



3035 Wilmington Pike  
Kettering, Ohio 45429



**Executive Committee:**

Marti Goetz, President  
Bruce Coppock, Vice President  
Ed Kimmich, Treasurer  
Tami Kirby, Secretary  
Matt Arntz  
Paul Gruner

**Members at Large:**

Donna Berkeley  
Richard and Susan Boesch  
Emily Bowman  
Pat Cavanaugh  
Marva Cosby  
Tammy Eady  
Fred Hatton  
Mike King  
Suman Mediratta  
Lou Peluso  
Tim Pittman  
Michael Schrand  
Megan Taylor

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Dayton, Ohio  
Permit No. 855

## WCA'S ART IN THE COMMUNITY

We Care Arts is proud of its artists and the work that they do. In addition to displaying their artwork in our gift shop and gallery, we make many pieces available for exhibition throughout the community, including a recent exhibit at Wright State University, which highlighted the work of artists with disabilities.

We have art displayed at Miami Valley South Hospital in the third floor waiting room. We are happy to brighten patients' days with colorful artwork as they wait for their appointment. Throughout May, our participants' work will be on display at DP&L's corporate offices.

You can also find our participants' art at the Kettering Grill & Cafe. As a new restaurant in town with a limited decorating budget, they needed artwork to complement the space. Our participant's paintings were a perfect choice. Please stop by and enjoy a tasty meal while gazing at our client's wonderful work!

All of the art is priced and available for sale. Take an original work of art home with you today and help support our local artists.

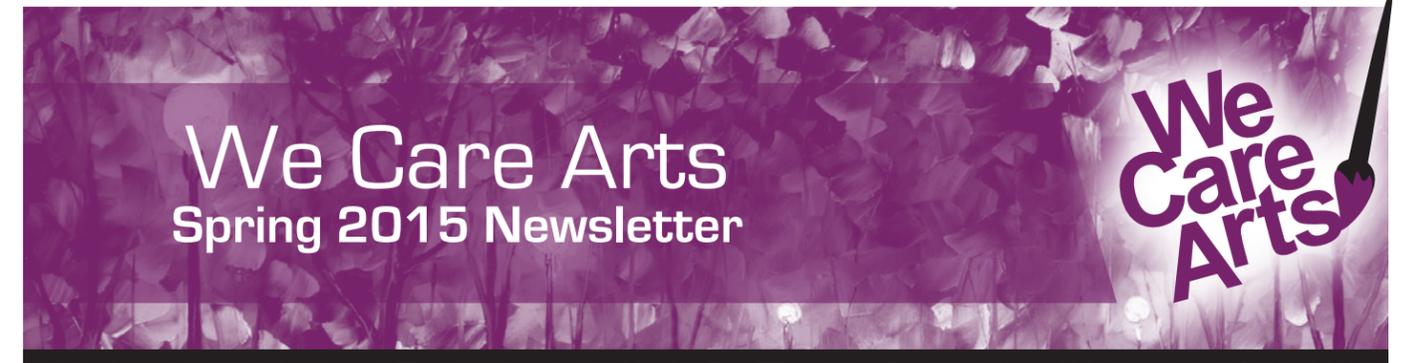


## WE'VE ADDED NEW LOCATIONS: EATON AND MIAMI VALLEY SOUTH

In March, new WCA staff member George Zubrick began providing bi-monthly art classes at The Jefferson House in Eaton. The Jefferson House provides structure and job training for people who have been "socially and vocationally disabled by mental illness." The Jefferson House members and staff are very excited about adding art to their vocational training opportunities. They decided they wanted to start with a sewing project so George found some durable fabric with which to make tote bags. He reports that the participants are enjoying themselves. Their work will be available for sale at WCA's gift shop and online.

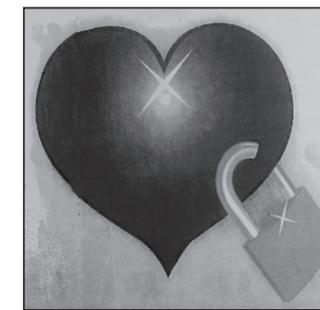
This month we started taking Art on a Cart to the Miami Valley Hospital South Cancer Center. The cart will be fully stocked with all kinds of art supplies so that patients receiving chemo treatments, and their companions, can make art during their session. They choose the materials and we provide the instruction. If they want to paint with watercolors, or sketch, or make a piece of jewelry, we simply pull a kit off the cart and they are ready to create! During our first visit, making memory wire bracelets was the most popular project.

We are happy to be able to provide a diversion for those facing a challenging time in their lives.



## THE DAYTON MALL'S

### "LOVE LOCK" PROJECT:



Would you like to become part of an ever-evolving art piece? Throughout May, We Care Arts will partner with the Dayton Mall's "Love Lock" project.

Each month, the Dayton Mall supports a different Miami Valley nonprofit by selling colorful "Love Lock" padlocks. You write a mes-

sage of hope and love on the padlock and add it to the "Dayton's Big Heart Sculpture," which is located in front of JC Penny inside the mall. One hundred percent of the proceeds benefit We Care Arts in May.

Please go out to the Dayton Mall, and purchase a lock. On May 30, 2015 from 1:00 to 4:00 Pinot's Palettes and We Care Arts will have a table full of locks and paint and brushes. That day you can write on your lock, and paint it, too!

#### Pinot's Palette

Here's another way to "fundraise creatively!" Pinot's Palette has agreed to host a special class at their art studio at 2826 Miamisburg-Centerville Road to benefit We Care Arts. The cost of the class is \$35, with \$10 going to WCA. The can hold up to 60 individuals in the classroom. The date has not been determined yet but we will keep you posted. Watch for our Facebook and email posts. You can also go on their website for more information: [www.PinotsPalette.com/Miamisburg](http://www.PinotsPalette.com/Miamisburg). 937-432-9481.

## PHYSICIANS CHARITABLE FUND Purchases New Press and Printer

In January, the Physician's Charitable Fund awarded We Care Arts with a grant to purchase a new sublimation printer, press, ink, and...latte cups! The sublimation printer and press allow us to copy art onto a special paper, which is then adhered, using high heat, to practical items like mugs, trivets, and plates. In addition to the equipment, the Fund provided money to purchase latte cups, which will be adorned with our participants' art. Look for this new line of products online and at our Wilmington Pike gift shop.

## UP-COMING EVENTS: ARTS AND DRAFTS

August 1, 2015, 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Arts and Drafts combines the art of tattooing with home brewing! Local, national, and internationally renowned tattoo artists donate pieces they create as auction items to benefit WCA! Our first year, these amazing artists used skateboard decks as their canvas; last year, they painted mannequin torsos. This year, they will use vinyl record albums.

The addition of a home-brewing contest will make this event even more fun! We are recruiting home-brewers asking them to put their beer to the test. Attendees will be given the opportunity to sample and vote on the best brew of the evening.

Not only that, but Zombie Dogz food truck and The Motel Beds band are on board! It's going to be a blast! We just need EVERYONE to pray for a beautiful summer evening!

Of course, our gift shop will be open throughout the evening so you can purchase a lovely gift for you or a friend!

## FALL EVENT:

October 1, 2015

This year, we're trying something new! Saturdays in the fall are incredibly busy for everyone; between soccer games, football games, and raking leaves, it's hard to carve out an afternoon. So, instead of a traditional style show, we will host an after-work event at the NCR Country Club. If you have attended and enjoyed the style show, we hope that you'll join us!

## NEW TECH SYSTEM

Thanks to the Virginia Kettering Foundation

In 2014, We Care Arts conducted a technology survey that validated the need to replace our woefully outdated computer system. We were in serious danger of losing all of our data unless we installed a new server and router, and replaced our 10-year old (mostly donated) computers.

We received notification from the Virginia Kettering Foundation that we have been awarded funding to purchase all that we will need to update our system. This grant will assure that our client data will remain intact and that we will be able to operate the agency more efficiently.

Thank you to the board of the Virginia Kettering Foundation for their ongoing support.



## VOLUNTEER CORNER

Jason Young, one of our favorite volunteers, used to drive by our studio on Watervliet and wonder what kind of "art place" we were, since he is an artist himself. When he saw our new building on Wilmington Pike, he decided he had to come and check us out! That was back in 2011, and he has been a loyal volunteer ever since.

He started helping at art teacher Sharen's Thursday afternoon class, which he thought was awesome, since it was exciting, relaxing and creative; everything he loves. Jason is a wonderful cartoonist and he likes to draw autobiographical comic books that tell little stories, describe something funny, or give a life lesson. He drew a cartoon for We Care Arts' 30th anniversary, depicting clients, volunteers, and staff explaining why they love We Care Arts.

He tells us that he and Linda Tokish (pictured) are going on a crime spree, knocking over banks and jewelry stores, and eating peaches. (don't ask!) And he may write a comic book about it

## OUR INTERN



Over the past three months, we were fortunate to have Mallory Holler, a Wright State University student majoring in Rehabilitation, as an intern. Mallory is incredibly bright with an effervescent personality. She also happens to have Brown-Vialetto-Van Laere Syndrome, a rare,

progressive, neurodegenerative motor neuron disorder. She is deaf, legally blind, and a quadriplegic. Mallory, however, is a determined young woman who sets high goals for herself and achieves them.

When she came for her interview at We Care Arts, she arrived with her interpreters, nurses, and Sparrow, her beautiful service dog. We immediately nicknamed them her "minions!" She was well prepared and armed with a long list of questions; she wanted to make sure that We Care Arts was the best fit for HER as well! On her first day, we gave her 3 assignments. They were to conduct an accessibility study for our upstairs offices (inherited from the previous owner), to write biographies and product descriptions for our online gift shop, and to provide American Sign Language classes for our clients. For the accessibility study, she scheduled contractors to offer bids and researched poten-

tial funders for the project. Writing the online gift shop biographies gave her a chance to get to know many of our clients. And she also enjoyed working with the clients in the sign language classes and she even made a chart that we keep in the kitchen so everyone can learn a new language!

When Mallory completed her projects, we let her have some fun! First, we needed to find a way for her to paint. She patiently tried all kinds of tools and positions to see what would work the best. Finally, we attached a paintbrush to the brim of a hat so that she could paint by moving her head. First, she created a painting that she kept. Then she painted a vinyl album that will be auctioned off this summer at our upcoming fundraiser, Arts and Drafts. Since we were getting ready for The Garden Party, she decided to paint two flowerpots. They sold before they even made it into the store, and she has orders for two more!



Sadly, Mallory's last day at We Care Arts was on April 25, and she will be sorely missed! Mallory isn't the only one to have learned a lot as a result of this internship. Her time with us reminded each of us that when there is a will, there IS a way. It may not be the "traditional" way but that doesn't matter.

She graduates May 2, 2015, Magna Cum Laude, and all of us will be celebrating right along with her and her family. We were lucky to be part of her experience. She made a big difference in the lives of those with whom she worked; we hope she learned something from us too.

## WELCOME TO NEW ART INSTRUCTOR,

**George Zubrick**

We would like to welcome George Zubrick, our newest staff member. George taught art in public schools for 38 years, most recently for the Centerville City District. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Dayton and a Master's of Art Education from Wright State University. In addition to working with WCA, he teaches art classes at the Dayton Art Institute and on cruise ships! George volunteers for the Centerville Police Department and is a member of the Centerville and Dayton Ham Radio Clubs.

## A HEART-FELT THANK YOU!

Miracles happen every day at We Care Arts! The Safety and Facilities Committee told us that we needed to purchase an AED/defibrillator, which would cost the agency at least \$3,000.00. Board members Rich and Susan Boesch conducted research on the type of AED we needed and recommended that we purchase it from HeartSine.

We called the company and told them about We Care Arts and our needs to assure we would get the correct set. We are so pleased that they decided to provide the AED equipment, including the unit, the pads (plus a set for children), and the cabinet, at no cost to us! A big THANK YOU to this very generous company!

## 2015 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

By the time this newsletter is published we will have had conducted three fundraisers! Wow, so much accomplished in just a few months!

### Spring Auction:

Our annual Spring Auction took place Friday, March 13 at the Presidential Banquet Center. We had the highest attendance ever! We are so grateful for the many sponsors who helped make the event such a success. This year, we were able to raise \$54,000.00 to support our programming. The auction items, as always, were amazing, and many of them were created by our own talented participants! They contributed handcrafted jewelry, paintings, wood pieces, fiber art items including knitted and sewn items and much more. Many thanks to those willing to donate their time and talent to help ensure that We Care Arts remains a place where they can make art, and feel at home.

Special thanks to RTA, which donated of bus passes valued at \$1,000.00 and to the bidders who more than quintupled their donation by "bidding" an additional \$5,600.00 on them! These tickets will enable participants without transportation to attend programming on a regular basis.

### Garden Party:

The Garden Party, sponsored by Knollwood Garden Center, was held on Saturday May 2 with volunteer support from the Generation Dayton group. They helped to set up the event and created some "preplanted" pots of flowers on Friday. The day of the event, we sold Knollwood gift cards, beautiful flowers, and hand-painted flowerpots created by our participants. New this year was a make and take project. If you were a lucky mom or grandma, you received a marigold planted in a pot painted by your favorite kiddo for Mother's Day!

Thank you to all who came and purchased Knollwood gift cards (we make \$4.00 on each card) and for those who purchased flowers and garden items.

### An Evening at the Races:

Over one hundred people gathered at the Presidential Banquet Center on May 8 to cheer on their favorite horse! Many thanks to dedicated volunteers, Ron and Sue Labatzky, who run the show! We'd also like all of the people and businesses who sponsored the races and who purchased horses. If you weren't able to make it this year, plan on joining us next May!

### Shop and support us!

Just by doing your everyday shopping, you can support our clients! Dorothy Lane Market, Kroger, and Amazon Smile make it easy for you to sign up for their community support programs.

For Dorothy Lane Market, go to their website <http://www.dorothylane.com/clubdlm/goodneighbor.pl>. Type in your Club card number and our Charity ID (it's 613). And then every time you shop there, you will be helping us!

On Kroger's website <https://www.kroger.com/communityreward> sign up using your email address. Pick your favorite Kroger store and support us every time you shop!

At Amazon Smile <https://smile.amazon.com/>, sign up using your email, type in We Care Arts and click the Search button, and select us to be an advocate for our artists!

## SHOP FROM HOME!

Visit Our Online Gift Shop



WCA staff, along with Mallory Holler, our intrepid intern, worked diligently to add new items to our online gift shop! In March, we added 22 new items, including women's scarves, jewelry, and baby bibs. Soon, we'll add some fabulous silk paintings. Check out our participants beautiful work!

Your purchases, both online and in our gift shop, support our programming and help our artists attain a level of financial independence. Participants receive 30% of the selling price of each item they create. For many of the artists who are on a fixed income, this extra money is very important.



Shopping our online gift shop is easy to do! When you visit our website at [www.wecarearts.org](http://www.wecarearts.org), click on the brush on the left labeled "Gift Shop." From there, you can add items to your shopping cart and check out with PayPal!

## WCA RECEIVES A GRANT FROM WSU

Kathryn Rossman, a student at Wright State University and a member of the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance, recently completed an assignment: to write a grant to the Student Philanthropy Project in support of We Care Arts. The class voted on a number of grants and decided to award the funding to us! We received a gift of \$1,500.00, half was raised by the students; the other half came as a match from a WSU professor. Terry Schalnat, WCA's Executive Director attended the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance's award ceremony on April 23 to accept the donation. We would like to thank the students for choosing WCA, and think that Kathryn deserves an A+!

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

You'll enjoy some of the funny and touching videos we have on our YouTube channel. Just search for We Care Arts and see what we've been up to! We also have a wonderful blog at [wecarearts.blogspot.com](http://wecarearts.blogspot.com) which highlights some of the fun art projects we do with our high school programs. We're always posting things on Facebook to highlight our clients and classes, as well as our events. Go to our online gift shop at <http://www.wecarearts.org/shopping/home> and check out the beautiful things waiting just for you! As always, you can go to our website at [www.wecarearts.org](http://www.wecarearts.org) and learn about the programs we offer and ways that you can get involved! If we don't have your email just give us a call at 252-3937 or email [tschalnat@wecarearts.org](mailto:tschalnat@wecarearts.org)