



The Villages Art League Newsletter

www.thevillagesartleague.org

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March 2021

Message from our Co-President - Diane Timperley:

Hello fellow Members! I hope you had a wonderful Valentine's Day and that many of you were able to get your COVID-19 vaccines.

We had a wonderful Zoom meeting on February 1st with 30 members in attendance. Thank you for joining us! Along with our Treasurer's report and Sunshine report we had two excellent artists present their work.



Co-Presidents
Diane Cita Timperley and Eileen Sklon

Our first, was the Artist of the Month, Ray Martin, who does outstanding digital paintings. He so enthralled us that we are inviting him to be a Demo artist in the future.

Our feature Demo artist was Mark Polomchak who is a national instructor in watercolor. His demonstration video was a wagon in a cornfield with a misty barn in the background. Great fun watching the painting evolve! This can be seen on YouTube. Thank you to both artists for sharing your knowledge and love of art.

Hope to see some new members participate in March. Eileen has posted very easy instructions to get on our Zoom meeting (www.thevillagesartleague.org).

We are excited to announce that as of April notice that our Newsletter has been posted to the VAL website will be arriving in your e-mailbox around the 15th of the month. Our goal is to have more frequent communication with our members.

We have a very active group on Facebook and it is becoming **the** place to show your art and connect with fellow artists and artisans. Please feel free to join us. It is now a Private Group for VAL members only. (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/thevillagesartleague>). Each month we have a theme. March is all about what you are experimenting with in your art. I look forward to seeing you on March 1st at our Zoom meeting and in our Facebook Group. Stay safe and be healthy!

March-ing forward



Tell us and show us if you are doing any experimenting in your art!
• a new medium?
• a new subject?
• a new ???

Artist of the Month—Lois Bixby



I started drawing when I was a kid. At ten, I won a contest sponsored by the Mickey Mouse Club show in Pittsburgh for drawing a Tammy Doll. I won three Tammy dolls and their complete wardrobe and went on the show for the presentation. I also attended a children's art program on Saturdays at the Pittsburgh Museum of art and got some recognition there. Eventually, I went to Kent State University as a fine arts major. Although I did come in second place for a charcoal drawing I did, I soon realized that there were lots of people there way more talented than I was. Then May 4th, 1970 happened, and the school was closed.

When I eventually went back to school, I went as an English major. I got away from art completely.

I retired from The University of Akron Ohio as an English professor, and my husband and I moved to The Villages. About a year and a half ago, I went to the art show at The Eisenhower Center with a friend. I was walking around thinking "I want to do this."



I went to Michaels and bought a cheap set of acrylic paints. Why acrylic when I had previously been into drawing? I guess because they were on sale. Now I am working mainly with acrylic and experimenting a bit with alcohol ink.

My first attempts were pretty lame, but I feel like I am getting the hang of it. The Art Around the Square at Spanish Springs was the first art show I have ever been in. I actually sold some paintings. I am so happy about that because I feel it validates calling myself an artist.



March Program—Helen Mathysen Dobbins

Many would label Helen as a self-taught artist because her only college art course was art appreciation, but she doesn't consider that title quite accurate. She has read numerous books and studied many paintings by different artists. Helen also had the opportunity to take workshops with renowned artists Robert Carsten, Elizabeth Mowry, Stan Sperlak, Christina DeBarry, Gary Rupp, John MacDonald and Stapleton Kearns. Much of what she has learned is due to what other artists have shared with her; either by the written word, examples of their work, sitting in on demonstrations or through conversation. The self-taught experience comes from many hours of painting on her own and frequently experimenting with different techniques. Even if a painting has not met her expectations, the experience was still a worthwhile lesson.



Helen has won numerous awards in both miniature and full size paintings and is honored that her works are in many private and corporate collections throughout the United States and abroad.

Art Memberships: Signature member of the Miniature Artists of America, Associate member of the Pastel Society of America, Pastel Society of Central Florida, Red Rock Pastel Society of Nevada, Miniature Art Society of Florida and the Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Society.



Sunshine Spotlight ...On behalf of VAL, Charlene Sasto sent a sympathy card to Jo Ruth Patterson on the loss of her husband, and an encouragement/support card to Dore Via Dumas regarding her knee surgery scheduled for February 25.



March Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Linda Bourassa-Acrylic "Country Church"



Eileen Sklon-Photography "Hope"



Tom Bray-Regular and Polymer Clay "Fairy House"

March Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Dave Boege-Photography "Waters' Edge"



Lois Kamp-Mixed Fiber Art "Be Still"



Lydia Falletti-WC "Two Little Birdies Hanging Out"

March Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Leda Rabenold-Acrylic (3-legged) "Mookie"



Kathy Hansen-WC "The Watcher"



Steven Friedman-Digital WC from Photo "Old Friends"

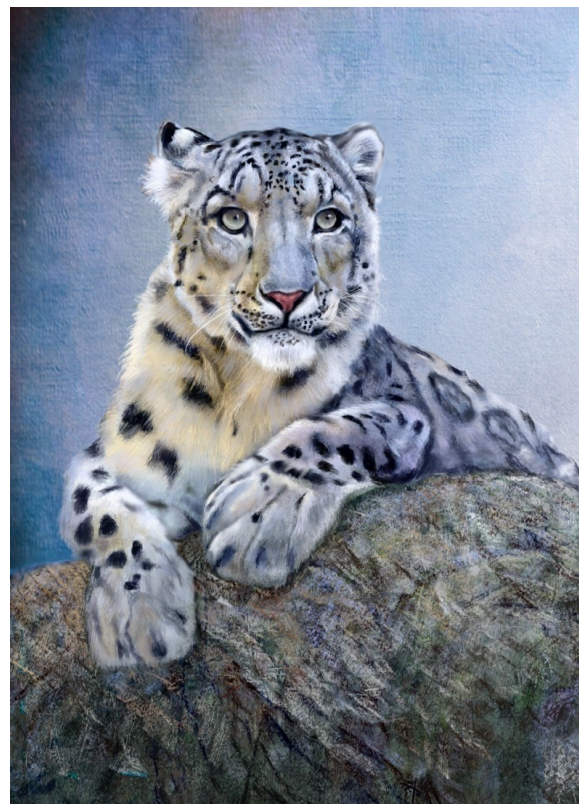
March Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Fran Naughton-Acrylic "Regatta"



Diane Cita Timperley-3D Mixed Media "Portals to the Abyss"



Ray Martin-Digital "Calm"

March Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Ellie Leshinski-Oil "November in Pennsylvania"



Wolfgang Mueller-Fused Glass "Lacey Bowl"



Joan Picarelli-WC "In Deep Thinking"