

# The Arts NEWSLETTER



SUMMER 2023

## Gary Larsen - Featured Artist

Gary Larsen has been deeply interested in photography for over 30 years. He lives in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York with his artist wife, Ann Larsen, and travels frequently throughout New England, the Southeast Coast, the Rocky Mountain Region, and many other western states and Canada. Gary has taken classes and workshops with well-known photographers George Lepp, John Shaw, Weldon Lee and B. Moose Peterson.

Drawn to the influence of light on the color, texture and shape of landscapes, structures and flowers, his images are created on 35mm digital media. He has become increasingly committed to the intriguing qualities of infrared photography and the unique images that result. He finds waterfalls, lighthouses and covered bridges welcome subjects and enjoys close-up photography including the detailed beauty of flowers.

Gary is inspired by man's aging structures being consumed by nature. While materials weather, wither and waste away, ever-changing shapes and colors capture subtle light, shadows and new patinas. He finds beauty in the bending lines and cracking paint of these "sculptures" as they droop and twist ... and in the irony of their messages and surroundings.

In summing up his enthusiasm about photography, he explains,

"Each photograph renews a brief emotional reaction from the only moment the light and subject were creating my experience. Photography provides technical challenges each time I try to preserve that fleeting inspiration. Opening the shutter, I know what I see will never be the same again. And, I hope that I have translated my emotions into the best photograph possible."

More of his work, including beautiful scenes from throughout the country can be seen on his website [www.lighteffectphoto.com](http://www.lighteffectphoto.com).



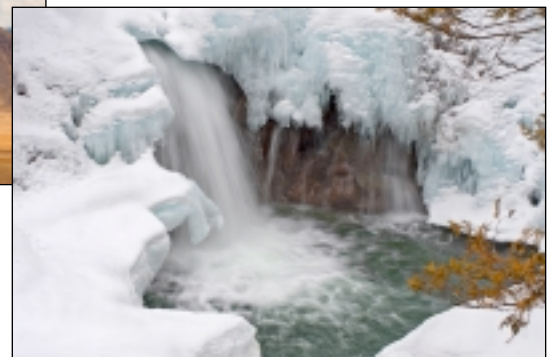
Annisquam Lighthouse - Massachusetts



Southern Exposure



Shiprock, New Mexico



Split Rock Falls in Snow - NY

North Country Arts (NCA)  
Suite 120  
71 Lawrence St.  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

Visit us at:  
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## NCA Membership Drive

April 1 - June 30, 2023

Dear NCA Members,

Receive a waiver\* for the hanging fee in a future gallery show,  
by encouraging non-members to join NCA during our Membership Drive,  
April 1st - June 30th.

Pick up applications at NCA's Gallery #120 in The Shirt Factory,  
or download and print a few from NCA's website,  
[northcountryarts.org](http://northcountryarts.org)

Print, date and sign your name at the bottom of the application.  
Give the application to fellow artists, aspiring artists,  
anyone who enjoys art or wants to support the arts,  
to become a Member of NCA.

Your help in increasing NCA's membership is important!

\*Only one waiver per member can be given, regardless of how many people you get to join.

### President's Message

Dear NCA Members,

We have much to look forward to in the next few months. A new exhibit will open at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Gallery, "Expressions" will commence on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the NCA Gallery, and a solo artist will be featured during the "Point of View" exhibit.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor gallery exhibit will feature chip carving by Dennis Wilson and pen and ink watercolor batik by Jacqueline Toubia. The show will run from May 16<sup>th</sup> through June 24.

"Expressions", the annual juried show opened with a reception on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The awards, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Honorable Mention were presented during the reception. The show will run through June 10<sup>th</sup>.

"Point of View" will open on June 17<sup>th</sup> and will feature Conard Holton as our solo artist in the Elizabeth (Betty) O'Brien gallery. Artists who choose to participate in this exhibit are asked to submit one work of art. The following exhibit is the Small Works Show. Participating artists may submit up to three works of art.

NCA is expanding thanks to our increased membership. The increase will enable us to broaden our horizons. To do so, it is essential that more members volunteer to fill positions on the Board, Gallery, and Marketing Committees. Our continued expansion needs your help. If you are interested in sharing your talent, vision and expertise please contact me at [jtully27@gmail.com](mailto:jtully27@gmail.com).

Sincerely,  
Judith Aratoli Tully



## Opportunities for NCA Members

NorthCountryArts has learned that Tannery Pond Center in North Creek is seeking an Events and Building Manager with experience in Art Center administration. For further information contact the website at [www.tannerypond.org](http://www.tannerypond.org), and click on the “About” and then the “Employment” links.

Currently the Adirondack Folk School in Lake Luzerne, is seeking a new Executive Director. NCA members who have experience in Arts and Crafts school administration or related business administration are encouraged to apply. For more information please refer to the school’s website, [www.adirondackfolkschool.org](http://www.adirondackfolkschool.org), and follow the “About us” and then the “Opportunities” links on the Home page.

## Member News

Dennis Wilson’s chip carved salmon sculpture won a blue ribbon at the March Northeastern Woodcarver’s Association exhibit in Saratoga. The sculpture is basswood and recreates “An Bradan Feasa,” “The Salmon Of Knowledge,” which is a figure from ancient Irish folklore. Dennis chip carved traditional Celtic patterns along both sides of the figure which is three feet long and weighs 11 pounds.



Left: Chip carved salmon by Dennis Wilson

## Summer Exhibition of Jacqueline Touba, Ph.D. at LARAC, July 7 - Aug. 9

Dr. Jacqueline Touba will show 20 pieces of her ***Love Stories from 1000 Years Ago*** in the LARAC Show V, along with Kristine Reynolds and Laurie Miles. Dr. Touba’s work was influenced by Persian miniatures housed in museums, libraries and universities all over the world. The ones in this exhibition are illustrating five love stories originally written in Persian poetry in the 11th and 12th centuries. In addition to the art, Dr. Touba summarized the stories and published a book with her paintings illustrating the stories which will also be available at LARAC.



2023 SUMMER 2ND FLOOR GALLERY SCHEDULE	DATES OF DISPLAY	RECEPTION 2ND. FLOOR GALLERY
Guild of Adirondack Artists	6/26 - 8/4	6/30, 5-7 p.m.
Shayna DeRusso	8/7 - 9/4	8/11, 5-7 p.m.
Jack Montoya	9/18 - 10/27	9/22, 5-7 p.m.

*by Dennis Wilson*

The Guild of Adirondack Artists, founded in 1973, is a multi-purpose organization. Sponsoring workshops and demonstrations and holding exhibits in a variety of local galleries, the Guild also works to encourage standards and to develop close ties with the general community. Originally a Glens Falls organization, the Guild's membership has expanded and includes artists in Saratoga and Washington counties as well.

Artists who work with many different mediums compose the Guild, and viewers of the Guild's exhibit will be exposed to an eclectic mix. Paintings in watercolor, acrylics, oils and gouache will dominate, but constructions and fabric art will be exhibited as well.

NCA members interested in joining the Guild should contact Fred Holman, [Fholman186@gmail.com](mailto:Fholman186@gmail.com) or at 518-742-0263.

Mainly a charcoal artist, Shay DeRusso believes with Leonardo DaVinci that "Where the spirit does not work with the hand, there is no art." Throughout multiple art forms, Shay's theme is the same: vivify the Adirondack spirit. After high school, Shay went into the art business solo. She does charcoal portrait commissions, pottery, wood burning and murals. Additionally, she paints shoes and makes memory blankets. Shay may be reached at [ArtbyShay@gmail.com](mailto:ArtbyShay@gmail.com) or at 518-742-7832.

Jack Montoya, whose exhibition ends the summer season, has pursued an interest in art since childhood, working with clay, plaster, wood, and stone. Pre-Columbian art, Matisse and Degas are among many well-known art forms and artists who have inspired him.

Right: Grandmother's Teapot, by Ruth Crotty



L to R Below: Last Harvest, by Susan Whiting, Red Holstein by Janine Thomas, Showdown on Pepper Beach, by Robert Whiting

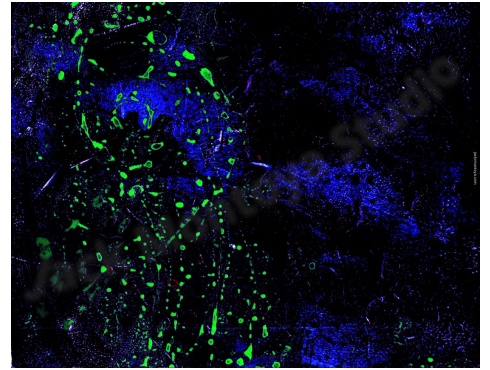




A computer scientist, Jack makes extensive use of computer technologies such as CAD/CAM, CNC and “additive manufacturing technologies” to enhance his own creative vision. He notes that in the sculpting process, often artistic vision is subjected to and altered by the needs of “fabrication,” various requirements for enlarging and casting. He uses computer technologies such as Virtual Reality, Mixed Reality, metaverse and block-chain networks in order to control completely the original cohesive artistic vision. His purpose in the exhibit, which he has titled *Northern Lights*, is “to share an alternative way to present sculpture, using technology to deliver sculpture with a process 100% “designed by the artist.”

Jack may be contacted via his website at [www.jackrmontoya.com](http://www.jackrmontoya.com).

Receptions are held to honor all the exhibiting artists, and readers are encouraged to note the reception dates and times listed at the beginning of this article. Attending a reception is an excellent time for members to meet artists they may not know, and discuss the artist’s work in an informal setting.



Infinity, by Jack Montoya



Left: Bison Borealis, by Jack Montana

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2023

**JULY 21-22**

presented by North Country Arts

QUEENSBURY HOTEL & THE SHIRT FACTORY - Glens Falls, NY

**LIVE MUSIC**

**CHESTNUT GROVE**

**CAPITAL ZEN - PRECIOUS METALS**  
 THE MIDNIGHT REVIVAL BAND - SEIZE ATLANTIS  
 SLY FOX AND THE HUSTLERS - PETER ANNELLO TRIO  
 TRAVIS GRAY - REESE FULMER - THE HARD LUCK SOULS  
 LOCK 9 - UNDER THE DEN - FROZEN SUN - GRAPE JUICE!  
 TERRALLITE - JASON IRWIN - WE'RE HISTORY - JUSTIN CHARLES  
 BRIAN FITZGERALD - IMMUNE FRICTION - EMO NITE W/ DJ iROD  
 THE SPOT - RAGGED CO. - ELIS - SUNSET GRIN - LOYALT - MARK & JILL  
 JUNGLE PUNK - DEATH CULT PHARMACEUTICAL - SIMPLE SIN - DJ airRIK  
 DJ PROPHET - J. DEMONIC - NICK ROSSI - THE PINE BOYS - B. AUSTIN  
 YEAH UNIVERSE - SABRINA TRUEHEART - CAROLYN SHAPIRO - JUST-A-NUT  
 DUSTIN SAWYER - DEB CAVANAUGH & DANDELION WINE - THE TRADITION

**FEATURED ARTISTS**

COREY PITKIN - HANNAH WILLIAMS - SHELLEY FAIRBANKS  
 SARAH CALZADA - RODNEY BENTLEY - JEAN ELLEN SOTANSKY  
 ANTHONY RICHICHI - JOE RICHICHI - STEPHANIE VAUS - VAL JEAN  
 ALEXANDRA SCOVILLE - KELSIE LEE - VINNY OTTO - ALAINA VOORIS

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## **Saga City, Japan and Glens Falls Artist Anthony Richichi Collaborate**

Glens Falls artist and NCA Board member Anthony Richichi with the Mayor of Saga City Japan at the Glens Falls City Hall on April 21st. Anthony was commissioned by the city of Glens Falls to paint an Adirondack chair as a gift to Saga City in celebration of the 35th Anniversary of Japan and Glens Falls' international "Sister Cities" program. The chair will be sent overseas where it will be permanently housed in Saga Japan's City Hall.



## **NCA Photography Show**

Mark your calendars for NCA's Annual Members Photography Show at Crandall Public Library's Friend's Gallery. It will be for the month of July. Further information on drop off will be forthcoming via postcard, email, facebook and on our website. Contact Adelaide Walsh Leibold at 518-316-1629 with any questions.



## Expressions 2023

The annual juried art show Expressions was held from May 6 to June 10. This year's juror, Laura VonRosk, juried 80 pieces into the exhibition from 135 entries. While most were members of NCA, there were nine non-members who participated. Expressions is a joint effort since holding the exhibition live rather than online. Adelaide Walsh Leibold and Jim Tubbs were on hand to receive the art, while Drew Monthie typed it all into the computer. Dr. Jacqueline Touba worked with the juror Laura VonRosk to record the selected pieces as Jon Segan organized the ones selected and those not selected. Phil Casabona contacted everyone to let them know the decision about their work. Drew Monthie then created the wall labels for the show. Thanks to Alyssa Shiel at LARAC, the list of participants was ready to be inserted into the program for the public. The hanging committee proceeded to hang the show.



Above from l to r: Cindy Handy (gold), Diane Swanson (silver), Ajay Mehta (bronze), and Rebecca Zeh (honorable mention)

At the reception and opening of the exhibition on May 6th the winners were presented the awards. While Ms. VonRosk could not attend, her statement was read by Dr. Touba.

Four artists received the following awards:

- Gold — \$750 Cindy Handy for Cherry Plum Blossoms
- Silver — \$500 Diane Swanson for Dream Trees
- Bronze - \$250 Ajay Mehta for Travel(s)
- Honorable Mention - \$100 Rebecca Zeh for Sky Gesture

Ms. Von Rosk was very impressed with the work of the participating artists and had a difficult time deciding the award winners and what to include in the show. She did include ten more pieces than are normally included in the show. Congratulations to all the artists who had work included in this prestigious annual exhibition. Be sure to visit this exhibition.

## NCA Art Guide

North Country Arts first Arts Guide was published and has been distributed to all participants. An additional 150 or so are available for artists and the public at the NCA Gallery. A donation of \$5 is being requested to help cover the additional cost of \$1000 to double the number of books that were printed. Thus the remaining 800 booklets will be distributed free to organizations outside our immediate area. Currently the members of the Marketing Committee are creating lists of Art Museums and Galleries, Chambers of Commerce, Theaters, Arts Councils, Art Schools at Universities, Visitor's Centers in four major regions in New York State: The Hudson Valley, Central New York, The Capital District, and the Adirondacks and Western Vermont, and Massachusetts. Realtors will also be contacted.

A grant to cover the cost of creating the labels, purchasing the envelopes, postage and other things related to the mailing was requested from the Town of Queensbury to cover the costs.

The time-consuming work of creating the lists for the labels is being completed by Dolores Thomson, Drew Monthie, Dr. Jacqueline Touba, Anthony Richichi, Hannah Williams and Nancy Austin. It is planned that this list can be used to distribute additional material about North Country Arts and its exhibitions and other activities in the future.

## NCA Board Members

### Officers

**Judith Aratoli Tully:** President, Gallery Committee

**Phil Casabona:** Vice Pres. and Gallery Committee, Juried Show Expressions

**Ann Nelson:** Secretary

**Jacquiline Toubia, Ph.D.:** Treasurer, Grant Writer, GFArtsDistrict Rep, Juried Art Show Expressions Coordinator, Marketing Committee

### Others

**Maria Clara Castano:** Gallery Chair

**Drew Monthie:** Marketing Committee, Labels and Programs

**Anthony Richichi:** Marketing Committee, Gem Festival

**Jon Segan:** Gallery Committee, Hanging Coordinator

**Lee Shippey:** On Leave

**Dolores Thomson:** Chair, Marketing Committee

**Adelaide Walsh-Leibold:** Juror's Choice, Fine Art and Photography Show Coordinator at Crandall Public Library, Gallery Committee

**Hannah Williams:** Marketing Committee

**Dennis Wilson:** 2nd Floor Gallery Exhibit Writer and Solo Show Writer, and 2nd Floor Gallery Chair

## Non-Board Regular Volunteers

**Brian Alvarado:** GEM Festival

**Nancy Austin:** Newsletter Coordinator and Designer, Marketing Committee

**Robin Brewer:** 2nd Floor Gallery Assistant

**Russell Hillard:** 2nd Floor Gallery Assistant

**Emily Latterell:** Membership Chairperson

**Jennifer Switzer:** Bookkeeper

**Jim Tubbs:** Gallery Committee

## 2023 North Country Arts Schedule

### Expressions - Juried Show

May 6 - June 10

Juror: Laura Von Rosk, Artist and Gallery Director, Lake George Arts Project

Opening: May 6, 5-7 p.m.

### Point of View

June 17 - August 12

Drop off - June 10

Opening - June 17

### Small Works Show

August 19 - September 24

Art no larger than 12" in any direction

Drop off - August 12

Opening August 19

# Stewart's Shops

Please support North Country Arts by liking us on Facebook and by visiting our Instagram page.

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