



The Villages Art League Newsletter

www.thevillagesartleague.org

1989 - 2020

May 2020

Message from our Co-President - Fran Naughton:

Hello Everyone,

I hope all of you and your loved ones are well and safe. During this very surreal and difficult time, we are at least fortunate as artists that we now have the time (lots of it) to pursue our artistic endeavors. For me, at least, it is a godsend.



Fran Naughton / Eileen Sklon

Another treat is Zoom! It's a free app and easy to use. I get together with 5 friends every day and we share our day, our art, and sometimes have a show and tell (reminds me of kindergarten). Give it a try, it's fun!

Eileen came up with another great way to share what we do, submitting photos of our art to Leda to place in the newsletter. Leda has taken on the job of formatting the photos and editing the new newsletter. Thank you, Leda.

Bev Hennessy and Wanda Boyd at the Village Art Workshops have come up with a way for you to work on your artistic skills and bolster the spirits of medical personnel and patients, by making cards to distribute. For more information, go to www.villageartworkshops.com and click on Art Cards for First Responders. You can also sign up for "Brush Strokes" to receive Bev's Motivational Monday newsletters and access to free lessons from artists that are in isolation, too.

Well, that's all for now, stay safe, try to keep positive, and hopefully we'll see each other soon.

Leaving you with a quote: "Tough times never last, but tough people do."

Robert H Schuller

Fondly, Fran



Artist of the Month—Greg Smith



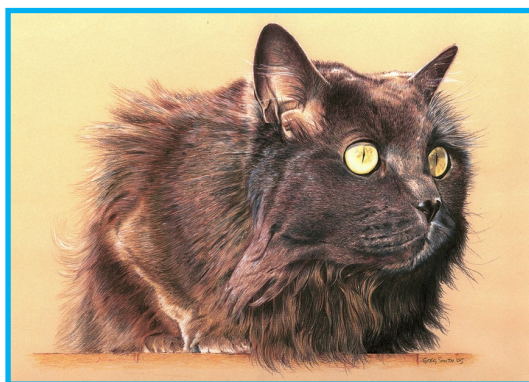
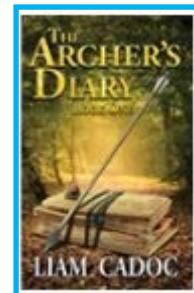
Greg Smith hails from Sydney, Australia and emigrated to the United States in 1999 after marrying Trish whom he met on the Internet when online dating was in its infancy. He continued his career as a graphic designer in the publishing industry and five years later, as soon as he was able to do so, Greg was sworn in as an American Citizen.

Apart from his full time job, Greg also continued with his interest in drawing — his favorite medium being colored pencil — and managed to develop a growing list for his commissioned portraits of animals and people. He even managed to squirrel away enough time to devote to his own art, and began to fill his portfolio of work.

He has always blamed his fertile imagination for not being able to become one of those artists who concentrates their art around a specific theme or subject. "I have never been able to pick one subject to stick with," he says. "There is so much of interest always happening around me that sparks my imagination." Greg has worked with oils, acrylics, (some) watercolor, inks, and pastels ... but always returns to colored pencil.

Some five years ago, Greg and his wife decided to retire and sell their home in north Idaho. After a little more than two years touring the country in their 40ft 5th wheel, they found themselves in central Florida staying in an RV park not far from The Villages. Upon returning from spending a Christmas with their children living in Virginia, they "discovered" The Villages, took a trolley ride; liked what they saw, and have lived in the village of Orange Blossom Gardens ever since.

Greg was excited to learn there were a host of groups to join, and especially glad to find two in particular — the VAL and CPPG. He has taken part in several competitions and art shows, and gained some notoriety for his piece titled "The Drover." He has been commissioned for quite a few pet portraits to date since settling in The Villages. He took an hiatus from his art in late 2019 so that he could complete his debut historical fiction novel that he has been working on for the last 9 years. The Archer's Diary was released mid-April, 2020.



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 2020 are: Jan. 13, Mar. 9, May 11, July 13, Sept. 14 and Nov. 9.

La Galleria at La Hacienda Rec Center from September to December.

Citizens Bank monthly exhibit on Rt. 466 (3430 Southern Trace Blvd.), Rt. 441 (1500 Banderas Ave.) or in Pinnellas Plaza (2420 Burnsd Blvd.). Also in Spanish Springs for the **Artist of the Month**.

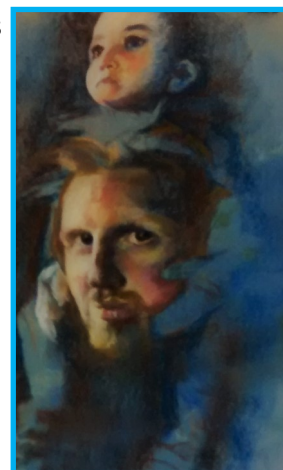
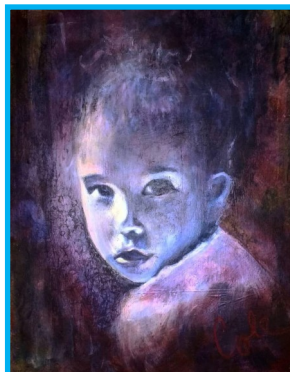
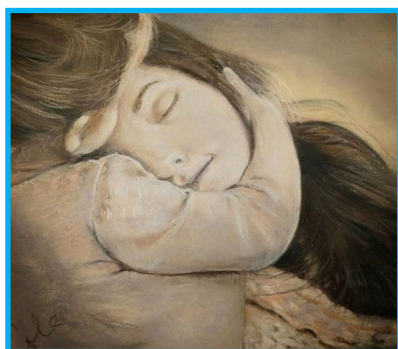
Summer Art Festival at Lake Miona Rec Center on July 11, 2020. **Artists' Showcase** held at Eisenhower Rec Center on October 24, 2020. VAL members can show and sell their artwork during these one-day events.

May Program—Beverly Cole

I will demonstrate the process of creating a pastel portrait. Originally from Newington, Connecticut, I have been an artist all of my life. As a young person my parents would supply me with art kits, and I would try my best to create with them. It wasn't until high school that I learned how to truly make art, and create with a variety of materials from pencil and paint to metal and wood. In college I had a wonderful professor who taught me the moods that could be created, simply by drawing. That early art education was the foundation for my move into watercolor, pastel and illustration. I have won awards through the years as a watercolorist, pastel portrait artist and illustrator. My online business called, Artsystamper Digitals, is the basis for an art challenge blog as well as TheArtsystamperShop on Etsy. My motto is, "Digis are Forever." Stop by and take a look, won't you?



I also accept pastel portrait commissions and teach art and craft classes in The Plantation at Leesburg where I live.



Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Frank L. Cooke-Acrylic
"Bottoms Up!"



Alice Blanco-Pastel "Sunset"

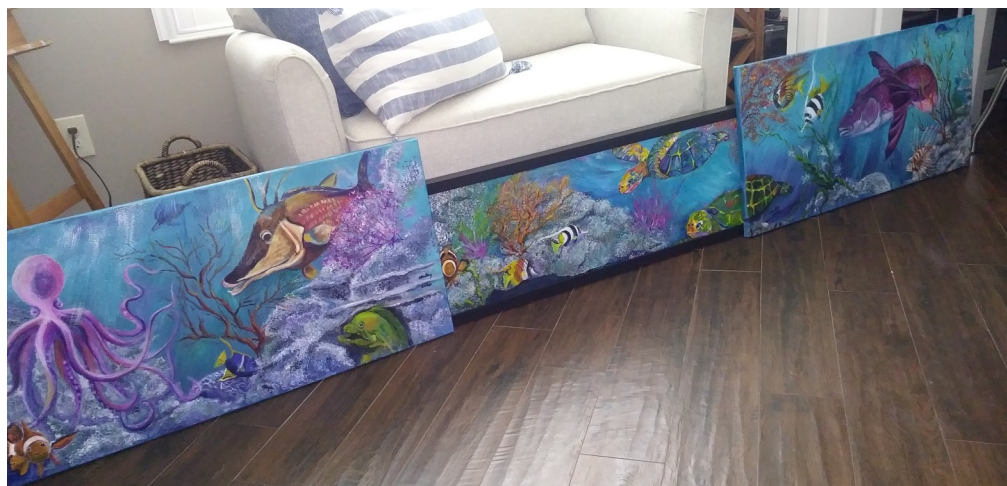


Linda Bourassa-Acrylic "Daydreams"

Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Phyllis Speicher-China Painted
Vase "Trumpet Flowers"



Linda Dailey-Acrylic "Aquarium" to be framed and installed over 12' sliding glass door



Lois Kamp-Mixed Encaustic Wax/Wool
"In My Head"



Lois Dowd-WC "Cup of Coffee"



Nancy Jarvis-Plein Air Oil "Off CR 470 in Wildwood"



Ralph Bischoff-Photo "Great Blue Heron Flight"

Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Jo Magram-Oil "Pink Attraction"



Vivian Haberfeld-Oil "Anticipating Summer"



Annie Dotzauer-Fused Glass "Summer at the Lake"



Linda Holcomb-Ott—Acrylic Pour "A Place Where the Angels Walk"



Derek Beasley-Wood Whittling
"Bored Silly Totem"

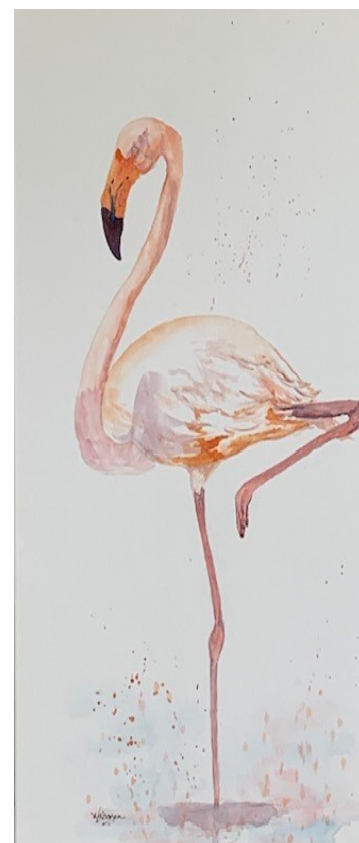
Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Phil Julian-Acrylic "Pretty Pair"



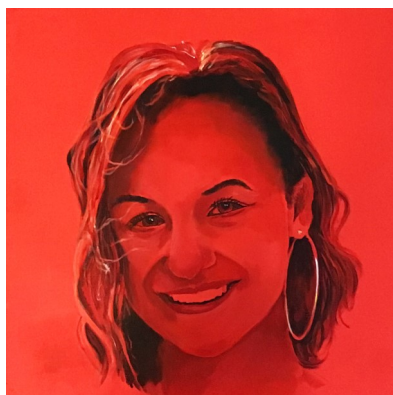
Carl Johnson-Wall Art



Betty Waisanen-WC on Canvas "Splash"



Maureen Terrien-Photo "Fenney Nature Trail"



Phil Myers-Acrylic "Maddie"



Joan Picarelli-WC "Pondering the Future"



Billie Edwards-Acrylic on WC paper
"Quarantine Takeout"

Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Dave Boege-Photo "Morning Fog"



Darlene Hayes-Acrylic "My Granddaughter's Back Yard"



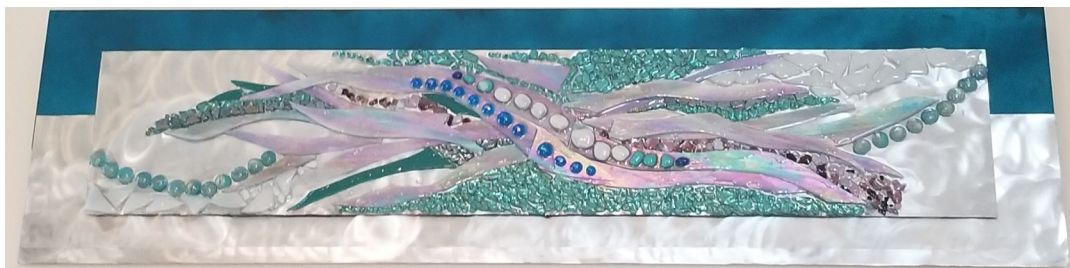
Kathi Scott-Acrylic Pouring
"Tickle the Night"



Judy Nahmias-Oil "Godiva the Dog"



Debi Lytle-Acrylic
"Classy Lady"



Rhonda Waters-Mosaic on Metal "Seascape"

Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Robert Jellinick-Oil "Lilies in the Pond"



Fran Naughton-WC "Two Strawberries"



Steve Lang-Clay
"Not a Self Portrait, Just Another Cowpoke"



Jean Martin-CP "
Magnificent Iris"



Susan Evans-WC "Elizabeth"



Marge McQueston-Mixed Media
"Fish for Granddaughter"



Leda Rabenold-Acrylic
"A Goat Named Felice"



Carol Reynolds-WC "Ethan"



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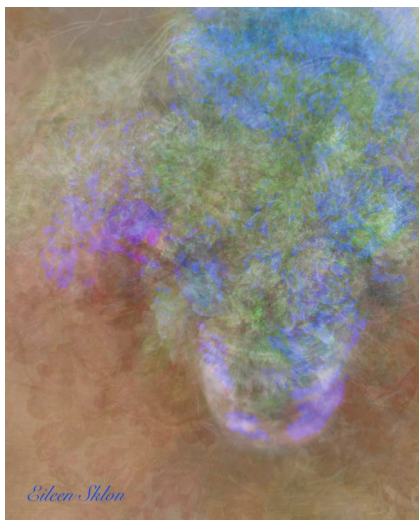


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Isolation Artwork by VAL Members



Diana Crow-Oil "Orange Blossom Cannonball"



Eileen Sklon-Photo
"The Bouquet!"



Diane Andrus-Mixed Media
Horse "Max"
Jar-"olla" Unfired Clay



Lisa Melcher-Acrylic "Untethered"



Helen Poor-Photo "Young Egret"



Diane Weekley-WC
"My Garden 's Camellia"
