

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Once more, the Gibsons Public Art Gallery has had a banner year. The Gallery was given the opportunity to buy the building which we have been renting for 3 years. The board agreed to this purchase and a price was negotiated.

Thank you to the Maragos Brothers, Costa and Anastase, for their support, and to Murray Drope, Property Manager, who represented GPAG throughout. As the trustee of Eve Smart's estate, I feel a great responsibility to respect Eve's wishes. I believe she would have appreciated our purchase and said "well done."

The exhibitions this past year were excellent and drew good crowds. The beauty of "The Garden" and the richness of "Woodworking on the Coast" were exceptional. These exhibitions confirmed GPAG's belief that our mandate — exhibitions and education — is still a worthy one. And Coast artists make it all worthwhile. The expansion of our music programs at the Gallery has also been a delight.

Our board welcomes ideas and suggestions; some I have made weren't accepted (e.g. longer exhibitions) but others, such as the Bag o' Books Sale on Canada Day and Art Stroll in the Landing every August, have become a tradition. Yvonne Vanheddegem did a great job coordinating Art Stroll. Thanks also to Hanna Crudele, our summer student. Our partnerships with other organizations (e.g. the Gibsons & District Public Library, the Sunshine Coast Museum & Archives, and Habitat for Humanity) have worked well. Joan Fallis, our treasurer, has done a formidable job for GPAG. Thank you, Joan.

Another landmark is our commitment to present a second Squamish Nation invitational exhibition next summer. GPAG has committed to art classes for young people since its beginnings in 2003 and the month-long youth exhibition each March is a popular display. Thanks to Valerie Romain.

I would like to say a special thank you to Esther North, as a former GPAG President, writer, advertising guru and supporter of GPAG. As retiring President, I have truly appreciated our sponsors who are so supportive of the Gallery.



Also, we call on our volunteers for desk duty, to help at receptions with Sheila, and assist in the gift shop. What a great group. Thank you. The volumes in the art books library are worth checking out!

In the past year, I have spent considerable time mentoring our first salaried Office Manager. There is lots to learn, as Michael would likely agree! Our final installation of our regular exhibition schedule this year is Both Sides Now, a tribute to Joni Mitchell, Canada's iconic singer, song-writer and artist. We hope that Both Sides Now will be filmed and sent to Joni with our love...

I would like to think that during my terms on the board, I provided valuable continuity for the Gallery — through many changes and challenges. My best wishes to the new board of directors and incoming President Stewart Stinson.

*Patricia Drope
President*

Visit your PUBLIC ART GALLERY!

Enjoy the exhibitions and events, renew your membership and find great art items in the GIFT SHOP!

GPAG annual memberships make a great gift!

INDIVIDUAL - \$20

STUDENT - \$10

FAMILY (up to 4 adults and children) - \$35

GIFT SHOP REPORT:

Our gift shop has once again exceeded expectations. The year began with Judith Bonkhoff graciously extending her volunteer commitment as the Gift Shop Manager. Managing the books, liaising with artists, keeping track of inventory...this is by no means a simple job. But what a gift to the Gallery! Our gift shop is now a vital part of our funding. Thank you Judith, for the hours and hours you gave fulfilling this important role. Building on Judith's work, and the work of Jeannie Harlow before her, the Gallery is grateful to have Pat Bean and Manon Staiger now take on the role of gift shop co-managers. Manon has had some recent work-travel commitments, so thank you to Pat for stepping in as you have. Thank you to Ginny Vail for helping out with your retail expertise and to GPAG treasurer Joan Fallis for all of your assistance with the record keeping. Gross sales were over \$17,000 in our 2015 fiscal year. What an incredible accomplishment! This has been a real team effort, from our member artists working in their studios, to the Gift Shop Managers, to our volunteers ringing in the orders and filling out the paperwork. It's a win-win situation when the Gallery can promote our member artists while raising money for both the artists and the Gallery. Thank you to all for contributing to this success. We look forward to a great 2016 promoting the sale of works by our member artists.

*Stewart Stinson
(on behalf of Gift Shop Managers and the Board of Directors)*

THE ART OF HOSPITALITY:

This has been a very successful and busy year in our new gallery. We have had a well attended reception for every exhibition and have welcomed artists, their families and friends. As we had three large exhibitions, we asked the exhibitors to be involved with the receptions. It was amazing — they came with flowers, decorations and wonderful food. All our exhibitors were so willing to help us in any way. I have an exceptional team who work tirelessly with me to welcome all visitors to the Gallery. I would like to thank everyone who helps and especially the board members who give us so much help and encouragement. We look forward to a very successful 2016 season. If you would like to help in any way with the receptions, just leave your name and number at the desk. Best wishes and thank you.

*Sheila Mullen
Hospitality Coordinator*

FINANCIAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS:

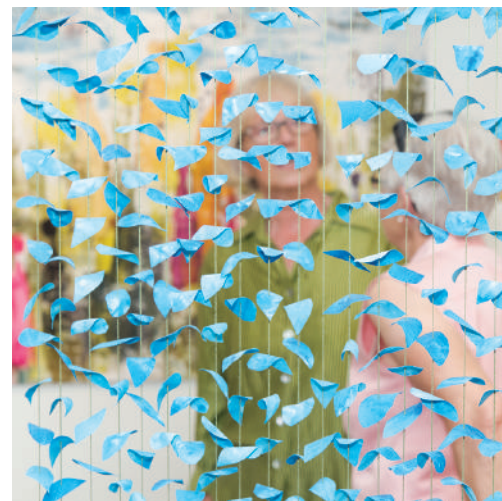
This has been an eventful year for GPAG, as we have purchased the building which now houses our beautiful Gallery. Our building was acquired for \$600,000 and there remains in excess of \$200,000 in our "Restricted" fund for planned renovations to the upstairs portion of our Gallery. We are grateful for the continued support from the Town of Gibsons and the SCRD in providing grants in aid of our many community based activities. Our gift shop sales have increased along with the variety and quality of the items for sale provided by our talented local artisans. Our financial statements have been prepared by Nelson Alvarez & Company Ltd. Copies are available to all. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have. Sincere thanks to our members and hard-working volunteers who make GPAG possible.

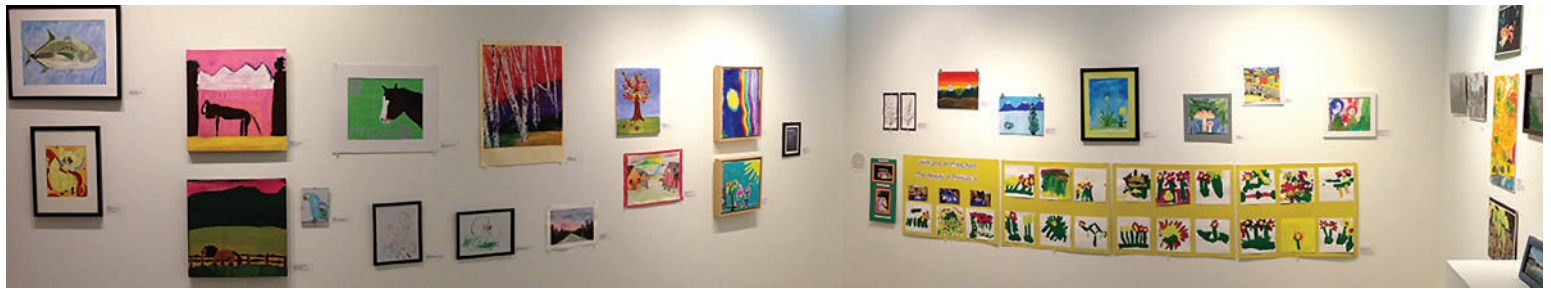
*Joan Fallis
Treasurer*

VOLUNTEER REPORT:

Currently GPAG has more than 63 volunteers. Approximately 39 volunteers regularly work at the front desk. They greet guests, sell items from the gift shop and undertake a myriad of other tasks necessary for the smooth running of the gallery. Sheila Mullen, our hospitality queen, continues to do an amazing job putting together fantastic food spreads for our opening receptions. There are about 21 volunteers who consistently help Sheila with these events. Not to forget our board members and amazing crew of exhibition installers — their steady commitment continues to produce high quality installations. On April 15, 2015, GPAG treated all volunteers to an appreciation lunch at Leo's, our local Greek restaurant. In all, 32 volunteers were able to attend. The luncheon was a huge success and a good time was had by all! Finally, a big thank you to all GPAG volunteers for their dedication and loyalty. Without their help the Gallery could not exist.

*RoseAnn Janzen
Volunteer Coordinator*





SHOUT OUT 2015:

Shout Out 2015, "Colours on the Coast," was a creative triumph for the young artists of the Sunshine Coast. A wide range of subjects and styles were submitted: graphic posters, landscapes, assemblage, still life, photo portraits, large scale abstract paintings and small ceramic pieces, the artists did not hold back! And we really did sample the whole coast; 82 artists from Sechelt to Langdale, ranging in age from 2 to 19, all showing their colours.

Our opening reception was a lively event. Artists, friends, and family enjoyed the wonderful food and cake provided by Sheila and volunteers, and the artists' generous families brought even more treats. Young dancers from the S.C.Y.D.A performed emotional and exciting works and displayed their lovely painted red poppy backdrop. Artist-mentor-curator Laurel Sukkau had impromptu discussions with artists throughout the reception; her encouragement and guidance was invaluable. It was wonderful to see how many parents, grandparents, friends, teachers, and community members turned out to support up-and-coming artists. Ten participants were selected at random to receive \$10 gift certificates from Lisa's Framing and Art Supplies. "Colours on the Coast," the gift certificates, and all special events were made possible by our very generous sponsors: Home Hardware Gibsons, Dr. Louis Metzner of Metzner Orthodontics, and the Town of Gibsons. Thank you for supporting our young artists! Many thanks to Joanna Mackenzie-Enga, former GPAG Vice-President and Young People's Exhibition Events Co-coordinator, for all her work on Shout Out in previous years. Much thanks to the board for helping me in my first year of Shout Out, especially Stewart Stinson for helping hang the show. I hope to see all Shout Out 2015 participants and new faces at Shout Out 2016, scheduled for March 10 - April 3, 2016. The show will focus on portraits and people, a theme that's sure to challenge and inspire.

Valerie Romain

Shout Out Youth Exhibition Coordinator

GPAG 2016:

This is an exciting time to be a part of GPAG! Now that we own our building, a whole new world of potential has opened before us. Some members of GPAG may not be aware that the gallery building has a small upstairs level, with rooms that were not included in our former lease. Now that the Gallery owns the building we have the opportunity to expand into this space and renovate, with an eye to the bigger picture of developing our Gallery's long term role as a cultural community centre for the lower Sunshine Coast.

In 2016 the gallery plans to move forward with developing a strategic plan that will include a realistic assessment of all of our options for the long-term use of both the building and property. Imagine GPAG expanded to include a second level! There are more reasons than ever to become a GPAG member in 2016. In addition to the usual reason – your membership provides vital support for the gallery – in 2016 members will be eligible for a discount at our gift shop, Lisa's Framing & Art Supplies, and on all GPAG classes and programs. We are also offering the opportunity to upgrade memberships to a "member sponsor" level, which will include free admission to over 750 museums and galleries registered through the North American Reciprocal Museum Association. This year's GPAG AGM will include a motion to change our membership levels to include an "artist" level of membership and add member sponsors. Our goal is to significantly boost our membership in 2016.

Our upcoming Joni Mitchell tribute in November and "Star Wars Holiday Special" installation in December, will focus on membership sales. Thank you to Barbara Paton for taking on the role of managing our membership list. As part of our ongoing efforts to develop a community partnership with our school district, we will be offering youth enrolled in art classes at Elphinstone Secondary and the Alternative School free GPAG student memberships. Fundraising will be a major theme for 2016. The board has recognized that the gallery needs to be more aggressive in soliciting donations and pursuing grant funding. A reminder to all members that if you are connected in any way to a business or arts patron who may be interested in sponsoring an upcoming exhibition, please help the Gallery make this important funding connection. Improvements to Gallery communications will also continue in 2016.

GPAG was fortunate to have Shelley Fearnley, a professional graphic designer, join our board last year. Thanks to Shelley, the Gallery is well positioned for producing graphics and communications that fit with the high standards used in contemporary art galleries. Paula O'Brien has done an enormous amount of work developing the Gallery's presence in social media this year, helping work out new ways to efficiently communicate messages to members. This important role in gallery management is growing. If you have experience and interest in developing and managing social media, the Gallery would love your help! Thank you to Pat and Murray Drope for their seemingly never ending commitment to GPAG and all their work in the fulfillment of Eve Smart's legacy. Thanks...although now it will be challenging for an incoming president to top all you've done! You leave big shoes to fill. Thank you for your continued support. 2016 is shaping up to be a record breaking year for GPAG. Thank you to past president Jeannie Harlow, for taking on the role of schedule coordinator, and all who served on this year's selection jury.

We have an amazing exhibition schedule of original art lined up for 2016, with a prime summer spot for a Squamish Nation exhibit that will aspire to be a community wide celebration of First Nations culture. In the fall, we are partnering once again on an arts focused local fund raiser with Habitat for Humanity. We look forward to expanding the display of art on the exterior of the building. There is much to do! Thank you for all you can do to help the Gallery in 2016.

Stewart Stinson

Vice-President

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604.886.0531
GALLERY HOURS: THUR - MON, 11AM - 4PM
CLOSED TUES AND WEDS

2014-15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Pat Drope
VICE PRESIDENT: Stewart Stinson
VICE PRESIDENT: Lee Turnbull
PAST PRESIDENT: Jeannie Harlow
TREASURER: Joan Fallis
DIRECTORS: Val Romain, Bill Beamish, Louise McKelvie, W. Murray Drope, Shelley Fearnley

OFFICE MANAGER: Michael Aze
MEMBERSHIP CO-ORDINATOR: Barbara Paton
VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR: Rose Ann Janzen
GIFT SHOP TEAM: Pat Bean, Manon Staiger, Joan Fallis
LIBRARIAN: Jone Pane
HOSPITALITY: Sheila Mullen
PROPERTY MANAGER: W. Murray Drope
DESIGN AND BRANDING: Shelley Fearnley
PHOTOGRAPHY: Paul Clancy
SOCIAL MEDIA: Paula O'Brien
WEBSITE: Sayata Gabriel
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT: Alvarez & Co.

CURATORIAL TEAM JURY

Shannon Woode
Kevin McEvoy
Bill Beamish
Shelley Fearnley
Dorothy Gonzalez
Manon Staiger

GPAG gratefully acknowledges the financial support of:



Sunshine Coast
CREDIT UNION
Together, we enrich lives.

plus event sponsors listed at right

2015 EXHIBITIONS IN THE MAIN GALLERY

Jan 8 - Feb 1 **'Same, Same....But Different'**: a collaborative exhibition of multi-media art by Kelly Irving and Joanna Rogers. Sponsor: members of GPAG.
Feb 5 - March 1 **'Still Life'**: Alan Sirulnikoff, Maurice Spira, Richard Nelson explore the cycle of life through photographs, and film - and still life through painting. Sponsor: Mary Boulding.
March 5 - March 29 **'Shout Out!'** Children of all ages explored 'Colours on the Coast': Sponsors: Home Hardware, Town of Gibsons, Metzner Orthodontics.
April 2 - April 26 **'Azo Gold'** Art Azo Group: Five artists use gold as a theme through all their works. Sponsor: Dr Evangelo Papoutsis.
April 30 - May 24 **'Coast Modern'**: Products, textiles, graphic design, all with a Coastal flavour by young Coastal artists and makers. Sponsor: Wendy's.
May 28 - June 21 **'Out of the Dark'**: Jeff Barringer's search for meaning in a place of darkness. Plus **Woodworking on the Coast** - an astonishing range of exquisite furniture and sculpture. Sponsors: Re/Max and Bayfield Mortgage Professionals.
June 25 - July 19 **'The Garden'**: Out of Bounds Fibre Arts Group derive aesthetic and tangible nourishment through the medium of fibre, inspired by gardens. Sponsor: Zocalo.
July 23 - Aug 16 **'Bees of the Invisible'**: Ramon Kubicek's theme is how artists work with materiality until it becomes a part of their inner lives and an offering to the world as 'honey' or 'art'. Sponsor: Hartwell Law.
August 20 - Sept 13 **'River Rain'**: Kristjana Gunnars acrylic watercolours on canvas create effects of light under cloudy skies. Sponsor: Drs. Don and Emery Bland.
Sept 17 - Oct 11 **'Paradigm'**: Altered landscapes and collaborations in ceramics and photography, by the de Beer Family. Sponsor: More Café and Bakeshop.
Oct 15 - Nov 8 **'Dichotomy'**: Colin Righton's stunning colours and bold dynamic lines. Sponsor: Sunnycrest Mall.
Nov 12 - Dec 6 **'Both Sides Now'**: An invitational exhibition - artists of all kinds celebrate the work of icon Joni Mitchell. Sponsor: Swish.

2015 EXHIBITIONS IN THE EVE SMART GALLERY

Feb 5 - March 1 Torrance Beamish: **'False Perspectives'**: ceramics. Sponsor: WBC Ltd.
August 20 - Sept 13 Dean Jones: **'The Art of the Story'**: the creation of a graphic novel.
Sept 17 - Oct 11 Gina Miller: **'Interior Geography'**: abstract paintings.
Oct 15 - Nov 8 Ruth Rodgers: **'Flow'**: pastels and acrylics.

GPAG EVENTS

In Time for Christmas: Dec 18-20
Private function Talbot Insurance: Dec 13
Tourism slide shows: Jan 17 and Sept 3
Reception for outrigger canoe race participants: Jan 14
Lois Choksy book launch: Jun 28
Gibsons Jazz week: July 14
Art Stroll in the Landing: Aug 20-23, Jenica Rayne concert Aug 20
Canada Day Bag of Books Sale: July 1
Float in Sea Cavalcade Parade: July 25

CLASSES 2015

Spring Break art classes: Bruce Edwards March 16-20
Painting workshop: Bruce Edwards Aug 8-9
Drawing classes for kids: Bruce Edwards July 14-17 and Aug 11-14

MEMBERSHIP TOTAL FOR 2015: 311
GALLERY ATTENDANCE FOR 2014-15 FISCAL YEAR: 15,600