

**EUCLID ART ASSOCIATION**  
**January 8, 2018 - Members' Night 'Show and Tell'**  
**William Kless**



Our first presenter, William Kless, joined Euclid Art in 2017. He travels to our monthly meetings from Aurora, OH. He has a very successful and distinguished career as a graphic artist and teacher. William says that he does things that he likes....like preserving Cleveland memories. How many of you remember going to Euclid Beach as a kid? His posters of *Euclid Beach Park* and *Laughing Sal* bring back those memories. William also did posters commemorating the *Shaker Rapid*, *Chippewa Lake*, *Cedar Point* and *Lake Erie Island*. And, if you are a train enthusiast, you'll enjoy these amazing train prints.



William's interest in art started at a young age, around 10 years old. His first painting was a landscape using powdered tempera paints on card board, which he still has and brought to show us. It's amazing at that young age how he was able to capture the light! In 1967, he was drafted out of college for Viet Nam. The army was looking for an artist to make a Fort Knox welcome sign. William said "Yes, Sir! I can do that." He flunked out of radio school....too visual....and became an artist celebrity, painting 7 murals, getting paid and only ever painting one tank! After the army, he went to Tri-C for art, followed by seven job offers. He accepted a job at an ad agency but soon changed direction. He went back to school at Kent State for vocational art education. He became the first certified and qualified commercial artist in the State of Ohio. He taught and developed curriculum for vocational art at Tri-C, even hiring artist, Bob Moyer, as a teacher. He's been told that he has the "best hand skills" in the county.....and after seeing his art, I think you will agree.