

The President's Message

May is right around the corner; there are only two more meetings before the Summer break. At this month's meeting, we will be voting on the new members of the Board. I will be leaving the Board as well as Billie Edwards, our very capable treasurer. Catherine Sullivan, our VP, who has also worked very hard as your program chair, will be moving up to the presidency. So you will be voting for a new President, V.P. and Treasurer. Nominations will be accepted from the floor before we take a vote.

This month, the Rec. department has loosened some of the Covid rules. It is no longer mandatory we wear masks in the rec. centers. You must make the decision based on your personal health and your loved ones. We are still limited to ½ capacity, which is 54. We have been averaging 35 members. Also we now are allowed to serve food and drinks. We are going to go slow here and find out THE MOST SANITARY way we can present a snack that everyone will feel comfortable eating and drinking. Lois Bixby and Lois Kamp will be ready by 12:30 so come and enjoy a short social with your art buddies. We will have 6 round table (no more than 6 to a table) and 30 chairs that are set for proper social distancing. Catherine has a great program lined up for us. Mr. Mark Polomchek, a watercolorist, will be with us. Please visit his web site to see some of his beautiful art and read his bio. Mark will also be judging the La Galleria Exhibit on the 8th.

Speaking of exhibits, the Annex Exhibit is on May 1, so be sure to visit and see that Exhibit. Also the La Galleria Exhibit goes up on the morning of the 8th. If you don't have your registration in to Billie, download your form and get it to Billie ASAP. Remember your Challenge Art can be shown at the Exhibitions.

Last but not least we will be celebrating the winners of the last Art Challenge at this meeting also.

Have a great week, stay healthy and hope to see you at the meeting.

Barb Justice, President





New Members



Carrie Anderson
Phone: 352-633-1952
Email:
carriea1264@gmail.com



Carrie can't remember a time when she wasn't interested in art. As a single mom and owner of a large hair salon in Southington, CT, it wasn't until she was in her 50s, that she was able to pursue art to her heart's desire. After falling in love with a hand-made dinner plate while vacationing in Maine, she realized that she could design and make her own dishes. Fortunately, *Wesleyan Potters* was not far from her home. This non-profit cooperative provides instruction and facilities for the study and practice of fine crafts, and is located in Middletown CT. After

becoming proficient in pottery, Carrie branched out to study metal smithing, and then glass fusion. She was active in the arts community and served on many committees. She ultimately became President.

Carrie became a permanent resident of the Village of Virginia Trace in 2013. She is currently planning and experimenting with a series of metal weavings and sculptures. She loves the opportunity to learn and be inspired by other artists. For her, using your imagination and making art is not just something you do to fill time, but the something you do to heighten the joy and happiness in your life. She looks forward to meeting like-minded artists and participating in many activities with the VAA . . . all while making room for the new art yet to be created.





Meet Our May Meeting Demo Artist and Judge for La Galleria

Mark Polomchak

www.polomchak.com

mark@polomchak.com



Born and raised in Northwestern Indiana, Mark now splits his residence between Indiana and The Villages in Florida. A 1975 graduate in Fine Art at Indiana University, Mr. Polomchak has exhibited his watercolors in various Fine Art Shows and galleries throughout the United States and Canada.

Prior to attending Indiana University, the artist spent two years pursuing a career in music at Franklin College before giving in to his true calling, watercolors.

Mark's heartwarming style is achieved through the simplicity and grace of his painting. He produces a wide range of images finding much of his inspiration in the serene lifestyle of the Amish, in the landscapes of the Midwest, seascapes of New England and painting the wildlife and tropical scenes of Florida. Mark demonstrates and holds seminars for art leagues, private groups and National conventions throughout the United States. Currently, Mark puts on eight one day workshops each season at The Village art center. You can visit his web site www.polomchak.com that features a new online store and the Mark Polomchak YouTube channel.



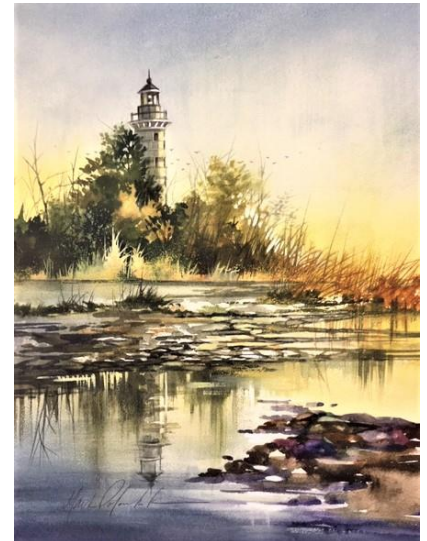
Membership Meeting Program - Demo

Mark Polomchak

Please join us on Friday, May 7th, at SeaBreeze Regional Recreation Center as Mark Polomchak demonstrates his watercolor techniques during our VAA Monthly Meeting (meeting starts at 1 pm). Mark is highly informative as to the methods that he is using while he paints, and his outgoing and entertaining style always keeps your attention.

I know that I will be breaking out my watercolors as soon as I get back to my studio after Mark's demo!

*Catherine Sullivan, V.P.
Program Chair*



LA GALLERIA EXHIBIT

The Summer La Galleria Art Show and Sale will hang Saturday May 8th. There will be monetary prizes for first, second and third place. The Judge for this show will be **Mark Polomchak!**

Please take some time to go view the fabulous art of our talented members at La Hacienda Rec Center next to Spanish Springs Town Square. I assure you, you will be amazed!

Billie Edwards, Chair



Spring La Galleria Honors

The following members who participated in the current La Galleria Spring exhibit and sale at La Hacienda Rec Center took top honors:



**FIRST PLACE, *The Take Out*,
Billie Edwards, Acrylic**



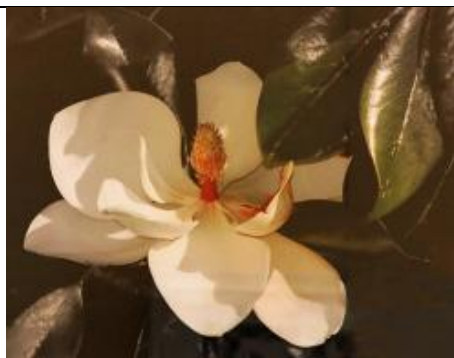
**SECOND PLACE, *Turning Point*,
Peg Lefebvre, Watercolor**



**THIRD PLACE, *In The Wind
Bluebirds*, Jeanne Willette,
Mixed Media**



**AWARD OF MERIT, *Out To Sea*,
Vera Kasberger, Pastel**



**HON MENTION, *Beginning of the End*,
Helen Poor, Photography**



**HON MENTION, *Light
Dancing*, Marcella Martin,
Watercolor**



Spotlight on You

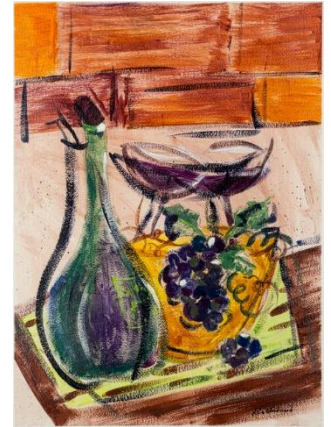


Lisa Woodward

Email: ewoodwrd@gmail.com Phone: 352-751-1239

Lisa began painting at age 10, at her first oil painting class with her Aunt Marg. After raising her family and retiring from her 32-year career as a researcher in the pharmaceutical industry, she was able to focus on her art. Lisa is basically self-taught having no formal art training. However, she has attended many workshops with famous painters such as Charles Reid, Charles Sharp, Ann Salisbury,

Frank Francese, Judi Betts, and Cheng Kee Chee in NC; and in Florida, she attended workshops by Ron Ranson, Jean Grastorf, Janet Rogers, Karlyn Holman, Sue Connor, Marion Seigel, Joe Miller, Sterling Edwards, Mary Alice Braukman, Pat Ford, Joe Fettingis, Elizabeth St Hilaire, Stephen Bach, Maxine Masterfield, Pat Weaver, Jane Slivka, and Pat Dews. Lisa has exhibited in many shows, won awards and sold her work in VA, NC and FL. She has been commissioned to paint several large acrylics recently.



Painting has given her a whole new way of looking at the world around her. She expresses her feelings about a subject, using line, color, value, texture, design and happy accidents. She is a colorist. Her primary medium is watercolor, but she also paints with acrylics, alcohol ink, collage, and mixed media. Experimenting is her favorite activity. Recently her work is moving more to abstract and abstract expressionism. She says, 'I never paint the same thing twice. I thank God for whatever talent I have.'

Lisa teaches silk scarf and alcohol ink painting at All About Art in Belleview. Her work can be seen at All About Art in Belleview, The Villagers Art Gallery in Wildwood and at the various exhibit venues in The Villages. She is a member of Florida Watercolor Society, Ocala Art Group, Villages Art League and The Visual Arts Association in The Villages.

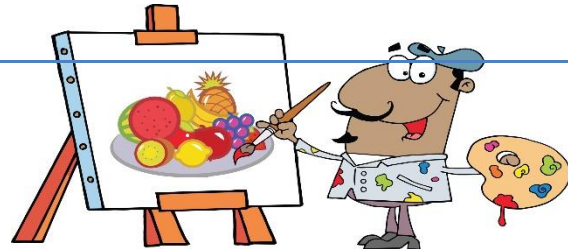




Online Art Challenge

May/June Theme: "Memories and Memorials"

Deadline: June 30



Submit your entry to mayotte22@gmail.com. (be sure to obscure your signature, and make sure no frames are included in your photo). ***You must be a current paid member of VAA to enter.***

2021-22 VAA Officers - Voting



The Nominating Committee has invited the following members to serve as **Officers** during the next fiscal year (*September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022*):

President	-	Catherine Sullivan
Vice President	-	Judy Nahmias
Treasurer	-	Carol Reynolds
Secretary	-	Nan Kohr

Voting will take place at the May 7 general membership meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nominating Committee

*Frank Zampardi
Cheri Ptacek
Nan Kohr*



Scholarship News

This is the 17th year that the Visual Arts Association of the Villages has sponsored a number of major scholarships for graduating local art students, and it was surely the most challenging year in the history of the program. To date (May 2021) over \$143,000 has been awarded to regional art students as a reflection of our VAA goals and Scholarship Mission Statement. Our awards program this year was a smaller and Covid-Safe sendoff for our winners. We were most grateful to have the Daily Sun reporting and Jill Winters from Channel 2 be part of the program. Terrific coverage of our awards was shared with the community on a special Channel 2 news story the following week.

Through difficult times, our Executive Board and our loyal membership have supported us with time, publicity, monetary donations, and hard work. This year we were also able to secure memorials, and will access some endowment funds reserved for special situations. All this will help start five lady graduates toward careers. For those of you who could join us on April 2nd you were able to meet some terrific and talented young artists whose poise, work and accomplishments were very impressive. With class time reduced and school closures common, their portfolios and grades were even more exceptional.

It is our hope that as we support these recent winners, that their recognition from the VAA and Villages Community will inspire the next group of talented art students.

Special thanks go out to our Art Scholarship Comm. members Marge McQueston, Frank Zampardi, Susan Evans, Sally La Baugh, Judy Nahmias, Brian Dickson and Joan Beeman. They did a terrific job in interviewing our winners and supporting them at our Scholarship event.

Remember, member input and suggestions for our efforts are most welcome. We follow through on all leads & contacts. If you have an idea for a fundraising event or a donation ...please share it with us.

Helen Poor, Chair



CONGRATULATIONS ART SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS FOR 2021

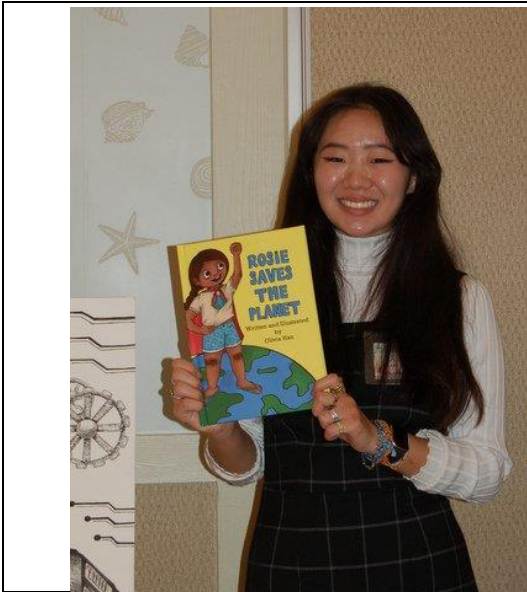
- | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|------------|----------|
| 1. Justice Murphy | West Port HS | Ocala | \$ 2,000 |
| 2. Shannon O'Leary | West Port HS | Ocala | \$ 2,000 |
| 3. Ciara Kelly | Forest HS | Marian Co. | \$ 2,000 |
| 4. Olivia Han | Vanguard HS | Marian Co. | \$ 2,000 |
| 5. Clarice Wilson | Trinity Catholic | Ocala | \$ 2,000 |



Ciara Kelly, Forest H.S.



Justice Murphy, West Port H.S.



Olivia Han, Vanguard H.S.



Shannon O'Leary, West Port H.S.



Clarice Wilson, Trinity Catholic H.S.



Our Scholarship Winners



More Scholarship News

One of our artistic partners that help us raise money for our Scholarship Program is KC Productions Theater Company, which is starting up again with a few performances.

They will be doing an encore performance of "A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBER" on May 21st at Savannah.

This had been a sellout early in the month of April and the Entertainment Dept. asked them to do it again. It got rave reviews from press and audience. Tickets are available already at any of the box office locations or online.





Events & Opportunities



Bev and Wanda have been busy putting together a terrific summer program and look forward to seeing you at the art center!

Teaching Tuesdays

For the late spring and summer, we have a series of one day workshops with talented local artists Cindy Vener, Kathy Mantel, Sue Primeau and Annie Dotzhauer.

Cindy will be teaching a series of one-day acrylic workshops:
May 11, June 15, July 13, August 17, and September 14.
You can check out Cindy's beautiful work at <https://www.CindyVener.com>.



Kathy Mantel will be teaching a series of one-day batik workshops
May 4, June 8, July 6, August 10 and September 7.
Kathy's work is bright and beautiful and filled with creative joy.

Sue Primeau is a popular regional artist & instructor who will be teaching a series of one-day collage workshops on the following dates:
May 18, June 22, July 20, and August 24.

See Sue's work at <https://www.teamingpondinc.com/home>.

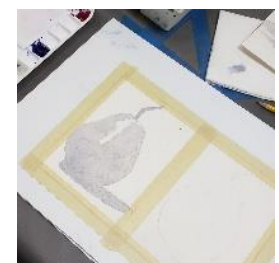


Other Fun Activities



Annie Dotzhauer is a talented glass artist who will teach you how to make beautiful pieces of jewelry and home décor with a warm and friendly teaching style. Hey, anyone with three kilns MUST know what she's doing! June 10 and 17.

In addition, Wanda Boyd will continue her "Ultimate Beginner Watercolor" Eight-week watercolor classes --all supplies included. The next one starts May 7.



For more information about classes & workshops visit www.villageartworkshops.com



Bulletin Board



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

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Friday, May 7, 1:00
Membership Mtg
SeaBreeze

La Galleria Summer Show *
Starts **May 8**
La Hacienda

Friday, June 4, 1:00
Membership Mtg
SeaBreeze

June 30, Deadline *
May/June Art Challenge
"Memories/Memorials"

*No membership meetings during
July and August; New fiscal year
For VAA starts September 1, when
Dues are payable.*

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

VAA Fiscal Year:

Sept 1 – Aug 31

Download form on our website

To mail in with dues

Or bring to membership meeting

****You must be a current paid
Member to participate in any
VAA sponsored activities****

VAA Executive Board

President	Barb Justice	grannieb43@gmail.com
Vice Pres	Catherine Sullivan	cnjsullivan@aol.com
Secretary	Nan Kohr	kohr240@gmail.com
Treasurer	Billie Edwards	billieedwards@gmail.com

Past Presidents

Lee Asta
Marge McQuestion
Frank Zampardi
Nan Kohr

Appointed Board Members

Helen Poor
Sally LaBaugh
Cheri Ptacek
Lisa Melcher

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Helen Poor, Scholarship

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Darlene Hayes, Spotlight Artist

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Martha Ayotte, Conversations

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Cheri Ptacek, Editor

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