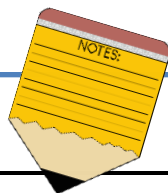


Nan's Notes



Nan Kohr, President

Nan's Notes

Coming soon is our February Membership Meeting when we let our artistic talent crawl out from its hiding place while taking part in "Artistry in Motion". Our bold imaginations will liven up canvases set-up around the room.

Pick up a paint brush.... now let the brush strokes make a kaleidoscope to enrich our canvases! Then at the end, add a trinket for a little glitz. The fun is just beginning!

Some ideas to spark the imagination for ten canvases on easels will be a garden, aquarium, music, Africa, seaport, ladies, animals, fairies, abstract, portrait of known person.

The plan is to vote on one of the ten canvases and submit it to La Galleria Exhibit as a tease for the judge.

Remember the mess we create is a most glorious mess.

February 14 th – Winter Fine Art Show

March 7 th - Annex Showcase

March 14 th - La Galleria Exhibit

Nan Kohr, president

Eileen Sklon, vice-president

Raymonde Winans, secretary

Bob Schutte, treasurer





Spotlight on you

Carol O'Brien

Connie Chandler



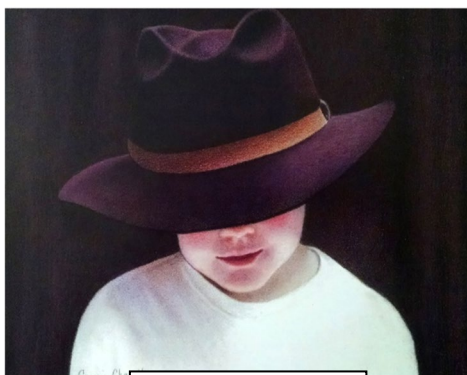
I was born in Chicago and lived in numerous places after that including Colorado, North Carolina, Georgia, and then I semi-retired in Florida. I worked most of my career as a legal secretary, legal software trainer, and e-learning course developer, primarily featuring software applications used primarily by law firms. I still work occasionally as an independent contractor for a company that develops e-learning.

When considering what I want to paint, I find that I am attracted to textures and color. I love nature so much of my work involves animals, flowers, and other kinds of nature. My medium is Colored Pencil. I was the founding Secretary of the Colored Pencil Painters Guild in 2011.

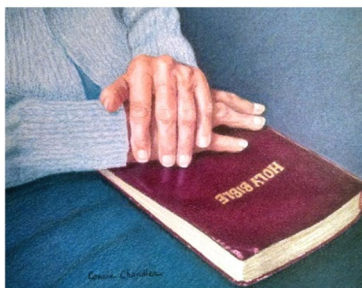
- The painting entitled "Archie" was done on suede board and is a picture of my son's cat, Archie.
- The painting entitled "Grandpa's Hat" is a photo of our grandson in my husband's felt hat.
- "Kia Peeping" is from a photo of our cat who lived to be 17 years of age peeking through the blind.
- "Mom's Hands" is from a photo of my mother's hands on her very loved and well-worn Bible.



Archie



Grandpa's Hat



Mother's Hands



Kia Peeping



Water Lilies



Between the Idea and the Making

Jane Furr Davis

Most artworks begin quietly. An idea appears — sometimes as a clear image, sometimes as a feeling or question — and it settles in, asking to be explored. At first, the idea feels full of promise. We can see it in our minds, sense its potential, and imagine how it might come together.

The challenge, of course, is that ideas don't make themselves. Somewhere between imagining and making, the real work begins. That middle space — between the idea and the finished piece — is where many artists find themselves in February.

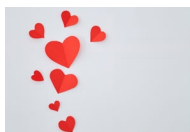
It's the place of trial and adjustment, of trying one approach and then another, of discovering that what seemed straightforward in theory is anything but simple in practice. Sometimes we realize that the first solution isn't the right one. Sometimes neither is the second.

This is also the point where our limitations tend to show up. A technique we've relied on for years may suddenly feel inadequate. A material behaves differently than expected. What we want to express outpaces what our hands know how to do. These moments can be frustrating, even discouraging, but they are also deeply human parts of the creative process.

What often helps in these moments is reaching outward. Artists learn not only from solitary effort, but from conversation — with fellow artists, mentors, books, workshops, or even a well-timed question asked aloud. Seeking guidance is not a sign of weakness; it's a recognition that creativity is rarely a solo endeavor. Growth often comes from listening as much as from doing.

Eventually, something shifts. Not because the struggle disappears, but because we adapt. We choose an approach that feels more honest, more workable, more aligned with the idea that started it all. The piece moves forward, carrying traces of every false start and adjustment along the way.

February reminds us that art is not just about inspiration or execution, but about persistence. About staying with an idea long enough to learn what it needs from us — and what we need to learn in return. In that space between imagining and making, we don't just create the work. We become better artists.



MOREAN

ARTS CENTER

St. Petersburg, FL



\$99.00!

Wednesday March 11, 2026

- *A private, docent led tour of the Morean Arts Center !*
- *View the beautiful collection of Chihuly blown glass !*
- *Also included, a visit to the Morean glass studio !*
- *Enjoy a narrated, glass blowing demonstration !*
- *Visit the famous Mazzaro's Italian Market & Deli !*
- *Lunch: on your own - bring a cooler for take home treats !*
- *Deluxe, Ship & Shore motor coach transportation !*
- *Personalized V.I.P. service with onboard host/hostess !*

V.A.A.

For more information and reservations:

Mary Ann Delessio - 203-470-9881

mald2559@hotmail.com



Visual Arts Association Winter Fine Arts Show

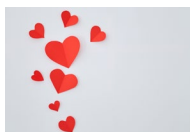
**ARTISTS EXHIBITING TWO AND THREE DIMENSIONAL UNIQUE PIECES
FREE ADMISSION!**

**Saturday
Feb. 14th 2026
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**Laurel Manor
Recreation
Center**

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT
THE VAA ARTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Presented by the VAA and VCCDD

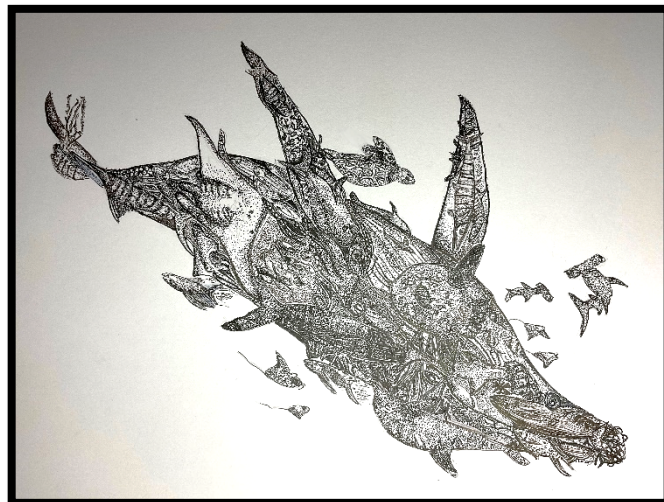


Member's Gallery

Please leave feedback for those with emails



Leda Rabenold
"Breakfast"
Acrylics



Maria Flynn
"Ocean Harmony"
Pen and Ink
Mflynn0128@gmail.com



Carol O'Brien
"White Phalaenopsis Orchid"
Paper
carolobrien@gmail.com



Doris Glapion
"Birthday Bouquet"
Oil



Edmund Kytle
"Trees"
Acrylic



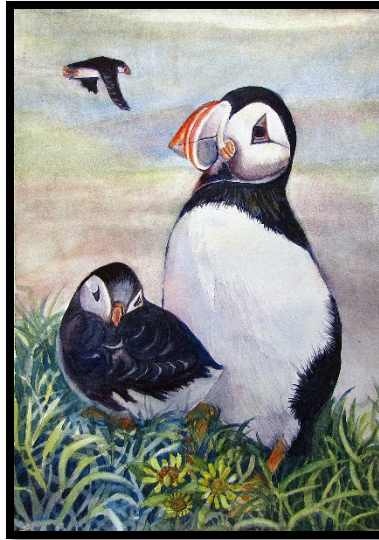
Nan Kohr
"If the Shoe Fits"
Watercolor
Kohr240@gmail.com



Nan Kohr
"SHROOMS"
Watercolor
Kohr240@gmail.com



Lisa Melcher
"Heartbroken"
Acrylic



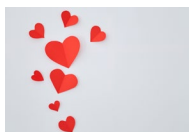
Martha Ayotte
"Puffins"
Watercolor
mayotte22@aol.com

If you would like to include your art
In the next month's **Members Gallery**:

Send a good photo (jpeg) of your art (*one or two*)
Now or before February 23 to vaanewsletter@gmail.com

and include your **name, title of art, media**
(and your **email** if you would like feedback/critique)

Martha Ayotte at 508-215-6155
with questions



Bulletin Board



P. O. Box 964
Lady Lake, FL 32158-1655

visualartsassociation.com

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

VAA Fiscal Year:

Sept 1 – Aug 31

Must complete form

on our website

Mail in with \$15 dues

(Or bring to a membership meeting)

***NOTE: Participation in VAA events
requires your dues are current**

VAA Board Members

President	Nan Kohr	kohr240@gmail.com
Vice Pres	Eileen Sklon	eyesklon@icloud.com
Secretary	Raymonde Winans	rpwinans@gmail.com
Treasurer	Bob Schutte	rschutte100@gmail.com

Past Presidents

Lee Asta
Marge McQueston
Frank Zampardi
Nan Kohr
Catherine Sullivan

Appointed Board Members

Helen Poor, Scholarship
Martha Ayotte, Newsletter
Christine Roberts, Membership
Jo Magram, New Member Liaison
Carol O'Brien, Programs
Cheri Ptacek, Communications

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Membership Mtg

February 6th 1:00 pm

March 6th 1:00 pm

Seabreeze Rec Center

* February 14th 9am-3pm VAA Winter
Fine Arts Show at Laurel Manor

* March 7th Annex Showcase

* March 14th La Galleria Exhibit

* indicates show or exhibit activity

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Joe Magram, New Member Liaison

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Sunshine Committee Ellen Cora