

THE KELLY

Spring 2018

Canvas™

artists collectors members sponsors patrons volunteers art lovers



The first annual *Tulotoma Art Trail* in downtown Wetumpka *“promises to be a really exciting day with something for everyone.”*

TULOTOMA BECKONS

Artists, quilters, musicians, historians, high school teachers, students and recycling enthusiasts—what do these groups have in common? The answer is that soon they will all be mixed together in the crater bowl of Wetumpka. On Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., the entire downtown will be transformed into a massive art haven with art booths, demonstrations, children’s activities, gardening and music.

Free to visitors, this inaugural event of the Tulotoma Art Trail is combining the work of all the many art groups in Wetumpka, with the much-appreciated support of the City, Earth Day Group, and Alabama 200 Anniversary Group. Original brain child of Carol Hickman, the president of The Kelly, it blossomed into a huge event when so many agreed to pitch in. Main Street Wetumpka has been an especially valued partner, helping with all the planning and organization. Its mission is to revitalize downtown Wetumpka; inviting artists and visitors into the businesses definitely addresses that goal. Not only will 30 individual artists, working in oil, watercolor, pastels, photography and woodworking, be displaying and selling, but there will be multiple group exhibits as well.

Imagine a guitarist in the Wetumpka Players Depot Theater, quilts hanging from the stairs in the Chamber of Commerce, an 84-yr-old novice painter demonstrating modern abstract art at Artquest, a cookie-decorating booth, and children doing something interesting with paint and shaving cream (really?) by the courthouse steps, and the unveiling of a new downtown mural as a varied sampling of the delights. Wetumpka is eager to see the new Alley Yard Historic Timeline Mural that will depict the history of Wetumpka and decorate a new park area in the center of the historic downtown.

The Kelly itself will be displaying a special group of private art collections rarely seen. Also in the Administrative Center is one of the Elmore County Art Guild’s exhibits. With over 50 members, the Guild has ongoing exhibits at the library, the theater, and the Chamber of Commerce. Several art teaching centers—Jasmine Hill, Artquest, and River Region Art Center—will have their own displays and demonstrations.



Throughout the **Main Street** area, the visiting artists will display inside participating businesses. The streets will stay open, with several large parking areas available. The Elmore County History Museum and Black History Museum will open, the latter with a quilting display. The library is participating by offering story time. The recycling center is even getting into the act by offering free compost in honor of Earth Day while the Master Gardeners are presenting their annual “plant swap” at the Courthouse steps.

While labeled an “art walk,” it has become so widespread that Hickman was thrilled to announce several generous donations of minibuses and vans that will be making continuous circuits. “We’ll have maps distributed throughout and a time line for events,” she assures, “because there are so many activities in different locations.”

Many volunteers and sponsors are involved as well. Besides getting help from The Kelly members, Hickman notes that The Wetumpka Fine Arts Club, Three Seasons Art Club, Rumbling Waters Art Club and Boy Scouts Troop #30 are volunteering. The Rumbling Waters group will man a very **convenient information booth in front of the County Courthouse**, where the local teachers are hosting the children’s events outside. One group will sub for artists who need breaks from their booths, another is aiding the teachers, and The Wetumpka Fine Arts Club has also donated cash prizes for the best booth competition.

In the meantime, the county school children are already gearing up for a recycled art contest in honor of Earth Day, which happens to fall on the 22nd. Their work will be on display and awards given. Artists are painting furiously to offer large and small, framed and unframed, works for sale. Musicians are practicing. Gardeners are tending their plants. Eager visitors are getting out their walking shoes.

“My greatest hope,” says Kelly President Hickman, “was to see collaboration among all the many art groups in our community. So many people and groups have stepped up to help. I am very glad to hand over leadership responsibility to Event Chairman Charlotte Whetstone. The whole festival is so much better than I had imagined. It all is coming together and promises to be a really exciting day with something for everyone. Don’t miss it!”

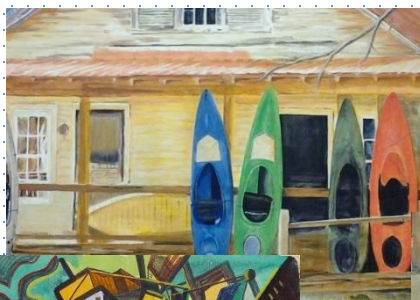
– Libby J. Christensen



Event Map

SPONSORS and VOLUNTEERS:

The City of Wetumpka
Kelly Fitzpatrick
Memorial Gallery
Main Street Wetumpka
Bennett’s Archery
Rumbling Waters Art Club
Three Seasons Art League
Wetumpka Fine Arts Club
Boy Scouts: Troup # 30





Quarterly newsletter of the Kelly
Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery

Carol Hickman, President

Contributors include:

June Carpenter
Libby Christensen
M. A. Fontaine
Janice Howell
Phyllis Kennedy
David Luck
Carla Luck
Sue Mehearg

Special thanks to Cookie Knot, Karen Bohman,
Nelda Vogel and Warren Jones.



The Kelly is located on the second floor,
City of Wetumpka Administrative Building,
408 S. Main Street.

334-567-5147

Open M-F / 8am - 4pm.

You're invited. Please join us.
Admission Free. Elevator accessible.

Issue One Vol 1:

Tulotoma Beckons: Inaugural *Tulotoma Art Trail* previewed ([cover story](#))

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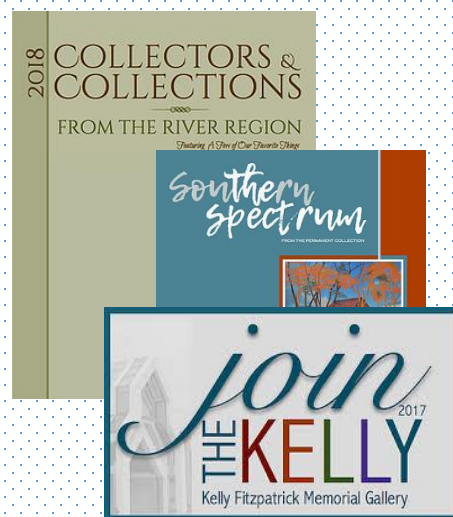
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<https://www.thekelly.org>

The Gallery is a
nonprofit corporation
formed to inspire and
educate by promoting
the arts.

The Kelly thanks all of
our members, volunteers
and sponsors.



Canvas

APRIL

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	 
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Tue Apr 3 Wed Apr 4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	 
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	11:30 am-1:00 pm
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	 
29	30	Ongoing Public Exhibits M - F 10:00 am - 4:00 pm					10:00 am-4:00 pm

MAY

		1	2	3	4	5	Executive Committee Meeting 1:30-2:30pm 
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	 
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11:30 am-1:00 pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	29	30	31	Collectors & Collections: Spring Exhibit Closes Thurs May 31 @ 4:00pm		

JUNE

Executive Committee Meeting Tues June 12 1:30-2:30pm					1	2	Spring Art Pick Up / Summer Art Delivery Fri Jun 1 10:00 am-1:00 pm
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Summer Exhibition Installation Sat Jun 2 10:00 am-7:00 pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Summer Exhibit Opens Fri Jun 8 - Sat Jun 9
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Summer Exhibition Reception Tues Jun 12 5:30-7:00 pm
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	<div><div><div>Tuesdays WITH KELLY</div></div><div></div></div> <div>11:30 am-1:00 pm</div>



TOC

2018 Spring Quarterly Exhibits & Events

Portrait of an Artist: Marguerite W. Edwards



Marguerite Edwards was born into a family of artists that included her mother, father, uncle and grandfather. Her grandfather, Frank “Spang” Spangler, was a political cartoonist for the *Montgomery Advertiser* and a friend of Kelly Fitzpatrick. He first inspired Marguerite’s love of painting. Her talent was further nurtured by her parents. Her father, Chuck Whitehead, continued to paint until his death at age 94.

In addition to her B. A. from Birmingham-Southern College and coursework at Huntingdon College and the University of Alabama, Marguerite attended the Art Students League in New York City for seven to eight years. There she became interested in painting portraits.

Portraits by Marguerite now hang in public buildings throughout Alabama and the Southeast, as well as private collections. She also loves landscape and still life painting. When asked about her preference, she replies “People.”



Since 1977, Marguerite has been the recipient of numerous awards, most recently receiving Second Place from the Alabama Pastel Society as well as Honorable Mention from the Montgomery Art Guild for a work that also was exhibited in Italy. Represented by Portraits Inc. of New York and Birmingham for over 30 years, she is now retired and has a new studio at her home.



“One never quits learning. At the end, you’ve created something.”

On Painting Portraits

In describing her painting process, Marguerite says she first meets with the subject. They first agree on a pose. The subject then comes to her studio for three to four sittings. She may use photos when focusing on clothing details, but she prefers to paint from life.

“The artist starts with the ideal and goes from there, giving people their character. It is the portrait artist’s job to eliminate the negative and accentuate the positive. The work evolves. The clothes or the background set the tone. One thing plays on another until the work is complete.”



Lifelong Learning

Marguerite recalls her mother giving her paper and crayons, instructing her to draw an egg, and then add eyes in the middle – not the top, finishing with a face. It was the beginning of lifelong learning. Over the years, she has continued to take lessons from the Portrait Society of America and landscape courses from Tennessee artist Chris Groves. Marguerite aptly sums up her legacy by stating, “One never quits learning. At the end, you’ve created something.”

– June Carpenter



Sculptor Craigger Browne Visits *Tuesdays with Kelly*



Browne studied sculpture in France and Italy for two years before returning to Alabama and discovering Sylacauga marble.

Browne at the Kelly – March 20

“They’re in there, I promise!” — “they” being Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan, “there” being an enormous block of marble weighing 24,000 pounds. Craigger Browne was referring to what would become his sculpture of the iconic moment at the water pump. Commissioned by the Lions Club of Alabama, *The Warmth of Enlightenment* now lives at Ivy Green, Helen’s childhood home.

On the surface, Craigger’s presentation at Tuesdays with Kelly on March 20 was a show-and-tell about the construction of the sculpture. It was also equal parts explanation of his concept for *The Warmth of Enlightenment*, discourse on the role of public art in general, tribute to Helen and Anne themselves, and “shameless plug” for Sylacauga’s Marble Festival.

In the sculpture, Anne is slumped and drained from the exertion of relentlessly trying to educate Helen, who is arched upward with her face to the sun—finally understanding. Together their arms form a heart, symbolizing their hard-won love. Craigger’s aim was to “capture joy,” which comes in the third stage of sculpting. First, he makes designs on paper. Then, he uses geometry to make meticulous measurements of every part, down to fingernails. Finally, he carves—breathing life into his sculpture by *feel*. ▶



Tuesdays with Kelly happen on the third Tuesday of each month at The Kelly from noon to 1:00. Please bring a bag lunch. Drinks and sweets are provided.



Craigger’s 24,000-lb. “The Warmth of Enlightenment” now resides at Helen Keller’s childhood home, Ivy Green.



TOC



Craigger likens sculpting to a combination of brain surgery, in that all parts are inextricably linked to one another, and construction, with its arduous physical demands. All public art, Craigger believes, should communicate with the whole community: “What’s good about us,” whether we’re 3 or 103 years old?

With *The Warmth of Enlightenment*, he felt compelled to “appease” viewers’ preconceived ideas about Helen and Anne. At the same time, he wanted the sculpture to be “fresh and new.” After all, “none of us can be Helen Keller, but all of us can be Anne Sullivan. And Helen Keller changed the world.”

Originally from Birmingham, Craigger graduated from Vestavia Hills High School and the University of Montevallo. He studied sculpture in France and Italy for two years before returning to Alabama, making frequent trips back to Italy out of love for its marble. Then, at the third Marble Festival in 2011, he discovered Sylacauga’s plentiful, gorgeous stone. What he needed was in his own backyard, and in Alabama he has stayed. — C C Luck

Fine Art Dealer, Broker and Appraiser Keven Belt

Tuesdays with Kelly — April 17



Most of us rely on our own tastes in making and purchasing art. Often, though, corporations and public institutions could use a little help. This is where Keven Belt comes in with 25 years’ experience as Art Consultant to private, public, and corporate collectors.

A member of the International Society of Appraisers, Keven is co-owner of Corporate Art Source (casgallery.com) in midtown Montgomery, a company that represents several collections, artists’ estates, and regional artists. In CAS’s stable are prominent American, European, and Russian painters, as well as those of the American South, including Kelly Fitzpatrick and other members of the Dixie Art Colony.

CAS also offers a variety of consulting services related to fine art matters. The company conducts research on art that will work well for particular businesses, provides appraisals, and frames, delivers, and installs artwork—among several additional services.

Keven does not limit his expertise to corporate art. He also advises individuals. Named to the new Contemporary Committee for the 2018 Art Auction of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA), Keven helped select art that was appealing and affordable for new collectors. With another committee member, Keven wrote “12 Things to Know Before Attending the Art Auction in 2018.”

Please join us for *Tuesdays with Kelly* on April 17 when Keven Belt will share his expertise on art appraisal and the importance of establishing provenance. Prepare to be enlightened! — C C Luck



A member of the International Society of Appraisers, Keven is co-owner of Corporate Art Source (casgallery.com) in Montgomery. He co-authored “12 Things to Know Before Attending Art Auction 2018” for the MMFA.



Memories are fragile, often crumbling over time, but an outstanding photographer can capture them, creating precious gifts for future generations. That's what Suzannah Solomon Wilson does.



Suzannah's love affair with photography began early at age 15 with the gift of a camera from her parents. On family trips around Alabama, she clicked away, and in high school, she worked on the school and local newspapers. Named one of the 100 Top Young Photographers by Kodak, she attended the University of Alabama, where she worked on the *Crimson White*.

Returning home to Tallassee after graduation in 1985, Suzannah opened her first of three photography shops. Now in her own studio, Suzannah's Photography, on James Street, she enjoys a thriving business—creating portraits of everyone from babies, children, and adults to groups of tiny ballerinas to football teams to brides and grooms. Suzannah is versatile. Her guiding principle for portrait style, whether traditional or contemporary, is divining and realizing her clients' needs and desires.

Please join us for *Tuesdays with Kelly* on May 15 when Suzannah Solomon Wilson will share how she documents fleeting memories with her gorgeous portraits. To preview her work, visit suzannahsphotography.com. — C C Luck

Champion for Humanities and Art Collector, Edgar Welden

Tuesdays with Kelly — June 19

A more civic-minded Alabamian than Edgar Welden is hard "to find." An Alabamian more devoted to his hometown of Wetumpka is even *harder*.

Now retired from WeldenField, the real estate and property management firm he cofounded with his brother Charles, Edgar and his wife Louise live in Birmingham. The Weldens support artists through acquisitions for their extensive collection of art.

Even while immersed in his business, he found time to work for the enhancement of Alabama's humanities, including the arts. He also started and funded Janice Riley Memorial Scholarship, which provides seed money for social studies projects in grades K-6.

In 2010, he received the *Alabama Humanities Award*, which goes to "an individual in Alabama who has made an exemplary contribution to the public understanding and appreciation of the humanities." Five years later, Edgar was named to the Alabama Humanities Foundation Board of Directors. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.

All the while he has been serving Alabama and collecting art, Wetumpka has ever been in Edgar's heart. In the late 90s, he started Will Publishing, which released *Wetumpka: The Golden Years*, a history of Edgar's beloved hometown from 1942 through 1965.

Please join us to hear one of Wetumpka's favorite sons—Edgar Welden—at *Tuesdays with Kelly* on June 19.

— C C Luck




Reception 1 April 3rd 2018



Receptions at The Kelly are a great opportunity to meet and talk with people from every part of the River Region and beyond. Erin Rogers chairs our Receptions Committee, and her team of cooks and gracious hostesses create fabulous events. You can always count on delectable food, amiable atmosphere and stimulating conversations.

Our reception on April 3rd celebrating our current exhibit, "Collectors and Collections," was no exception. The exhibit provides a unique opportunity for private and institutional collectors to share their artworks with each other and the public.

Everyone is welcome to receptions at The Kelly. They are free, open to the public, and a great place to connect with our growing arts community. – Phyllis Kennedy 

OUR THANKS TO:

Auburn University Montgomery
Tonia and Todd Ayers
Carol and Bowen Ballard
Cindy Beumer
Hope and Jimmy Brannon
Neil Brantley
Fran and Harold Cottle
Angie and Sammy Cousins
Sunny and Ron Donaldson
Ann and Ron Drinkard
Mary Elizabeth "Ebba" Dunn
Marguerite and Winston Edwards
Ginger and Brandon Glenn
Rebecca and Frank Gregory
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Jeanette Rose Heindl Kempster
Phyllis and Crawford Kennedy
Genie and Bob Kline
Linda Lewis
Sylvia and Chick McConnell
Laurie Parham
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Judy Ruffer
The Kelly
Adelia and Wayne Turner
Joe Allen Turner
Charlotte and Mabry Whetstone
Susannah Soloman Wilson



Carol Hickman thanks collectors.



Ron and Jeanette Kempster



Butch Gantt



Charlotte and Mabry Whetstone



Artists Ann Gibson, Durand Seay, Kathy Atchison

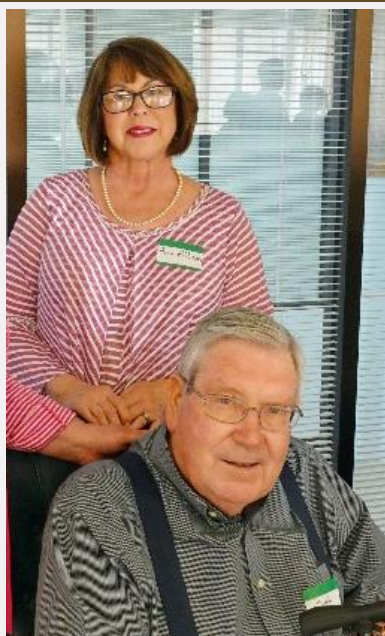
Reception continues...



Tra Cosby



Michael Morgan, Rene' Thompson



Ann and Chuck Gibson



Bettie Welden



Janice Howell and Karen Bohman



Cellist Hope Mucklow



TOC

Caravan to Sylacauga Marble Festival



Quarry to chisel, we saw sculptors bring stone to life.

It was a drizzly, chilly morning as 25 intrepid Kelly-ites set out for the Sylacauga Marble Festival on April 4th. Converging at Sylacauga's B.B. Comer Library, they heard from Tracy Thomas, the library's director, about the history of Sylacauga and the Marble Festival.

After a tour of the library's extensive sculpture collection, the group enjoyed lunch at the quaint Buttermilk Hill Restaurant.

By the next stop at Imerys-Gantt's Quarry, the sun was out, sparkling on vast expanses of pristine Sylacauga marble. There, Ted Spears, chairman of the Festival, regaled participants with stories of the history of Sylacauga's marble and its industrial and artistic uses.



The B.B. Comer Library has an extensive sculpture collection.



Imerys-Gantt's vast quarry



Buttermilk Hill Restaurant: nourishment is key to surviving an outing.



The sun was still shining as Kelly-ites viewed and visited with sculptors at work. Among the sculptors with stations in white tents were Marcello Giorgi from Italy, Rudy Medlock from Wetumpka, and Craigger Browne, sculptor in residence.

The outing came to a sweet conclusion with enormous bowls of ice cream at Blue Bell Creamery. The whole, delightful day was organized by Cookie Knott. *Thank you, Cookie! – C C Luck*



TOC

Sculptor in residence, Craigger Browne, greets Cookie Knott (R) and Barbara Bennett. Browne visited Tuesdays with Kelly on March 20th ([see p 6](#)).

Marble Festival is celebrating its 10th Anniversary through April 14th.



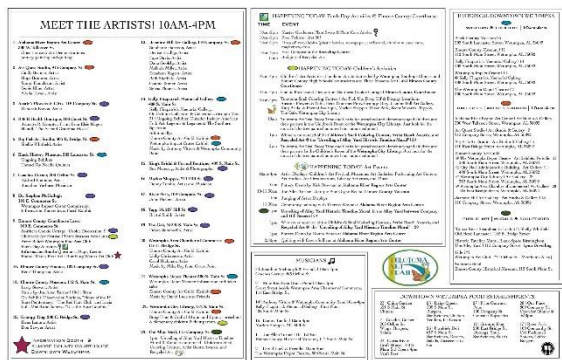
Saturday, April 21st
10am — 4pm



Map & Program



DOWN
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SPONSORS | DONORS | VOLUNTEERS

The City of Wetumpka
Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery
Main Street Wetumpka
Bennett's Archery
Rumbling Waters Art Club
Three Seasons Art League
Wetumpka Fine Arts Club
Boy Scouts: Troup # 30



TOC



From the Inside

I was asked to be on the planning committee for the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery in 2011. At the time, it was just an idea, and was formed as a hybrid between a museum and a gallery. We collect and show art.

I am amazed how far we have come in just six years. We have hosted hundreds of artists and staged about 60 different exhibitions. Artist range from children, emerging, established and professional artists. We have presented artists from all over the United States and world.

The current Spring exhibit, and its Summer sequel, are called "Collectors and Collections." This is such a novel idea that we may be the first gallery to exhibit collections by local people. The work in the Spring exhibit is fabulous and I'm sure the Summer "Collectors and Collections" edition will be equally impressive.

All of this could not be accomplished without our sponsors, members, and people who have donated art to the gallery. We have had 59 sponsors for our projects. Currently, we have over 100 members, and 30 people who have donated art to The Kelly. If you would like to be included in one of these categories, please contact me.

If it sounds like I'm bragging, that's because I am. I'm so proud of The Kelly and what we have accomplished in such a short time. Thank you to all who have made our success possible.

— Carol Hickman, President
334-567-5147