

Yakima Valley Artists Association

General Meeting Minutes – June 9, 2025, 5:30 pm

We had 23 people in attendance at the event.

5:15- Gathered at Harmon Center Parking lot and headed out to Boxx Gallery at 5:30.

5:50: We mingled at Boxx Gallery, visiting and viewing the art show featuring Michelle and Rob Wiles' art.

6:10: Michelle Wiles shared her unique and inspiring art journey, only seriously pursuing art in relatively recent years. Her degree was in English with no formal art training, though she and her siblings recall the constant click of their mom's pallet knife striking the canvas; so she did grow up under the influence of an avid painter. Michelle grew in her own artistic talent after running her own business and raising kids by attending workshops learning various skills but mostly by exploring and experimenting on her own and tapping into her own creative muse, without a definitive image in mind from the outset but letting her art take form as she works. It was a real privilege to have Michelle take the time to share with us and quite fun to see she and Rob have a show together as Rob has only taken up painting in the last couple of years. Their work will be up for a few more weeks at The Boxx, so don't miss the opportunity to check it out.)

6:50: Business meeting:

-Larry shared the nominating committee's list of nominees for the upcoming election at the July meeting. Nominations from the floor will be open at the July meeting as well.

Slate of nominees for 2025-2026 YVAA Board:

President: Doug Lewis

Vice President: Leslie Yamada

Treasurer: Stephen Rice

Assistant Treasurer: Stephen Stokesberry

Recording Secretary: Mary Jepsen

Correspondence Secretary: Lyn Lewis

At-large: Susan Hahn (Membership committee)

At-Large: Meldra Driscoll

-People are encouraged to sign up for **the Tour of Artists' Studio on Labor Day Weekend.** YVAA members are invited to show at Stephen and Pamela's lovely property on 37th for the show this year. Deadline for photo submission is this Friday, June 13.

-Next month's meeting is **Monday, July 14, 2025.**

ART HAPPENINGS:

Rope the Wind at Boxx Gallery, June 7-29. Featuring Michelle and Rob Wyles.

Larson Gallery Guild Members' Exhibition June 14- July 12. Opening is June 14, 3-5pm.

Gallery One in Ellensburg- Featuring **YVAA member, Susan Hahn**, June 13-July 26. Show opening celebration is July 1 (First Friday) 5-7pm.

Yakima Art Festival June 28 <https://larsongallery.org/art-festival/2025>

Labor Day Tour of Studios- Stephen Stokesberry and Pam Edwards are hosting the YVAA artists. Let Stephen know if you'd like to participate. Submit several photos of artwork by Friday, June 13 to mullenbothell@yahoo.com

Virtual Show submission deadlines: August 5- "The Art of Music", Nov 3- "Figures".

Submit photos and details to Jeremiah Britt at jeremiahbritt@pm.me

Images of the Shrub Steppe Sept. 6-28. Juried submission deadline: August 1. 3 entries, \$35.

- **Plein Aire (Fresh Air) Painting:** 06/16/25 @ Happy Hen Barn! 10204 Tieton Dr. Yakima, WA. 10-2pm, bring your lunch and drinks. Bring your own supplies, paint whatever you want to paint, and enjoy the quiet atmosphere with us! Painting what you see, is not a requirement. You may paint whatever you want. Just painting outside with a group is a wonderful experience!

Directions: Right across from the Lutheran Redeemer Church is a small double driveway that goes up to the barn. The driveway serves three homes. Turn onto that driveway and stay to the left. You will see the huge 3-story barn with a bright shiny new roof, at the end of that driveway. To park, turn left down a small hill and park in the field on the lower level of the barn. Their dogs might come out to greet you and they are very friendly! Very used to visitors.

Andy and Peg Granitto run the the Happy Hen Ranch and will be our hosts. They have several areas where we can paint: inside the barn in the shade there are tables and chairs, and 3 floors to explore. Outside, you can choose to set up your easel and chair anywhere on the property. There is a pond, a couple of very old farmworkers homes, chickens and chicken coops, many antiques and museum quality displays in the barn. I (Meldra) have painted there a few times and have always been almost overwhelmed by the views and number of items I could choose to paint

Email Kate Bowditch at kbowditch60@gmail.com or text 425-783-0337 for more info.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS-

- **YVAA Stickers** are available for \$2.00- see Gary Hughes. **Shirt orders/bookmarks-** see Jack Cannon
- **Social Media & Website:** Send details and photos of your art to Meldra so she can post them on Facebook.
- **Displaying art somewhere?** Contact Lyn Lewis (lenakira@hotmail.com) and I'll add it to our announcement page.
- **Jack Cannon** has art showing @ Yakima Healing Arts, 307 S. 12th Ave, #20
- **Leslie Yamada** has two pieces on display at The Distillarium, 2305 Industry Ln.
- **Painting sessions at the Harman Center. Oil painting** on Thursdays 9-11, **Watercolor** on Fridays 9-11. Cost \$15 per quarter, or \$1.50 per day. See Jack Cannon or Kate Bowditch for more details.
- **Gary Hughes has a glass tumbler.** Bring glass pieces to the meeting and Gary will bring back sea glass.

- **Places to display art:**
 - ✓ Dept. of Ecology building- Email Jo-Anne Carlson
 - ✓ Yakima Healing Arts (509)759-7470, call Kristy Cannon
 - ✓ Antolin Cellars, call Linda Haralson at 509-961-8370
 - ✓ C&S Coffeehouse in Terrace Heights, call Cassie Gordon 509-452-8774