



# The Villages Art League Newsletter

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

1989 - 2023

November 2023

## Message from our President—Lisa Melcher

Thank you Betty Eich for your presentation! Although I was not there to enjoy it, I know it was absolutely amazing!

As we begin to close out 2023, I would like to thank all the members, officers and volunteers for their contributions and support, including Vice President Nan Kohr, Treasurer Gail Parker, Secretary Marilyn Wright, Linda Yeck, Jo Magram, Dore Via Dumas, Sue Tribble, Irene Wantroba, Shirley Jerez,.....the list goes on! We would not be able to accomplish all we do without you.



Our annual officer elections will be taking place during our November business meeting, so please plan to attend. The nominating ballot is being prepared for the office of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Additional nominations are welcome to be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee. The newly elected officers will assume their positions on January 1 st , 2024.

The VAL is rich in history and our very own historian, Wendy Lahey will be bringing all that history to the November meeting for you to enjoy. It will be on display at the rear of the room, so please take advantage of this opportunity to learn a bit more about the VAL.

Our November meeting will feature another amazing artist who works in multiple mediums. She is an artist, emcee, speaker, and fashion consultant. Please join me in welcoming Debra Shine who will demonstrate the possible uses of paint, fabric, decoupage, plaster, stencils, transfers, text, photos, ephemera, findings, jewel embellishments and "stuff" to transform and repurpose items from "simple" to "special."

Upcoming dates to remember:

Monday December 4 th - Holiday Party

Monday January 8 th - Happy New Year Celebration

"The one thing that you have that nobody else has is you. Your voice, your mind, your story, your vision. So, write and draw and build and play and dance and live only as you can." – Neil Gaiman

Sincerely, your 2023 Officers:

President, Lisa Melcher

Vice President, Nan Kohr

Secretary, Marilyn Wright

Treasurer, Gail Parker



## Artist of the Month—Paul Kleinkopf



Paul Kleinkopf is a self-taught painter using his talent to paint “**Fabulous Fakes**”! He was featured in the “Village Neighbors” magazine in May 2023. (Written by Denise Lasley and used here.)

Paul has accomplished a lot in his life, and he has the newspaper articles and a wall full of certificates, awards, affidavits and a “*Who’s Who In The World*” listing to show for it. He had the honor of being the *President of the Board of Education* in Saddle Brook, NJ; was appointed by the Chief Counsel of NJ to sit on the *NJ Supreme Court Fee Arbitration Committee*; and was appointed by the Governor to the *Business*

*Affairs Ethics Committee*—just some of his accomplishments!

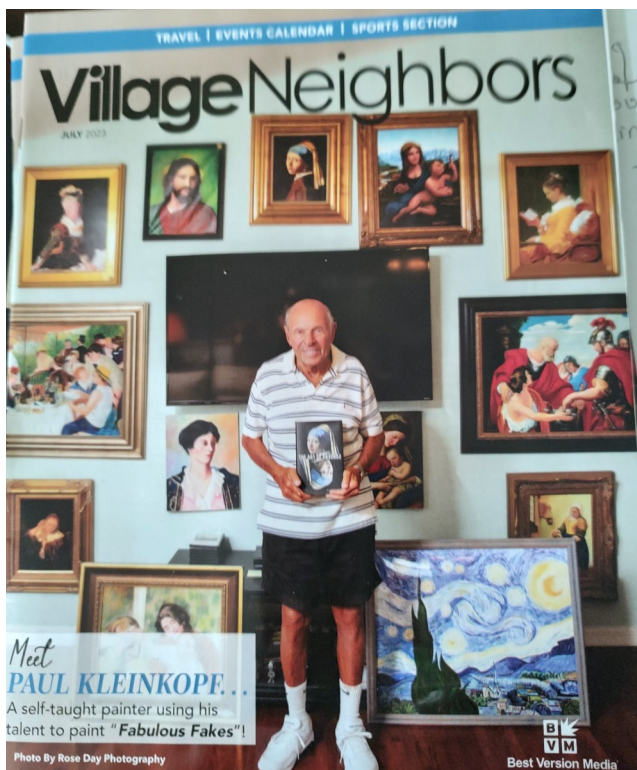
Born in Passaic, NJ in 1931, he served in the military in the Korean conflict, then earned his Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Business Administration, both from *Fairleigh Dickinson University*.

He had access to lots of fine art museums, and during the time in his life when he was recently divorced and not sleeping well,



he picked up an art book and started browsing through it. He had never painted before, but as he studied photos of works by the great masters, he thought “*I can do that...and maybe even do it better.*”

He bought some oil paints and an easel, poured through his art books and copied paintings of master artists. Today he has 125+ paintings hanging on the walls of his Villages home. Each painting is numbered and corresponds to an inventory list, naming the artist and the title of the painting—artists like Monet, Renoir, Michelangelo, van Gogh, etc.





## Program—Debra Shine

Debra will demonstrate how to transform a boring functional item (Dress Form Mannequin) into Resplendent Art using multiple mediums, textures and applications.

A little about Debra:

- Moved here from Atlanta, Georgia 2 years ago
- Lives in Village of Santiago
- Loves all things creative and the art community
- Enjoys gardening and gourmet "garden to table" cooking
- Repurposing ordinary objects into art forms is her passion



Demo will highlight the possible uses of paint, fabric, decoupage, plaster, stencils, transfers, text, photos, ephemera, findings, and jewel embellishments. In this type of art application the limitations are your imagination and the only rules are "there are no rules".

Let's Have Fun!

Debra D Shine, President

D Shine & Associates

Management Consultant, Speaker, Leadership Coach, Employee Trainer

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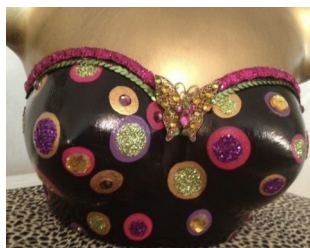
678 936-6986

Debra D Shine, CEO

D Shine Designs

Artist, Emcee, Speaker, Fashion Consultant

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## CONGRATULATIONS!

Awarded ribbons by Judge Jeannie Coughlan at **VAA's October-February Annex Exhibit** are:  
1st Place Kalene Walker, oil "Contemporary Cranes"; 2nd Place Helen Poor, photography "October Morning"; 3rd Place Susie Schreiber, watercolor "Birds of a Feather"; Honorable Mentions: Terri Behar, watercolor collage "Orange Burst" and Diane Pattie, photography "Bright Lights Over the Water"; Awards of Merit: Marge McQueston, mixed media "Awesome Amaryllis" and Betty Henderson, oil "Cedar Key Marsh."



Peoples' Choice awards were won on October 15 at **Artists Round The Square (ARTS)** in Brownwood by: 1st Place Sandra Waiver, glass art "Caroline Golf Course"; 2nd Place Peter Kushner, colored pencil "Cheetah Closeup"; 3rd Place Betty Eich, photography "Spanish Springs at Night."

### EISENHOWER EXHIBIT NEWS

Eisenhower's next exhibition will be on November 13, receiving from 1-2 pm. Send your form to Susie Schreiber, 1329 Camero Dr, The Villages, FL 32159. Form must be sent to Susie by Friday, November 10. Pick up for the current show will be the same day and time. The Eisenhower Exhibit registration form is accessible to print from the VAL website—[click here](#). Please read carefully as there are some changes. 2024 exhibit dates are January 8, May 13, July 8, September 9 and November 11.

Susie Schreiber, chairperson. Phone 740-407-7383.

### Monthly Sunshine Report from Charlene Sasto

A get well card was send to Lisa Melcher.

Sympathy cards were sent to Diane Andrus and Pauline Nizza for the loss of their husbands.



October VAL meeting attendees.



Tony DeSantis, October Artist of the Month.





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

2023 OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	Lisa Melcher
<b>Vice President</b>	Nan Kohr
<b>Secretary</b>	Marilyn Wright
<b>Treasurer</b>	Gail Parker



CHAIRPERSONS

<b>Artist of the Month</b>	Jo Magram	<b>Program</b>	Hallie Deutsch & Lois Kamp
<b>Eisenhower Exhibit</b>	Susie Schreiber	<b>Publicity</b>	
<b>Email</b>	Hallie Deutsch	<b>Refreshments</b>	Linda Yeck
<b>Historian</b>	Wendy Lahey	<b>Sunshine</b>	Charlene Sasto
<b>Membership</b>	Dore Via Dumas & Sue Tribble	<b>Volunteers</b>	Bonnie Canning
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Leda Rabenold	<b>50-50 Raffle</b>	Shirley Jerez & Irene Wantroba
<b>Photographer</b>	Dave Boege	<b>Webmaster</b>	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.

