



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

[LCAL Website](#)  
[LCAL Facebook Page](#)

# Sketches

Official Newsletter of Your Lake County  
Art League

September 2024

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### Back Cover; Mary Haas

## LCAL Meeting and Demo; Sept. 16, 2024

The Fall Kick-Off meeting of the LCAL 2024/25 season is Sept. 16, doors open at 6:30, meeting is from 7-8:30pm at State Bank of the Lakes (Grayslake).

The public is invited to any of our evening meetings, which will always include a guest artist's presentation.

Our presenter is a real Renaissance woman. **Suki Michelle Clark** handles multiple media with whimsy and style.

Trained at Kansas City Art Institute and earning a BFA, she feels comfortable with traditional media (graphite, acrylics and colored pencil) as well as digital painting and glass.

If that isn't enough, Suki knits, crochets, writes poetry (winning first place in the Faulkner Literary competition, Poetry Division) and does her own illustrations.



An example of Suki's work is shown here. See more at her media sites:

[Website](#), [Instagram](#), and  
[Facebook](#).

Email: [Suki.Michelle@ymail.com](mailto:Suki.Michelle@ymail.com)

## LCAL 21 Oct. Meeting – LIVE MODEL

Bring your sketching materials for an exciting live, clothed, model session! Watch for details in Oct. Sketches.

## 2024/25 Membership Dues: Due in Sept.!

Pay your dues to keep your membership up to date!

- Payment is by **check or cash**.  
\$20/students, \$35/individuals, \$45/family  
Make checks out to "Lake County Art League."
- A completed **membership form** (for both new *and* returning members) must accompany your payment. Available at the Sept. 16 meeting or on the [LCAL website](#).
- You can pay at the Sept. 16 membership meeting, or by mail (with completed membership form):

Lake County Art League  
PO Box #5, Gurnee, IL 60031

Your continued support and membership is greatly appreciated. With your membership dues, we can continue to provide excellent programs in-person and online.

**Membership needs to be up-to-date in order to participate in our membership shows.** (Two membership shows are conducted each year, in May and November.)

**Questions:** Contact Deb Edmunds at [edmundsdl@gmail.com](mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com), 773-230-8068, or visit the [LCAL Facebook page](#).

## Upcoming Events

### LCAL 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Shows

Two art shows will be part of the ongoing LCAL 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in 2024. The public is invited to these shows.

#### 1. "Past to Present" Show at the Adler, Sept. 6-28

1700 North Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville

**"Meet the Artist" Sept. 19, 6:30-8pm;** optional for participants.

Artists are encouraged to bring an additional art piece (a copy or original, framed or unframed) that represents their beginnings, to share that evening, and to speak a few minutes about their art journey.

**Please let Clarese Ornstein know you are coming and if you can bring a light snack or refreshment** ([socoro@comcast.net](mailto:socoro@comcast.net)).

**Art Pick-up Dates: Sept. 30th, 4-7pm or Oct. 1, 9am-12pm.**

#### 2. LCAL Fall Membership Show in November

Start preparing your art for the Fall Membership Show in November! We will be back at the Jack Benny Center and there are a few changes from last year.

**Drop off:** Nov. 6, 3-6pm and Nov. 9, 10am-1pm

**Critique:** Wed., Nov. 20, 6-8pm

**Two pick-up options:** 1) At closing of the critique night.

2) If you want to leave your art up during the holiday activities at the Jack Benny Center, pick up on Dec. 19, 6-8pm or Dec. 21, 10am-12pm. **NOTE:** For option 2, you will need to arrange your preferred pick-up date with Fran Isaac: [fmisaac@aol.com](mailto:fmisaac@aol.com).

**Questions about Anniversary events?** Contact a committee member.

#### 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

Deb Edmunds, Chair	<a href="mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com">edmundsdl@gmail.com</a>
Chris Tanner, Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net">chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net</a>
Val Brandner	<a href="mailto:isketchit@yahoo.com">isketchit@yahoo.com</a>
Gail Gudgeon	<a href="mailto:Gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com">Gaile.gudgeon@gmail.com</a>
Jeff Harold	<a href="mailto:jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com">jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com</a>
Clarese Ornstein	<a href="mailto:socoro@comcast.net">socoro@comcast.net</a>
Fran Isaac	<a href="mailto:fmisaac@aol.com">fmisaac@aol.com</a>
Mary Neely	<a href="mailto:mmbn@yahoo.com">mmbn@yahoo.com</a>

### Spring Membership Show

Plans are in the works for our Spring Membership Show at the Carnegie Library; tentatively scheduled for April 26, 2025.

### Antioch Fine Arts Foundation (AFAF)

We look forward to Aug. 2025, when the AFAF will again host a show for the LCAL, as they did this past month!

### Lake Villa Library Opportunity

"On the Wall" has been rekindled! The Lake Villa Library has contacted the art league to offer a great opportunity for our members to exhibit their art. Several volunteers have stepped up to organize an exhibit in Nov./Dec. at the library's new location: 140 N. Munn Rd., Lake Villa. There will be room for approx. 12-15 art pieces to be hung.

**Questions?** Contact Erin Galbraith at [galbraith@gmail.com](mailto:galbraith@gmail.com).

## Plein Air Events, by Deb Edmunds

### Why Plein Air Paint?

Throughout the last 15 years or so, our group has been very active around Lake, McHenry and Cook counties doing plein air painting.

### What is Plein Air Painting?

It's French for painting in open air or outdoors.

I remember the first time I joined the LCAL plein air group lead by Chris Tanner at Ryerson Woods. It was the first time I met Lee Radtke. Lee was an avid plein air painter who was active not only with our group but with the Plein Air Painters of Chicago. He had a real sense for perspective. I learned most of what I know today from him and from the many talented artists who have participated in our events.

### Some Other Artist Participants

Several other artists have also painted and photographed (yes photographers are welcome) with our group:

Roger Kaiser, Jerry Hosten, Donna Sands, Oliver Merriam, Doris Monti, Linda Kollacks, Aruna Saroda and Mary Neely.

You never know who or how many will show up -- sometimes there are as few as two or as many as 25 -- but all are welcome!

### Other Group Plein Air Events in the Area

Last month, several LCAL members participated in a two-day event at LBS (Lake Barrington Shores), including Sandra Saxton, a new member of LCAL.

Sandra shared that since LBS is a gated community, artists were asked to sign up in advance. They were allowed to scope out the property on Friday and to paint Saturday and Sunday that weekend, along with 25 artists in the area. Some artists just pulled over and worked from the trunk of their car.



The acrylic that Sandra painted at LBS.

They could also participate in a sale of their work at LBS on that Sunday. Overall, she said it was a good experience. No sales were made but the crowd was not as abundant, possibly because of the hot temperatures that weekend.

### Plein Air is Becoming Popular Again!

After Covid, we are back in full swing; in 2023, we had 12 events. So, if you are interested in learning how to plein air paint, don't be shy, give it a try!

Our group will continue to schedule events this year until the weather gets too cold. Notices for Plein air events are sent out to our members usually several days in advance.

You can also **join our Plein air [Facebook](#) group and get event reminders** with a messenger chat.

**Questions?** Contact Deb at [edmundsdl@gmail.com](mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com) or phone/text at 773-230-8068.

## LCAL 2024-25 LCAL Officers & Membership

### Welcome All New LCAL Members!

Check out our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page for meeting information, upcoming events, and more!

If you have any questions, please contact our Vice President, Clarese Ornstein, [socoro@comcast.net](mailto:socoro@comcast.net).

### Volunteers Needed and Appreciated!

Our league benefits tremendously from the skills and talents of *all* members. So, please seriously consider helping our board in any of the league's positions listed on page 6.

See the **Note** on page 6 listing several open positions that we need to fill.

### Do you want to serve?

Contact one of your board members (see page 6).

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



**Questions:** Contact Deb Edmunds at [edmundsdl@gmail.com](mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com) or 773-230-8068

### Incoming Officers as of 1 July 2024

<b>President</b>	Deb Edmunds
<b>Vice President</b>	Clarese Ornstein
<b>Treasurer</b>	Elizabeth Engle
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Erin Galbraith
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Jack Littlefield

### Thank You Gail!

The LCAL gives a big hand to Gail Gudgeon for her past service as hospitality director. Gail has been a valuable asset to the art league and we will miss her dedication to being the hostess at our monthly meetings with her seasonal decorations. Thanks Gail!

And THANK YOU Sinead Carus for stepping up and becoming our new hospitality director!



## Are You a Facebook User?

Check out the [LCAL Facebook Group](#)!

Right now, 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. When we receive your request, we will add you to the group.

**Questions?** Please direct any questions to one of the 3 administrators of our Facebook Group:

Erin Galbraith  
Deb Edmunds  
Louise Villegas

## Enjoy Our Digital Library

Our library is now accessible on the LCAL website.

It covers many different art topics organized under 9 different categories (see inset below).

Many references consist of links to video presentations accessed from various streaming services. *(NOTE: the links will be 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 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.

## Do you have digital skills?

If you have a skill with digital format, **we need help** with updating and maintaining our library.

Please contact Deb Edmunds if you are interested!  
[edmundsdl@gmail.com](mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com) or  
773-230-8068)

### 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

## LCAL Meetings, Board Members and Directors

### The Lake County Art League Year:

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

Jan., Feb., sometimes March	Virtual
Sept., Oct., Jan.-June	Presentations, usually a demonstration
Nov., May	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 how to improve the advantages of membership, please share by contacting a member listed on this page.

Elected Officers	Name	email
President	Deb Edmunds	<a href="mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com">edmundsdl@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Clarese Ornstein	<a href="mailto:socoro@comcast.net">socoro@comcast.net</a>
Recording Secretary	Jack Littlefield	<a href="mailto:thelittlefields@gmail.com">thelittlefields@gmail.com</a>
Corresponding Secretary	Erin Galbraith	<a href="mailto:galbraith@gmail.com">galbraith@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Elizabeth Engle	<a href="mailto:betharoo30@aol.com">betharoo30@aol.com</a>

### \* Open Director Positions

The following positions are currently open to any member who would like to volunteer:  
Librarian, Art Festivals, Tours, and Publicity

Directors *	Name	email
Historian	Ali Albakri	<a href="mailto:nyika1940@gmail.com">nyika1940@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality	Sinead Carus	<a href="mailto:irishvikindesigns@gmail.com">irishvikindesigns@gmail.com</a>
Membership	Louise Villegas Bobby Swisher	<a href="mailto:lou999@comcast.net">lou999@comcast.net</a> <a href="mailto:bobbi_swisher@outlook.com">bobbi_swisher@outlook.com</a>
On the Wall	Fran Isaac Jeff Harold	<a href="mailto:fmisaac@aol.com">fmisaac@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com">jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com</a>
Programs	Fran Isaac Debbie Kalinowski Jeff Harold Maureen Fisher Rivken	<a href="mailto:fmisaac@aol.com">fmisaac@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:artbydebbiek@gmail.com">artbydebbiek@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com">jeff@jeffharoldphotography.com</a> <a href="mailto:mfisherrivkin@gmail.com">mfisherrivkin@gmail.com</a>
Scholarships	Val Brandner	<a href="mailto:isketchit@yahoo.com">isketchit@yahoo.com</a>
Newsletters	Erin Galbraith Jody Bennett	<a href="mailto:galbraith@gmail.com">galbraith@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:jorbenn1@yahoo.com">jorbenn1@yahoo.com</a>
Workshops	Clarese Ornstein Samantha McDonald	<a href="mailto:socoro@comcast.net">socoro@comcast.net</a> <a href="mailto:clintandsam@gmail.com">clintandsam@gmail.com</a>
<b>Connection to the Greater Art Community</b>		
Social Media	Erin Galbraith Louise Villegas	<a href="mailto:galbraith@gmail.com">galbraith@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:lou999@comcast.net">lou999@comcast.net</a>
Website	Phil Schorn Deb Edmunds	<a href="mailto:phil@pschornstudio.com">phil@pschornstudio.com</a> <a href="mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com">edmundsdl@gmail.com</a>
Plein Air	Deb Edmunds Chris Tanner Ernie Schweit	<a href="mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com">edmundsdl@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net">chrisetanner@sbcglobal.net</a> <a href="mailto:ernestschweit@sbcglobal.net">ernestschweit@sbcglobal.net</a>
Undercroft	Ali Albakri	<a href="mailto:nyika1940@gmail.com">nyika1940@gmail.com</a>
<a href="mailto:lakecoartleague@gmail.com">lakecoartleague@gmail.com</a>		





LAKE  
COUNTY  
ART  
LEAGUE

Since 1934

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Image of a  
local woman  
from the era  
of Cora  
Davies.



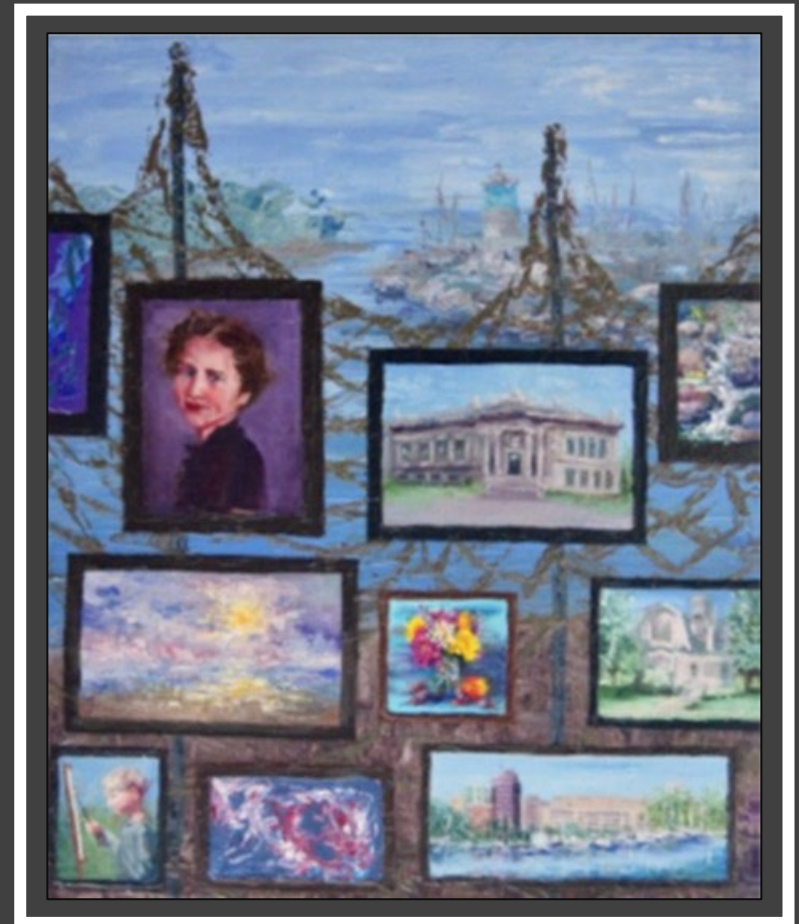
# Sketches

September 2024

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.