



The Villages Art League Newsletter

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS - 1989 - 2014

August 2014

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time." Thomas Merton

The President's Message

Heat and thunderstorms. There has been a lot of that lately. Those of you who participated in the Summer Art Festival managed to get all packed up and out before the heavens opened up with a heavy downpour. A few of us weren't so lucky so we sat and watched as sheets of water kept us inside and unable to leave. Seems like late afternoon thunderstorms have been the normal for the past few summers. Didn't this happen last year?

The Summer Art Festival was crowded with people thanks to the efforts of Billie Edwards and all of you who passed around those flyers and got the word out. Helen Gromadzki put together a fantastic lineup of artists' demonstrations that proved to be very popular, and the raffle table was busy all day and four lucky winners got to bring home a piece of fabulous art.

The Villages Art league has been offered a wonderful opportunity to showcase our fine art in the Eisenhower Regional Recreation Center. It is a beautiful building that is as close to a museum as anything around here. Hosting this new venue with the Recreation Department, the Art League will celebrate the history of our club by featuring the artwork of our members who were Presidents over the past 25 years. The Art Exhibit will have its inaugural debut on August 18 with an opening reception. Everyone is invited to come and share in the celebration. The committee and the Recreation Department wanted the first exhibit to be about our history and celebration of our 25 years. With that in mind invitations have been sent to all the Presidents that The Villages Art League has had as far back as 1994 with Eleanor Simmons as President and founder of our club and more recently in 2001 and up to the present day as a way of showing our appreciation for their contributions to the Art League. There are 10 Presidents' still here and living in The Villages. This exhibit of the Presidents' artwork will hang until October 20 and then the first change-out to another exhibit will hang until January 19, ensuring that we do not run into holidays. From that point on every 2 months, on the second Monday of the month, the exhibit will change. Dates will soon be posted for 2015.

We received a large number of responses from the survey for the Eisenhower Art Exhibit and it gave us enough feedback to help us plan ahead. 47 of you responded and we thank you. There is limited wall space and only room for a certain number of paintings at one time and that was taken into consideration when a size limit was put in effect now. With a 2-month turn-around everyone who wants to put a painting in will have the opportunity. Suggestions and ideas are welcomed along with volunteers to help register paintings for upcoming exhibits.

Happy Painting, Nancy



Nancy Dias

La Galleria Exhibit "Inspired by the Masters" will be on September 6.
More information about the show, its rules and registration form are on the website: www.thevillagesartleague.org.



Artist of the Month—Margie Picard

I was born in a small town in Nebraska and when I was five we moved to Lincoln where I spent all of my school years. I took every art course that was available to me while in school and have always done some form of art either through crafts, sewing or painting. It is all a gift that I have been blessed with. I have created art with acrylics, oils, hot wax (encaustics), pen & ink, dyes and watercolors.

The last couple of years before retiring in the late 90's, I took a class in watercolors in Connecticut. I found out that I really enjoyed the watercolors and what happened right on the paper, the way they flowed and all the little creative things that happened when I painted.



“MY ARTWORK ALLOWS ME TO EXPRESS MYSELF AND SHARE MY CREATIONS WITH OTHERS.”

Upon retiring to Florida I took a few lessons with Kemis Rodgers who lived in the Villages and taught at Paradise Recreation Center. She taught me how to do negative painting and her method really stuck with me. I have studied with Terry Madden (who got me to paint a little looser), Dr. Joe Robinson, Yolanda Mayhall, Karlyn Holman, Lian Zhen, Joe Miller (of Cheap Joes), Rose Edin and Sherrill Shoening plus several others. I have won many ribbons and awards and have paintings in collections throughout the world. My goal after all the workshops is to develop my own style. I enjoy painting miniatures (in the form of Art Trading Cards or Art Cards Edition and Originals) and large paintings.



In 2005, I took a class in silk painting and I have created a few silk paintings but, from that class I went on to painting silk scarves. Each scarf is hand drawn and hand painted. It is all a work of love and like the watercolors, I enjoy seeing the outcome of the mixing of colors right on the silk and all the little “accidents” that happen. I also teach Silk Scarf painting at Gallery East.



My artwork allows me to express myself and share my creations with others. I prefer to paint florals but will try almost anything. I will use photos for references but prefer to paint “out of my head.” If I draw or paint something that I really like and enjoy I may do the same painting several times.

One Blood Art Show

The votes have been counted for the art show which opened on June 3, and the winners are:

First Place: Fran Naughton “Olivia Street—Key West” **Second Place:** Bill Main “Baseball, Apple Pie and Ford”
Five Third Place winners: Cynthia Ewing “Sammy,” Charlie Clayton “Four Boats,” Norma Parcell “A Sunny Day at the Beach,” Leda Rabenold “Tranquility,” Jean Patterson “Where We Came From.”

Joal’s Fall Art Trip—Sunday, October 5th

Maitland Art Center in the morning / Art Festival around Lake Lily in the afternoon.

For details see Joal Litavsky, back of room on August 4th, or www.thevillagesartleague.org

August Program—Maggie Weakley

Maggie has a BFA in Illustrator from the Columbus College of Art and Design. She worked for Shoebox Greetings, a division of Hallmark Cards, Inc. as an Art Director for 3 years. Then she married, and became a Freelance Illustrator, working for various Greeting Card Companies and a variety of clients. She has been teaching art for the last 22 years. In 2005, she created MaggiesAngels.com and has been painting animals ever since, taking private commissions, and exhibiting in local art shows and galleries. She has the ability to paint whimsically and realistically.

Maggie loves to teach different techniques and is well versed in many mediums. Her motto is "Everyone is an Artist, you just have to learn to see." and "There are no mistakes in Art, just learning opportunities." In September, Maggie became the Social Media Strategist for the Silver Springs International Film Festival in Ocala, managing all of their Social Media accounts. She loves to learn new techniques and continues her education taking art lessons from artists she admires and shares that knowledge with her students.

Inspirational Quotes on Mixed Media Paintings in Acrylics

If you have quotes you love or mantras you tell yourself, then this class is for you. We will be creating mixed media paintings, by making our own papers, using scrap-booking materials, photos, clippings, borders, stamps, found objects, personal letters, etc. Then we will gather your favorite quotes, desires or empowering words you tell yourself and incorporate them into your paintings, creating an inspiring piece of art. You'll learn many different techniques and methods that will entice you be free and let your artist within out to play. You will get messy and love it! All levels of art experience are welcome, from beginners to advance.



"THERE ARE NO
MISTAKES IN ART,
JUST LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES"



Lifelong Learning College Art Workshops

For details or to sign up for the monthly Brush Strokes newsletter, visit www.thevillagesartworkshops.com

Fall Workshops:

Libit Jones "Addicted to Texture" [October 14-15](#)

Jeanette Robertson "Pet Drawings" [October 16](#)

Melissa Miller Nece "Secret Weapon of Color Pencil" [October 20-21](#) www.millernece.com

Kate Carney "Wild Child" Acrylic Abstract [October 23](#) www.katecarneyfineart.com

Anne Abgott "Taking Ordinary and Making Extraordinary" [Oct. 27-29](#) www.anneabgott.com

To register, call Lifelong Learning College 753-3035

Questions: Beverly Hennessy 753-1383

email: bbaug97@aol.com

Newsletter Submissions: Deadline 20th of month: leda.rabenold@gmail.com



The Villages Art League Newsletter

Business Meetings: 9-11:30 am
the first Monday of the month
at Saddlebrook Rec Center.

Officers:

President	Nancy Dias	751-1033
V-President	Pauline Vital	603-707-7326
Secretary	Helen Gromadzki	750-5651
Treasurer	Dorothy Nelson	259-0147

Chairpersons:

Artist of the Month	Bill Main	430-2923
Bank Exhibits	Diane Andrus	751-4824
Email	Bonnie Canning	259-9553
Historian	Joal Litavsky	259-0459
Membership	Margie Picard	750-1965
Newsletter Editor	Leda Rabenold	259-1918
Program	Phyllis Speicher	391-5967
Publicity	Jan Barlow	751-7910
	Jay Summers	350-2116
Refreshments	Open	
Sunshine	Charlie Clayton	750-4110
Webmaster	Leda Rabenold	352-1918
50-50 Raffle	Shirley Jerez	250-4751

Art League Places to Exhibit

New this year is the **Eisenhower Art Exhibit** in the Eisenhower Regional Rec Center. It will open with a fine art exhibit on August 18 to October 20. It is not judged and will be changed out every 2 months starting in January 2015.

The Villages Art League has a fine art exhibit in **La Galleria** at La Hacienda every year from September to December that is judged.

There is a monthly exhibit at Citizen's Bank in Spanish Springs for the **Artist of the Month** program that started in 1998.

The Villages Art League has 2 art shows a year where you can show and sell your own artwork during a one-day event:

- 1) The second Saturday during July is our **Summer Art Festival** held at Lake Miona Rec Center.
- 2) The Saturday after Thanksgiving is the **Artist Showcase** at Savannah Center.

To display a painting at the **Citizens Bank** on Rt. 466 or on Rt. 441 contact Diane Andrus 751-4824.

The **Florida Blood Center** at Spanish Plains Shopping Center has a 3-month exhibit open to all Village residents. Art pick-up and hanging-new-paintings day is always the first Tuesday of March, June, Sept. and Dec. at 10 a.m. For information call Fran Naughton 350-2169, Vivian Chaska 750-5367, Margie Picard 750-1965 or "Freddie" Venturoni 259-2577.

The Villages Art League Show Dates - For details: www.thevillagesartleague.org/

August 18	Eisenhower Exhibit/Reception	Eisenhower Rec Center
September 6	La Galleria Exhibit	La Hacienda Rec Center
October 20	Eisenhower Exhibit	Eisenhower Rec Center
November 1	Registration-Artist Showcase	Savannah Center
November 29	Artist Showcase	Savannah Center

Free Art League Workshops

MONDAY 9:00-NOON SADDLEBROOK REC CENTER
 THURSDAY 1-5 PM MULBERRY REC CENTER
 SATURDAY 8:30-11 AM PARADISE REC CENTER

August Calendar

4-Art League business meeting
 18-Eisenhower Inaugural Art Exhibit opens