



P R E S S R E L E A S E
Sea Grape Artists Gallery
113 West Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda 33950
941-575-1718

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Sea Grape Gallery's Artists of Month for July-August 2021

From July 1 to September 2, 2021 Sea Grape Gallery will be featuring two of their artists, Jim Beech, watercolorist and acrylic artist and Bonnie Benande, potter.

Jim Beech's background is primarily advertising design, graphic design and Marketing Communications. However, he always had a passion for painting and began studying the art of watercolor painting under a prominent illustrator in Pennsylvania. During that time, Jim began to sell his work, mostly watercolor landscapes and buildings of unusual character. Since Jim always loves to tell stories, he began adding boats, ships and other waterfront scenes to his list of story-telling subjects. He feels his art leaves the viewer wondering what might have gone on just before the image was captured. As Jim explains, "I want the viewer to see the history and let the imagination help create a sense of having been there." Jim's goal of creating a certain mood or sensation certainly comes through when viewing each of his artworks.

Bonnie Benande always had a love for pottery. While living in North Carolina, where pottery was so popular, she had the opportunity to join the local art center giving her a chance to focus on her own creative skills by learning the art of creating both wheel thrown and hand-built pottery. After a couple years, Bonnie and her husband were transferred to New Jersey where she had to put her art aside to focus on a full-time corporate career. However, upon retiring to Florida, she again went back to the art world by taking classes with several local potters. Bonnie's stoneware pottery features much of the sea life, flora and fauna of Florida. She often incorporates shells, turtles, dragon flies and palm trees on her functional and decorative pottery.

Many of Jim's beautiful paintings and Bonnie's stoneware pottery are prominently on display at the Sea Grape Gallery. In addition, more of their art and the artworks of all Sea Grape artists can be viewed at www.seagrapegallery.com.

Sea Grape Gallery is celebrating their 33-year Anniversary this year. Over the years, the Gallery has been awarded the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce's Special Recognition Award and has consistently won the Charlotte Sun Newspaper's Readers' Choice Award for Best Art Gallery. Come visit the Gallery and its many talented award-winning artists who are on hand to welcome and assist visitors.

Sea Grape Gallery is located at 113 W. Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda and can be reached at 941-575-1718.