6, 2021

Notification of Acceptance: March 15, 2021

Delivery of accepted works: By April 3, 2021

Exhibition Dates: April 13-June 24, 2021

[https://hoartcenter.org/hoart-regional-juried-exhibition/?utm\\_source=Arts+%26+Education+at+the+Hoyt&utm\\_campaign=12e65fb-3ca-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2021\\_04\\_02\\_23&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_40a872e394-12e65fb3ca-368512283](https://hoartcenter.org/hoart-regional-juried-exhibition/?utm_source=Arts+%26+Education+at+the+Hoyt&utm_campaign=12e65fb-3ca-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2021_04_02_23&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_40a872e394-12e65fb3ca-368512283)

### Westmoreland Art Nationals Juried Fine Art & Photography Exhibition

Entry Deadline is Friday, March 5, 2021. All entry forms must be postmarked or hand delivered on or before this date.

Since 1978, the Westmoreland Art Nationals has attracted submissions from not only local artists, but also regional, national, and international talents. The first exhibit will be held at the Westmoreland County Community College from Saturday, May 22 through Wednesday, June 9 with the second exhibit taking place Thursday, July 1 through Sunday, July 4 as part of the Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival. The opening reception for the Festival exhibit will take place on Saturday, June 26. You may enter as many pieces as you would like to be considered in both of our exhibits. New for 2021 we will also have a Digital Exhibition for both live exhibits. Both shows provide excellent exposure for you and serve as wonderful networking opportunities to meet other distinguished artists in your field.

The 2021 Westmoreland Art Nationals entry form is also available on our website at <https://artsandheritage.com/the-arts/art-nationals/> as a fill-in PDF form. We welcome and encourage you to invite others to apply. If you are referring someone to the Westmoreland Art Nationals who does not have computer access, please have them call our office at 724-834-7474 and we will be happy to mail out a hard copy application.

The Westmoreland Arts and Heritage Festival also sponsors a Youth Art Competition for students in first thru twelfth grades. There is no fee to enter the youth competition and the entry form is <https://artsandheritage.com/kids/>.