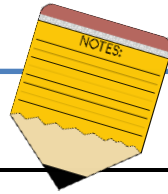




Nan's Notes



Nan Kohr, President

One of the most glorious messes in the world may be the mess I am going to create on this canvas.

Don't close your eyes to my mess!

By the very name of our club "Visual Art" Association, there can be a mess of artistic mediums – splashed paint, squished clay, broken glass, even wood shavings. So now go into your messy space and make a Mess!



Coming up this March:

- Come to our next members meeting at a **DIFFERENT LOCATION AND TIME** for our March Meeting:
Fish Hawk Rec Center at 2:30 pm on Friday, March 7th.
We will again return to Sea Breeze in April – 1:00 pm on first Friday.
- Take a stroll through La Galleria on **March 8th**
Attend some classes in between
- End with a Sunday afternoon for ARTS at Lake Sumter on **March 30th.**

Messy thoughts make a kaleidoscope to enrich our Lives!

Nan Kohr, president

Eileen Sklon, acting vice president

Betty Eich, secretary

Connie Giebels, treasurer

PLEASE NOTE

Guest Artist:

We are privileged to have Mary Tougas, portrait artist, as our guest speaker for the March 7th meeting.

**JUST FOR MARCH, OUR MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT
FISH HAWK REC CENTER AT 2:30 PM.**

Mark your calendars!

Mary has studied her craft under one of our fellow artists, Frank Zampardi.

Newsworthy

One of **Peggy Lefebvre's** watercolors has been accepted by the American Watercolor Society for inclusion in their 158th Annual International Exhibition at the Salmagundi Club in NYC, April 7-25th. Participation in the show indicates the painter has considerable skill in the medium. The world's best watercolor paintings will be on display. Last year 150 paintings were chosen from over 1,000 pieces submitted.

The society held its first meeting of eleven painters in 1866 in New York, when the city's northern border was where 59th Street is today, and Central Park was nothing but meadows and farmland. Initially, it was difficult to draw in new members, partially because some artists of the time opposed the society's policy of allowing women to join.

Joan Picarelli just sold one of her watercolors from the current exhibit hanging at La Galleria. The exhibit closes on Saturday, March 8th, with the new exhibit beginning the same day and running until June 14th.



New Members

Darlene Hayes, Chair

Meet Linda Terburg

Linda Terburg
lindaterburg@gmail.com
434-247-9336



I began my journey as a glass artist in The Villages sometime around 2010. There was a fused glass store in Sumpter Landing right behind City Fire. I took my first two classes there. I was then asked to design logo jewelry for a local singer and for The Central Florida Lyric Opera. I went on to take further classes at William Holland in Georgia.

I was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan and will always think of myself as "Motown Girl." ! I lived in Michigan for much of my life.



Spotlight on You

Carol O'Brien

Ellen Cora



A Villages resident since September, 2001 (ten days after the 9/11 World Trade Center tragedy), Ellen began watercolor classes and the medium has become a passion for her.

After retiring from her healthcare management career, she pursued her love of nature with exotic worldwide travel to all seven continents, photography and painting. She especially favors the ocean, wading birds, and ancient sites, and finds something to love and paint nearly everywhere.



"I am grateful to several wonderful Villages and Village Art Center teachers," she said, "and have made many new good friends among my fellow artists. It's fun to try new art techniques and approaches, including realism, 'freestyle zen painting' and abstracts. We are so blessed to live here."





Scholarship Program



Helen Poor, Chair

In January, we sent out our VAA Art Scholarship applications to public and private high schools in our three-county area. Calls to senior art teachers and Art Department heads have followed. We have also touched base with private and museum high school art programs. Reaching out to regional newspapers and media is also important.

Applications and flash drives of student art come in to us in mid-March. In-person Interviews (with actual art portfolios) for finalist students takes place before the end of the month.

This will be the 19th year that VAA has supported students with our scholarships. We also will make contacts and do college interface to acquire extra scholarships and grant money for them. **VAA has given out \$167,000 to date.** Thank you to all those who have been part of this effort in years past.

Recent active supporters and fundraisers.....we are so thankful your input, ideas, and time spent! Jo Magram, Nan Kohr and Joe Ferrara..... your recent scholarship efforts at our February Art Show were amazing and very appreciated.

***New and current VAA members, please consider joining us and sharing your time and ideas. New opportunities will follow.

Also, don't forget to circle **April 4th** on your calendar for our special meeting, and an opportunity to greet some of the next generation of young Florida Artists!

As always, thank you for making our Art Scholarships possible!

- *Helen Poor and the VAA Scholarship Team*
352-561-4474



Showcase Your Art Online: A Digital Gallery for Seniors

By Martha Ayotte

Want to share your beautiful artwork with the world, but the thought of building a website seems daunting? Fear not! Today's website builders are incredibly user-friendly, even if you're not tech-savvy.

Why a Personal Art Website?

- Share with Family and Friends: Easily showcase your latest creations to loved ones, near and far.
- Expand Your Reach: Turn your website into a 24/7 online gallery, accessible to a global audience.
- Potential Sales: Explore the possibility of selling your artwork directly from your site.
- Professional Presence: Create a digital portfolio to share on business cards or social media.

User-Friendly Website Builders:

Modern website builders offer intuitive "drag-and-drop" interfaces, allowing you to visually design your site without coding. Here are a few popular options known for their artist-friendly templates and ease of use:

- Wix: Offers a vast library of templates, robust e-commerce features, and excellent customization options.
- Squarespace: Known for its sleek, professional designs, making it ideal for showcasing high-quality artwork. Strong e-commerce capabilities.
- Weebly (now part of Square): Simple and straightforward, with good e-commerce integration.
- Artsteps: A specialized tool that allows you to create virtual 3D galleries of your work.
- Adobe Portfolio: If you are an adobe creative cloud user, this is a very easy way to create a portfolio website that integrates with Behance.

Most platforms offer free trials or basic free plans, allowing you to experiment before committing to a paid subscription. Paid plans typically remove ads, provide more storage, and unlock advanced features like custom domain names and e-commerce tools.

Tips for Creating a Stunning Art Website:

- Choose a Clear Domain Name: Ideally, use your name or a variation of it to enhance searchability.
- Design an Inviting Home Page: Keep it clean and visually appealing, featuring your name, a few standout pieces, and easy navigation.
- Organize Your Artwork: Categorize your work by medium, style, theme, or year for easy browsing.
- Craft an "About Me" Page: Share your artistic journey and connect with viewers on a personal level.
- Provide Contact Information: Include a contact form or email address for inquiries and potential sales.
- Mobile Responsiveness: Ensure your website looks great on all devices (smartphones, tablets, and computers). This is usually automatic with modern website builders.
- High Quality Images: Use high resolution images of your artwork.

Staying Up-to-Date:

- Consider integrating social media links to your website, and vice versa.
- Many website builders now offer built-in analytics, so you can see who is looking at your art.
- Explore online tutorials and resources for your chosen website builder to learn new techniques and features.

We encourage you to embark on this exciting digital journey and share your artistic vision with the world. We'd love to see your finished websites!

MEMBERS GALLERY

Not enough members' art was submitted for this month's Members Gallery.
Hopefully, you all will share some of your talent next month!
(If you sent me a photo, I hope you will resubmit for April)
--Cheri Ptacek, Editor

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 **March 20** to
vaanews@yahoo.com

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

Contact Cheri Ptacek
at 612-237-5212
with questions

**This is a chance to show us the art
you've been working on!
Or perhaps something from the past!**

****No judging – just Show Off****





Events and Opportunities



VILLAGE ART WORKSHOPS

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS WITH NATIONALLY ACCLAIMED ARTISTS

Jean Pederson

“Seductive Surfaces in Acrylic”

Mixed Media

March 3 – 5

9 am to 4 pm



Teresa Kirk

“Beauty of the Mark” Acrylic

March 14 & 15

9 am to 4 pm

Mark Menendez

“Macaw” Watercolor Pencil

March 17 & 18

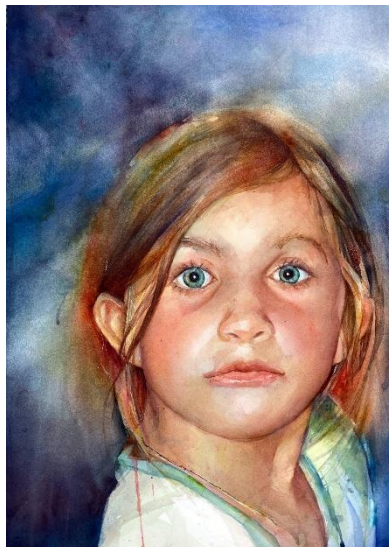
9 am to 4 pm



Karen Noll-Schaaf

March 24 – 26

9 am to 4 pm





**VILLAGE ART WORKSHOPS
UPCOMING CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS WITH LOCAL INSTRUCTORS**

Mark Polomchak
"Series of Watercolor Workshops"
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Welcome

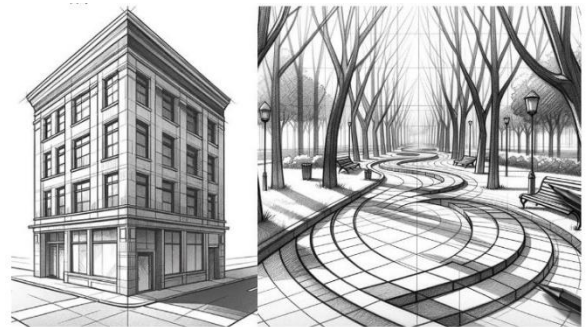


March 6, 20
All Levels



Kathy Mantel
"Watercolor Batik"
March 16
9:00 am – 2:00 pm
All Levels Welcome

Lionel Sanchez
"Perspective Drawing"
March 12 and 13
9:30 am – 2:30 pm
All Levels Welcome



VISIT WWW.VILLAGEARTWORKSHOPS.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION

Bulletin Board



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

visualartsassociation.com

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Membership Mtg

Friday, March 7, 2:30 pm
Fish Hawk Rec Center

La Galleria Exhibit *

La Hacienda Rec Center
Saturday, March 8, 8-9:30 am

Arts 'Round the Square (ARTS) *

Sunday, March 30
Lake Sumter Landing, 1-4pm

Membership Mtg

Friday, April 4th, 1:00 pm
Sea Breeze

Membership Mtg

Friday, May 2, 1:00 pm
Sea Breeze

Annex Exhibit *

Saturday, May 3, 8-9:30 am

* *indicates show or exhibit activity*

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	(open)	
Secretary	Betty Eich	bettybrock@comcast.net
Treasurer	Connie Giebels	cgiebels43@gmail.com

Past Presidents

Lee Asta
Marge McQueston
Frank Zampardi
Nan Kohr
Catherine Sullivan

Appointed Board Members

Helen Poor, Scholarship
Cheri Ptacek, Newsletter/Emails
Lisa Melcher, VAL Liaison
Karyn Zais, Membership
Eileen Sklon, Parliamentarian
Darlene Hayes, New Members
Jo Magram, Publicity Consultant
Carol O'Brien, LaGalleria

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