VAL End of Season Social on April 14th



L-R: Susan Murphy, Kay Botkin, Ed Botkin, Debi Visconti, Carmella Gaughan, Rosanne Testa, Chris Rich, Jackie Kingsbury, Connie Lewis, Mary Kuhr, Marcy Roth, Anne Buhler, Jacki Westbay, Toni Lowden, Katherine Otte, and Robin Hoyt. Not pictured: Margie Barritt



Marcy Roth and Margie Barritt



Connie Lewis, Katherine Otte, Jacki Westbay, and Chris Rich



Jackie Kingsbury and Connie Lewis

The Verdes Art League Social was held on Wednesday, April 14th at Connie Lewis's beautiful home. Toni Lowden crowned the Co-Presidents Jackie Kingsbury and Connie Lowis

Appetizers and wine were provided by Jacki Westbay and Kathy Brancheau.

Connie shared a story before Jackie thanked all of the board members for their work this year. A special thank you from Chris Rich to Robin Hoyt for all of her help

and guidance in small groups. There was a big round of applause for Margie Barritt and Toni Lowden for the incredible work they did on the VAL Member Directory and the VAL Website. All congratulated Jackie and Connie for an excellent job of leading the League through this Covid year and beyond. Toni Lowden was grateful for the help of Jackie in filling all the Board positions for the coming season. (See page 3)

Members shared some of their works that they've either completed or are still in progress. There was discussion on sending out surveys to members for workshops and excursions for the coming season.

Continued on Page 2







End of Season Social

Continued from Page 1



Debi Visconti, Carmella Gaughan, and Rosanne Testa

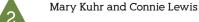


Connie Lewis and Chris Rich



Kay and Ed Botkin







Mary Kuhr, Rosanne Testa, Anne Buhler, and Connie Lewis



From the Co-Presidents



Connie Lewis

Jackie Kingsbury

As our Art League finishes this year, we want to say thank you for your perseverance during these tough times. We were able to keep in touch and keep some of the art groups and workshops going. You are a great bunch of talented people and we look forward to a year of new beginnings. Jackie and I were privileged to be your leaders and we will welcome a new group of leaders next November. Have a healthy, safe, fun, artful summer.

Safe travels if you are traveling places. Connie

From the Co-Presidents

Continued from Page 2

With the close of our year of the VIRUS, I want to thank the membership for the support you have given to our group. Many of you have participated in workshops and small groups. Janis Bunchman offered many choices and several of you joined the classes. Marcy Roth did a great job in suggesting that we continue to meet based on our interests. It has been successful in keeping us together and focused on art. We now have an Abstract Group that plans to continue next year. That group took a series of exercises from one book and explored new ideas. Thank you to Kathy Brancheau for sharing her interests in abstract.

The biggest accomplishment for the year was our Directory. Margie Barritt and Toni Lowden did a fantastic job getting us organized. We plan to use our new website to promote our group. A special benefit for them was meeting outside and staying connected during confinement. They accomplished a lot during our shut down. It was a wonderful idea that came to fruition!

Susan Murphy is the person that really kept the group together. Without her excellent newsletter we would not have sustained our group cohesion during the past year. It was a year of getting to know our group by highlighting members and their accom-

plishments. Participation in the Fountain Hills Art Show was good with Toni Lowden and others receiving awards and recognition. Thanks to Susan we all could celebrate fellow members successes.

Margaret Sullivan and Chris Demma organized mini shows that proved successful for our group. Thank you to the members that joined this new experience. They took the new challenge on and made it successful and profitable for all. Continuing this new avenue for sales will continue next year.

For Connie and me, we also learned new skills. Conducting Zoom meetings happened with more success than anticipated. Our new TV was used and will be an asset for next year with Rio providing better quality internet service. Our new storage closet will be finished giving us additional space for art supplies to be shared. This was the last year to climb ladders to retrieve sandwich boards for advertising our art shows.

Congratulations for a successful year. We hope your art experience was fun even though different. We met the challenges and had fun. Thank you for your participation. See you in November as we welcome our new board and new ideas.

Jackie

New VAL Board Set For Next Season

Toni Lowden and Marz Doerflinger will be Co-Presidents next season and have completed their roster for the VAL Board for the season November 2021 through November 2022. Thanks to all who stepped up to make this league what it is today.



Marz Doerflinger and Toni Lowden

Co-Presidents
Toni Lowden and Marz Doerflinger

Treasurer Anne Buhler

Recording Secretary Kay Hatcher

Newsletter Susan Murphy

Outside Correspondence Connie Lewis

Education/Workshops Kathy Brancheau, Kari Hogden, Kim Schols Hospitality/Social Jacki Westbay, Peg Zarlengo

Excursions/Trips
Diane Kizewski, Mary Kuhr

Fall Art Show Margaret Sullivan, Chris Demma

Spring Art Show Ed Botkin

Glass Case Exhibits Katherine Otte

Alcove Exhibits Michele Mulleady

Historian/Website Margie Barritt

Technical Support/Zoom/TV
Marcy Roth, Chris Rich, Michele Mulleady

Librarian Ruth Orton

Lecture Series Valerie Holton

New Member Orientation Marcy Roth, Chris Rich

VAL Membership Directory

Small Group Leaders Sketch/Contour: Diane Kizewski Portrait/Figure: Marcy Roth

Abstract Painting: Kathy Brancheau

Plein Air: Jack Vogler Photography: ?

Past Presidents
Jackie Kingsbury, Connie Lewis



Verdes Art League Directory Is Completed

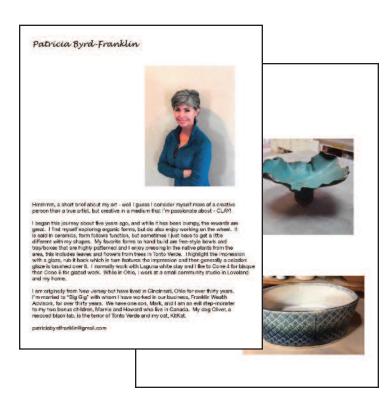
To give you a preview of our members pages in the Directory, now in the Art Room and the Rio Library, we have been selecting a few each month to post in the newsletter. These little snapshots are meant to encourage you to go either to the actual book on display, or to open our new website verdesartleague.org where you can view full color images of each members work, and read past newsletters if you have missed some.

The magic of technology will now provide announcements of our workshops and classes, as well as next years Art Shows.

And when you see Margie Barritt out on your travels be sure to say "thank you" as she and her son Matthew have graciously accomplished this major step forward for our League.

Toni Lowden









Creativity, the ability to create

Art for me is a very personal expression of who I am. Taking an idea and putting that idea into an art form and calling it your own creation is very satisfying and a little soary. It had always faccinated me how artists see and interpret what they see so many

My life has always had a connection to art through high school, college, teaching and now in retrement. There is always a project or several on the table.

I love being in the Verdee and having access to all the many classes and workshoos offered through the Verdee Art League. The art noom is a great place to connect with other artists and all their many talents. I like watercolor, colored pencil and tapestry. Have fun being receive, you might surprise yourself.

marianneearly#me.com



Kay Hatcher



Key Hatcher knew when her Lone Ranger picture won first prize in the 2nd grade that a great career in the arts availed. But it took until her youngest child left for kindle-garien that that promise was given a chance to give, the signed up to releases that same day. A seasonal Rio nesident since 2005, the thriving arts community of the southwest was a significant factor in determining her family's retirement choice. After working as a media spot expension and a State Representative, the last back lifestyle of the Versite provised

everything needed.

As a retired historic sits teacher for the National Society of Decorative Painters, he' works have been featured in national publications. Comfortable with both oils and sorylice, her first obe is teaching. "Nothing beets variofing someone's eyes light up when they "get it". To making their wishon begood their teacher's is the airfunded compliment. The whole the same properties of the same o

hatcherhello@gmail.com



found in a sampler and coveriet provided a



Adapting heritage designs to fit unusual shapes is challenging, but fun.



Verdes Art League Directory

Continued from Page 4





have been making lewelry since 1809 after attending a "jewelry making party" my daughter-in-sav drug me to. I enjoyed the effort and was encouraged by the other participants who wondered, "I kay did you know where to put things so they would look

All of my designs come out of my head and are created on the workcench. Thy to use only natural atones and the search for them is almost as much fun as creating things with them. I nope you enjoy my efforts as much as I do , , ,





Kimberly Bell Schols



Kimberly likes to experiment with styles and mediums. She enjoys oils, acrylics, pencil crayon, watercolor and pen work. She loves imaginative and expressive art including botanicals. Her environment influences her palette and her subject. Kimberly lives in Octaville, Ortaria, Canada, close to Lake Ortaria, northern Ontario in outlage country and in Rio Verde, Arlzona. She draws on nature for her inspiration and horses are old to her heart. Kimberly is a member of the Bullingion Art Society, Oxiville Art Society, the Waterside Art Group, Oskville and the Rio Verde Art League.







Kari Hogden



Painter, sculptor, teacher, gardener, student, naturalist and outdoor adventurer. . . these are words I use to describe myself.

My interests interconnect. For example, my experience teaching art classes at Wisconsin Technical College led to creating Hogden Farm Studio, where I taught plain air painting in the gardens and renovated barn for many years. My love of painting flowers teach to creating multiple personnial gardens so I would have subject matter close at hand. I taught figure drawing because of an ongoing interest in the human form and how it moves. Now sculpture allows me to explore the body in three dimensions.

Plein air painting in numerous places far and near feeds my love of nature and adventure. When I am out hiking or biking I am also getting ideas and reference photos for my next painting.

I have competed in many plain air events with success but I am taking my work less seriously now and as a result I feel like I am living a more artful life in

Although I have had my fair share of intense formal art training (University of Wisconsin, Art Students League, NYC), I take classes and continue a practice me. Moet deget a laint or soutpt in both my Wisconsin and Ric



Welcome New Members

Patricia Byrd Franklin Nancy Gray **Janet Gruel** Naomi Matusow **Jan Snow**

Have You Paid Your Dues Yet?

Have you paid your membership dues for the Verdes Art League yet? Annual dues are \$30.00 for the season which runs from November 2020 to November 2021.

Please make your check out to the Verdes Art League. Anne will be returning to her Washington home on May 7th. Please mail your checks to:

Anne Buhler 4934 Tok A Lou Avenue NE Tacoma WA 98422

November/December Mini Art Shows Deadline Is June 1st

Margaret Sullivan and Chris Demma have again stepped up to head the Fall Mini Art Shows. Because of unknown CDC Protocols, it has been decided to do Mini Shows again, if the renovation of the Community Center stays on schedule.

Information and Registrations were emailed to membership in March. They have asked to have 5-6 artists for four to five Sundays, beginning November 21st and ending on December 12th, or December 19th, depending on the number of artists that sign up.

Application deadline is June 1st. If more members sign up than there are spots for in the show, members will be accepted on a "first come, first serve" basis from dates applications are received.

Things You Should Know:

They are asking for medium you wish to show.

Artist will be grouped together by the co-chairs to try and insure that mediums are as different as possible - for example: possibly two wall artists, two 3D artists, and two jewelers.

They will refer to each group as a "pod". Each pod will choose a team captain and each pod will be responsible for:

- 1. Advertising (This includes articles in the Roadrunner and Sandwich Board Signs.)
- 2. Set up and replacement of tables, grids, chairs and sandwich board signs and return of same.
- 3. Wrapping, bagging and collecting money for items sold.
 - 4. Clean up of area.
- 5. Recruitment of any volunteers you need for control of face masks and social distancing.

An update on construction of the Community Center in June will keep all participants updated as well. Covid-19 CDC rules and regulations will be kept when setting up the show.

Once the deadline is reached, pods will be formed and information with dates of shows, pods, and more detailed instructions for show will be e-mailed to participants.

A show fee of \$35.00 will be charged. If the show is cancelled because of a delay of renovations, or a problem with Covid-19, our show fee will be null and void.

Questions should be directed to Co-Chairs:

Chris Demma: 480-518-6429 ckdemma0111@yahoo.com

Margaret Sullivan: 480-710-2388

msull3519@aol.com

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A Note From Margaret:

The number of spaces allowed will be determined by the Community Center's interpretation of Covid-19 CDC rules and regulations. More will be known as we get closer to the show dates in November and December. If we are required to follow the rules for the last shows, we have enough applicants to fill all the Mini Shows now. It is our hope that we will be allowed to have more artists at each show. If that is allowed, we still have room for a few more artists.

If you are planning to be a part of the shows, please send your application and check to:

Margaret Sullivan 18518 E Horsehoe Bend Rio Verde AZ 85263

VAL Website

The Verdes Art League now has a website which can be reached by typing in your browser:

verdesartleague.org

Thank you to all of the Verdes Art League members who submitted their information and images of their work. Our plan is to make changes to the individual submissions each February. Members who have paid their dues will be able to make changes to their text and/or images at that time. To see each member's text and images, click on their photo. We hope you will let us know if your pages generate contacts from folks who are interested in your art. Also look for issues of the VAL newsletter which will be included on the website. If you have guestions contact:

Margie Barritt margb@umich.edu

Toni Lowden tonilowden@yahoo.com

Art Trivia

The first "artists" of the world used which mediums to produce their work?

Answer on Page 10

Poured Watercolor Workshop

Margie Barritt held a two-day Poured Watercolor Workshop on April 2nd and 3rd. The workshop was full and participants creativity poured!















Diane Kizewski



Naomi Matusow



Michele Mulleady



Jackie Kingsbury



Peg Zarlengo



Kimberly Schols



Kathy Morgan and Toni Lowden's Jewelry Class



Toni Lowden and Kathy Morgan held another one of their popular Jewelry Classes on April 9th. Participants created a double-strand necklace and earring set. There's always a good turnout for these classes, so remember to sign up for next year's classes when they come on the calendar.



Nancy Gray



Judy Ziemski



Judy Guigan



Gayle Haywood



Diana Magers



Lynn Brunke



Carol Mauer



So many bead choices!

Abstract Painting Group



The Abstract Group tried some experimental painting during their time on April 8th. Each member started an abstract and after five to seven minutes passed it on to the next person who worked on that piece for another five to seven minutes until it had completed the cycle. It's amazing what creativity comes out of this group.

The Abstract Group met on Thursday afternoons at 1:00 pm. The group will resume in the Fall.

For more information contact Kathy Brancheau:

kathybrancheau@gmail.com





- Maximum 10 persons at any one time.
- ▲ Each participant will maintain social distancing of at least six feet.
- Each participant will use his/her own supplies.
- Each participant will sanitize the table and chair before and after each attendance.
- ▲ Each participant must wear a face mask.

Art Room Items

There are two projectors in the Art Room that are available to any member that might want one.

Please contact Connie Lewis if you wish to take one.

480-250-9336

dkcllewis@cox.net

Chris Rich is asking if anyone has an unused sewing machine that they would like to contribute to the Art Room to let her know. Contact Chris at:

720-771-0274

chris rich@msn.com

Michael Luksich has volunteered to create a wood magazine rack for the Art Room. A decision hasn't been made as to where this will be placed yet. Thank you Michael.



Milkweed Studios are back open with social distancing and mask wearing. Some of the upcoming classes are Kiln-Formed Jewelry, Desert NatureScapes In Glass, and Kiln & Hammer, Broken & Mended: Explorations in Laminate & Tempered Glass.

Milkweed Arts is located at 1850 W Mulberry Drive in Phoenix.

Visit their website for more information:

milkweedartsaz.com



Cowgirl Up! Art From The Other Half Of The West

Kay and Ed Botkin suggest a short trip up to Wickenburg to see this annual show at the Desert Cabaleros Western Museum.



Desert Caballeros Western Museum is proud to host the 16th annual 'Cowgirl Up! Art from the Other Half of the West' Invitational Exhibition and Sale. For 16 years, Cowgirl Up! has attracted emerging and established women artists from all over the West who depict the Western lifestyle in painting, drawing, and sculpture. Each year, more than 300 applicants are reviewed; this year, over 60 were selected as representative of the West's top female fine art voices today for the largest exhibition yet.

Cowgirl Up! is much more than a show. It's a crossroads where artists, collectors, and art enthusiasts come together to explore what it means to be a Western artist. CU! artists ride a range of techniques, styles, and mediums, from traditional to contemporary. All of the art is available for purchase, meaning that each sale supports the endeavors of women artists working today and of the Desert Caballeros Western Museum. CU! art can be bought throughout the run of the exhibition at the Museum or online at:

westernmuseum.org

The show runs through September 5th. The Desert Caballeros Western Museum is located in Wickenburg, AZ at 21 N Frontier Street. It's approximately an hour's drive from Rio Verde, so well worth the time. Hours are 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, and cost for seniors is \$10.00. Covid may change things, so always check before.

Kathy Brancheau Is Having Too Much Fun With Abstracts

Kathy shared a couple of her wonderful abstracts at Draw Studio on April 21st. She uses many different mediums to create these, along with air dried clay, mini beads, shells, precious stones, and much more.



Wednesday Morning Draw Studio



Chris Rich

Continued on Page 12



From the Art Room

Draw Studio

Continued from Page 11



Kathy Brancheau



Robin Hoyt

Summer Draw Studio

Draw Studio on Wednesday mornings will continue throughout the summer. We may have to end up doing an email exchange to let people know that someone will be there.

It will take place in the $\mbox{\fontfamily{\footnotemark}\footnotemark}$ from 10:00 am to noon.

If you would like to be put on the Summer Mailing List or have any questions contact Susan Murphy at:

sdmurphy@gmail.com

Ongoing Classes

Art Classes with Eddie Lopez
Mondays at Rio Verde
9:30-12:30

Summer Draw Studio
Wednesdays in the Art Room
10:00-12:00

If you have any questions... Contact: Susan Murphy sdmurphy@gmail.com

Abstract & Portrait Groups Will Resume in the Fall

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Art is not what you see, but what you make others see.

Edgar Degas

Watch & Listen at the Heard

The Heard Museum team has pulled together some resources for you to help engage with American Indian art and culture in the comfort of your own home and on your schedule. They will be updating this content weekly for you to access some their most popular videos, articles and books online.

heard.org/heardathome

Next Newsletter Let us know what you're up to!

Deadline for July/August Newsletter is Wednesday, June 16th. Please keep sending in your stories and images to Susan Murphy:



Alcove & Glass Case Displays Discontinued Till Further Notice

Due to the renovation of the Rio Verde Community Center, the Alcove and Glass Case will not be open for displays till the renovation is complete. Those signed up for February through April will take precedence for the months when the Community Center re-opens.

For the Glass Case contact: For the Alcove Display contact:

Michele Mulleady

703-408-5795

mmulleady29@gmail.com

Katherine Otte

480-404-6107

kathotte@hotmail.com



 $[^]st$ In order to give all members a chance to display their crafts or artwork, a limit of displaying twice in a calendar year will be observed.

Ongoing Classes

General Art Instruction: Instructor: Eddie Lopez (Current Schedule)

Rio Verde Community Center Art Room Mondays 9:30am-2:30pm during Summer

Curriculum includes Drawing and Painting in all media. When the number of students exceeds what works well for the class, he will add additional classes. Watch this space for continuing information or check out the Art Room door for the current schedule. Classes are \$25 payable in cash only. Messages can be left for Eddie at the

Community Association office.

Summer Draw Studio: Susan Murphy

Contact Susan Murphy 480-707-3152

sdmurphy@gmail.com

Open Studio & Janis Bunchman & Linda Berck

Mini Workshops: Rio Verde Community Center Art Room

Tuesdays - Open Studio/Classes/Workshops - All Day Wednesdays - Open Studio/Classes/Workshops - All Day

Fridays - Open Studio/Classes/Workshops - All Day

Saturdays - Open for Guest Art Teachers

Woodcarvers: Thursdays 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm



What's Happening

HEARD MUSEUM

Leon Polk Smith: Hiding in Plain Sight Through May 31st





Leon Polk Smith, one of the most significant American artists of the 20th century, has been studied and celebrated through major exhibitions, publications, and scholarship over many years—and yet, a significant source of inspiration and influence on his artistic production remains largely unexplored.

This original exhibition takes visitors on a visual journey that starts in Oklahoma Territory, where Smith was born and raised surrounded by Indigenous people and culture, to New York City where he would become a founding icon of mid-century modern art.

MESA CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM

Angel Cabrales: The Uncolonized

Through August 8th



El Paso sculptor and mixed media artist Angel Cabrales is known for his provocative social commentaries on the Latin-American experience. In his latest body of work, Cabrales reimagines history in a SciFi- inspired parallel universe, where the Western Hemisphere was never colonized. The exhibition centers on the Indigenous legacy of the Americas while celebrating the cultural heritage and technological achievements of its original inhabitants.

Visit their websites for Covid Protocols.



2020/2021 Board of Directors

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dkcllewis@cox.net 480-250-9336

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Glass Case

Katherine Otte

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Alcoves

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