# The Villages Art League Newsletter

1989 - 2016

**March 2016**

**Word of the Month**: *Renaissance...the activity, spirit, or time of the great revival of art, literature, and learning.*
**Quote of the Month:** *"We are each of us angels with only one wing. And we can only fly embracing each other."*
Luciano de Crescenzo

## President's Message

Jeanne Willette

SURPRISE! SURPRISE! Our February meeting turned out to be a Renaissance of sorts for the VAL....such great response to our Artiste' Salon 'member to member' show! With nearly 130 members attending and 70 pieces of artwork to view, we were introduced to many new ideas and mediums that are of interest as a group. We are so proud of your artwork, your creativity and uniqueness was appreciated by all!

Variety is the great MIX...Art does take us out into the world, too...at the same time the worldly things influence us as artists. We are now looking forward to our SUMMER ART SHOW - a highlight of The Villages mid-July offerings. Our preparations are starting soon and we encourage you to consider not only showing, but volunteering in your own personal way. Ellen Hellwege is again going to be our 'registrar' and our committee for all the other details is underway. I will be sending out an e-mail to rein in a group to make decisions and for someone to come forward as chairperson.

You may have noticed that we are doing many altruistic things recently for Veterans. The flag painted plaques, all 20 of them, are done and they are grateful for our help. The ammo cans, in 2 sizes, are soon to be completed in the month of March and those we have seen by Mike Daley are striking and really lovely works of art. Those will be received by some grateful veterans. We are also gathering painting supplies in the March meeting for a project involving art for the military in our Tri-County area.

PLEASE remember to bring any unused books or supplies you may have in the line of paints, brushes, materials or equipment. We want to have a good showing for this project that will commence in April/May as we donate at that time.

Come to the meeting MARCH 7th...bring your smiles and your donations for VETS ART, and enjoy the Artist of the Month, the demo, and coffee hour as you enter. Remember to fill out the volunteer forms, they are really helping us to know more about our membership and what you can add to make our club extra special! Also, we will be receiving our updated new Directory from Membership Chair, Margie Picard.

From the keyboard of Jeanne, your president

Jan Balow and Mary Ann Weisser provide refreshments for our March meeting. Thank you, ladies!
Phone Laina Schmidel at 259-8805 to help with snacks for a future meeting.

## Artist of the Month—Joal Litavsky

Many of you know Joal as the art trip organizer since 2002 with at least 56 Florida trips and 3 European trips to see the Masters and their homeland, studios and museums. But did you know that through Joal's suggestion in 2006, when Carolyn Johnson was President, the tradition of including an "artist of the month" at VAL meetings began?

Other things of interest about Joal are:

- Her personal collection of art books started a lending Library in 2001.
- Introduced to the Brick Center for the Arts, her first entry was a lady embellished with feathers that they priced at $600. In 2006 she donated 2 paintings to benefit the Marion County Cultural Alliance.
- She joined the Ocala Art Group and introduced her art as "going down the drain."
- Joal was VAL Secretary in 2004.
- In 2005 her watercolor "Red Hat Friends" was juried into a Florida artists' show at the Orlando Art Museum.
- She was board member for the Leesburg Art Group from 2006-2008.
- She was guest Plein Air artist for the Mt. Dora Center for the Arts in 2006, and in 2008 painted 2 banners to hang on lightposts in Tavares, then auction to benefit the Arts.
- Joal brought Sylvester Wells, historic Florida Highwayman Artist, to Arts on the Square.
- During her first trip to Venice and Murano in 2007, she was inspired by the masks and through a 9-year-old boy realized that her masks were really 3-D, not collage works.
- While she sold her first silk painting in 2000, she returned to silk painting in 2009 to give demos for AHA, VAA and small groups hoping to inspire them.
- Last year Joal donated many works of art for the Wounded Woman Warriors fund-raisers, close to her heart because her Father was a wounded WWII vet.

Joal has taken many workshops. Her wish to fellow artists is to find the journey as rewarding as she has!

### Notice to All Members

If you are not receiving VAL emails, including the Newsletter, from Bonnie Canning, please try putting Bonnie's name and email address into your email Contact List. Bonnie Canning - bmbcanning@gmail.com

### Did you know?

**Diane Andrus** is the first Villages artist whose art is highlighted at the Villagers Art Gallery in the Traditions Antique Mall at 3107 State Road 44, Wildwood (across from Russell Stover Candies). Artwork of **Lisa Woodward** will be featured next at this newly opened art gallery.

## March Program—Rebecca Schwartz

Rebecca has painted ever since she was a young girl. Born in India, she left for Canada with her family when she was teen-aged. Having lived in both eastern and western cultures, her work encompasses themes of India, countries in Western Europe, Israel, and the U.S., where she and her husband have traveled extensively.

A graduate of Broward Community College, she continued her education at Kennesaw State University and The Spruill Center for the Arts, in Atlanta, and took numerous workshops to pursue her studies in Fine Art.

Much influenced by artists such as Van Gogh, Renoir, Monet, and Matisse, Rebecca paints in a loose, expressive style. She paints primarily in watercolor, acrylics, and mixed media. Rebecca is an award winning artist, including placing in the top fifteen in an International Art Competition in 2011, and participating in numerous shows in Georgia and Florida. She began to teach art in 1991 in her home studio, and then at Kennesaw State University, Georgia.

Rebecca moved to The Villages in 2007 from Atlanta. She teaches at The Villages Lifelong Learning College, at Sea Breeze Recreation Center, as well as holding private classes. She is dedicated to her art and spends almost every day painting or teaching.

Rebecca's works hang in private collections in Canada, France, England, Israel, South Africa, and the U.S. Her demo today will show how to paint loosely and expressively, with spontaneity, allowing your mind freedom to imagine while painting.

**Lifelong Learning College Winter 2016 Art Workshops Overview**

**Sandy Mauldin** *yupo*—March 7-11. www.sandymaudlin.blogspot.com

**Virginia Lloyd-Davis** *Sumi painting*—March 14-15-16. www.joyfulbrush.com, www.facebook.com/VirginiaLloydDavies
www.youtube.com/virginiald

**Trish McKinney** *acrylic*—March 21-23. www.trishmckinney.com, www.facebook.com/trishmckinneystudios?ref=hl

**Gerald Brommer** *watercolor/acrylic collage*—April 4-8. (no website)

**Kate Carney** *acrylic*—April 12-13-14. www.katecarneyfineart.com

**Anne Abgott** *watercolor*—April 18-19-20. http://www.anneabgott.com

For details or to sign up for the monthly Brush Strokes newsletter, visit www.thevillagesartworkshops.com
To register, call Lifelong Learning College 753-3035
Questions: Beverly Hennessy 753-1383 email: bbaug97@aol.com

Newsletter Submissions Deadline: 20th of the 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:**

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|---|---|---|
| President | Jeanne Willette | 753-6488 |
| Vice President | Ron Kucinski | 750-3520 |
| Secretary | Bonnie Canning | 259-9553 |
| Treasurer | Gail Parker | 751-0200 |

**Chairpersons:**

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|---|---|---|
| Artist of the Month | Jo Magram | 845-807-7489 |
| Bank Exhibits | Catherine Sullivan | 259-4308 |
| Cornerstone Hospice | Jim Zatlukal | 633-9771 |
| | Marie Tranovich | 633-5903 |
| Eisenhower Exhibit | Cindy Ewing | 299-7619 |
| | Janet Marks | 865-654-8776 |
| Email | Bonnie Canning | 259-9553 |
| Historian | Joal Litavsky | 259-0459 |
| La Galleria Exhibit | Catherine Sullivan | 259-4308 |
| Membership | Jay Summers | 350-2116 |
| | Lois Kamp | 753-9371 |
| Newsletter Editor | Leda Rabenold | 259-1918 |
| Program | Phyllis Speicher | 391-5967 |
| Publicity | | |
| Refreshments | Laina Schmidel | 259-8805 |
| Sunshine | Charlie Clayton | 750-4110 |
| Volunteers | Dwight & Jan Cresap | 940-250-5637 |
| Webmaster | Leda Rabenold | 352-1918 |
| 50-50 Raffle | Shirley Jerez | 250-4751 |
| | Irene Wantroba | 753-9182 |

## Art League Places to Exhibit

**Eisenhower Art Exhibit** in the Eisenhower Regional Rec Center has a fine art exhibit that is not judged. 2016 dates/times are: Jan. 6 from 9-11 a.m.; May 9, July 11, Sept. 12 and Nov. 14 from 1-3 p.m.

**La Galleria** at La Hacienda from September to December that is judged.

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

**Summer Art Festival** held at Lake Miona Rec Center the second Saturday during July.
**Artist Showcase** at Savannah Center the Saturday after Thanksgiving. VAL members can show and sell their artwork during these one-day events.

**Florida Blood Center** at Spanish Plaines Shopping Center has a 3-month exhibit open to all Village residents. It changes the first Tuesday of March, June, September and December 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

2016

Contact Rebecca Schwartz for details of the South of France, **July 24-August 2**. (352)633-3887, email: rebecca@schwartzusa.net; website: www.rebeccaschwartz.gallery.

Contact Joal Litavsky for information about the Euro Cruise on **September 3-13**. (352)259-0459 or

**Upcoming Art League Show Dates**
**For details: www.thevillagesartleague.org**

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| May 9—1-3 pm | Eisenhower Change-out | Eisenhower Rec .Ctr. |
| June 7—10 am | One-Blood Exhibit Change-out | Spanish Plaines Shop. Ctr. |
| July 9—9am-3pm | Summer Art Festival | Lake Miona Rec. Center |