



Paintings by
Susan Ploughe
(see page 4)

“Breakfast by the Sea”



Sketches

April 2024

“Harbor Morning”



“Second Opinion”

“Waiting”





LCAL.org | 501c3 | lakecoartleague@gmail.com

Sketches

Official Newsletter of Your Lake County Art League

April 2024

LCAL Spring Membership Show: Wed May 1 to Thurs May 30

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Back Cover; Mary Haas

The Lake County Art League (LCAL) has been doing a Spring Membership Show for 90 years, so we've gotten pretty good at it!

This year, the show is special because it will be the first of 6 shows that promise a nuanced view of what we in the LCAL do. This show is also special because:

- It will be hosted by the College of Lake County (CLC). Their Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art is well-known and widely respected.
- CLC students will be able to participate in the show and its concluding critique by becoming LCAL new members at the 1934 dues rate of \$2.50.
- CLC has already helped design posters for LCAL and has offered to publicize the show through their Facebook network. All 6 shows will use some variation of host publicity.
- This show will be a test of our ability to otherwise publicize our art opportunities through news articles, posters, handouts and networking.
- The critique will be done by Francis Vail from the North Shore Art League (see next page).

(continued on next page)

Questions: Contact Jeff Harold at jeffharoldphotography@gmail.com



Sketches
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April 2024

LCAL Spring Membership Show, cont.

2023 Spring Show; 1st-3rd Place



1st place; Mary Haas



2nd place;
Clarese Orstein



3rd place;
Marshall Philyaw

Art will hang in the lower-level of the gallery. This is a popular student reading area, with comfortable tables and chairs, plus a bank of windows that look out to a patio. The gallery will provide coffee, cold tea, water and refreshments, and we will provide our usual finger food.

A piano can be provided if a member can give us an hour of music!

See more about the CLC gallery at their [webpage](#) and their Facebook page.

Dates and Times:

Check-in: Thurs, April 25, 9 am to 8 pm and
Fri, April 26, 9 am to 5 pm

Entries:

- Must be framed and wired
- Must have been produced in the last 3 years
- Must be tasteful and appropriate to the circumstance.
- Edge-wrapped canvases are acceptable.

**Details are provided in the email
accompanying Sketches.**



Susan

More on Susan's background and images of her work can be found on her [website](#). See examples of her work on the front page of Sketches.

LCAL 16 April Membership Meeting & Demonstration

This in-person meeting will be held at State Bank of the Lakes in Grayslake

Susan Ploughe will be providing an oil painting demonstration.

"Ploughe rhymes with blue (and glue and hullabaloo)!"

"A good painting or drawing shouldn't be a result of luck! Much of the success of an artwork is established before you ever touch brush to canvas or pastel to paper. Taking time to think and plan will result in consistently better work."

Susan's presentation will be packed full of ideas of how to handle the specific elements that make up a painting or drawing. "These principles apply to both representational and abstract art." - Susan

Topics will include:

- Choosing subject matter
- Finding a point of view
- Arranging the elements (composition)
- Developing a strong value structure
- Enhancing the focal point
- Many other topics

Susan is a national award-winning painter and experienced instructor who loves helping people to develop better painting and design skills. Working on location and in her studio, Susan enjoys painting a variety of subject matter. She has been awarded Signature status by both the American Impressionist Society and Oil Painters of America. Her artwork is in private and corporate collections, and has been featured in *Fine Art Connoisseur*, *American Art Collector* and *International Artist* magazines.

Questions: Contact Jeff Harold at jeffharoldphotography@gmail.com

**Also at this meeting:
LCAL Officer Elections (see next page)**



Sketches
2024-2025

April 2024

LCAL 16 April Membership Meeting: Election Update

GREAT NEWS...The nominating committee now has a complete ticket for the election of our art league officers for the 2024-2025 year. The nominations for these elected positions will be presented and voted on at the April meeting.

However, we still need to fill some positions:

- Currently the Publicity, Art Festival, and Tours Director positions are vacant.
- In addition, several of the other directors could use some help.



Volunteers Needed and Appreciated!

Sometimes it's hard for us to ask people to volunteer, but our league benefits tremendously from the skills and talents of *all* members. So, please seriously consider helping in any of the league's positions (listed on page 12).

Do you want to serve?

Contact one of your board members (see page 12).

Show your dedication to keeping the LCAL healthy and the art community growing for another 90 years!

Questions: Contact Louise Villegas at
lou999@comcast.net



RECAP of the LCAL 18 March Membership Meeting & Demonstration

John Plishka ([website](#)) provided a demonstration of pastel techniques. See YouTube for an [interview](#) with John and Jeff Harold, and for a [video](#) of John's demonstration.



Congratulations to our first raffle ticket winner, Debbie Markley, who was selected at the March Membership Meeting.

This simple \$50 cash prize is one of a number of things now energizing our 90th anniversary meetings.

Welcome to our LCAL New Members!

Erin Cornell	Carol Sturz
Louise Villegas	Beth Lepper
Linda Regan	Erin Galbraith
Christiane Bouret	Diane Gricar
Lois Guthrie	Deb Markley
Alexa Lederer	Melissa & Katie Pierson
Marey Leight	Rosemary Wilhelm
Audrey Freson	Denese Manly
	Gail Cassidy

Member Excellence Awards:

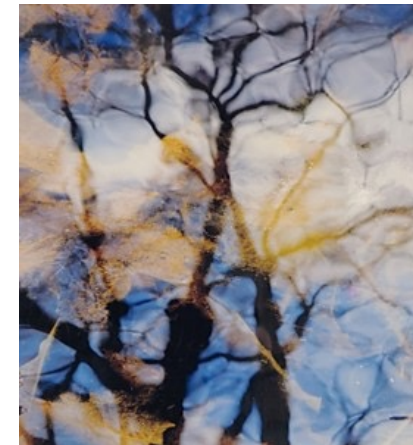
To the right are the 3 Excellence Awards that were given out at the March Membership meeting.



"Avian Portraits - Coming Through"
Photography
Jeff Harold



"Cherry Splash"
Colored pencil
Louise Villegas



"Pond Reflection"
Photography
Mary Neely



2024 Phoebe Boyd and LCAL Scholarships

Below are the two, 2023 scholarships recipients



Ava Buttelmann
received the Phoebe Boyd scholarship for her chalk pastel:
"Captain Daniel Wright Woods Forest Preserve #2"



Rachel Jacobsen
received the LCAL scholarship for her charcoal drawing:
"Walk this Way."

Each year the art league awards two scholarships to College of Lake County (CLC) students.

1. The Phoebe Boyd scholarship is funded by the Boyd family in memory of Phoebe Boyd who was a long time member of the art league and passed away November 22, 1997.
2. The other scholarship is funded annually by our art league with funds from our member dues.

The recipient students are selected from art work that they enter; they are juried into the CLC Student Show in April of each year.

For the 2024 year, LCAL members Oliver Merriam, Mary Neely, and Clarese Ornstein will be choosing the recipients.

Location: Wright Gallery at CLC
(19351 Washington St, Grayslake)

Opening Night: 11 April; 7:30 pm

Length of show: about 1 month

Gallery hours: Mon-Thurs 8 am to 9 pm; Fri 8 am to 6 pm; Sat 9 am to 3 pm; Sun closed

Plan to visit the Gallery and see the work of these talented students!



An image of LCAL member, Mary Haas' painting, showing excerpts from past 90 years of the LCAL, is provided on the last page of Sketches.

LCAL Celebrates its 90th Anniversary in 2024

Six art shows will be part of the LCAL 90th Anniversary celebration throughout 2024. The public will be invited to these shows as well as to any of our nine evening meetings that will always include a guest artist's presentation.

Six Scheduled LCAL Art Shows in 2024	
1-29 May	Spring Membership Show: College of Lake County, Robert T Wright Community Gallery of Art, Grayslake
20 May	Spring Membership Show: Critique
7-28 Jun	Starline Factory Gallery in Harvard
1-29 Aug	Downtown Antioch gallery of the Antioch Fine Art Foundation
6-28 Sep	Adler Arts Center, Libertyville
4-25 Oct	Starline Factory Gallery in Harvard
Nov (date pending)	Fall Membership Show: Waukegan's newly restored Carnegie Library
Mid Nov (date pending)	Fall Membership Show: Critique

Questions about the Anniversary? Contact a committee member; see page 12.



Membership Forms: “Interests” Explained

Did you know that your Membership Form is a means of communicating with your board of directors? When filling out your form, we would like to know the medium(s)/techniques you work with in your art, and your interests in different aspects of the organization.

Interests

When you indicate your interests from the list provided on the membership form, we also want to know if you’d like to be one of our many volunteers. If you skip that part of the form, we have no idea what your interests are. Your interests help identify how you may benefit from being a member and what areas of the organization you may want to volunteer for. After all, our league can’t function without you and fellow members helping with the various tasks of the organization.

In addition to volunteers, our league is always in need of members who would like to chair a committee or serve on the board.

Benefits of Getting Involved

- Support in our shared interest
- Pick up the group’s rhythms, history, purpose and energy
- Experience the excitement of members’ mutual interests, growing your skills, learning interesting information, learning from league events, and awarding the growth of others.

We look forward to you sharing your time and talent with us as we strive to share our experiences with you. Your active involvement in the many activities of the art league will help you grow as an artist and will help us grow as an organization.

Below is a list of ways you can help:

- Spring/Fall Membership Shows
- Art workshops
- Tours
- Plein air sessions
- Social media
- LCAL website
- LCAL newsletters (Sketches and Member News)
- Display of member art
- Zoom hosting

We thank all members who have volunteered their help -- whether with refreshments, writing for the newsletter, finding volunteers to help with workshops, and many other parts of the organization -- that makes your experience with the LCAL fulfilling and exciting.



Membership Forms: “Interests” Explained, cont.

Mediums/Techniques Here’s what we have learned this year about our 63 members:

Medium/Technique	Number of Members	Medium/Technique	Number of Members
Watercolor	20	Painting, no medium mentioned	2
Oil	20	Jewelry	1
Pastels	10	Graphite	1
Acrylics	9	Scratch art	1
Pen and Ink	5	Printing	1
Photography	5	Collage	1
Mixed media	4	Alcohol inks	1
Colored pencil	4	Children’s book illustrator	1
		None mentioned	4

If you would like to learn who is working in a specific medium, please ask Fran Isaac and she will ask if they would like to get in touch with you by email or phone.

Email Fran at fmisaac@aol.com with “LCAL-media” in the subject line.



LCAL Digital Library Overview

Please enjoy our Digital Library, which is emailed to you along with Sketches as a separate attachment (pdf file).

The library covers many different topics organized under 9 different categories (see inset below).

Many are video presentations accessed from various services such as YouTube, Amazon Prime, Hulu, and Netflix. To view, click on the link and it will take you directly to that video. *(NOTE: These services sometimes discontinue a show; we will update the lists as we become aware of any changes.)*

We encourage you to contribute to our library by sending us links to your favorite art shows and web sites. In that way, it will become a true reflection of the LCAL, and it will accomplish our mission to promote art in Lake County.

Digital Library's Current Categories:

- Oil Painting
- Watercolors
- Acrylics
- Documentaries / Art-related
- Galleries and Museums
- Websites to Explore
- Netflix Art Shows
- Hulu Art Shows
- Amazon Prime Art Videos

Questions? Contact Val Brandner;
isketchit@yahoo.com



LCAL Meetings and Staff

The Lake County Art League Year:

Meets Sep through Jun, generally 7-9pm; 3rd Mon., as follows:

Jan, Feb, sometimes Mar	Virtual
Sep, Oct, Jan-Jun	presentations, usually a demonstration
Nov, May	Closing critiques for membership shows
Dec	Holiday break

Newsletters: After Nov, newsletters are sent only occasionally to members who have not paid their dues

Be on the Lookout! If you see a new way to bring fine art to Lake County, or how to improve the advantages of membership, please share by contacting a member listed to the right.

90th Anniversary Committee

Chair	Deb Edmunds	edmundsdl@gmail.com
Co-Chair	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
	Val Brandner	isketchit@yahoo.com
	Gail Gudgeon	Gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com
	Jeff Harold	jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com
	Clarese Ornstein	socoro@comcast.net
	Fran Isaac	fmisaac@aol.com
	Mary Neely	mmbn@yahoo.com

Elected Officer	Name	email
President	Jeff Harold	jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com
Vice President	Debbie Kalinowski	artbydebbiek@gmail.com
Recording Sec	Jack Littlefield	thelittlefields@gmail.com
Corresponding Sec	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Elizabeth Engle	betharoo30@aol.com

Directors	Name	email
Art Festivals	(vacant)	
Historian	Ali Albakri	nyika1940@gmail.com
Hospitality	Gail Gudgeon	gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com
Librarian	Debbie Kalinowski	artbydebbiek@gmail.com
Membership	Louise Villegas	lou999@comcast.net
	Bobby Swisher	bobbi_swisher@outlook.com
On-The-Wall	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
	Fran Isaac	fmisaac@aol.com
Programs	Jeff Harold	jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com
	Fran Isaac	fmisaac@aol.com
	Debbie Kalinowski	artbydebbiek@gmail.com
Publicity	(vacant)	
Scholarships	Val Brandner	isketchit@yahoo.com
Newsletters	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
	Jody Bennett	jorbenn1@yahoo.com
Tours	Val Brandner	isketchit@yahoo.com
Workshops	Jim Brooksher	jimbrooksher@gmail.com
	Samantha McDonald	clintandsam@gmail.com

Connection to the Greater Art Community		
Social Media	Phil Schorn	phil@pschornstudio.com
Website	Phil Schorn	phil@pschornstudio.com
Plein Air	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
	Deb Edmunds	edmundsdl@gmail.com
Undercroft	Ali Albakri	nyika1940@gmail.com
lakecoartleague@gmail.com		



Cora Davies led the drive for creating an art league in 1934.

Sketches

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Waukegan home of Cora and her husband J.W. Fredrick Davies, a local minister.



Mary included this lovely sketch of her 8-yr-old son.



“Dreams of Art League Shows Gone By”
Oil; Mary Haas

Mary’s painting commemorates LCAL’s 90 years. It illustrates a favorite art league legend: In the early 1950s, there was no public space for art shows, so on a special day, members hung their art on fisherman's nets drying at Waukegan Harbor. The harbor, seen in the distance, was then the center of a vast commercial fishery.