



## Showcase of Arts



When we use the term "Showcase of Arts" in VAA, what comes to mind? The art exhibits at La Galleria in the La Hacienda Recreation Center certainly do fit the bill. The La Galleria Exhibits have been a large part of VAA's

persona, a signature event, if you will; for almost twenty years. Paintings and photographs in this exhibit have consistently brought into view the best two-dimensional art we have to offer. The pictures you see here are just a few of those found worthy of recognition by our distinguished guest judges. Although we have moved to Seabreeze, the VAA will continue to exhibit and honor our artists at La Galleria.

On January 4<sup>th</sup>, Our Judge for the Winter 2019 La Galleria Fine Arts Exhibit is Lew Clayton. Lew has been working steadily as an illustrator for over 30 years. His medium of choice is Prismacolor colored pencil and his favorite subject matter is people and animals. Whether serious or whimsical, Lew's art is loaded with emotion and personality.

He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from Brigham Young University in Provo UT. Lew has been a Senior Graphic Designer in the media industry. Over the years, he has done extensive freelance work designing posters, t-shirts, logos, caricatures, wall murals and architectural renderings. He has even illustrated a children's book.

His portraits are among collections throughout the United States including St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. He has taught portrait classes at Mount Dora Center for the Arts, credited Graphic Design classes at Lake Sumter Community College, and colored pencil classes in Mount Dora.

Lew Clayton is a native Floridian residing in Eustis.





## This Month's Program



We are very pleased to have **Cindy O'Lear** as our guest artist for the New Year. Cindy is a recent arrival in The Villages, now devoting her talents to teaching what she loves, 'doing art'. She is a multi-media artist teaching a weekly open ended art session at New Covenant Church, and has several pieces in the Fenney Gallery. She was also chosen as a mural painter at the Rohan.

O'Lear will speak on the "Progression of Art and the Importance of Art History." Focusing on painting, drawing, and sculpture led her through an interesting and exciting adventure you will surely want to hear about!



**And coming soon to a meeting at Seabreeze** -- Please join us as we celebrate the new year with an exciting programs lineup. Stay with us for this season as we explore Jazz on Paper; a new format for the scholarship recipients; and an "All About Us" panel featuring a number of our members who have experienced renewal of creativity.

## Spotlight on You



This month's spotlight shines on Jeanne Willette.....

My early years were spent in west Michigan, then to Stephens College in Missouri, and 20 years later getting my BS from Grand Valley State University. I am mother to 3 grown children and many extended blended family members. My later career provided me with an art teaching degree after giving up a 4-year plan in Art Therapy. I also spent a summer at the University of London, studying figure drawing/painting.





After a long 3 decades of teaching Decorative Painting, I launched into watercolor as a challenge. During those years I was also a university secretary, an art gallery owner, a docent, and a museum administrator. All my life I've been involved in creative ventures which continue to this day! Happily, I can divide the year into thirds: large watercolors with colored pencil overlays, collages, and acrylic on canvas. There is hope that perhaps someday I will return to oil monotyping that was very successful in the past.,

Twenty years ago when I moved to the Villages, the VAA was started and as one of the founding members, so did the art scholarship fund that I was chair of for over 5 years. I have held many offices in the larger art leagues in the area, including as president of the Villages Art League. I continue to teach and show my artwork in galleries and shows. I focus on watercolor 'splash paintings', embellished with fauna and floral, pen and ink over watercolor, collages, and acrylic on canvas - abstract and original compositions. The unique style is my special gift of sharing to art lovers!



## Scholarship News

### HAPPY NEW YEAR and THANK YOU!

This was a most successful Holiday season for the VAA Scholarship Project. In response to great messaging, and strong financial support from our own Scholarship Team and VAA members... the stocking project netted \$1,125.00 in donations. What a terrific way to begin the year!

During January, the 2019 our Art Scholarship Applications will be going out to the private, charter and public high schools in Lake, Marion, and Sumter Counties. This begins the process of finding qualified candidates for interviews, portfolio reviews, and finally awards. Our updated applications will be on line shortly. Please have a look. If you know of a local graduating senior interested in a college art major have them contact us. Last year we found six exceptionally qualified young artists to support ... may there be more of their caliber again!

Meanwhile, we are preparing a presence at the February VAA Fine Arts Show at Laurel Manor. Our Scholarship raffle table already has some wonderful art, theater tickets, and a luxury Valentine basket. Unique jewelry, elegant fashion



scarves, and coffee table travel / art books and wines are always popular and welcomed. If you have suggestions or something special for us please contact the number below.



We are also in need of some additional volunteers for the Raffle table and Art Room Café. Come join us help promote fine art and the art students that need our support.

We are excited about our new meeting location and times. Seabreeze will be a wonderful home for the VAA, and a special place to host our Scholarship winners in the Spring of 2019.

Helen Poor and the Scholarship Team  
352 561-4474

## Banner Artist Reveal



**Ralph Bischoff's** beautiful photography leads off this month's edition of our newsletter.

Born and lived in Massachusetts most of my life. Joined the Army in 1965 and taught CW (continuous Wave Radar) at Redstone Arsenal. After my tour Army in 1968, I was offered a job by Raytheon and Pratt & Whitney Aircraft. I chose Pratt & Whitney and worked with certifying and developing cutting edge specialty instrumentation used to measure jet engine parameters.



While at Pratt & Whitney, I would travel around the country FAA certifying jet engine test stands and assist in trouble shooting problems associated with the stands or our engines. Upon return to work, I would have to write a report and give a presentation as to my finding and solutions. The old adage "A picture is worth a thousand words," eventually made sense and the company bought me a Cannon AE1 with lenses to assist with the presentations; thus my interest in photography began. Over the years, my interest waned and I considered it more a tool than hobby.



I moved to Homosassa, Fl in 2003 and discovered that abundance of flowers, birds and insects fascinated me. My interest in photography was renewed. I eventually began doing photography for the Homosassa State Park, where my work was used for park displays and the State Parks web pages. Once a year the park would have an annual park artisan art show and I discovered people would actually buy my work. I moved to the Villages this year, 2018, joined the VAA and VAL Art Leagues where I enjoy seeing and hearing about superb artisans and their work.





# Events & Opportunities

## News from the

### VILLAGE ART CENTER

**Keeton's Art and Supply** is coming to The Villages.

Join us Saturday Jan 12, 2019 from 9 am to 3 pm.

FREE GOODIE BAG for the first 50 people!!

The discounts from 40% to 50 % off arches paper, brushes, Mission, Holbein and Daniel Smith paint, colored pencils and more!!!

If there is something special you want, email me and I will make sure it is put aside for you the day of the sale.

The coffee pot will be on!

See you Saturday,

Beverly Hennessy

[bbaug97@aol.com](mailto:bbaug97@aol.com)

For more information on all demos and classes, visit

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

or contact Bev Hennessy at 352 572-5317

or email Bev at

[bbaug97@aol.com](mailto:bbaug97@aol.com)



**January 14-15, 2019**

**Sandy Maudlin**

**"Painting Outside  
The Lines"**

**Watercolor**

**Fee: \$197.00**

**Few Remaining Spots**

For class description, supply list and registration form visit:

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

[www.sandymaudlinblogspot.com](http://www.sandymaudlinblogspot.com)

**January 16-17,2019**

**Sandy Maudlin**

**"Creating Texture  
and Realism on Canvas"**

**Fluid Acrylic**

**Fee \$197.00**

This workshop promises loads of fun along with a few challenges.

Using your own choice of subject matter, you will paint a fascinating, even breathtaking, acrylic on the surface of your choice.

For class description, supply list and registration form visit:

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

[www.sandymaudlin.blogspot.com](http://www.sandymaudlin.blogspot.com)





January 21-22-23, 2019

Elizabeth St Hilaire

"Birds and Blooms " Collage

Fee \$425.00

Optional: January 24

No Charge, No Teacher

Come out and rip and glue with Elizabeth where you will benefit from one-on-one attention and live demonstrations. Elizabeth works with some incredible art centers across the country,

so why not join her at the Village Art Center!!

Creating art from tiny tidbits of paper. Come and learn from the best collage artist in the country!!

For registration form, class description

and supply list visit:

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

register for Elizabeth's News Letter at:

[www.paperpaintings.com](http://www.paperpaintings.com)



January 28-29-30-31, 2019

Helga Flower

"Painting the Unknown World"

Watercolor

Fee \$345.00

Thru my 40 years of teaching experience, I have compassion for the beginner artist, enthusiasm for the intermediate art student and I enjoy widening the horizon of the advanced artist.

For class description and supply list visit:

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

[www.helgaflower.com](http://www.helgaflower.com)





**Save the Date**

**Art Festival**

**February 2, 2019**

**Free Art Demonstrations**

**1:00 to 3:00**

**Wine and Paint Party--**

**6:00 to 8:30**

**More details to follow**



**February 11-12, 2019**

**Lynn Ferris**

**"Capturing the Light" Watercolor**

**Fee \$172.00**

**For registration form,  
class description  
and supply list visit:**

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

[www.lynnferris.com](http://www.lynnferris.com)



**February 13-14-15, 2019**

**Kristy Kutch**

**"Exploring the Landscape  
with Colored Pencil"**

**Fee: \$314.00**

**Kristy is an experienced, upbeat workshop instructor and author who guides her students through the steps for creating colored pencil landscape art.**

**For registration form, class description, and supply list visit:**

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

[www.artshow.com/kutch](http://www.artshow.com/kutch)

**March 4-5-6, 2019**

**Gene Rizzo**

**"Impressions and Expressions  
in Watercolor"**

**Fee: \$247.00**

**For class description, supply list  
and registration form visit:**

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

[www.generizzo.com](http://www.generizzo.com)



**March 11-12, 2019**

**Karen Knutson**

**"Florals in Watercolor  
with Creative Textures!"**

**Fee \$203.00**

**For class description and supply list visit:**

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

[www.karenknutson.com](http://www.karenknutson.com)

[www.karenknutsonblogspot.com](http://www.karenknutsonblogspot.com)



March 13-14, 2019

Karen Knutson

"Painting Animals in Acrylic  
Like Gustav Klimt!"

Fee \$ 203.00

For class description and supply list and registration form visit:

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

[www.karenknutson.com](http://www.karenknutson.com)

[www.karenknutson.blogspot.com](http://www.karenknutson.blogspot.com)

March 18-19-20-21, 2019

Soon Warren

"Vibrant Watercolor"

Watercolor

Fee: \$389.00

**2 spots remaining**

For class description  
and supply list visit:

[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)

[www.soonwarren.com](http://www.soonwarren.com)



"It doesn't make much difference how the paint is put on as long as something has been said. Technique is just a means of arriving at a statement."

*Jackson Pollock*



One of this country's more controversial artists, **Jackson Pollock** would be 107 years old this year on January 28. In its edition of August 8, 1949, *Life* magazine ran a feature article about Jackson Pollock that bore this question in the headline: "Is he the greatest living painter in the United States?" Could a painter who flung paint at canvases with a stick, who poured and hurled it to create roiling vortexes of color and line, possibly be considered "great"? New York's critics certainly thought so, and Pollock's pre-eminence among the Abstract Expressionists has endured, cemented by the legend of his alcoholism and his early death. The famous 'drip paintings' that he began to produce in the late 1940s represent one of the most original bodies of work of the century. At times they could suggest the life-force in nature itself, at others they could evoke man's entrapment - in the body, in the anxious mind, and in the newly frightening modern world.

Source: [theartstory.org](http://theartstory.org)





PROUD of it now  
PREPARED for the future



# Featured 3D Artist



**Ellen Hellwege**, a master glass fusion artist, will be showing at Laurel Manor at the VAA Winter Fine Arts Show.

Hi, I'm Ellen, a St. Louis, MO native loving the lifestyle in The Villages, FL, moving here from New Jersey in 2006. I've always dabbled in some type of creative art so finding Glass Fusion was a new perfect fit. I joined a Glass Club right away and made a small bowl with a palm tree on it. After bringing it home and proudly showing it to Al, my husband, it slipped from a bag and hit the tile floor in way too many pieces to count. I went back to the next club meeting showing them the broken pieces and asked, "What now"? They said to "Make jewelry"! And so it began! Hot Glass Fusion has allowed me another medium to showcase my love of color, style and unique flair of design. The results are always a "ONE OF A KIND" glass masterpiece. Every pendant is guaranteed to give you a compliment! I also love creating my Artscapes. I enjoy being a visual artist, playing with light, color, heat and glass and I can ensure you that no two handcrafted signed pieces of mine are alike!





PROUD of it as well  
PREPARED for the future



# Photo Frame



Our January lens captures none other than **Betty Eich**, a gifted photographer and a tireless volunteer for VAA.

Betty is a lifelong educator who has been a teacher and administrator in all levels of education from preschool to graduate school — and loved all of it. She started photography after retirement in 2004 because, she says, “Photography gave me a chance to express my feelings about what I saw in a way that was new for me; it was visual instead of verbal.” In addition, she liked the fact that in photography one could never “learn in all.” There was always more to learn about shooting, composing, and post-processing.



Betty and her husband Ed live in the Village of La Reynalda. Both grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and lived in the Chicago area before retirement.

They love to travel and to experience the people, cultures, history, and scenery of new places. Since retirement, they have traveled to such places as China, South Korea, Alaska, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Germany, Austria, Italy, and the countries of Scandinavia and of Eastern Europe. This fall they took a five-week trip to

Africa, visiting Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana, Kenya, and Tanzania. Africa gave her the opportunity to shoot photos every day for five weeks, and she loved it — coming home with 9,333 photos!



Their love of travel meshes perfectly with Betty’s love of photography. Her favorite subject is landscape photography, especially at sunset or at night. “The cities of Europe are spectacular at night,” she says, “during the ‘blue hour’ after the sun has set and the sky is a deep blue against the lights of the city.” Africa gave her the chance to capture beautiful sunsets, made vivid by the dust in the air. But she also loved the opportunities to take portraits of the animals and the people in a continent that is rapidly changing. Below is a sampling of the photos Betty took on her African trip.



# Tips 'n Hacks

## Stuff we didn't know

Looking for something to buy? To do? To say? Somebody to date? A place for dinner, movies, maybe an art gallery? We used to let our fingers do the walking through the yellow pages. They were amazing sources of information as long as you only cared about your immediate metropolitan surroundings. I also remember telephone party lines and picking up the phone to get the operator to give her the number of the place you wanted to call. Phones weren't mobile; they were always stuck in a place, tethered to a wall somewhere, hardly ever specific to one person. Ever talked to a male operator? Me neither.

So, things have progressed in the past say, 60 or 70 years to the point where phones are very person specific. Got one in your pocket or purse, or you could answer the call with your tablet or laptop computer, depending on where you are and the type of call the person on the other end has invited you to answer. Text chat? Audio or Video? Skype or Google Hangouts? Yellow pages only work when the battery is dead. What does this have to do with searching? That has become owned by the internet. Specifically by the multitude of search engines built into every mobile phone, android or Apple or Windows-driven device, we now search the known world for such exciting things as bargains on toothpaste, games to play, cures for all our diseases, and of course, ratings before we actually do anything at all. When we click, press or speak to the little magnifying glass in any of the common search pages, we literally kick off an avalanche of data, as information on billions upon billions of posted internet sites and pages is queried in seconds. We sent astronauts into space on less computing power than you have in your pocket or purse.

With anything that far reaching, there are bound to be unforeseen consequences. Which brings me to the point at last. I was searching for information on holidays, and this unforeseen piece of information popped up. I thought you might ponder this a bit with February 14<sup>th</sup> just around the corner.

### Inspire Your Heart With Art Day

Date Celebrated: Always on January 31

**Inspire Your Heart With Art Day** celebrates art and the effect it can have on your heart. Art is valued and appreciated for all sorts of reasons.

Look at a piece of art and ask yourself, What is it telling me? How does it make me feel? What emotions is it evoking (if any) within me?

A sense of love and romance is one of those feelings and emotions that a piece of artwork can awaken and inspire. Looking to create a little romance with that special someone? Try setting the mood with an appropriate piece of art.

While the title of this day suggests you inspire 'your' heart, we're guessing you may use today to inspire someone else's heart...to romantic thoughts...of you. That's perfectly okay.





# Bulletin Board



PO Box 1655

Lady Lake, FL 32158-1655

[visualartsassociation.com](http://visualartsassociation.com)

## CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

**Friday, January 4**

1:00pm

[VAA General Meeting](#)

**Friday, February 1**

1:00pm

[VAA General Meeting](#)

**Saturday, February 2**

8:30am

[Annex Show](#)

**Saturday, February 9**

9:00am to 3:00pm

[Winter Fine Arts Show, Laurel Manor](#)

**Friday, March 1**

1:00pm

[VAA General Meeting](#)

**Saturday, March 9**

8:30am

[La Galleria Exhibit Hanging](#)

## VAA Executive Board

President	Nan Kohr	<a href="mailto:kohr240@hotmail.com">kohr240@hotmail.com</a>
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Secretary	Marilyn Wright	<a href="mailto:marilynwr555@comcast.net">marilynwr555@comcast.net</a>
Treasurer	Maria Downton	<a href="mailto:riadownt@gmail.com">riadownt@gmail.com</a>

## Past Presidents

Lee Asta  
Marge McQueston  
Frank Zampardi

## Appointed Members

Connie Giacobbe  
Wendy Lahey  
Helen Poor  
Bobbi Ruben  
Sally LaBaugh  
Jeanne Willette

## Art Workshops in The Villages

**Jan 12**

*Keeton's Art Supply Sale*

**Feb 2**

**Art Festival**

Art Demonstrations 1:00-3:00

Wine and Paint Party 6:00-8:30

More info later

## Next Meeting

January 4<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00

**Seabreeze Recreation Center**

Davtona /New Smvrna Room

## Newsletter Staff

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