



For the Love of Art

VAA Newsletter

December, 2024

Volume 21,

Issue 12

The Mission of the Valley Art Association is to promote visual arts and artists in the Chippewa Valley of Wisconsin through networking, creative development, and support for exhibits and Workshops



President's Message

It is hard to believe an entire year has passed as I began this journey as the president of VAA. I have met so many of you during this time and am the better for it. My goal has been to have the organization benefit members in a meaningful way through educational events, monthly programs, and exhibiting opportunities. None of these goals could have been achieved without the participation of the board and members. We all do it for the love of art!

- A special thanks to those who provided programs for the monthly meetings. Also, to the board members who have worked so hard this year to make the special events happen, especially **Cari Raynae Jacobson** who has been the program chairperson as well as interim vice president.
- To **Val West Naber**, a thank you for keeping us financially literate as the treasurer.
- To **Randy Palmer** for serving as a member-at-large helping as needed.
- A big shout out to the exhibit committee who have created something from nothing this year to develop exhibit sites in Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls- **Mindy Huntress**, chairperson; **Sarah Williams**, coordinator for Decadent Gifts, Silly Serrano, and Banbury Holiday Market; **June Haigh-Boley**, coordinator for Wild Flour Bakery and Pilates Studio.
- Also, thank you to **Rhonda Bengtson** for serving as an interim secretary and helping keep the boat afloat!
- Thank you to **Tammy Ford** for coordinating the big VAA Heyde Fall show-pick up **12-30!**
- A welcome to **Sarah Williams** who will be the new secretary for 2025-2027. We do still need a vice president to complete the board.
- Lastly, a big thanks to our intrepid IT guy, **Steve Cole**, who quietly works in the background keeping the website up to date, doing twice a year gallery updates, and documenting in pictures our meetings and events.
- We will start 2025 with new ideas and events, including an all-day workshop on January 16TH to help improve our skills in **Perspective** with **Jeff Nelson** as the instructor. See the website for registration that is still open.

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Schedule of Meetings and Events

NO JANUARY MEETING

January 16- Perspective all day workshop

February 6- Monthly meeting at the Heyde Center at 1:30. Mindy Huntress will present a program about using social media to promote your art.

Venue Opportunities

- **Wild Flour Bakery in Chippewa Falls.** Two artists will be able to exhibit for two-month period. June Haigh-Boley coordinator- haighboley@gmail.com
- **Silly Serrano** restaurant- Two artists can display for a two-month period. Sarah Williams is the coordinator- sarahj724@gmail.com
- **Pilates Studio-** One artist per two-month period. June Haigh-Boley is the coordinator- haighboley@gmail.com
- **Decadent Gifts-** This venue is the relocation from Artisan Forge. One artist will be able to display their work for a two-month period. Sarah Williams is the coordinator- sarahj724@gmail.com

Exhibiting in January/February

Wild Flour Bakery- Karen Scarseth and Julianne Johnson Jan/Feb 2025

Pilates- June Haigh-Boley Jan/Feb 2025

Silly Serrano-

Decadent Gifts- Mindy Huntress- Jan/Feb 2025



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Class Opportunities through Cardinal Learning Center

Registration begins January 16th (online)

China Painting Basics- Val West Naber -Feb. 12 and 19

Beginning Knitting- Kathy Stockton-Behnke- Jan. 28, Feb. 5

Introduction to Watercolor-Kathy Stockton-Behnke March 18 and 25

Flip, Pop, and Explode- not your ordinary card making class- Cari Raynae Jacobson April 8, 2025

Coffee Filter Flowers- Kathy Stockton-Behnke- April 29

(These are the known VAA member-taught classes at time of publication.)

Your VAA Board Members 2024

Please contact any board member for questions you may have regarding Membership, Exhibits, Programs.

President – Kathy Stockton-Behnke vaapresident2024@gmail.com

Interim Vice President - Cari Raynae Jacobson (cariraynae@gmail.com)

Interim Secretary – Rhonda Bengtson (r.bengtson.57@gmail.com)

Treasurer – Val Naber valvaa2021@gmail.com

Members At Large:

Randy Palmer (palmerri@hotmail.com)

June Haigh-Boley (haighboley@gmail.com)

Sarah Williams- sarahj724@gmail.com

Mindy Huntress- mindyhuntress@gmail.com

Webmaster: H. Steve Cole (hubertscole@gmail.com)

Website VAA GALLERY

The VAA Website Gallery is available to *all members in good standing*, a PDF is available on the website **EVENTS & MEMBERSHIP Pages** with instructions for both current gallery members and new to gallery members. Updates are completed twice per calendar year. Next update is April, 2025. **NOTE: THIS is not a site to sell from, but provides a secure web link with Bio, contact, and reference photos for sharing.**
<https://www.valleyartassociation.org>