



The Villages Art League Newsletter

www.thevillagesartleague.org

1989 - 2023

July 2023

Message from our President—Lisa Melcher

Greetings!

Thank you very much Annie Dotzauer for the presentation; all I have to say is WOW!

It's times like this that I seem to be at a loss for words. Freddie Venturoni left a mark on everyone who crossed her path. She was truly a joy and inspiration! There is a Celebration of Life for Freddie currently in the planning stages. More information will be provided at the meeting.

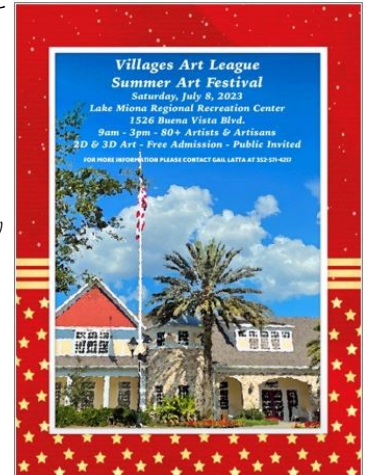


"Life gets mighty precious when there's less of it to waste." Bonnie Raitt

This month we have a wonderful demonstration by Lois Kamp. She is planning an intuitive abstract with the help of a couple of members. Now I love abstract art, but never know where to start or when to stop. I am really looking forward to this!

Our Summer Art Festival is approaching fast! It is scheduled for Saturday July 8th at Lake Miona Regional Recreation Center. I would like to thank the show committee led by Gail Latta for their hard work and dedication in putting this show together! If you are in the show, make sure you take note of the timing for setup and take down. Please help get the word out and make this show the best one ever! We all have a major role to play in making this show a success. If you are in town, please try to attend and show your support. Maybe even purchase a piece or two. Gail and the team will be at the meeting to provide an update and answer any questions you may have about the show.

We are still looking for someone to volunteer to send out our emails and a few volunteers to help plan our Holiday party. If you are interested in helping with either of these opportunities, please let me know.



"The influence of each human being on others in this life is a kind of immortality." John Quincy Adams

Sincerely, your 2023 Officers

President, Lisa Melcher

Vice President, Nan Kohr

Secretary, Marilyn Wright

Treasurer, Gail Parker



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

Artist of the Month—Peter Kushner



I have loved art for as long as I can remember. When I was 9 or 10 I was taking art classes every weekend at the Boston Museum of Fine Art. My father would drop me off at the museum and when my class was over I would take the subway by myself to a location where my father or one of his friends would pick me up. I really enjoyed drawing the most. From the time I was 14-22 I worked at a theatrical arts camp where I taught theatrical makeup, tennis and fencing. As a Senior in High School I loved art, science and math and had to make a decision which way to go in college. Since I didn't think I could make a flawless drawing of a person or a portrait from my imagination, I decided to go into math and computers. Of course in my later years I found out that really good artists would hire models for portraits or figure drawings - oh well!

I continued to take sporadic art courses as well as taking software courses to create programs to help artists do computer graphics. I was actually accepted to Brown University as a Master's student to work with Professor Andy Van Dam who was one of the early creators of computer graphics. Incidentally, the character of Andy in Pixar's "Toy Story" was named after Professor Van Dam. Due to unfortunate circumstances I was unable to work for Professor Van Dam but still attended Brown University.

After starting a family I didn't seem to have time for art until my daughters were 16 or above. I got back into color pencil drawing and surprised my family that I could create art. Since then I took many art courses at the Worcester Museum of Fine Arts. During COVID I took some courses for credit from the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD).

After retiring and moving to The Villages last September became a full time artist, drawing 7 days a week for 8-10 hours a day. I am an active member of the Colored Pencil Painters Guild and have been asked to help teach "Colored Pencil levels 1 and 2" enrichment classes. In addition, I have given two well received presentations with demonstrations on 3, 4, 5 and 6 point perspective.

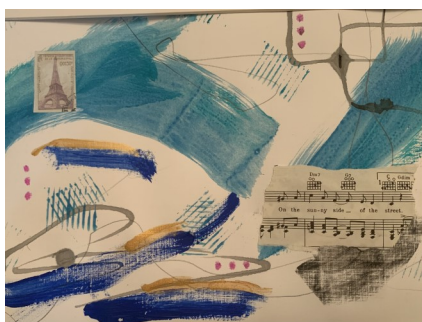
Prior to moving to The Villages I was doing colored pencil paintings with pastel backgrounds and acrylic or white ink highlights. One of my hobbies is to attend comic conventions where I would find the names of the voice actors who would be attending. I would then draw colored pictures of their characters and get the actors to sign them. In this way I have gotten signatures for the actors who voiced the Little Mermaid, Belle from "Beauty and the Beast," Mulan, Batman, Avatar the Last Airbender, C3PO from every Star Wars movie as well as many others.



Program—Lois Kamp: Intuitive Abstract

Growing up in West Virginia, Lois Kamp was not exposed to art as a child. She always wanted to be a nurse and had a long career as a nurse practitioner in private practice all over the country.

In 2013 Lois retired and moved to the Villages where she started joining art groups and taking private art lessons in all art mediums. After taking an Artist Way class, Lois realized she is an artist. It is simple, if you make art, then you are an artist and I make art everyday! In Artist Way Lois had to reduce her artist statement to one sentence: I am a curious person who likes to play. "My art might not be technically perfect but I hope you find it creative. My art is play. I get lost in the Process."



In 2018 Lois was diagnosed with Stage 4, inoperable, metastatic lung cancer. She says her ART THERAPY has given her a purpose and has helped her cope, while living with such a diagnosis. She states, "I did not know I had so much art in me."



Lois calls herself an intuitive and experimental artist. "Most of my art is not planned. I try all mediums from encaustic bee's wax to fiber arts and all mediums in between." She states, "I like best, whichever medium I am using at the time. I also like to put surprises in my art. It is not unusual to find a solo cup, silk cocoons or anchovy cans in my art. I am on a crusade, not to make boring work."

EISENHOWER EXHIBIT

Eisenhower Exhibit : A new Eisenhower exhibit will be hung on July 10, 2023. All information, rules, and registration forms are on the VAL website. Please have your ID tag and tracking form filled out prior to presenting your art. Remember to pick up your art also. This is a judges exhibit with ribbons. Judge for this exhibit is Shari Williams from Leesburg.

Lois Kamp, Chairperson 352 633 5428

CONGRATULATIONS: Winners for the Summer Exhibit at La Galleria have been announced. They are: First Place, Victoria Peterson, CP "Bamboo"; Second Place, Terri Behar-WC "Spring Blooms"; Third Place, Karyn Zais-Acrylic "Katrina"; Honorable Mentions, Martha Ayotte-WC "Night Shadows in the Swamp" and Katharine Bloom-Graphite Pencil "Searching for Truth."

Monthly Sunshine Report from Charlene Sasto

Cards were sent to:

- Annie Dotzauer for the loss of her sister,
- Bonnie Canning as an encouragement,
- And the family of Freddie Venturoni who passed away at the age of 100. —>





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Business Meetings: 9-11:30 am the first Monday of the month at the Saddlebrook Rec Center.

2023 OFFICERS

President	Lisa Melcher
Vice President	Nan Kohr
Secretary	Marilyn Wright
Treasurer	Gail Parker



CHAIRPERSONS

Artist of the Month	Jo Magram	Program	Hallie Deutsch & Lois Kamp
Eisenhower Exhibit	Lois Kamp	Publicity	
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Historian	Wendy Lahey	Sunshine	Charlene Sasto
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Newsletter Editor	Leda Rabenold	50-50 Raffle	Shirley Jerez & Irene Wantroba
Photographer	Dave Boege	Webmaster	Leda Rabenold

Art League Places to Exhibit in 2023

- ♦ **Eisenhower Art Exhibit** in the Eisenhower Regional Rec Center has a fine art exhibit that is judged and ribbons awarded. Exhibit dates for 2023 are: Jan. 9, Mar. 13, May 8, July 10, Sept. 11 Nov. 13
- ♦ **La Galleria** at La Hacienda Rec Center, the Masters Exhibit from September 9 to December 9, 2023.
- ♦ **Summer Art Festival** on July 8 at Lake Miona Rec Center. The **Fall Art Show** on October 28 at Eisenhower Rec Center. VAL members can show and sell their artwork during these one-day events..