

# The Villages Art League Newsletter

June 1, 2011

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-PRESIDENTS Susan Evans and Fran Naughton

Hello everyone!

I hope you all are keeping cool and enjoying a somewhat less frantic pace. With some of our friends and members having flown the coop to cooler temps, it gives us the opportunity to sit at home or at rec centers and paint, paint, paint!

Susan is on her way to her little cottage in Maine and I will be tending the fort. I will be gone to California, I'm sorry to say,

during our wonderful Art Show on July 9th, but please take part in the show or help Nancy Dias make it a success by volunteering. She's been working hard for the past months to ensure that it is a great show.

Our Vice-President, Bill Main, will be doing the demo for June and also conducting the meeting for July, so you should have a great time. If you have questions during the month of July, please contact Bill. I'll be back



for the August meeting. Until then,

Happy Painting  
~Fran Naughton



Volume 2 Issue 6

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## PROGRAM FOR JUNE MEETING BY BILL MAIN

Bill Main will do the demo for Monday, June 6th. Shortly after becoming a "Villager" in 2005, he joined the Wet 'N Wild Watercolor group. The weekly meetings provided a wonderful opportunity to learn. Now he is an active member of several groups that provide many opportunities to participate in art related activities. He had the privilege to win various awards, as well as take art classes through the Life Long Learning College from some very successful professional artists such as Tom Jones, Karlyn Holman and Joe Miller of Cheap Joe's Art Stuff. Recently he branched out into teaching basic watercolor paintings and always is looking for ways to improve his skills. He likes the creativity that art allows,

and best of all, he is having a lot of fun painting. Visit Bill's paintings at [www.billmainartist.com](http://www.billmainartist.com).

Below is the painting that he will do for the demo



If you have any questions, please contact Phyllis Speicher at (352) 391-5967

## VAL WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

**Monday**—9 AM to 12 Noon

Fox Glove Room, Saddlebrook Recreation Center

**Thursday**—1 PM to 5 PM

Arts & Crafts Room, Mulberry Recreation Center

**Saturday**—8:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Charlie Chaplin Room, Paradise Recreation Center

## JUNE 2011 ARTIST OF THE MONTH—JOHN O'HARA



*I* started out early in life wanting to be an artist. I can remember drawing the characters from the Sunday comics and various comic books.

*I* got some serious art training from a very good art teacher in high

school. She always challenged me to be better than I thought I was. In my senior year she had me try sculpture. I used my choir director as a model and did a larger than life bust of his face and neck. Miss Anderson, my art teacher, thought the sculpture was good enough to be entered in the National Scholastic art competition. To my surprise it won.

*After* high school, work, part time college and other interests put my art to the sideline.



*I* started a career in the sign business and soon became a pictorial artist. To clarify, that was painting large murals on signs approximately 10 feet high by 50 ft long.

*Eventually* I became a sign designer. Back in the 60's, 70's and part of the 80's I did tempera paintings of the proposed signs in various settings. In 1978 I won first place in the National Electric Sign completion for one of my designs. In the early 1980s I also won a world wide completion for best sign design using a material called Panaflex.

*The* president of the company I was working for came to me with a request to design a Jim Beam bottle for the bottle collectors 1978 convention in Chicago, IL. This was



to be a national contest with the winner's design to be made into a limited edition Jim Beam bottle. I learned a short time later that my design won. I still have two of the bottles.

*I* came to Florida in 1985 to work for MelWebb signs. I was the art director and had several artists in our offices all across Florida. I trained several and had the great joy of seeing one of them win first place in the National Electric Sign competition in 1986.

*In* 1987 Federal Sign Co. Inc. bought out MelWebb and I continued on with them in design. Some of my best work was the designs I did for all of the original signage at the Disney Studios.

*I* evolved into project management and finished out my sign career traveling all over the world handling large graphic (sign) projects.

*I* moved to the Villages in 2002 and once again started doing what I loved most, (besides my wife). Art is now a big part of what I do. I enjoy the interplay



of the artists I get to work with at the various workshops. I originally was painting in acrylic and oil but was fascinated by all of the watercolor I saw being done. I always avoided watercolor because I thought it was too difficult and that I couldn't do the detail I like in my paintings.

*Boy*, was I wrong! Now all I do is watercolor and I think I'm getting better at it.

*My* thanks for the honor of being June's artist of the month for the Villages Art League.

~John O'Hara

## Summer Art Festival

*Nancy Dias, Chair*



June 11 is the day for registering for the Summer Art Festival and it's coming up fast. Helen Gromadzki has done a great job getting the word out to the media, putting us on calendars of events, and you should start seeing notices in the paper. We are on a few web sites and soon we will have the flyers that we can get posted in as many offices, beauty parlors, restaurants, businesses, wherever we can. There are also windows of cars, golf carts, postal station bulletin boards and club newsletters, just think of the possibilities. If anyone has a neighborhood flyer that we could mention our art show, please contact Helen. Whenever you get the opportunity you should mention the Summer Art Festival. You are our best publicity.

This is one of two fund raisers that the VAL has that helps support our club, gives us refreshments at our meetings, artists demonstrations every month, and all this couldn't happen without the support of our members.

We have had a terrific response for volunteers the day of the Festival and Leda Rabenold is busy getting that organized. Leda wants to be in the art show to show and sell her paintings so Bonnie Canning has offered to help out on the day of the Festival. All volunteers will check in with Bonnie upon arrival. You all will be contacted a few weeks before the Festival.

At last month's meeting we had a sign-up sheet for donations for the free art door prizes and anyone who signed that paper can bring them to the meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup> or bring them along with you when you sign up at registration on June 11 at Lake Miona. You can also contact Kandy Scott at 205-7546 to make arrangements with her.

Bill Main handles the art show signs we put up the day of the Festival and he is looking for a few people to help him. Please give him a call at 430-2923. This is so quick and easy to do and I hope you will consider this. The signs really do work to bring people to the Festival.

Everyone we talk to about the open workshop that we are having the day of the Festival making cards for the soldiers for Operation Shoebox have been very supportive. Some of you have already signed up to be there. This is our moment as members of the Villages Art League to join together as a club and help out this worthy cause. Some of

you have been making cards for a while now and we want to thank you for that. Let's have a great turn out and be able to hand over to Sandy DeChristofaro at Operation Shoebox a great big stack of handmade cards. Last time the club did this we made over 2000 cards. This is an open invitation to all. Come on over, look at all the beautiful art and then stop in and spend an hour cutting, painting, gluing, or signing cards. Bring along your friends, neighbors, and family. Let's have a great time.

June 13, a Monday, at Saddlebrook from 9-11 we will have a workshop to make soldier cards. Laura Sandstrom and I will be there. Bring along any painting supplies you may use, watercolor crayons, markers, stamps, pens, colored pencils, and if you have anything we could use to decorate a card such as ribbons, sequins, you get the idea. We will be embellishing those failed paintings we are collecting and turning them into soldier cards. Hope to see you there. Remember you can bring your paintings and any supplies you may want to donate to the June meeting, registration on the 11<sup>th</sup> or the workshop on June 13

All the information you need about registration and the rules for the Summer Art Festival are on our web site [www.thevillagesartleague.org](http://www.thevillagesartleague.org). If there is anyone who can not make registration and can't find someone to go for them, give me a call and we can arrange for you to send in your money to me before the June 11 registration date so I can register you.

For a period of 2 weeks we can have an easel in the lobby at Lake Miona to promote our show. I will have a sign-up sheet at the meeting for anyone interested

*Happy painting.*  
Nancy  
[nancy@nancydias.com](mailto:nancy@nancydias.com)

Things to remember for registration:

- Bring your Village I.D.
- Make sure dues are paid
- \$ 20 cash or check to VAL
- Address stickers for forms
- Art donations
- Failed paintings for soldier cards
- Starts at 8:30 June 11 at Lake Miona

### Dates to Remember

June 11	Registration at lake Miona 8:30
June 13	Workshop for soldier cards Savannah
July 9	Summer Art Festival

## VAL ART SHOW REGISTRATION DAY PROCEDURES

The following procedures will be used to determine **Priority Assignments** of available tables at registration for **VAL Art Shows**.

**First Priority** shall be awarded to VAL Members who are present at the registration date. Also, **First Priority** will be awarded to VAL Members who are not present but have a single representative acting on their behalf selecting **one** table. The representative must be someone who is not signing up for a table for themselves. Simply put, **one person present** is allowed to pick **one table only**.

**Second Priority** shall be awarded to VAL Members not present, have no representative at the registration and who have provided payment in advance to the Chair for a table. After all the VAL Members and representatives have been accommodated, these applicants will be assigned a table provided there is one available. If not, they will stay on the waiting list. Table assignments will be made by the Chairperson.

**Third Priority** shall be awarded to non VAL Members who are present on registration day provided there are any tables available after the **First and Second Priority** applicants have been processed. If not, they will be placed on a waiting list.

**Fourth Priority** shall be awarded to anyone who was not in attendance on registration day provided there are tables available after **Priorities 1,2 and 3**. If not, they will be placed on a waiting list.

*Nancy Dias, Chair*

## AHA WORKSHOPS

**Title: "Creative Backgrounds for Collages/Paintings using Tissue Paper"**  
**with Irene Wantroba**

**The Visual Arts Association (VAA)** announces that the next **Artist Helping Artists (AHA) Program** on Wednesday, June 8, will feature award-winning artist, Irene Wantroba. Irene will be doing a demo showing how to develop creative backgrounds with tissue paper over which you can add collages and/or additional acrylic paintings. This technique can be used to create cards or paintings. Some of the tissue and oriental papers that are a byproduct of these techniques make beautiful collage papers that are always compatible with your new backgrounds. The program will be held starting at 12:30 pm at Sea Breeze Recreation Center. A list of supplies is posted on the following website : [www.visualartsassociation.com](http://www.visualartsassociation.com) in the AHA Section. A donation to help defray the expenses of the guest artist is suggested

*Refer questions to Frank Zampardi, 352-753-8770*

*Submitted by: Marilyn Wright, AHA Publicity*

## ARTISTS' TRADING CARDS

**The Art Trading Card group** will meet June 8th & 22nd (the 2nd & 4th Wed of every month) in the Freedom Room at Mulberry Recreation Center at 12:30. Feel free to stop by and check us out or join in the fun of creating miniature

pieces of art to trade. No fees involved just bring your paints and your imagination.

***For more information call Margie Picard 750-1965***

## JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |          |                                     |           |                                         |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------|
| ◆ June 1 | Studio Time at Mulberry Rec. Center | ◆ June 15 | Oil Painters-Mulberry Rec. Center       |
| ◆ June 4 | La Galleria Show                    | ◆ June 17 | VAA Meeting                             |
| ◆ June 6 | VAL Meeting 9 am at Saddlebrook     | ◆ June 19 | Annex Show                              |
| ◆ June 8 | ATCs-Art Trading Cards at Mulberry  | ◆ June 22 | ATCs-Art Trading Cards at Mulberry      |
| ◆ June 8 | AHA Workshop Seabreeze Rec. Center  | ◆ June 24 | Deadline for VAL Newsletter submissions |

## WINTER WORKSHOPS 2011—THE VILLAGES

*Lifelong Learning College Workshops*  
*Register LLLC 352-753-3035*  
*Bev Hennessy 352-753-1383*  
*www.thevillagesartworkshops.com*

### Oct 10-11-12 Anne Abgott

This workshop is for beginners and advanced. Anne will teach special techniques for crystal and flowers. She will guide us in the involvement of skin and hair color. We will also learn about color choices for fruits, vegetables and shadows.

[www.anneabgott.com](http://www.anneabgott.com)

Class #2428.501 M/T/W: 9-3 P\$245

### Nov 7-8-9 Pat Weaver:

Watercolor and drawing will be taught everyday. This comprehensive workshop will provide daily focus drawing and painting your own landscapes and composition. Viewing her work leads you thru her naturalistic to semi impressionistic presentation.

[www.patweaver.com](http://www.patweaver.com)

Class # 2429.501 M/T/W 9-4 P\$223

## WORKSHOPS

[Pen and Ink Workshops](#)—share the same time and place with the Colored Pencil Workshops at Laurel Manor, the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month from 9-11 am

[Sketching Made Easy](#)—held on Sats. At 9 am at Saddlebrook Rec. Center.

[Figure Drawing Workshop](#)—held every Friday of the month at 9:30am at the Pimlico Rec. Center

[Fine Arts Painting](#)—meets 1-3pm each Tues. at Paradise Center. Contact Ellen Reinhart 430-1985

[The Art Studio](#)—meets every Thurs. 9-noon at Colony Cottage. Contact Judi Adams 2870-316-1282

[Playing With Watercolors](#)—Hibiscus Rec. Center each Thurs. 1:00pm.

[Wet 'N Wild Watercolors Group](#)—Saddlebrook Rec. Center each Sat. 12:00noon.

[Splash With Us](#)—a transparent watercolor class meets Wednesdays 9:30-12 at Colony Cottage and every Monday

except the first Monday of the month - 1:30-3:30. Call Julie McGlone at 750-1068 or e-mail: [mcglone72@hotmail.com](mailto:mcglone72@hotmail.com) to register

[The VAA Oil Painters](#)—meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the Mulberry Recreation Center from 12:30 to 3:00 pm. Work on your own subject or paint along with Mike Daley and Roger Sherman, who will be available for assistance.. Call Mike Daley for any questions, 352-753-5987

[Colored Pencil Workshops](#)—meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at Laurel Manor Rec. Center from 9-11 am with Nan Klein instructing.

[Fun With Watercolors Class](#)—meets 9-11:20 every Monday, except the first Monday of every month, at SeaBreeze Recreation Center. Contact Rebecca Schwartz 352-633-3887

[Acrylic Painting](#) – (replaces [Art Chix & Chaps](#))-meets 9-11:30 every Thursday, except the first Thursday of every month, at SeaBreeze Recreation Center. Contact Rebecca Schwartz 633-3887, e-mail: [rebecca@schwartzusa.net](mailto:rebecca@schwartzusa.net)

**MEMBERSHIP**

*Lee Duerr watercolor*

*Richard Ingram drawing, pen & ink*

*Jay Lindes colored pencil, acrylics & oils*

Membership booklets for 2011 have been printed so stop by the membership table to pick up yours.

*If you have embarqmail, please add [bmbcanning@yahoo.com](mailto:bmbcanning@yahoo.com) and [villagesartleague@yahoo.com](mailto:villagesartleague@yahoo.com) to your address book if you want to receive any e-mails from the Villages Art League. Thank you*

**A Reminder:**

The next **Fine Arts Show at the Sumter County Annex** will be June 19, 2011.

Applications are available on the web-site and will be due by June 15th. For inquiries call Carolyn Johnson 751-4103

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR VALWEBSITE AT:  
[WWW.THEVILLAGESARTLEAGUE.ORG](http://WWW.THEVILLAGESARTLEAGUE.ORG)



**VAL now has a Facebook page!**

To join, go to **Facebook.com**, then Search for: **The Villages Art League.**

**Executive Committee:**

Co-Presidents:	Susan Evans	753-3841
	Fran Naughton	350-2169
Vice President:	Bill Main	430-2923
Secretary:	Trudie Peterson	753-8012
Treasurer:	Diane Andrus	751-4824

**Committee Chairs:**

Artist of the Month:	Kathy Hansen	750-0641
	Ed Eakins	750-0202
Program:	Phyllis Speicher	391-5967
Showcase/Art Festival	Nancy Dias	751-1033
Sunshine:	Charlie Clayton	750-4110
Refreshments:	Irene Wantroba	753-9182
Publicity	Jane Millar	750-0152
Historian & E-Mail:	Bonnie Canning	259-9553
Membership:	Margie Picard	750-1965
Door Raffles	Shirley Jerez	250-4751
Newsletter Editor	Catherine Sullivan	259-4308
Newsletter E-mail:	<a href="mailto:villagesartleague@gmail.com">villagesartleague@gmail.com</a>	

**Webmaster:**

MaryAnn Main [www.thevillagesartleague.org](http://www.thevillagesartleague.org)

**VAL BANK EXHIBITS**

If you are interested in displaying your art:  
At **Citizens Bank on 466**  
Contact Diane Andrus—751-4824

*Work is on display for May*

**THANK YOU TO  
THE WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS  
WHO PROVIDED THE REFRESHMENTS FOR  
TODAY'S MEETING**