



# LONDON VISUAL ARTS GUILD

## LONDON ARTS CENTER

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open though it seems an impossibility to get back to normal.

### THE HOLIDAYS



The holidays are upon us, and since the London Arts Center will be closing for the bad part of the winter in the early teens of December, I am doing a combo newsletter this time. It is Thanksgiving and Christmas.

We have all had a chaotic but interesting year in 2020. The virus started at the beginning of 2020 and is now in the process of showing its teeth again in the larger part of this country.

But look on the bright side of the coin. London Visual Arts Guild had received a different building and is close to a permit for opening. Soon we will be able to use our new and beautiful structure for the coming year.

So, this Thanksgiving eat the turkey and dressing, raise a glass and give thanks to our accomplishments of 2020. The artists of LVAG all those who have contributed by giving their time, blood, sweat and, at times, tears for the art they love so well.

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### THE ART OF THE WORD

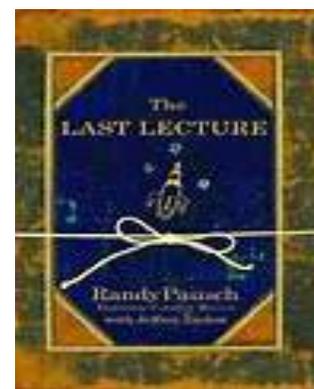
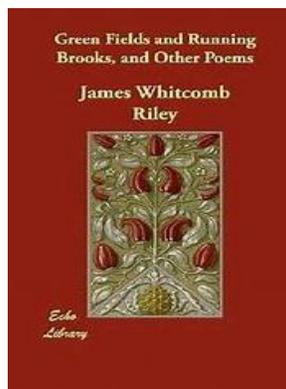
The written word is an art within itself. Many of us have written letters to a friend or relative and have received a letter in return. In the modern era the pen has been replaced by the text so many of us text now. I even do on occasion, though I prefer the pen or a phone call.

One of the things the London Visual Arts Guild is known for is the 'Writers Group'. Lori formed the group a few years ago and kept it going until the tragedies hit recently. Lori Powell, as many have over the last year lost a son. We had the lock down, but the London Arts Center will

I asked Lori about the Writers Group and if it had a chance of surviving the pandemic. Her answer was 'Yes'. She would like to continue in the future if the virus ever goes away and she can muster the strength to carry on. We all hope she can, as we sit here and try to muster the strength to continue on with our lives.

In the meantime, practice your writing and if are not a writer but wish to be, begin reading. The best way to introduce yourself to the world of prose or poetry is to read it.

As you choose different books and authors, try to choose a style that seems to suit you. Use that style to develop your own style. Become a storyteller of the wilderness as Jack London did, or a poet and learn to write in 'dialect' like James Whitcomb Riley.



So, I am in the process of writing my 'autobiography'. It contains being born in West Virginia at a very young age. It shows what it is like to live in the west Virginia wilderness, what it was like to run into discrimination when I started school in Columbus, Ohio, how the West Virginia relatives and my parents affected my outlook on life through my life's journey.

Or you could write and illustrate a children's book as one of the LVAG members has done. The point is, we may have a long hard winter with little ability to travel so get a few books, read them, grab a computer or pen, pencil and paper and prepare for the day our London Arts Center

opens for we will be full of art displays as well as the recreation of our 'Writers Group'

### A VERY GOOD READ

Several years ago, when I first joined the LVAG, Bob Rea, a good friend of mine, gave me a book It was "A Cherokee Feast of Days". It was written by Sequiche Hifler and is a handbook of daily meditation.

I have to tell you, I have been reading this paperback every single day and have to admit, it is quite inspirational.

I am not an avid reader but prefer short paragraphs and thought-provoking words. The daily meditations have hit home more often than not. This is just a suggestion, but I hope you will take the time to check it out. "It is worth the read"

If you have a book or article that has hit home with you send it to our editor Jim Donohoe at ohkrill4@yahoo.com to possibly be used in the newsletter..

*Sandy Fox*

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The risks from the virus are still very high, but there is finally an end in sight, the vaccine. Thanksgiving is near and after turkey day Christmas is only a month away. So, be vigilant. Stay Safe. Follow all health protocols and keep in contact with family.

When I lived in Phoenix, Arizona I could not find a church I felt comfortable in until a person suggested I try the Casa. The Casa was a Franciscan retreat and called the Franciscan Renewal Center. The retreat was Catholic. I was not Catholic, but I tried the Casa. I went back a second time, and I continued for the remainder of the ten Years I was in Arizona.

The teachings and the feel of being comforted in that little chapel, it did not hold a hundred people unless they sat on the alter and in the aisles, which they did every worship day, carried me through many trying times in those ten years and have continued to comfort me.

In times like these when, things are not going well, comfort and understanding are important. It is there. Sometimes you don't even need to search for it just seems to form there when you say, "What am I ever going to do?"

We are now on the brink of winter when things may become worse so try and focus on the good parts of

winter like Thanksgiving and Christmas and the beauty that surrounds the holidays.



I dug up a few photos from past winters that may show the beautiful side of our troubled world. The earth (Mother Nature) also feels our pain but always tries to give us relief through her beauty.

Winter photos



And artwork

Just remember that after the clouds retreat and the sun returns to all its splendor things look much brighter. Our health situation and the economy will be improving, the gallery will be open, and we will be on the mend. Those who have left us will still be remembered, including Margie's husband and lifelong friend.

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Remember, if you have any questions concerning the newsletter contact Jim Donohoe at [ohkrill4@yahoo.com](mailto:ohkrill4@yahoo.com). For questions concerning the gallery contact Sandy Fox at 937-207-7400. Enjoy the holidays and we will see you next year.

## MORE WINTER PHOTOS



Cubes of Ice formed overnight in the bird bath at -1



**Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas to everyone.**

Be sure to go to bed early Christmas eve or Santa won't come with your presents.