



# The Villages Art League Newsletter

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS - 1989 - 2014

December 2014

*"How did it get so late so soon? It's night before it's afternoon.  
December is here before it's June. My goodness how the time has flown.  
How did it get so late so soon?" Dr. Seuss*

## The President's Message

Time. Where has it gone? This year has flown by in the words of Dr. Seuss. I have to agree. What a wonderful year it has been for The Villages Art League. Celebrating 25 years started off with a thank you to all the wonderful group of officers and volunteers who have given their time and efforts to keep this club running and growing. When you see someone with a pin on their badge remember to thank them for their contributions to the Art League.

We have new badges with the golf cart bridge as our symbol to remind us where we started as a small painting group in Paradise Recreation Center when it was the only one here and long before there even was a Spanish Springs or Lake Sumter or Brownwood for that matter.

For 17 years we have had the Artist Showcase to show and sell our paintings and then in 2007 the Summer Art Festival was added to showcase some of the other art that our members were doing along with their paintings.

Two years ago the Art League started a judged exhibit at La Hacienda. This year a new exhibit was added in the new Eisenhower Recreation Center. We also have opportunities to exhibit in Citizen's Banks.

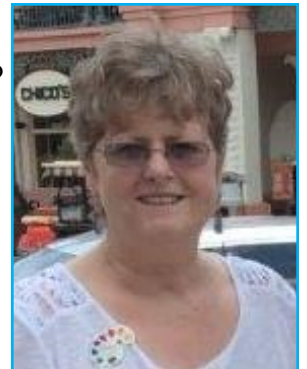
Before this year ends we will celebrate again showcasing our artists at the Savannah Center the Saturday after Thanksgiving. What a wonderful group of very talented and creative artists. Many thanks go out to the volunteers who always give their time to help out and make the Artist Showcase, the Summer Art Festival, the La Galleria Exhibit and the Eisenhower Art Gallery Exhibit, a very successful day.

The frosting on the cake this year is the Gallery East Invitation to exhibit in their Gallery in January. It is quite an honor for members of The Villages Art League to have their very own exhibit.

How did it get so late so soon?

Happy Painting,

Nancy



Nancy Dias

## Gallery East Invitational

January 2015 will be the First Invitational Show being hung by The Villages Art League members at Gallery East in Belleview. Applications, Rules and Dates to remember are up on The Villages Art League Website for artists to access. Deadline for Applications is December 20th - before the Holidays. Please be sure to send your entries in early to take part in this exciting Juried and Judged Invitational Fine Art Show. Valuable prizes will be awarded at the Open House on Friday, January 9th from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. with awards at 7 p.m.

Gallery East has been in this location for over 5 years and was located in Ocala before this for over 10 years. It is located at 11761 SE HWY 441, Belleview, Florida, 34420—in the Almeida Shopping Plaza. Phone number is 352-245-2781.

## Artist of the Month—Charlene (Char) Meeker



“WRITING AND  
ART ARE MY  
PASSION.”

Writing and art are my passion. After a year of college I married; it was 12 years and three kids later that I returned to college, earned a BA in Fine Arts and teaching credential from Sacramento State University, California. Subsequently I shared my enthusiasm for art with students K-12.

I've enjoyed graphic artist jobs and capturing Sacramento's Victorians in pen 'n ink.

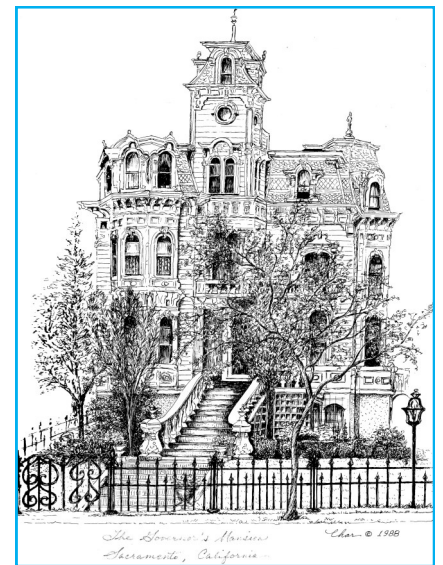
For 15 years I worked at the Sacramento Army Depot, eventually moving into an Illustrator position in Industrial Arts. I started an art show to benefit Operation Santa Claus and to support employees' artistic talents.

Upon the Army Depot's closure we moved to New Orleans to start my new job: Sign Painter for VA Medical Center. I learned computerized lettering, painting, and installation.

Retirement brought us here in 2000. Our art world is unsurpassed by anywhere I've ever lived! After losing my husband in 2007, my art and writing helped me through a difficult time. Later I wrote and illustrated a children's book "Cookies in Heaven."

Book cover art, illustrations for fellow writers and golf keep me busy!

The true reward for me is when someone feels the emotion in my drawing or painting.



**THANK YOU!** to our Christmas Refreshments Committee members, Lynn Albers, Jane Bosack, Diane Robbins, Laina Schmidel, Sandy Simpson and Betty Waisanen, for planning and providing us with today's Christmas Celebration!

### S@GE Sundays at Gallery East

January 11, 2015

VAL Artist Bonnie Canning presents Expressing 'CHI': The Spirit, Techniques, Symbols, History of Chinese Painting.

Sessions from 3:00-4:30, cost is \$15 Patrons, \$12 GE Members. Contact Bonnie at 259-9553, [bmbcanning@gmail.com](mailto:bmbcanning@gmail.com)

## **New Opportunity for VAL Members**

The Villages Art League has been contacted by Exterior Spaces, a landscaping firm, with an opportunity for our members to showcase their art during their Holiday Open House on December 5 and 6. The Art League is not involved in any way other than to extend the invitation and would like you to contact the business on your own if you think you are interested. Mary Wilson has talked to them and you could contact her with any questions at 633-7770 or mawilson41@gmail.com. Deadline is November 22, so hurry! The weather is beautiful, lots of people will see your art and no cost to you. It might be an interesting venue. There is also an opportunity to do some plein aire painting.

## **Notes from Freddie Venturoni**

The next turn-around at the blood bank, OneBlood, is Tuesday, December 2nd at 10 a.m. The Gallery has been such a success. The staff, the donors and the contributing artists all have been so very pleased with it. There is a plan afoot to do the same thing at the Oneblood.Org Donor spot in Ocala. See what you all have done! Thank you to all who have participated.

The Polo group has given us a tent December 7th. The gates open at Noon and there will be one game at 2 p.m. If anyone is interested in displaying their art work during that time, please call "Freddie" Venturoni at 352-259-2577. They are interested in Polo related, or nature or scenes of The Villages.

## **Lifelong Learning College Winter 2015 Art Workshops Overview**

**Karlyn Holman** watercolor—January 12-14 and January 15-16. [www.karlynholman.com](http://www.karlynholman.com)

**Lyn Asselta** pastel Intermediate & Advanced January 19-20. [www.lynasselta.com](http://www.lynasselta.com)

**Ruth Paul** color pencil January 22-23.

**John Salminen** watercolor January 26-30. [www.johnsalminen.com](http://www.johnsalminen.com)

**Joe Miller** (Cheap Joe) watercolor February 2-6 (2, 3 or 5 days). [www.cheapjoe.com](http://www.cheapjoe.com)

**Sterling Edwards** watercolor February 9-11 and February 12-13. [www.sterlingedwards.com](http://www.sterlingedwards.com)

**Kathie George** batik design February 16-18. [www.kathiegeorge.com](http://www.kathiegeorge.com)

**Karen Knutson** watercolor/Acrylic February 23-25 and February 26-27.

**Janet King** watercolor March 4-6. [www.janetkingwatercolors.com](http://www.janetkingwatercolors.com)

**Brenad Swenson** watercolor March 9-13. [www.swensonsart.net](http://www.swensonsart.net)

**Kate Carney** acrylic March 18-19. [www.katecarneyfineart.com](http://www.katecarneyfineart.com)

**Jaimie Codero** watercolor March 23-25. [www.aquarellestudiosandgalleries.com/](http://www.aquarellestudiosandgalleries.com/)

**Sharon Wilson** watercolor March 26-27.

**Susanna Spann** watercolor April 7-8-9. [www.susannaspann.com](http://www.susannaspann.com)

**Jeanne Willette** acrylic/collage/canvas April 13.

**Gerald Brommer** watercolor/acrylic April 20-24.

For details or to sign up for the monthly Brush Strokes newsletter, visit [www.thevillagesartworkshops.com](http://www.thevillagesartworkshops.com)

To register, call Lifelong Learning College 753-3035 Questions: Beverly Hennessy 753-1383 email: bbaug97@aol.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        | Laina Schmidel   | 259-8805 |
| Sunshine            | Charlie Clayton  | 750-4110 |
| Webmaster           | Leda Rabenold    | 259-1918 |
| 50-50 Raffle        | Shirley Jerez    | 250-4751 |

## Please Note:

- Dec. 1-Art League business meeting and party - 9 am
- Dec. 2-One Blood Art Show change-out - 10 am
- Dec. 6-Remove art at La Galleria - 8:30-9 am
- Dec. 20-Deadline for Gallery East Invitational entry\*
- Jan. 19-New exhibit at Eisenhower Rec Center\*

\*Forms are available at [www.thevillagesartleague.org](http://www.thevillagesartleague.org)

## Art League Places to Exhibit

New this year is the **Eisenhower Art Exhibit** in the Eisenhower Regional Rec Center. It opened on August 18 with a fine art exhibit. 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.

## 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

Newsletter Submissions deadline 20th of month: [leda.rabenold@gmail.com](mailto:leda.rabenold@gmail.com)