



## The President's Message

*The month of April has been designated "National Autism and Parkinson's Awareness Month." My personal wish is for each generation that is afflicted with these burdens, both young and old, be strong enough to endure this journey with an abundance of love and patience.*

Once again, our VAA Scholarship Committee has chosen a promising High School Senior who plans to make a career in Art. **Join us as a sign of support and encouragement for this budding artist as she accepts her award and shares her art portfolio with us at this month's Meeting.** Check Helen Poor's Article in this month's issue of our Newsletter.

**For our Program, fellow artist and VAA Member Brian Dickson will give a short talk on the Art Process involved in paintings with a reverse perspective. There will be time for Q & A so come ready with a pencil and pad!**

This past Sunday, the VAA held its Spring "ARTS" at LSL Town Square. Thank you to Chair Nan Kohr and to the many volunteers who helped make it a success. Applause, Applause to the participating artists and congratulations to the winners of the People's Choice awards. Our next "ARTS" will be held at Brownwood Square on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.

The VAA La Galleria Exhibit, chaired by Meg Hay, was held on 3/11 and will remain free for the public to view until 6/10. The Winners will be announced at this month's meeting.

Our Annex Exhibit Chair Bill Skieczius announced at last month's meeting that this February's Exhibit was his last as Chair but he promised to help when needed. Bill has found a replacement starting with the May Exhibit so we won't even skip a beat! Thanks, Bill, for a great run!!!

Mark your Calendar to remind you of our meetings. Thanks again to our Newsletter Editor, Cheri Ptacek who always puts out a great issue on time every month and to Leda Rabenold, our Webmaster, who keeps our website up to date with additions and changes. Check our intermittent Notices sent directly to you by Marilyn Wright. 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. Did I mention return?

Hope to see you at our Membership Meeting at SeaBreeze Regional Recreation Center on Friday, April 7th 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

*"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart!" ~ Elizabeth Andrew*

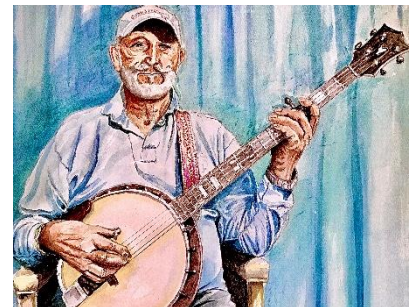
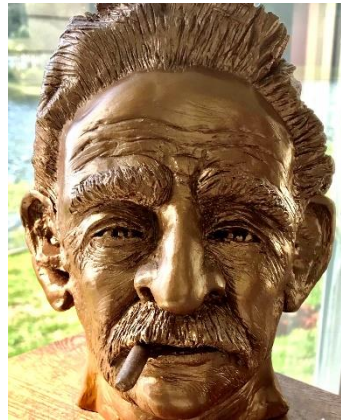
## Demo Artist – Program at April 7 Members Meeting



For our Program, fellow artist and VAA Member **Brian Dickson** will give a short talk on the ‘what’ and ‘how’ of “Reverspective” as Patrick Hughes (the original designer of the Art process involved in paintings with reverse perspective) called it. Brian will talk a little about why normal perspective works so well and is able to ‘fool’ the brain and eyes. He will describe the practical process of producing an Artwork using the regular rules of perspective in a “reverse” manner. There will be time allocated for questions throughout the talk.



Below are pictures of his extremely varied Art-work - from murals to sculpture, jewelry - silversmithing and Lapidary, Silverpoint (girl’s hair), watercolor (banjo), acrylics ‘trompe l’oeil’ (rope-bridge), blue bottle garden-sculpture, and clay sculpture. The banjo watercolor was used on the cover of a book he published last month - “The Other Life Of Brian.”





**New Members**

Welcome

*Sally LaBaugh, Chair*

**Meet Bette Bouck**

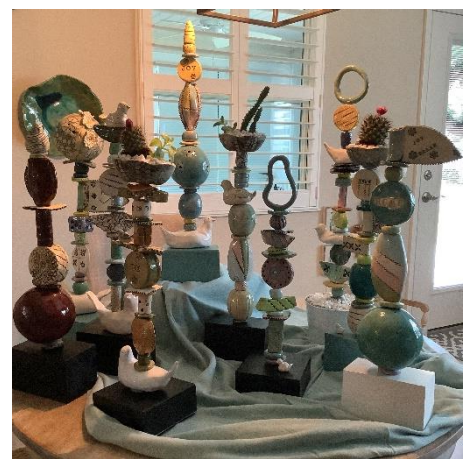


Bette Bouck  
Phone: 352-223-8918  
Email: [bjbouck@gmail.com](mailto:bjbouck@gmail.com)



I moved to Florida from Chicago in 1970. Since I always enjoyed painting and doing things with my hands, I enrolled in a class in a Orlando recreation center. I stayed there for many years and then as I moved, I'd try to locate different recreation centers.

I am now in the Silver Lake Village, and have been very active at the Mulberry Grove Center. I am in the clay and sculpture classes. When I was a Snowbird, I was active during the summer months at my friend's gallery in Marshall, Michigan where I exhibited and taught how to make clay houses. I am most anxious to join in your VAA circle and meet new friends.



## New Members

Welcome

Sally LaBaugh, Chair

### Meet Halina Wilczanski.



Halina Wilczanski  
Phone: 814-323-2226  
Email: [hbwilcz@hahoo.com](mailto:hbwilcz@hahoo.com)



I moved to the Villages from Pennsylvania where I now reside in the Village of Sanibel.

My passion for art started from a very young age, when I discovered my creative talents for artistry. My exposure to the art of European museums also fueled my passion to bring art into my life. I produced artwork in several media but started my journey into painting about 15 years ago. For much of that time, I primarily focused on using mostly oils and acrylic paints.

Recently I have been testing my skills with watercolor. I found that I enjoy painting landscapes, animals, and flowers the most, but occasionally I like to try new things.







## Spotlight on You



*Darlene Hayes, Chair*

### Linda Dailey



Linda Dailey was born and raised in Dobbs Ferry, NY, a Westchester County town that is close to New York City. As a young woman, Linda was able to immerse herself in all that the city had to offer; museums, theatre, galleries, restaurants, and the many cultures and people.

Linda spent her senior year of high school at a private school in Hawaii where she learned about that culture and took inspiration from the natural beauty surrounding her.

After coming back to the “mainland,” she met and married her first husband and soon became a mother of three children. Years later, as a then single mother to two sons and a daughter, Linda was able support her family through hard work and her natural creativity.

While living in New Jersey, Linda worked for Pickwick Village, a franchise development company that opened gift and card shops throughout the New York and New Jersey metropolitan regions. Linda created the design model that allowed the company to flourish and open more than 40 stores by the time she left.

In 1976, Linda moved her family to Largo, Florida to help her aging parents run their mobile home park. Soon after, she began working for Arthur Rutenberg Homes as Vice President of Purchasing, where she negotiated supply chains for the company’s many home building divisions. She parlayed that into a 20-year career as an interior designer.

In 2015, Linda and her husband Forrest retired to the Villages where she has flourished and immersed herself in all that the thriving community has to offer. Always curious and ready to learn, Linda quickly discovered the many art classes in the Villages and has never looked back. She now looks forward to honing her artistic skills, learning new techniques, working with new mediums and making friends in the art world.



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## Scholarship Program



*Helen Poor, Chair*

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March 4<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for scholarship forms to come in from 12<sup>th</sup> grade art students in our three county area. Applications had been out since early January to public and private high schools, and also to museum programs and art centers in our area. We want the college bound seniors to have plenty of time to finish pieces and organize their portfolios and biographical write-ups. At this point seniors usually are making some decisions about where they are applying for admission. They are also looking for financial help as tuitions are higher again this year.

The VAA is here, not only to help with that but to support them in other ways as well. Our calls to teachers and guidance depts, college admissions, and scholarship offices can make a difference. They may result in additional funding or a second look at an application. It is another part of what the VAA can do to help with the challenge of becoming a college student and future artist.

This year has been a bit of a shocker!! We received only one application for our 2023 Scholarships. That is most unusual and reflects a still unsettled time in our regional High Schools. In conversations with senior art teachers in our three-county area, it is obvious that Covid had a huge impact on students and programs for the class of '23. Some seasoned High School art teachers retired, and elementary and new art teachers took their place. Other art programs are still understaffed. We have been told that senior student art majors are deferring college and saving money to go at a later time. Others are thinking state schools only...and technical programs.

**Our winner**, who you will meet on April 7<sup>th</sup>, is an exception to all this and is determined to start college this fall with an art major, heading toward a degree in Motion Design. **You will get to meet Lauren Deahl, hear her story and also see her art at our April meeting.** As always, she will be awarded her Scholarship Certificate this April, and her tuition support from the VAA will be sent to the college of her choice in August.

*In addition to celebrating Lauren, we will have an interesting art program by life-long artist and art teacher Brian Dickson. He has been a member interviewer for the Scholarship program for many years and is a truly creative demonstrator and speaker.*

See you on April 7<sup>th</sup> and, as always, thank you for your support.

*Helen Poor and the VAA Scholarship Team*

## Conversations



Send your topic suggestions for Conversations to Martha Ayotte at [mayotte22@gmail.com](mailto:mayotte22@gmail.com)

### Why is Van Gogh's Starry Night so popular?

By Martha Ayotte



Vincent Van Gogh's *Starry Night* is one of the most recognizable paintings worldwide and is a favorite of art lovers and fans of modern art everywhere. People have flocked to the painting for over a century, drawn to its emotional depth and impressionistic brushwork. In this article, we'll explore the history and significance of *Starry Night* and how it came to be the timeless classic it is today.

Vincent Van Gogh was already an established artist when he painted *Starry Night* in 1889. He had already moved away from his apprenticeship's dark, somber colors.

Instead, he adapted a style based on bright, vibrant colors and expressive strokes. He was in the middle of intense self-discovery, where his style and technique became more free and abstract.

When Van Gogh painted *Starry Night*, he lived in the town of Saint-Rémy-de-Provence in France. The painting was inspired by his view from the window of the asylum where he was staying. The swirling outline of the cypress trees and the night sky are prominently featured. "*Starry Night*" conveys his feelings of despair and loneliness while looking out of the asylum's window. Van Gogh's techniques of short, brush strokes painted in bright colors to express emotion can be seen throughout the painting, giving the painting a swirling, abstract quality.

The painting is also notable for its intricate detail and use of color. Van Gogh was a master of color theory, and *Starry Night* is arguably one of his best works in this regard. He used complementary colors such as blue and yellow to create a sense of harmony and balance in the painting and give the stars their luminescent glow. He also used deep blue and purple to evoke a feeling of the night in his work, giving the piece a mysterious and mystical quality.

*Starry Night* has become one of history's most iconic and recognizable pieces of modern art. It has been reproduced countless times and is featured on everything from posters and greeting cards to mugs and t-shirts. The painting is also featured in art galleries and museums around the world. It symbolizes Van Gogh's genius and a lasting testament to his contribution to the art world.







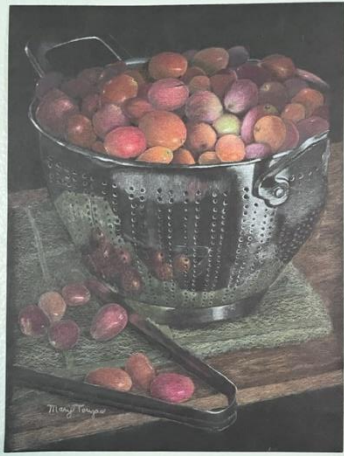
## Events & Opportunities

### La Galleria Exhibit Winners



*Meg Hay, Chair*

First Place	Second Place	Third Place
		
<p>Penny Brady "Conundrum" Acrylic</p>	<p>Janine Motto "Spoonbill Simmer" Watercolor</p>	<p>Joyce Trabattoni "Swan Dive" Watercolor</p>

Honorable Mention	Honorable Mention
	
<p>Maureen Terrien "Golden Morning" Photography</p>	<p>Mary Tougas "Abundance" Colored Pencil</p>



## Events & Opportunities

### ARTS (Art 'Round the Square) Winners!



*Nan Kohr, Chair*

First Place	Second Place	Third Place
<p>Mary Tadic "Skimmer" Abstract Acrylic</p>	<p>Sandra Walver "Angel Fish" Framed Glass Art</p>	<p>Judi Roach "Olive Branch" Acrylic on Canvas</p>



## Events & Opportunities



Village Art Workshops

Art in the Heart of Florida

## WORKSHOPS WITH NATIONALLY KNOWN ARTISTS APRIL OF 2023



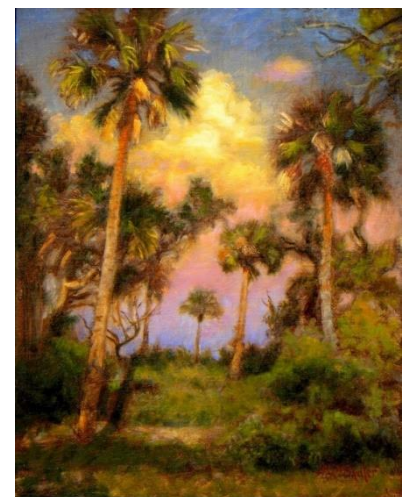
Tom Jones  
“How to Build a Watercolor in 4 Easy Steps”  
4/3 – 4/4



Teresa Kirk  
“Mark Making Conversations &  
Their Beauty”  
Watercolor & Gouache  
4/12 – 4/13



Teresa Kirk “Mark Making  
Conversations &  
Their Beauty”  
Acrylic and Gouache  
4/14 – 4/15



Tom Sadler  
“Creating Dramatic Florida Light”  
Oil or Acrylic – Artist’s Choice!  
April 17 - 18



## Events & Opportunities



Village Art Workshops  
Art in the Heart of Florida

### OTHER WORKSHOPS & CLASSES APRIL OF 2023



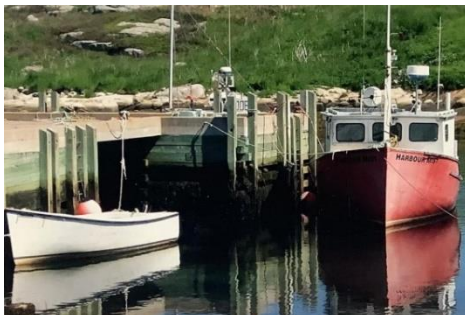
Mark Polomchak  
One-day Watercolor Workshop  
4/6, 9:00 – 3:00

Mark Polomchak  
One-day Watercolor Workshop  
4/20, 9:00 – 3:00



Lionel Sanchez  
One-day Watercolor Workshop  
4/2, 9:30 – 12:30


Lionel Sanchez  
One-day Watercolor Workshop  
4/16, 9:30 – 12:30



Lionel Sanchez  
One-day Watercolor Workshop  
4/23, 9:30 – 12:30

For more information, to register & for payment, visit  
[villageartworkshops.com](http://villageartworkshops.com)

## Bulletin Board

 PO Box 964  
Lady Lake, FL 32158-1655  
[visualartsassociation.com](http://visualartsassociation.com)

### CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

**Membership Mtg**

Friday, April 7, 1:00pm  
Sea Breeze

**Annex Exhibit** \*

Saturday, May 6

**Membership Mtg**

Friday, May 5, 1:00pm  
Sea Breeze

**Membership Mtg**

Friday, June 2, 1:00pm  
Sea Breeze

**NO MEETINGS JULY OR AUGUST**

**Membership Mtg**

Friday, Sept 1, 1:00pm  
Sea Breeze

\* indicates show or exhibit activity

### VAA Executive Board

President	Catherine Sullivan	<a href="mailto:cnjsullivan@aol.com">cnjsullivan@aol.com</a>
Vice Pres	Judy Nahmias	<a href="mailto:judynahmias@verizon.net">judynahmias@verizon.net</a>
Secretary	Nan Kohr	<a href="mailto:kohr240@gmail.com">kohr240@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Carol Reynolds	<a href="mailto:caroljr46@gmail.com">caroljr46@gmail.com</a>

#### Past Presidents

Lee Asta  
Marge McQuestion  
Frank Zampardi  
Nan Kohr  
Barb Justice (*inactive*)

#### Appointed Board Members

Helen Poor  
Sally LaBaugh  
Cheri Ptacek  
Lisa Melcher

### Newsletter Staff

**Sally LaBaugh, New Members**  
[sallylabaugh@gmail.com](mailto:sallylabaugh@gmail.com)

**Helen Poor, Scholarship**  
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**Betty Eich, Photo Frame**  
[bettybrock@comcast.net](mailto:bettybrock@comcast.net)

**Darlene Hayes, Spotlight Artist**  
[dgh@comcast.net](mailto:dgh@comcast.net)

**Martha Ayotte, Conversations**  
[mayotte22@gmail.com](mailto:mayotte22@gmail.com)

**Cheri Ptacek, Editor**  
[vaanews@yahoo.com](mailto: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**