

LCAL Fall Membership Show, Volo Bog

1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners (see page 6)



1st, Clarese Ornstein
"Liam the Old Irish Goat"



2nd, Russell Kraly*
"Winter Bird"



3rd, Marina Rawlings
"Hedgegrow Cloudscape #1"

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Upcoming Events

Event	Dates
LCAL Member Meeting: "Frames, Glass and Mats!"	Oct. 21
Juried Exhibition at Mainstreet Gallery "Nature's Palette: Still life and Gardens"	Oct. 1-29
Second Annual Art For a Cause	Nov. 8
LCAL Member Meeting: "Hands on with Sandra! "	Nov. 20



Frames, Glass and Mats!

In-Person Member Meeting: TUESDAY, Oct. 21

The next LCAL member meeting is Oct. 21, 7-9pm at State Bank of the Lakes, Grayslake, lower level. Doors open at 6:30pm.

“All About Framing” will be a presentation and discussion about all aspects of framing art, presented by the owners of Perkowitz Art Studio in Grayslake, Tom Perkowitz and Christine Oleson.

- Perkowitz Art Studio was established in 2015 and is a working Art Studio. Tom teaches oil painting classes; beginner to advanced.
- Tom also teaches acrylic paint parties where you can paint with friends, family and co-workers.
- They offer full-service professional custom picture framing, printing and scanning services.
- They cater to local artists and are proud to be the preferred custom picture framer for many local artists.

Tom’s and Christines’ presentation will include the following discussion items and information:

- Using the correct archival materials for your type of art
- Proper support for artwork in frames
- Options in mat materials
- Frame types and styles
- Glass properties and benefits
- Best Practices
- Proper hanging and backing materials

Also, don’t forget to **bring one art piece that you have recently completed** to be part of our monthly competition and possibly win an “Award of Excellence.”

All guests are welcome!



Hands on with Sandra!

In-Person Member Meeting: THURSDAY, Nov. 20,

7-9pm, State Bank of the Lakes, Grayslake.

Doors open at 6:30.

Celebrate the holidays with a demo and a hands-on experience with artist and member, Sandra Saxton, who will give a 30-minute demonstration on **"How to Start an Abstract Painting."**

- Members will be provided with various materials, a canvas and guidance from Sandra.
- Sandra will give you tools to make abstract painting fun! Learn how to:
 - loosen up and let go of perfection
 - embrace play and to approach artwork with energy, clarity and confidence
 - mix color and create unexpected texture and accidental marks you will love
 - express your art with FREEDOM!

An 8" x 10" canvas and some materials will be provided to each participant.

Please bring a few items you have to share: magazines that can be cut apart, gelli prints, tissue paper, tubes of primary color acrylic paints, oil pastels, gel mediums, mod podge, flat brushes of various sizes, scissors, disposable plastic lid or plate, or hairdryers.

We will also provide **pizza and refreshments** to celebrate the start of the holiday season. Anyone wanting to bring a side dish to go with the pizza, please do.

Don't miss this fun evening and **our last in person meeting for the year!**

Please RSVP! If you would like to attend this meeting, please email: lakecoartleague@gmail.com with the words, "I want to create an abstract with Sandra" in the subject line.



Juried Exhibition at Mainstreet Gallery, Lake Zurich: October

“[Nature’s Palette: Still life and Gardens](#)” is a juried exhibition from **Oct. 1-29**. It promises to be a feast for the senses, showcasing the vibrant creativity and talent of local artists. You will see art works reflecting the artistry of everyday life and material pleasures, as well as nature’s beauty in the garden.

Award Ceremony/Reception: Oct. 24, 5:30-8pm. 1st, 2nd, 3rd places, and 2 honorable mentions will be awarded.

All 2-D works will be for sale. Open to the public.

Questions? Contact Kari Johnson, kari@mainstreetartcenter.com; 847-550-0016

Second Annual - Art For a Cause: Nov. 8, Noon to 6pm

This show is open to all regional artists working in 2D media, excluding AI.

Registration: Opens Oct. 1; closes Oct. 22. Entry fee \$20.

Submission: Artist may submit up to 5 pictures, wired to hang with multi-strand wire, no saw-tooth hangers. (Submitted work with improper or poor-quality hanging wire will be rejected at drop off.)

Art drop off: Nov. 3

Attendance: Artist attendance is not required but is encouraged.

Art Sale: All artwork must be for sale; 20% of sales will go to the Cary-Grove Food Pantry and Cary-Grove Rotary Charitable Fund. Unsold art must be removed at the end of the show.

See [full prospectus](#) for details.

Questions? Email Mark at MTFINEART2@gmail.com



Library Lobby Art Display Opportunities

The Lake Villa Library is seeking local artists to show their artwork in the **Featured Artist Exhibit space**. Artists can exhibit their 2D works in the library lobby for 2-month time periods.

Group shows or solo art exhibits are welcome. If you would like to be considered for an exhibit*, please complete the [online proposal form](#).

Questions? Email to lakecoartleague@gmail.com.

We Are Looking for Places to Hang Our Art!

The art league is looking for other areas around Lake County where our members can display their art. If you know of a place that would allow our group to hang art, please email the LCAL at lakecoartleague@gmail.com.

LCAL Fall Membership Show at the Volo Bog

On Sept. 28th, the Volo Bog State Natural Area hosted the league's Fall Membership show. Stacy Iwanicki at the Bog arranged for our group to exhibit there in September.

Twenty-four of our members participated in the show. The majority of the artists submitted 2 pieces each, one of which was critiqued. Our critique artist, Samira Ghisis, was a big hit. She mixed her personal story with her educated critiques of the art that had been submitted for the show's theme "Celebrating Nature."

Refreshments and food were provided by our league and Friends of the Volo Bog. Four of our artists sold their art with 25% donated to Friends of the Volo Bog. There was a great turnout with a crowd of around 50.

We want to thank the members who organized and helped with the event, and especially the following members: Deb Edmunds, Clarese Ornstein, Sandra Saxton, Peggy Gorman, Mary Neely, and Denese Manley and Fran Isaac.



LCAL Fall Membership Show at the Volo Bog, cont.

Shown below are the 3 lucky winners at the Fall Membership Show.



First Place
Clarese Ornstein
"Liam the Old Irish Goat"
16x20; mixed media collage



Second Place
Russell Kraly*
"Winter Bird"
28x24; watercolor/Ink
(*Award accepted by Russell's wife)



Third Place
Marina Rawlings
"Hedgegrow Cloudscape #1"
11x16, oil

Look for future information about our **Spring Membership Show**, which is in the works to be exhibited and critiqued at the Lake Villa Library in **May/June of 2026**.

Anyone who would like to **volunteer** to help with the show, please **contact Deb Edmunds** at edmundsdl@gmail.com. We need about 6-8 volunteers. More information about the show will be in future "Sketches."



Workshops or Funshops!

The LCAL sets up several workshops a year. This year, our vice president, Clarese Ornstein volunteered to organize 2 workshops.

The first was in the beginning of the year with Phil Schorn sharing his knowledge of color pencil.

The second was the recent Reverse Collage Glass workshop, Sept. 15, at the State Bank of the Lakes in Lindenhurst, led by Suki Michelle.

- The 19 participants (8 LCAL members and 10 non-members) paid \$15 to learn this interesting and fun way to create a decorative glass piece.
- Participants brought assorted upcycled glass bowls, trifle dishes, cake stands, etc., to decorate with assorted prints of original art, napkins and tissue papers. They finished their pieces with Modpodge.
- Suki displayed beautiful pieces of her work to inspire everyone and then demonstrated each step for creating the reverse collage process.
- A few examples of what was created at the event are shown to the left.

Next year we will need a leader to take over workshops. If anyone is interested in putting together a few events, please let Clarese know and she can assist you in the process. **Questions?** Contact Clarese Ornstein at socoro@comcast.net.



"Fall Buggy Ride"



"Witches and Moon"

Jim Brooksher

- **TWSA Biennial Exhibition:** My latest painting of an Amish carriage near Monroe, WI, was accepted into the Transparent Watercolor Society of America (TWSA) Biennial Exhibition, taking place Sept. 1-Oct. 31. Location of the show: [TWSA Website](#).
- **Sept. 8-Oct. 31:** I will have a solo exhibit of watercolor paintings at the Lake Villa Library. My painting, "Witches Moon," shows a Victorian mansion with monsters from early movies, and 8 characters from the movie, "The Wizard of Oz."
- **Oct. 17:** "Witches Night Out" - from 4pm – 8pm at Curtis Frame & Gallery, 543 N. Milwaukee Avenue, in Libertyville

Questions? Contact Jim at jimbrooksher@gmail.com

Aruna Sarode

- I have one still life accepted at the Juried Exhibition at Mainstreet Gallery, Lake Zurich, "Nature's Palette: Still life and Gardens" (see page 4).
- I'll have 3 paintings in the Mundelein Art Commission's "LURE OF THE LOCAL IV" annual art exhibit, Oct 17-Nov 16. The theme is "Portals." Opening reception is Fri., Oct 17, 6-9pm. Exhibition is open to the public all Saturdays and Sundays 11am - 5 pm, with live music.

Location: 175 N Archer Ave, Mundelein.

Questions? Contact Aruna at arunans@hotmail.com



"Fans of Music"
oils

Oliver Steven Merriam

I am a past-president of LCAL. I delivered 7 oil paintings to be hung at the Mundelein Arts Commission's "LURE OF THE LOCAL IV" annual art exhibit (see more information under Aruna Sarode, above). One of the space's cubicles will display my art. One of my pieces is shown on the left.

Questions? Contact Oliver at omerriam@yahoo.com



"Things Are Looking Up"
36" X 48"



"Life and Soul"
24" X 36"



"Meditation"
30" X 40"

Sandra Saxton

I am exhibiting 3 large abstract pieces (shown here) at the "Large Works" invitational exhibit at the Antioch Art Center, from Oct. 29 through Nov. 16.

All 3 pieces are mixed media abstracts: acrylic, oil, paper collage, oil pencils and crayons.

Please visit! This should be a very interesting exhibit!

Location: 896 Main Street, Antioch IL 60002

Questions? Contact me at
saxton.songbirdstudio@gmail.com

NEW MEMBERS

We Are Always Looking for New Members!

Tell your family and friends about LCAL! Invite them to attend one of our member meetings and demos. Refer them to our [website](#) for meeting information, upcoming events, and more!

Questions? Contact Membership Director, Louise Villegas at lou999@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please pay your dues by Oct. 21

Payment Options for Dues: Zelle, Check, Money Order

Our new electronic payment option (Zelle) is faster and simpler than paying by check or money order, which are still payment options. **Please note that we can no longer accept cash.**

Questions? Email lakecoartleague@gmail.com.



Payment Options

Please refer to September Sketches for details on how to pay with Zelle, Check, or Money Order.

Membership forms must accompany payment of dues!

All returning members must submit a completed form with their payment, using one of two options:

- The [ONLINE FORM](#)
- The downloadable member form at the bottom of the LCAL website's [Membership and Forms](#) page.

You do not have to pay by Zelle to use the online form.

MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers Needed and Appreciated!

Keep the LCAL healthy and the art community growing for another 90 years!

Our league benefits tremendously from the skills and talents of *all* members. Please seriously consider helping our board in any of the league's positions (listed on page 13). Find the description of volunteer positions in our by-laws at [our website](#) under "about."

- **Corresponding Secretary:** We are looking for an addition to the executive board. Do you have computer emailing skills and have several hours a month to help send out information to the membership? This position would take someone who can notify the membership of upcoming events and monthly newsletter distribution. **Contact** Deb Edmunds, president, at edmundsdl@gmail.com to inquire about this position.
- **Hospitality Support:** We need volunteers to bring refreshments and snacks to our in-person member meetings. Contact hospitality director, Fran Isaacs, to sign up for the Oct./Nov. 2025 meeting or any future meetings in 2026 (fmisaac@aol.com).
- **Support for Workshops and Shows:** We need help with organizing, checking in art, refreshment set-up and clean-up, runners to help bring art to critique artists, and hanging art (sometimes).
- **Other open LCAL board positions:** see the note at the bottom of page 13.

Questions about workshops, shows, and open LCAL board positions: Contact Clarese Ornstein at socoro@comcast.net). Or, contact a board member, directly.





"Autumn Walk" 2021



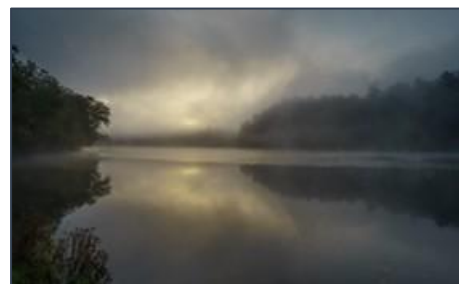
"Turning" 2024

Capturing the Colors of Autumn

To those of us tuned to the natural world, summer has turned into fall. Now is a good time to up your photography game to make amazing fall images. Here are 9 ideas for how to do just that.

- 1. Push yourself.** Get out of your comfort zone. Play with saturation; darken the background; add a touch of blur, etc. Try something new!
- 2. Know the secret.** Creating a spectacular display comes down to the weather conditions: cool nights, warm sunny days, and sufficient rainfall.
- 3. Visit the web.** Numerous websites monitor the location of peak colors in your area.
- 4. Look for the fog.** Fog molds the autumn light into something spectacular. Plan ahead by watching for warm air over cool ground; get up early before the fog burns off shortly after sunrise.
- 5. No presets or scenes.** These camera settings take the decision making out of your hands. Take back control; experiment!
- 6. Filter the light.** A circular polarizing (CP) filter reduces glare, boosts contrast, and intensifies colors.
- 7. Use a tripod.** A tripod will steady your camera and allow for slower shutter speeds and lower ISO, which are keys to managing depth of field, keeping more of the landscape in focus.
- 8. Try photo editing software.** You can create your own interpretation of your photo. Some popular software are Adobe Lightroom or Photoshop.
- 9. Search for the unusual.** Search for fall color in unusual places. The porch of an historic house can hold beauty just as well a forest thick with trees.

"Awakening" 2019



Find more details at
my [blog post](#)

[Ernest J. Schweit](#) is a long-time member of LCAL, and is a writer and award-winning landscape photographer.

Questions or Suggestions? Contact me at ernestjschweit@sbcglobal.net

Are You a Facebook User?



Check out the [LCAL Facebook Group](#)! This group is only for current LCAL members. You are not required to join or use the group, but we encourage you to do so.

Advantages of Joining Our Group: It is a hub for communications where you can get the most recent news and information about LCAL, our events, shows, and anything else that pertains to the LCAL.

To join, search for “Lake County Art League Members Group” in Facebook, or click on the link above, and request to join.

Questions? Contact one of our FB Group administrators: Deb Edmunds edmundsdl@gmail.com or Louise Villegas lou999@comcast.net



Online Suggestion Box

If you have any suggestions, feedback, ideas, etc., that you would like to share with the LCAL board, please use our COMPLETELY ANONYMOUS online form.

We hope you will share with us! The regular suggestion box will still be available at our in-person member meetings.

Enjoy Our Digital Library

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

Our library is accessible on the LCAL website. It covers many different art topics organized under 9 different categories.

Many references link to video presentations accessed from various streaming services. *(NOTE: links are updated 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 websites. That way, it will become a true reflection of the LCAL, and it will accomplish our mission to promote art in Lake County.

Questions? Contact Denese Manley at denesemanley@gmail.com



YouTube

We have thousands of subscribers from about 30 countries to our [LCAL YouTube](#) channel!



LCAL Website: Advertise Your Shows!

Anyone who will have an upcoming solo show and would like to advertise on our website, please email lakecoartleague@gmail.com.

LCAL Meetings, Board Members and Directors

The Lake County Art League Year:

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

Jan., Feb., sometimes March	Virtual
Sept., Oct., Jan. through June	Presentations, usually a demonstration
May, Nov.	Closing critiques for membership shows
Dec.	Holiday break

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

Elected Officers	Name	email
President	Deb Edmunds	edmundsdl@gmail.com
Vice President	Clarese Ornstein	socoro@comcast.net
Recording Secretary	Jack Littlefield	thelittlefields@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary (temporary)	Mary Neely	mmbn@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Elizabeth Engle	betharoo30@aol.com

Directors *	Name	email
Historian	Ali Albakri	nyika1940@gmail.com
Hospitality	Fran Isaac	fmisaac@aol.com
Membership	Louise Villegas	lou999@comcast.net
	Bobbi Swisher	bobbi_swisher@outlook.com
On the Wall	Jeff Harold	jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com
	Clarese Ornstein	socoro@comcast.net
	Ernest Schweit	ernestjschweit@sbcglobal.net
	Deb Edmunds	edmundsdl@gmail.com
Programs	Fran Isaac	fmisaac@aol.com
	Debbie Kalinowski	artbydebbiek@gmail.com
	Jeff Harold	jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com
	Maureen Fisher Rivken	mfisherrivkin@gmail.com
Scholarships	Val Brandner	isketchit@yahoo.com
Newsletters	Deb Edmunds	edmundsdl@gmail.com
	Jody Bennett	jorbenn1@yahoo.com
Workshops	Clarese Ornstein	socoro@comcast.net
Virtual Library	Denese Manley	denesemanley@gmail.com
Connection to the Greater Art Community		
Social Media	Deb Edmunds	edmundsdl@gmail.com
	Louise Villegas	lou999@comcast.net
Website	Phil Schorn	phil@pschornstudio.com
	Deb Edmunds	edmundsdl@gmail.com
Plein Air	Deb Edmunds	edmundsdl@gmail.com
	Chris Tanner	chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net
	Ernie Schweit	ernestjschweit@sbcglobal.net
Undercroft	Ali Albakri	nyika1940@gmail.com

lakecoartleague@gmail.com

* Open Positions

The following positions are currently open to any member who would like to volunteer:

Corresponding Secretary, Art Festivals, Tours, and Publicity

Find descriptions of volunteer positions in our by-laws at [our website](#) under "about."