

The President's Message

The month of September has been designated as “Self-Care Awareness” Month. Practice being good to yourself. The kindness we show towards ourselves will manifest into a kinder world.

Welcome back to all after our Summer break. I hope that you are as fired up as we are and ready for another exciting Membership year. Our VAA Show and Exhibit Committee Chairs are ready to go with their venues for 2022-2023. **Our Fiscal Year is September through August, so please remember to pay your dues so that you can participate in all our venues.** Current information and interesting articles are printed in our monthly Newsletter, and you won't want to miss a single issue!

Start planning on entering our VAA Fall Festival of Art which will be held in October at Rohan Recreation Center, followed by a Live Art Auction later that month featuring our Painted Piano which was graciously gifted to the VAA by the Entertainment Department. We have also received many pieces of art donated by our members. If you wish to donate any of your art, please see Nan Kohr. All proceeds will go to our Scholarship Fund.

The VAA Online Art Challenge held every two months, featured in our VAA Newsletter, and judged by our members is always free to enter so why not give it a go! There is a full schedule of Shows and Exhibits on our 2022-2023 Calendar which can be viewed on our VAA website www.visualartsassociation.com.

We have an interesting Program for September which will be presented by fellow artist and VAA member, Steve Freidman. He will share his knowledge of computer enhancement of photos using various applications and programs. Be ready for your questions for Steve.

As always, there is so much going on with the VAA, so come to our meetings, check out our Monthly Newsletter and Website for additional details and venues and read our intermittent Notices sent directly to you. Please keep your contact information up to date by notifying our Membership Chair, Lisa Melcher of any changes. Don't forget to visit our Free Lending Library at the entrance and see our VAA Library Chair, Julie McGlone where you can sign out any books you choose to borrow or return.

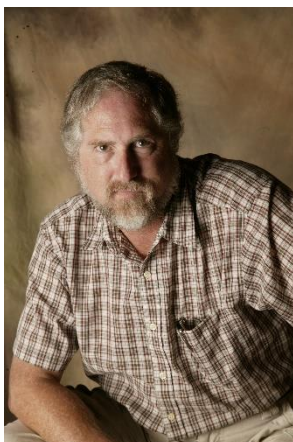
Hope to see you at our upcoming **Membership Meeting at SeaBreeze Regional Recreation Center on Friday, September 2nd which begins promptly at 1pm.** Come early at 12:30pm for our Meet and Greet with light refreshments thanks to Lois Bixby and her Refreshment Committee and say a friendly hello to our new members who will be introduced by our New Member Chair, Sally LaBaugh.

*All the Best,
Catherine Sullivan, VAA President*

Membership Meeting Program (Friday, September 2, 1:00)

Presentation by Steve Friedman

Shake up your Artistic Style



In his presentation, Steve will talk about some amazing new AI software and techniques that can help traditional artists experiment with reworking digital scans or photos of their hand-done artwork to create totally different styles and looks...and turn mediocre paintings into some really eye-catching results.



Steven Friedman is known internationally for his Digital Artwork done mostly from his own photos. He currently runs the Digital Artistry Group here in the Villages that meets monthly at Churchill Rec center on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Digital Artistry, a term he has coined to encompass a wide range of techniques from photo manipulation, Digital Collage, and Digital Painting, right now is where Photography was at the turn of the last century. At first photographers began just emulating romantic and pastoral scenes that were popular with painters of the time. Gradually photographers began to define their photographic art in their own terms.

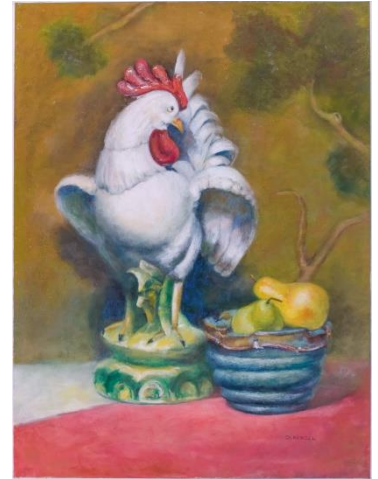
You can learn more about Digital Artistry and his group at <http://thevillagesdigitalartgroup.weebly.com/>

New Members

Meet Donna Kindel

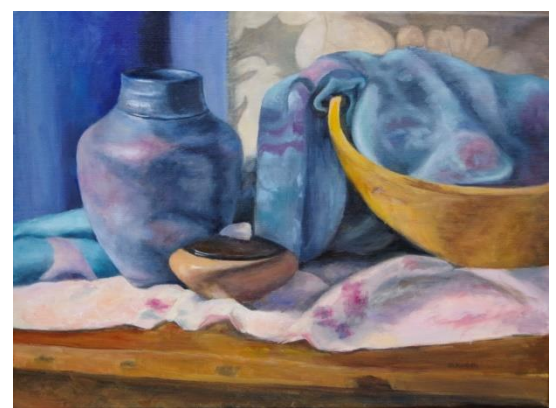


Donna Kindel
Phone: 203-560-2083
Email: dkindelstudio@gmail.com



I've recently moved south of 44 to the Village of Chitty Chatty from Southbury, CT. My fascination with seeing artistically began at an early age when my grandmother would point to an object and say "look at that!" In 2003, I explored decorative painting, working first with acrylic and later transitioning to oils. Fine arts painting was a natural progression. In 2015, I took a workshop which opened my eyes to pastels.

Both my oil and pastel paintings have been juried into several Connecticut shows and my work is in private collections from Connecticut to California. Upon joining the VAA this past June I was encouraged to submit my pastel "Other Homes" and thanks to the judge and the VAA I am thrilled and honored to have received an award. I am humbled by the beauty around me and those that make marks in the world. I look forward to meeting everyone.



New Members

Meet Lana Nolan



Lana Nolan
Phone: (352)-630-8798
Email:
lanalarry@gmail.com



I moved to the Villages 17 years ago with my husband Larry. I worked the first 8 years as manager of a design center and then doing the sales training for Blockers Furniture. Before moving to the Villages, I owned 2 design & furniture stores for 20 years.

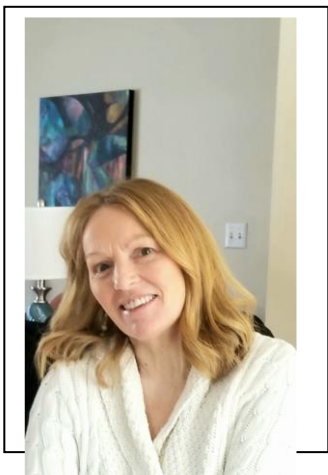


I got into glass fusion almost 7 years ago and belong to Colony glass fusion. I also have a kiln in my garage. I mostly do American flags, abstract pieces and ocean inspired themes, along with some jewelry. Like a lot of people, I'm addicted to glass fusion because of the colors; but have an understanding husband who supports my hobbies, including 2-4 hours of water volleyball and miles of lap swimming daily.



New Members

Meet Teresa Cresap



Teresa Cresap
Phone: (612) 615-6580
Email:
teresa.cresap@yahoo.com



My husband, Keith and I moved to the Village of Fenney in May from Minnesota. We have four sons and two grandchildren.

I grew up in a large family and art was always a part of our lives. Although I wasn't able to pursue art for many years, I met an artist while living in Atlanta named Rhonda Waters who invited me to "come and play" in her studio. We found that we have very similar styles and began collaborating, creating and doing fine art shows and festivals together.

Eventually our family moved back to Minnesota and I continued art full time for about 18 months until I felt called into ministry. I worked in the Care Ministry at a Lutheran church while I attended seminary to become a pastor. Upon completion of my schooling I remained on staff as the Adult Ministries Pastor. Shortly after I retired, Keith and I moved to The Villages and I jumped back into art as quickly as I could. It has been a joy to be surrounded by creative and talented artists!

I enjoy working in a variety of mediums but lean toward acrylic painting, jewelry and clay. I am an abstract artist and love to create large scale paintings. I recently joined the Ezell Works Clay Club and am excited to get back into handbuilding again. I am also really looking forward to participating in upcoming art shows.



Scholarship News



Our most recent VAA Art Scholarship winners for 2022, Lindsey McCellen and Reueleasah Jean-Francois, will be starting their respective college programs at the beginning of September. We wish them a successful and exciting year, and hope to share their college news and art as the semester progresses. Our high schools are back to normal schedules, and we look forward to some great senior artists to interview this coming spring.

We hope your summer has allowed time for travel, getting together with family ...and creating new art for upcoming autumn shows. Our Scholarship effort now turns its focus to Fall Fund Raising and Art Scholarship awareness both in our Villages and in our regional area. The **Fall Festival of Art Show** is a great place to start!

The Scholarship team would like to invite you to help us kick off fundraising, and liven up our October event with a **VAA Artists Pumpkin Patch**. These creations would be displayed and sold to benefit our effort. Your purchasing a Michaels or craft store artificial pumpkin (hopefully with coupons) would be the starting phase. Then let your Fall/ Halloween creative spirit kick in..... to **design a pumpkin masterpiece**. Witches and cats are always popular as are other animals, bats & owls. Also, Décor pumpkins.... designed, painted with acrylics and markers are great. They can be bejeweled with bows & ribbons for a special touch. Creations can be placed on chargers or bases if you wish them to be anchored.

Please consider this opportunity to help, and have some creative fun for our special cause. We will have a signup sheet at our Sept. meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon and, as always, THANK YOU For your support!

--Helen Poor and the VAA Scholarship Team



Spotlight on You



Maureen Terrien



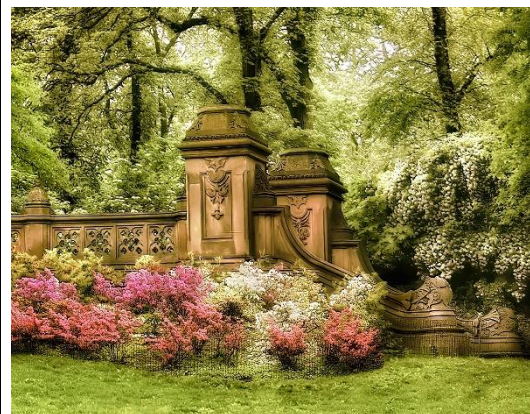
Originally from New York, it wasn't till I moved to the small seaside community of Lauderdale by the Sea, Florida that I became interested in photography. The charm of my surroundings drew me to try and capture the beauty of the ocean and ambiance of the small beach town. I eventually did the cover photo of the Lauderdale by the Sea's Chamber of Commerce Visitors Guide every year till I moved to The Villages in 2007.



As a self-taught photographer, it became apparent that I had a lot to learn and joined The Villages Photography Club and Intermediate Photo Club where I learned much through their critiques. I then joined The Visual Arts Association and Villages Art League and was inspired by the artistic works of the members. Once I experienced exhibiting at my first art show, I found I enjoyed sharing my images with other people and since then look forward to participating in upcoming events.

I love nature photography and find it a constant inspiration. I was mostly associated with egret and heron photo art and love photographing these magnificent birds, but my newest passion is capturing the serenity of landscapes. I look to draw the viewer into my images and capture the light to enhance the scene. When I look through the lens of my camera I usually know exactly what I want my image to look like and work in post processing to create that 'art'. Creating artful images is the joy of photography for me.

www.maurenterrien.com



“Festival of Art” Show



It's time to start getting ready for the 2022 **Fall Festival of Art** on October 8, 2022 at the Rohan Rec Center!

Priority Registration begins on September 1st. A priority member is one who has volunteered in some way for the VAA in the past 2 years.

Regular registration begins on September 12 for current members of VAA.

Please do not send registrations prior to the dates printed on the Registration Form. Submissions postmarked prior to the stated dates will not be accepted! Assignments are allotted based on the USPS date stamp.

The Rohan Recreation Center has a certain number of tables allotted to each room. *They have a strict rule that tables cannot be moved from one room to another.* We have taken great care in setting up each room so as to make the best use of those tables. *Please look at the room layouts carefully, which are on the VAA website.* All spaces are 12' by 6' and include one or two 6-foot tables. However, in the Eisenhower Room (card room), card tables will be mainly used. Of course, if you prefer no table, that can also be arranged. So PLEASE make your choices according to your needs.

With your cooperation, we look forward to a fun and successful show!

Carol Reynolds, Chair
Kathy Karol, Registration Chair

Annex Exhibit

The Annex Exhibit will change on Saturday, October 1st between 8:30 and 9:30 am. Registration forms are available on the VAA website. Deadline to submit is Wednesday, September 28. I will also bring forms to the September membership meeting on Friday (Sept 2).



Also, if you have a painting hanging in the current exhibit, please remember to pick it up.

- *Bill Skieczius, Chair*

Artsy Art Auction

This Fall Season is full of art shows which should be exciting for all of us artists. Be sure to put the **Artsy Art Auction** on your Saturday, October 29th, 2022 calendar. Contact Nan Kohr at (904) 676-3998 (cell) if you have a contribution for this VAA scholarship fundraiser, and she will arrange a pickup of your art piece. Alternatively, you can drop it off at 1375 Fort Lawn Loop in the Village of Caroline on Saturday, September 10th.



- Nan Kohr

Time to pay your annual dues!

Download the form from our website and mail along with your \$15 so that you can participate in our upcoming shows and exhibits!

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

One of our VAA members, **Marjorie Dodrill**, was invited by the Leesburg Center for the Arts to have a Solo Exhibition from July 8 through September 9 at the Plaza Lincoln across from the Leesburg Airport.

The Title of the Show is "Florida Flora" and is mostly her flower portraits along with a select few others. Her chosen mediums are oil and acrylic. The hours are from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Saturday.

www.marjoriedodrill.com



REMINDER! *The La Galleria exhibit ends on September 10th. Please pick up your paintings between 8:30 and 9:30.*
The next La Galleria hanging will be on December 10th. Direct any questions to Kathy Karol, katkarol@hotmail.com

Conversations



Send your topic suggestions for Conversations to Martha Ayotte at mayotte22@gmail.com

Paint What You Love

By Catherine Hillis

How does the artist come up with the right subject to paint?

I'm often asked that question by students, who bring in large stacks of photographs for me to look at in class. They want me to tell them what photograph will make a good painting. I don't think they're happy with my answer when I tell them I cannot look through all their pictures. Not only do I have other students to attend to during our several hours together, but also, I cannot – in fact, I will not - select the topic for a painter. I understand that they're also asking about composition, but I want each artist to select their own topic and I will help artists with design once they've made this important decision.

Here's what I say: what makes your heart sing? Is there a picture that brings back such a strong memory that it fills you with so much emotion that you *want* to paint it? In fact, a good topic will *make you* want to paint it. I believe strongly that a good painting isn't good because the photograph was great or the lighting was wonderful: I think a good painting is potentially apt to happen when the artist is emotionally committed and *loves her topic*.

That's what selecting a subject to paint should feel like.

Whether I'm painting in the studio or en plein air, I don't settle down until I'm working on a topic that I'm excited about. In plein air, I'll wander around until I find a scene that makes me tingle. This may take a while, and I actually feel goose bumps when I find that spot that looks magical to me: it may be the light, the shadows, something simple that no one else is attending to. But, whatever it is, the scene calls to me and has to be painted. In other words, I love it.

In the studio, it may take me days before I decide what I'm working on next. I may work on preliminary sketches, moving shapes around, until I find just the right composition that moves me. On a day when things are going really well, I wake up *excited* that I, Catherine Hillis, get to paint. I can hardly wait to get to work and start telling the story that only I can tell in my own colors and style.

So, painters, if you're confused about what to paint.....look through your pictures, walk down the sidewalks and trails, drive up and down and search.....the subject of your next masterpiece will find you and the great affection you feel for it will let you know it wants to be painted. Paint what you love!

LaGalleria Show Winners

First Place	Peggy Lefebvre, "Nightly News" (Watercolor)
Second Place	Katharine Bloom, "Into Great Joy" (Graphite Pencil)
Third Place	Marge McQueston, "Fifi" (mixed media)
Honorable Mention	Maureen Terrien, "Come Sit A While" (Photograph) Donna Kindel, "Other Homes" (Pastel)






Online Art Challenge

It's time to **vote** for your favorite art in the July/August **Art Challenge!** The art will soon be posted on the VAA website for your viewing (and an email will also be sent to you). Send your choices for first, second and third place to Martha Ayotte at mayotte22@gmail.com by September 15.

The theme for the September/October Art Challenge is **"What I Love."** So get your creative juices flowing and submit a good picture (no signature) to Martha by October 31. (Be sure to carefully read the Rules on the Website.)

Below are the winners of the May/June Online Art Challenge:

First Place	Second Place	Third Place
 <p>10- Marcella Martin, "Flying Colors 4" Watercolor on Yupo</p>	 <p>7- Kathy Karol, "The Mayor of Longboat Key" Pastel</p>	 <p>12- Ray Martin, "Cruising" pixels</p>

Events & Opportunities



Village Art Workshops

Art in the Heart of Florida

2022 AND 2023

FALL AND WINTER WORKSHOPS
NATIONALLY KNOWN ARTISTS

Jane Slivka, Acrylic, October 3 and 4
Tom Sadler, Oil and/or Acrylic, October 10 and 11
Gene Rizzo, Watercolor, October 17 and 18
Janelle Johnson, Color Pencil, October 24 and 25
Linda Wokoun, Watercolor, November 7 and 8
Sally Evans, Acrylic, November 14 and 15
David R. Becker, Watercolor, January 16 and 17
David R. Becker, Acrylic Watermedia, January 18 and 19
Carol Carter, Watercolor, January 23 – 25
Laurin McCracken, Watercolor, January 30 – February 2
Kathie George, Watercolor Batik, February 6 – 8
Jennifer Stone, Watercolor, February 13 – 15
John Salminen, Watercolor, February 20 – 23
Jean Pederson, Acrylic, February 27 – March 2
David Lobenberg, Watercolor, March 6 – 8
Kathleen Giles, Watercolor, March 20 – 22
Mary Beth Downs, Watercolor, March 27 – 29
Tom Jones, Watercolor, April 3 – 4
Teresa Kirk, Watercolor, April 12 and 13
Teresa Kirk, Acrylic, April 14 and 15

Learn more at www.villageartworkshops.com

Bulletin Board



PO Box 964
Lady Lake, FL 32158-1655
visualartsassociation.com

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Membership Mtg

Friday, Sept 2, 1:00pm
Sea Breeze

Annex Exhibit *

Saturday, October 1, 8:30-9:30

Membership Mtg

Friday, Oct. 7, 1:00pm
Sea Breeze

Festival of Arts Show *

Saturday, October 8, 9a-3p
Rohan Rec Center

Online Art Challenge *

Deadline: October 31
Theme: "What I Love"

ARTS at Brownwood *

Sunday, Nov. 13, 1:00-4:00

LaGalleria Exhibit *

Saturday, December 10
8:30-9:30

VAA Executive Board

President	Catherine Sullivan	cnjsullivan@aol.com
Vice Pres	Judy Nahmias	judynahmias@verizon.net
Secretary	Nan Kohr	kohr240@gmail.com
Treasurer	Carol Reynolds	caroljr46@gmail.com

Past Presidents

Lee Asta
Marge McQuestion
Frank Zampardi
Nan Kohr
Barb Justice

Appointed Board Members

Helen Poor
Sally LaBaugh
Cheri Ptacek
Lisa Melcher

Newsletter Staff

Sally LaBaugh, New Members
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Helen Poor, Scholarship
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Betty Eich, Photo Frame
bettybrock@comcast.net

Darlene Hayes, Spotlight Artist
dgh@comcast.net

Martha Ayotte, Conversations
mayotte22@gmail.com

Cheri Ptacek, Editor
vaanews@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

VAA Fiscal Year:

Sept 1 – Aug 31

Download form on our website

To mail in with \$15 dues

(Or bring to membership meeting)

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