

GVAL NEWSLETTER July, 2007



Gilbert Visual Artists' League provides local artists with opportunities to exhibit their work in the community, to form associations with other artists, and to practice and improve their art skills. The organization strives to benefit both the artists and the community by promoting workshops, classes, and exhibits as well as coordinating volunteer opportunities to foster arts and art appreciation in Gilbert.

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A note from GVAL board members...

Dear Members,

Welcome

We have 4 new members. They are Jean Smith, Anita Morris, Kristie Pastryk and Dee Ramirez. Welcome, ladies.

ART EXPO

There is an ART EXPO show in Las Vegas on Sept 28th – Sept 30th, 2007. It will be held at the Mandalay Bay Resort/Casino. Most of the board and some members plan to attend. We think this will be very informative, plus fun. More information about the show can be found at www.vegas.artexpos.com or by phone (toll-free) at 888-608-5300. If you would like to join us, please let Georgia know by email at wmulholland2@cox.net or at 480-545-8213.

GVAL Web Site

We are continuing to look at ways to improve our web site. We've gotten some good ideas in the last couple of months. We will be working at incorporating those ideas and any other ideas that you may have to help make our web site more interesting and informative. One of the ideas is to link our site to members' websites. If you would like to do that, let Lana know your website info by contacting her at lleibow@gval.org. The address for the website is www.gval.org. Watch for the changes.

July Meeting

We will have another brainstorming meeting this month. So think of what you would like GVAL to be and do and bring those ideas with you to our meeting on July 19th. We want this meeting be a members only meeting, please.

Meeting time/place

The next meeting is on **July 19th, 2007 at 7PM**. Our meeting place located at the intersection of Guadalupe and Gilbert. We will be meeting the 3rd Thursday this month (will change to the 1st Thursday in the fall) at the office of **Maricopa Workforce Connections (MWC) Career Center at 735 North Gilbert Road, Suite 134, Room 7, Gilbert, AZ**. That's in the same plaza as BIG LOTS, Arby's and Bank of America on the southeast corner of Gilbert Road and Guadalupe Road. The office is located between **MWC Business Center & Leather Furniture**.

-Georgia, Lana, Helen, Cheryl and Rose

Upcoming meetings

July: Brainstorming

!***New Feature***!

One of the suggestions from our meeting in June was to feature an artist from our membership in the newsletter monthly. This is a good idea and we'd like to start doing that. Georgia has sent emails to those of you who do not have artist profiles on file with us yet. Please submit those so that we may feature you in a future edition of the newsletter.

Featured Artist

Paul Mudersbach



Paul Mudersbach: I was given my first professional oil painting set when I was eight. My main philosophy as a young artist was to experiment with paint, and draw all the time. I received my first commission to produce 11 paintings for an office building when I was 14 years old. I was overjoyed and petrified at the same time.



As a young boy I traveled the back roads of Arizona with my father, giving me a taste for

the old west that seems to have lasted through the years. It is no wonder that my artwork centers around western landscapes, wildlife and the Southwestern culture.

Above Right:: "Baby Elf Owl's First Peak" (24"x48") Oil on Canvas: Paul touches up the bushy down on the baby Elf Owl's head where it peaks out of the Saguaro cactus nest.

Above Left:: "Agave Parryi... First Light of the Blue Gray Rosette" (36"x48") Oil on Canvas: Paul works late into the night on a new painting. Every brush stroke is like a whisper... an unfinished sonnet (available early 2006)

My desire to express myself through art seems at times to be an obsession... always planning a drawing, painting or sculpture. I feel like I have to be drawing or painting when possible. I can be driving down the street and find myself mentally working on aspects of the underpainting or some detail of a particular subject, or maybe doing a drawing or design layout. I complete my paintings mentally, before I actually pick-up a brush in my studio. Often times I will mentally paint and repaint the fine details of a subject. I can see it as clearly as if it were real, and on the canvas.

My painting style is towards realism, but not photo realistic; most of the time I prefer the tighter studio setting rather than plein-air. It just works best for my method of painting; where you are switching back and forth between various works. Then, sometimes plein-air painting and drawing feels just right, being loose, quick and impressionistic. My paintings use a color pallet of "muted" earth tones with just a touch of real color. When I see a TV cowboy riding the range wearing a spotless white shirt, it looks out-of-place. I feel the same way about color selection in my artwork. I want my artwork to look believable. Except for birds and flowers, very little in life is brightly colored.

My inspiration is often driven by the interaction of external forces in life. Such as the way light and shadow will play against an object in the wind. I mentally bend and twist and manipulate my ideas for a painting into an abstract composition. This is also my first rough layout on paper. I try to balance form against negative space. Always looking for an edge. Something unique about the subject that grabbed my interest in the first

place. At this point I turn my attention towards a layout that shows the specific details of my main subjects. The who, what, when, where, why and how of the subjects goes in here. Once I know how my subjects are going to be placed, I come-up with a light and shadow plan and then decide what to do with the background last. Depth or no depth is the question when selecting a background. The lighting is weighed against a background and my final layout comes into view. Although, I just might change it before I finish the painting.

I never want to stop learning and creating. My objective, as an artist, is to capture the reality without sensationalizing it. In my art, I need to recreate the moment, the mood, the spirit in my minds eye and paint it. I try to give you the essence of the moment, but keep the painting loose enough for you to interpret the moment as if it were yours. Your moment of passion and exhilaration... of joy and fulfillment. To be re-lived every time you see it. This is what I am... and an artist is. This is what I do for myself and for you. How I share my life and my world with others through art.

Paul Mudersbach was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona. The Mudersbach family resides in Mesa, Arizona; just west of the Superstition mountains and east of Phoenix. Paul is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys a versatile artistic ability that has been developed from childhood and considers it "a God-given talent". He has many areas of artistic interests, but the desert southwest and wildlife is his most intense focus. Paul's' paintings illustrate his interest in Southwest Art, Western Art of the old west, the western frontier and the Southwestern Culture; birds, flora / fauna, Spanish missions, cactii, native American Indians and landscapes.

Paul's art continues to appreciate in value as his works grow and mature in style, richness, composition, and genteel detail. Visit Mudersbach on the web to view his newest works of art at: <http://www.azsago.com> , or email him using the "Contact and Email Link" on his website.