Visual Arts Association

Hues News

November 2026

Happy Thanksgiving!

Connie Chandler, Newsletter Editor

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Nan's Notes

Nan Kohr, President

"Great art is made by what you leave out!"

That must be why my canvas is blank!!

OK ... OK ... enough being silly!

We have a serious vote to take at the November Membership Meeting.

The October Hues News provided the proposed changes to the Bylaws after careful review by committee over the summer. This November issue will show what the Bylaws will be once approved.

Be sure to come to the meeting on November 6th at Sea Breeze so you can vote on the new framework of the VAA ... then stay and learn a trick or two from Diane Page, an accomplished member artist.

Happy Thanksgiving from each of us to each of you!

Nan Kohr, President
Eileen Sklon, Vice President
Raymonde Winans, Secretary
Bob Schutte, Treasurer

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November Guest Speaker

Carol O'Brien, Programs

Diane Page will present an in-depth, detailed lesson applicable to all mediums on "Painting the Light." This is one demo you don't want to miss.

Diane has been teaching watercolor workshops for the past 12 years and has been painting watercolors for the past 50 years.

Her love affair with art began in college after taking an art history course. The artists, John Constable and Vermeer, inspired her to a lifelong pursuit of learning the art of painting.

After college, Diane spent a year in Europe, touring all the famous art museums, before returning home and settling in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

She worked as a real estate agent for 25 years and has a love of buildings; it's the play of light and shadow, combined with architecture, that most inspires her.

Early on, Diane had the opportunity to study with Randolf Bye, the granddaddy of watercolor artists in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. She has been fortunate to take workshops from some of the top watercolor artists in the country. Her work has been shown in galleries in Florida and Pennsylvania.

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Welcome New Members

Jo Magram, New Member Liaison

It was so nice to meet three new members at my home and learn more about their background and interest in the Arts.

From left to right are **Jane Becker** with her beautiful stained glass piece of a mermaid, **Bob Konstantinovich** with his wonderful oil painting of one of his dogs, and **Cheryl Abelson** with another very talented piece of a woodsy theme using mixed media.

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In the Spotlight

Jo Magram

Terri Behar

I began painting in the 90's in Fort Wayne, Indiana! I started with watercolor but I learned a lot of different things: watercolor, colored pencil, pastels, and drawings! My favorite was watercolor! I have at least three paintings in the gallery in the Finney Rec Center!

I started doing acrylic several years ago, since the watercolor groups here were mostly beginner!

I have been in lots of shows and volunteer to help hang paintings at the Annex and La Hacienda!

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Remembering Ellen

WE WILL MISS ELLEN

It is with deep sadness that we share the news of the passing of one of our long-time members, Ellen Cora, on September 21st.

Ellen brought a vibrant artistic creativity with her from Queens, New York, where her journey began. She later made The Villages her home in 2001. For many years, Ellen was the thoughtful heart behind the VAA Sunshine cards, reaching out to brighten the days of our fellow members.

Though it was often hard to keep track of her as she and her husband, Arthur, traveled the world, we were all lucky beneficiaries of those journeys. Many of her beautiful artworks began as travel photos she generously shared with us.

Ellen has now journeyed to her final resting place, where her spirit will surely inspire the angels.

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Conversations

Jane Furr Davis

The Art Can Wait for Me

There is a strange guilt that comes from wanting to create art and not getting to it.

Not artist's block.

Not lack of inspiration.

Not even procrastination.

Life.

Lately, that seems to be what keeps getting in the way. I have things I want to do. In fact, I have quite a few of them. There are paintings I want to look at again, new colors I'd like to try and ideas that are twirling around in my head. And then there's an exhibition coming up, which means paintings must be selected, easels and stands found, and everything somehow gotten ready.

None of this is particularly difficult. I just haven't been doing it. The days fill up. Other things need attention. By the time there is an opening, sometimes the time is gone and sometimes the energy is gone with it.

And that's when the guilt creeps in.

I should have been painting. I should at least be doing something with all those ideas. The odd thing is that I don't lack ideas. That might almost be easier to understand. Instead, ideas seem to arrive at exactly the same rate they always have. I notice a color combination I want to try. I look at a painting and think of something I might change. Something else occurs to me that I'd like to explore.

Apparently, my imagination hasn't checked my calendar.

Perhaps that's part of the frustration. The creative part of me is happily making plans while the practical part keeps saying, "Not today."

I suspect most of us have periods like this. Family needs us. Appointments accumulate. Organizations we've joined somehow discover things for us to do. Sometimes we're traveling or entertaining visitors. Sometimes we're simply tired. None of these things means we've lost interest in creating. They just mean that, for a while, our attention is needed somewhere else.

I'm coming to realize that the creative life isn't only happening during the hours when I'm holding a brush. The ideas haven't disappeared because I haven't gotten to them yet. They're still twirling around in my head. The new color possibilities are still there. The paintings haven't gone anywhere. And that idea I haven't had time to pursue? Apparently, it's willing to stay put.

I don't have a particularly clever answer to any of this. My life can't suddenly become less busy because I've thought about it. Personal obligations continue to appear. Family members come for a visit. Life keeps happening. But perhaps I should stop treating all of that as evidence that I'm somehow neglecting my art. I don't want my art to become one more thing on a to-do list that I'm failing to check off.

Sometimes life simply takes ... the time it takes. Sometimes, even when we want to create, life doesn't leave us enough room. Perhaps an idea doesn't always need our immediate attention. Sometimes it can simply be patient.

The art can wait for me.

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Photo Frame

Tony DeSantis

Ralph Bischoff

I began having interest in photography back in to 90's while working for United Technologies.

When I retired and moved to Homosassa, Florida, in 2002, I took up photography for the Homosassa State Park. There I photographed all forms of Nature's creations. I carried this interest into what I do today in photography. I enjoy what nature has to offer and photograph animals, birds and insects closeup and in macro photography. I try to keep the subject matter as close to what I saw with little or no modification. This said, I use Photo Shop to edit with discretion.

Although I have lenses ranging from macro to 600mm, most of my subject matter is captured using a Nikon Camera and a 400mm lens. While capturing the image, I tend to use high speed, about one thousand of a second, and a low F-stop.

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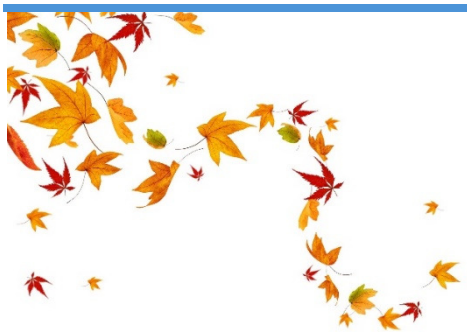
Fall Festival of Art Show

Raymonde Winans and Carol O'Brien



Thank you!

Carol O'Brien and Raymonde Winans, Co-Chairs of the Fall Festival of Art Show on October 10th, have many members to thank for their help in putting this show together. We are grateful to the artists that participated in the show and registered for a table to display their creative, beautiful talents.

We are thankful to the following people for their help and support:

> Janine Motto, who designed the flyer, Doreen Lowther, who handled registrations, Jo Magram, who made sure publicity was well advertised, Helen Poor for her time and devotion to the Scholarship Fund, Peter Kushner for the Do It Yourself Art Table, and Joseph Ferrara and Barbara who were the ambassadors of the Pumpkin Patch and Donated Art Tables.

Many members contributed by donating Art or Faux Pumpkins to sell to support the scholarship fund, as well as those who signed up to be show monitors, help with the Do It Yourself Art Table, or Pumpkin Patch/Donated Art Table:

> Jane Becker, Terri Behar, Jane Bowman, Suzy Burlock, Jane Davis, George Freeman, Connie Giebels, Doris Glapion, Virginia Hughes, Nan Kohr, Peter Kushner, Cynthia Kitt, Marge McQueston, Phil Myers, Jo Magram, Carol O'Brien, Linda Sanders, Lois Shelko, Cindy Verdick, Betty Waisanen, Diane Weekley, and Raymonde Winans.

We apologize for any people not listed. You may not have written your name on the list. We apologize for that; however, we are thankful for you as well.

Opportunities

Sheriff's Annex Exhibit

The next Sheriff's Annex Exhibit is **Saturday, December 5, 2026**, at the Sumter County Sheriff's Office with a drop-off between 8:00 am and 10:00 am.

We hope you are planning to enter your art in the next Sheriff's Annex Exhibit scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2026. You may enter up to two paintings at no charge.

Do not e-mail the Registration Form. Instead, please bring your completed Registration Form to either the November or December VAA Monthly Meeting. I will be at both meetings at the back of the room to answer any questions you may have about your entry. **The deadline is Friday, 12/4/26.**

Exhibit Rules and Forms can be downloaded and printed from our VAA website: www.visualartsassociation.com.

Remember to check out our VAA Calendar, which can be found on our website, for current Exhibit and Show Dates.

Thank you
Catherine S.
Annex Exhibit Chair

Opportunities

Something Creative Is Always Happening at Village Art Workshops!

Great instructors. Inspiring workshops. And plenty of opportunities to make art!

We've got an exciting lineup at **Village Art Workshops**, and we'd love to have you join us!

🌿 **October 29–30 | Lionel Sanchez — Introduction to En Plein Air**

Take your painting outdoors! Learn to capture natural light, color, and atmosphere while working in your favorite medium.

🎄 **November 8–12 | Holiday Festival**

Five days of festive creativity! Join us for acrylic painting, colorful alcohol ink ornaments, handmade watercolor batik cards, and our special Watercolor & Drizzle workshop. A wonderful opportunity to make something beautiful for the holidays!

☀️ **November 16–17 | Lynn Ferris — Watercolor**

Discover how light and shadow can transform an ordinary subject into an extraordinary painting with nationally acclaimed watercolor artist Lynn Ferris.

💧 **December 10–12 | Watercolor Boot Camp with Wanda Boyd**

Build your confidence and strengthen your watercolor skills in this immersive three-day workshop.

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced artist, there's a place for you at Village Art Workshops!

Explore our workshops and register at VillageArtWorkshops.com.

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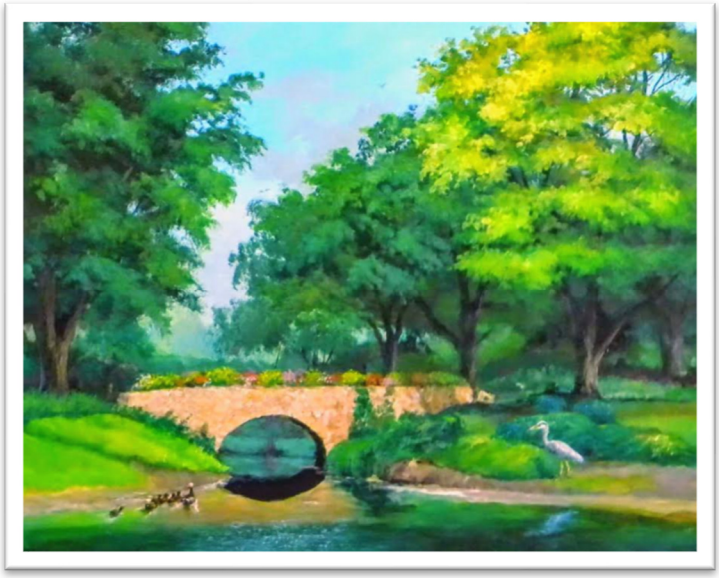
Members Gallery

'Venetian Oriole'
Ralph Bischoff
Photography

'Mother's Love'
Jo Magram
Oil

'Sandhill Crane'
Connie Chandler
Colored Pencil



'Glenview Bridge'
Michael Daley
Acrylic

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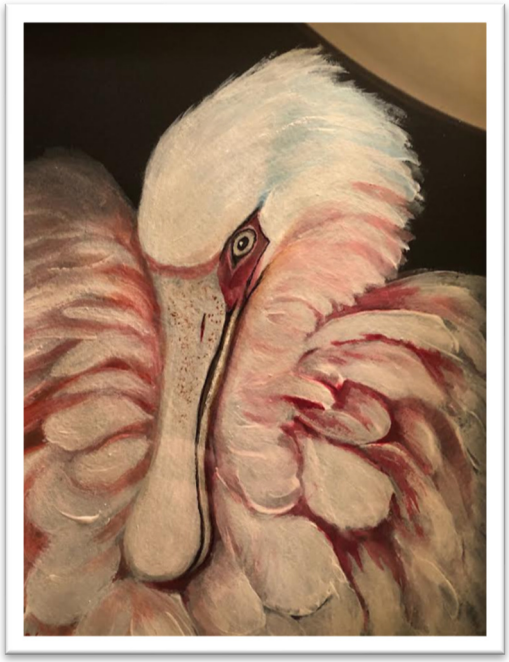
Members Gallery

'Look Up'
Susan Paul
Acrylic



'Florida Turkey'
Nan Kohr
Watercolor

'Country Charm'
Alexander 'Sandy' Turnbull
Acrylic

'Ancient Gaze'
Maria Flynn
Colored Pencil & Inktense

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Members Gallery

'Lake View'
Jane Bowman
Watercolor

'Waiting for My Dad'
Phil Myers
Acrylic and Oil

Strut Your Stuff!

To include your art in next month's Members Gallery, please send a good photo (jpeg) of your art (unframed, if possible) before **November 15th** to Connie Chandler, VAA Newsletter Editor, at connie.chandler@gmail.com.

Please include your name, title of the artwork, and art medium.

This is a chance to show us the art you've been working on!

No judging ... just showing off!!

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VAA Bylaws Updates

VAA Bylaws Committee

If approved by the VAA membership at its November 6, 2026, general meeting, the Bylaws of the VAA will be updated as follows.

Summary of Proposed Changes to the VAA Bylaws

The purpose of updating the Bylaws came about because of the change of the VAA fiscal year to align with the calendar year. Shortly thereafter, the Bylaws Review Committee realized there were some basic 'housekeeping' changes to be made. We presented the current Bylaws wording (red-lined) with the proposed changes in the October newsletter issue for the membership's awareness.

Other than corrective housekeeping changes, there are three changes in the **meaning** of the Bylaws:

- Fiscal year to calendar year (January through December), along with coordinating months for Nominating Committee requirements
- President's option to appoint Board Members without the designation of an amount of six (6)
- Scholarship funding of students interested in art education, not restricted to high school students

A capsule of those changes:

The 1st and 2nd Article changes are dealing with the Name of the organization.

The 3rd Article defines the fiscal year change to a calendar year.

The 4th Article allows the President to appoint officers to the Board, as needed. Other changes are housekeeping changes, not meaningful changes, until the subject of nominating officers.

The 5th Article only changes the name to VAA.

The 6th Article defines the changes of the months for nominating officers because of the fiscal year change to a calendar year.

The 7th Article better defines job descriptions of the Board's officers.

The 8th Article better defines the duties of standing committees. The Scholarship Program now expands financial support across all age groups for student art education.

The 9th, 10th and 11th Articles' wording now conforms to the calendar year.

The 12th, 13th and 14th Articles are housekeeping changes, without changing the meaning.

The 15th Article defines who ratifies the Bylaws (officers and committee members).

VISUAL ARTS ASSOCIATION OF THE VILLAGES
BYLAWS 2026

The revised Bylaws 2026 replace prior Bylaws of 1999, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2020, and addendums A and B.

Article I
Name of the Organization

The name of the organization shall be the Visual Arts Association of The Villages (the "VAA").

Article II
Purpose of the Organization

The VAA is a non-profit organization that fosters and encourages artistic talent and appreciation of fine art. The VAA shall work with other organizations having similar ideals and purposes through classes, shows and community involvement.

Article III
Membership

Membership in the VAA is open to all residents of The Villages upon completion of an application and payment of annual dues. The fiscal year is January 1 through December 31. Dues shall be set annually by the Executive Board, payable in January, and must be current in order for members to participate in VAA membership activities.

Membership carries full voting rights for one (1) vote. Membership shall not be transferable or assignable.

A member "in good standing" is defined as one who is current with their dues and is in compliance with the Bylaws. Any applicant's membership will be subject to approval by the Executive Board.

Any applicant who has engaged in malicious or unbecoming conduct towards another member/members (either in person or through electronic or digital means) may be refused membership by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the members present of the Executive Board. Anyone who is refused membership under these conditions shall have dues refunded. Membership is subject to the compliance of these Bylaws and may be revoked by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the members present of the Executive Board.

If an officer is removed from his/her office, the officer shall also terminate his/her membership. An officer may be removed from office for cause at any time by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the members present of the Executive Board.

Article IV
Executive Board

The **Executive Board** shall consist of the Elected Officers, Officers appointed by the President, and Active Past Presidents.

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VAA Bylaws Updates

VAA Bylaws Committee

Elected Officers shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each Elected Officer shall serve a term of two (2) years or until a successor is elected and may succeed himself or herself only once. They may be re-elected after an absence of one (1) year.

Appointed Officers - The President shall appoint, as needed, VAA members to the Executive Board for facilitating the business of the organization, who shall serve a term of two (2) years.

Active Past Presidents automatically become members of the Executive Board.

The Executive Board shall manage the entire general affairs of the VAA.

The Executive Board shall meet monthly. The President may request other meetings, as necessary.

A quorum of a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board members present shall be necessary for any items that require a vote. The President does not vote unless there is a tie.

Article V
Advisory Board

Advisory Board - When called upon by the Executive Board, a Board of Advisors may be appointed by the Executive Board to assist with artistic, financial and community concerns. Members of the Advisory Board may be selected from educational, municipal business and community organizations and from the VAA's members. All Advisory Board members shall be approved by the Executive Board.

Article VI
Election of Officers

All Elected Officers shall be full-time residents of The Villages, Florida.

A Nominating Committee, consisting of three (three) persons, shall be appointed by the President prior to the October announcement for the slate of officers.

The slate of nominees will be presented at the October general meeting, where nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

The final slate will be voted on at the November general meeting. If the position has more than one candidate, there will be a paper ballot for that position. If there is only one candidate for the position, a voice vote will be accepted. The newly Elected Officers will begin their terms in January.

In the event an Elected Officer is unable to complete their term of office, the President may appoint, with the approval of a two-third (2/3) majority of the members present of the Executive Board, a replacement for the balance of the term.

Article VII
Officers Job Descriptions

President - Shall preside over all regular and special meetings of the Executive Board and the meetings of the general membership, and appoint committee chairpersons and committees, as

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VAA Bylaws Updates

VAA Bylaws Committee

specified in the Bylaws. When an action requires a vote and there is a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

Vice-President- Shall preside in the absence of the President, shall replace the President in case the President vacates the chair, and shall serve as liaison with other arts organizations in the region.

Secretary - Shall record minutes of all proceedings at meetings of the Executive Board to include all motions and voting results. Minutes are the Legal Record of the meetings of the VAA. The Secretary is custodian of all Board-approved documents.

Treasurer - Shall receive and disburse all monies with checks, maintaining appropriate and accurate records of all financial transactions of the General Fund and the Scholarship Fund, submit a monthly treasurer's report at each monthly Executive Board meeting, and assist with the Executive Board-approved audit on an annual basis.

Article VIII
Committees

All Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed or replaced by the President and/or the Executive Board. The membership will be asked if anyone is interested in these positions. The Chairperson shall report to the President and Executive Board.

Programs - The Chairperson is responsible, along with a committee, for planning scheduled programs, such as demonstrations, lectures, films, etc., for each monthly meeting. They will work with the Recreation Center with regard to the needs of the program. All proposed programs shall be reviewed by the Executive Board at the monthly Board meetings.

Hospitality-The Chairperson is responsible, along with a committee, for refreshments at monthly meetings and major functions of the VAA. He or she may have a committee as large as necessary.

Membership - The Chairperson is responsible for collecting and submitting to the Treasurer all membership dues, maintaining a membership list, keeping members' contact information current and providing it to others.

Publicity - The Chairperson is responsible for publications and radio and television coverage for the VAA's activities. This person will work with all the Committee Chairpersons to publicize their events.

Exhibits and Show Chairpersons -These positions will coordinate events according to the rules as shown on the VAA's website.

Scholarship - The Chairperson is responsible for the Scholarship Program, an on-going activity to support continuing art education. The Chairperson is authorized to solicit and manage funds from various sources and events, and to coordinate with school resources and other qualified individuals to select the best qualified and deserving of Scholarship support. All transactions under this activity will be reported to the Treasurer.

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VAA Bylaws Updates

VAA Bylaws Committee

Article IX
Meetings

Meetings - Membership meetings are held monthly, unless otherwise announced, with the time and location to be published in the monthly newsletter, except during a two-month summer break.

The Executive Board meets monthly and may call an emergency meeting at any time it becomes necessary.

Article X
Bylaw Amendments

Amendments - These Bylaws may be amended by written notification to the membership thirty (30) days prior to a general membership vote. Such amendments require a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the members in attendance.

Article XI
Dissolution

Dissolution - The VAA shall continue until the event of dissolution by its members, at which time the entire assets of the VAA, together with any and all accumulations thereto, shall be distributed in accordance with a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the then membership present to either a succeeding organization or distributed to charitable organizations.

Article XII
Art Shows and Exhibits

Art Shows and Exhibits – The VAA's Art Shows and Exhibits are events for artists to display and sell their artwork. Details and rules regarding the Art Shows and Exhibits are on the VAA's website (www.visualartssassociation.com).

Article XIII
Solicitations

Solicitations - No member may use the VAA's name in solicitations for contributions, discounts or displays without the written approval of the Executive Board. Member misrepresentation can result in expulsion from the VAA.

Article XIV
Governance Policy

The VAA is proud of its traditions, success and reputation within the local art community. It believes that fairness, honesty and respect be reflected in all its activities, and the Recreation Department's Code of Conduct be the guideline for all business and interactions by its members. The VAA's Parliamentary authority is to follow Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

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VAA Bylaws Updates

VAA Bylaws Committee

Article XV
Ratification

Ratification - These Bylaws of the Visual Arts Association of The Villages are hereby adopted by certified members in the regular meeting this 2nd day of November 2026 (Pending)

Officers	**Bylaws Committee Members**
Nan Kohr President	Lee Asta Past-President and Bylaws Committee Member
Eileen Sklon Vice President	Connie Chandler Bylaws Committee Member
Raymonde Winans Secretary	Kathleen Karol Bylaws Committee Member
Bob Schutte Treasurer	

Amendments

In accordance with Article IX, Amendments, the following amendments were presented to the membership of the VAA, voted on and accepted by the officers and Executive Board of the VAA on the dates shown below:

Amendment 1 – Articles I and III accepted on August 23, 2004
Amendment 2 – Article XI accepted on April 19, 2006
Amendment 3 – Articles III and XI accepted on February 15, 2008
Amendment 4 – Articles IV, VI, VII and VIII accepted on November 15, 2013
Amendment 5 – Articles IV, VII, VIII, XII, XIII and XIV accepted on October 17, 2014
Amendment 6 – All Articles, updated and accepted on October 16, 2015
Amendment 7 – All Articles, updated and accepted on February 7, 2020
Amendment 8 – All Articles, updated and accepted on November 2, 2026 (Pending)

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Bulletin Board

Calendar at a Glance

November 6, Friday — **Board Meeting & General Meeting**
Sea Breeze Rec Center — 11:00 – 12:30 — 1:00 - 3:00
2384 Buena Vista Blvd

December 4, Friday — **Board Meeting & General Meeting**
Sea Breeze Rec Center — 11:00 – 12:30 — 1:00 - 3:00
2384 Buena Vista Blvd

December 5, Saturday — **Pick up artwork at Sherriff's Annex**
8033 E County Rd 466 — 8:00 – 10:30
(and Morse Blvd)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
January 8, Friday — **Board Meeting & General Meeting**
Sea Breeze Rec Center — 11:00 – 12:30 — 1:00 - 3:00
2384 Buena Vista Blvd

VAA Board Members

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

Appointed Board Members
Communications - Cheri Ptacek
Membership – Suzy Burlock
New Member Liaison – Jo Magram
Newsletter Editor - Connie Chandler
Programs - Carol O'Brien
Scholarship - Helen Poor
Webmaster - Christine Roberts

Past Presidents
Lee Asta
Marge McQueston
Frank Zampardi
Nan Kohr
Catherine Sullivan

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

VAA Fiscal Year:
January 1 through December 31

ANNUAL DUES ARE $15 AND MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A COMPLETED MEMBERSHIP FORM!

Membership forms are available on the VAA website (www.visualartsassociation.com) or at the Membership table during a monthly meeting.

NOTE: Participation in VAA events requires that your dues are current.

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