



The Villages Art League Newsletter

www.thevillagesartleague.org

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July 2019

Message of our Co-President Fran:

Hello Everyone,

As you are reading this, I am in Alaska and, I'm sorry, I won't be at the meeting in July. As I usually start the meeting with a joke, here goes: "You know you're an artist when the only piece of furniture in your home is a \$2000 easel, you wash your hands BEFORE you go to the bathroom, you carry pencils instead of pens and you'd rather buy a new Kolinsky brush instead of a Big Mac, fries, a shake and ten gallons of gas!"

Our show on July 13th is fast approaching! Since I'm not at the meeting, I can't nag you about NOT complaining about anything if you decide to set up for the show the night before. We are really fortunate to be able to do this and I hope it sets a precedent for future shows.

I will be in the show so I hope to see you all there. I really have to thank the show committee, led by our vice-president Janeen Whetstone, for all the work they have done to make this show possible. They've worked for months to make it go smoothly. Sooo, if I don't get eaten by a bear, I'll see you at the show.

Fran



Diane Weekley / Fran Naughton

"Inspired by the Masters" - VAL's Fall Exhibit at the La Hacienda Rec Center is coming up with registration deadline by September 7th. The exhibit starts September 14th and runs through December 7th. Check the VAL website for the "Inspired by the Master's" Exhibit. Hope you are already working on "your Master Piece."

Directory Corrections:

Greg Smith's correct e-mail is gvsimages@gmail.com .

Betty Waisanen's correct phone number is 631-697-8659.

Artist of the Month—Phyllis Shuckstes

I live in the Village of Mira Mesa. I am from Knoxville, Tennessee but my husband David and I have resided in California, Virginia, Maryland, and South Carolina. We also lived for 8 years in Alice Springs, Australia.

I have lived in The Villages for over 5 years and I find it grand that everyone can participate in art classes at the Recreation Centers. I am so impressed with the array of talent here. I have taken art classes in Florida, California and Australia, and have worked in oils and print making and even pottery. But I prefer to work in watercolors. I have held several art shows in the past in Florida and Australia and taught painting at the community college level. In Virginia, I was involved with artists in The Torpedo Factory, and with a gallery in Occoquan. But once I was introduced to watercolors, it became my very favorite media. It is a difficult media but one that I truly enjoy. My studio is in a corner of our kitchen so I can sit and work on my latest effort whenever I get the creative urge. My art efforts today are primarily for myself and I just enjoy the free flowing art of watercolors. I like to say that I am not an artist but a watercolorist. Thank you for your interest.

The Villages Art League Summer Art Show Update

Our Summer Art Show will be held at the Lake Miona Regional Rec Center on Saturday, July 13th from 9am through to 3pm. If you are not participating as an exhibiting artist, I hope that you'll consider helping as a volunteer or drop in to support your peers.

This year we are trying something new for the exhibiting artists. All artists may set up their displays on Friday evening prior to the show. Please do not arrive earlier than 6pm as the show team needs time to verify the tables, chairs and put out the name cards. Additionally, we will not be having any snacks or refreshments, so please bring your own lunch and drinks.

For those of you who are not exhibiting at the show, we still need a few volunteers to help greet our guests and man the VAL Information Desk. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Janeen Whetstone at 352 -459-1952 or janwhet@gmail.com.

Congratulations Artists!

On April 15th Arrachme's painting "Points of Reference" was curated into international exhibition and she was accepted as an Honorary Member in the Nigde Fine Arts Association of Nigde Turkey.

On June 1st VAA's Summer Exhibit was hung at LaGalleria and these ribbons were awarded: 1st Place to Adeline Curlett, 2nd to June Allard Berte, 3rd to Susan Jane Donohoe; Award of Merit to Peggy Lefebvre; Honorable Mention to Linda Bourassa. Photography 1st Place to Eileen Sklon, 2nd to Helen Poor.

Free and in good condition...Black metal display rack, in four sections, each 2 foot wide by 6 feet tall. Has wheels and clips to put sections together. Call Ralph Bischoff at 352-586-0784 or email at ralphbischoff392@gmail.com.

VAL Summer Art Show Ad Winner Greg Smith



Greg Smith was born in Sydney, Australia, but spent the first five years of his life growing up in the coastal town of Lae, Papua New Guinea. The Family moved back to Sydney in 1953 and until 1999 Greg progressed through his schooling with his focus on a career in advertising as a commercial artist (aka graphic designer). Greg likes to claim he achieved his goal, but via the “back door.” After a few years and many attempts to gain entry into the advertising agencies conventionally, an opportunity to become second man in a 2-man commercial art studio finally opened that elusive door. Greg became a fully-fledged graphic designer with Australia’s top local and international pharmaceutical companies as the studio’s major clients. During this time, Greg attained major notoriety for the small studio when he created the presentation that won it the South Pacific contract for all the promotional artwork for the Muppets, Baby Muppet, Fraggle Rock and The Dark Crystal--all franchises of the Henson Organization.

In 1999 Greg met his wife-to-be on the internet and the two married in Sydney in his brother’s back yard; his fiancée flying from North Idaho with her son, dressed in his US Marine dress blues, to give her away. Greg’s career as a graphic designer continued in America until he and his wife retired in 2016 and life eventually delivered them to The Villages where they have lived for the last year in Orange Blossom Gardens.

Since being old enough to hold a pencil Greg has been drawing and over the years was commissioned by a growing number of clients for pet and people portraits. This was always a sideline venture to his designer career. But now Greg has the time to devote his full attention to his art and while his portrait work continues to grow, he also works at creating his own collection of art. He attributes his incentive these days to all those fellow artists he comes into contact with here in The Villages. “Seeing the high caliber of art being created here inspires me to challenge myself to continue to grow my artist gift.”

See more of his work at his web site: <http://animalsandpeoplebygregsmith.weebly.com/>



July Program—June Allard-Berte'

A native of Springfield, MA, June Allard-Berte' is one of the country's foremost portraitist. Her paintings appear internationally in private collections, restaurants, and boardrooms of major organizations. Her education is extensive starting with the University of Hartford Art School, Hartford, CT. She has been in many one woman shows and juried group shows. She has been featured in art books; Energizer Your Paintings with Color and Being An Artist.



She is an artist who is able to capture emotion in both her formal and informal paintings. June images strike a magical note. Her sense of composition is superb, it is endlessly inventive, elegant and nearly always strikes just the right balance with subject. It does not over or under power the strength of the person or place.



Private collectors of an Allard-Berte' paintings have acted on taste and private passion. Her work is bold and poetic. From the genre scenes of landscapes, farm animals, still life, her work is intimate in a way that the subject matter never could be.

She became interested in pastels because of the renown Daniel Greene oil/pastels. She studied with him for 10 years in N. Salem N.Y. each summer. He was her best teacher and lifelong friend.



Eisenhower Exhibit

A reminder that on Monday, July 8th, there will be a change out of art at the Eisenhower Rec Center from 1:00 to 2:30. If you would like to participate in this exhibit, please go to the VAL website and read the rules and information for this great opportunity to show your work and possibly sell it. Those currently exhibiting need to pick up their paintings and you can bring in another if you wish.

Fee-based Art Workshops/Classes

Art workshop information is listed on our website here: www.thevillagesartleague.org/workshops.html.

For *inclusion and to update*, send your info to leda.rabenold@gmail.com.

Register for the Villages Enrichment Academy art classes: [online](#), call 352-674-1800, or at any regional rec center.

Free Art League Workshops

MONDAY 9:00-NOON

THURSDAY 1-5 PM MULBERRY REC CENTER

SATURDAY 8:30-11 AM PARADISE REC CENTER

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



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

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Art League Places to Exhibit

Eisenhower Art Exhibit in the Eisenhower Regional Rec Center has a fine art exhibit that is not judged. Exhibit dates for 2019 are: Jan. 14, Mar. 11, May 13, July 8, Sept. 9 and Nov. 11.

La Galleria at La Hacienda from September to December.

Citizens Bank on Rt. 466, Rt. 441 or in Pinellas monthly exhibit. Also in Spanish Springs for the **Artist of the Month**.

Summer Art Festival held at Lake Miona Rec Center on July 13. **Artists' Showcase** held at Eisenhower Rec Center on October 26. VAL members can show and sell their artwork during these one-day events.