



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

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

# Sketches

Official Newsletter of Your Lake County  
Art League

December 2024

## Holiday Edition

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## From the President, Deb Edmunds: Where We Are Headed in 2025

The Nov. edition of *Sketches* recapped the **LCAL 90th Anniversary year events**. If you missed it, please check it out. With 2025 right around the corner, I'd like to share my vision for our league and what is in the works for 2025!

**Successful 2024!:** LCAL has been through many changes in the past 90 years, most of them for the better. Our past president Jeff Harold was successful in accomplishing his vision and goal for LCAL during his two years of service – increasing our membership and reviving workshops. Thank you, Jeff! Now it's my turn to create a new vision for our art league.

**2025 Events:** We will continue to schedule workshops, grow membership, provide opportunities for artists to show their work, and provide our members with excellent programs to learn and grow. I will continue to lead our plein air events, which have been very successful in bringing in new members and giving artists a chance to gather. We had 15 plein air events in 2024, and we will continue those sessions in 2025, as soon as weather permits. During the winter months, I will schedule some coffee-shop sketching meetings; all members are encouraged to attend, even if just to socialize.

**Member Meetings:** Since the 2020 pandemic, Zoom has become a valuable option for conducting our meetings. We will continue to utilize them in 2025 during the winter months when the weather is likely to hinder in-person attendance. Jeff Harold will present several interesting and talented educators for our Jan., Feb. and March Zoom meetings. Our Program Committee will put together some new and exciting demonstrations and lectures for April, May and June, and then into Sept. and Oct.

**Art Shows:** Our yearly Spring and Fall Membership shows will be held at new locations in 2025 (more to come in future *Sketches*). We encourage all of you to show your work! There is no charge to enter those shows. At each show, ribbons will be presented to select pieces as judged by a guest critique artist. We also have been invited to do a group exhibit at the Antioch Fine Arts Foundation each August, giving our members another chance to exhibit and sell your work (small entry fee).

(cont. on next page)

## From the President, Deb Edmunds, cont. Where We are Headed in 2025

### Where We Are Headed in 2025, cont.

**“On the Wall” Exhibits:** Clarese Ornstein and a few of our members have incorporated several locations to exhibit our members’ works.

The first exhibit will be in Jan. and Feb. at the new Lake Villa Library. Titled “Local Reflections,” it will continue our 90th anniversary celebration. Members are encouraged to participate.

**See details on page 4.**

- Artists in the exhibit will be encouraged to talk to the public about their artistic journey during “Meet the Artist” scheduled for Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2-3:30 pm. Even if you are not exhibiting, we encourage you to stop by to support our members and to participate in the discussion with the public.
- The library will advertise the event. This is a great time to show our art because it coincides with the library’s well-attended, yearly “Grapes and Growlers” event on Feb. 21, 2025.

**Thank you!** Lastly, I want to thank all of our members who have devoted and dedicated their time and efforts to make our organization a success. In order for us to continue growing, we will need your support.

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

### 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 8.

**Hospitality:** We especially need a new **Hospitality Director!**

**Workshop Support:** We are seeking a couple of members to assist our Workshops director, Clarese Ornstein, with our workshops. Please email Clarese if you are interested:

[socoro@comcast.net](mailto:socoro@comcast.net)

Much appreciated!

**Other Open Positions:** See **Note** on page 8.

#### Do you want to serve?

Contact a board members (pg. 7).

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



Wishing you all a  
safe and happy  
holiday season!



## Recap of Fall Membership Show and Awards



**This year's Fall Membership Show** drew a good number of artists to exhibit their work at the Jack Benny Center in Waukegan. The show started on Fri., Nov. 8th and will end on Dec. 18th.

On Wed., Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, members met for the critique. Despite inclement weather we had a good turn out. Our critique artist, Cheryl Cook, had some excellent observations and advice to share about all 29 pieces that were in the show.

Ms. Cook awarded 4 ribbons which are shown on this page.

Just a reminder that the **final pick-up dates and times** are Dec. 19, from 6 to 8 pm and Dec. 21, from 10 am to 12 pm.

Thanks to all those who helped set up and run the show!  
Great job!

A special thanks to the Jack Benny Center for hosting the show.



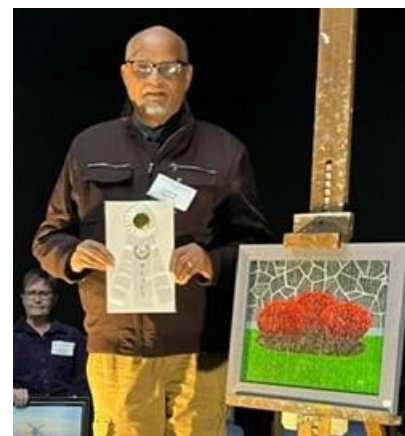
1st Place; Phil Schorn  
"Florida White Magnolia"  
24" x 16" color pencil



2<sup>nd</sup> Place; Mary Neely  
"The Meeting"  
20" x 30" photograph



Honorable Mention  
Diane Gricar  
"Tulips"  
18" x 24" oils



3<sup>rd</sup> Place; Les Scott  
"Fire and Water"  
12" x 16" scratchboard

### Dec. 2024: Call for Artists to Exhibit in "Abstracts"

**Location:** Undercroft Gallery  
Christ Episcopal Church, Lower level  
410 Grand Ave, Waukegan

**Opening Reception and drop-off art work:**

Sat., Dec. 7, 2024, 1-3 pm

**Closing Reception & Pick-up:** Sat., Jan. 18, 2025, 1-3 pm

- Glass case and tables are available to display small 3D artwork.
- A Special Event ABSTRACT EXHIBIT is dedicated to Ali Albakri's son as a celebration of his appreciation of "The Abstract."
- Any help with this exhibit is appreciated; if you are interested, please contact Ali.

**For additional information and confirmation**, call or text Ali Albakri at [nyika1940@gmail.com](mailto:nyika1940@gmail.com) or text to 224.381.0321.

### Jan. and Feb. LCAL Meetings in 2025

Jan. 20 and Feb. 17 meetings will be Zoom presentations at 7 pm. A link will go out to members when it's available with a reminder of the two dates.

### Lake Villa Library Exhibit Opportunity in 2025

LCAL members will have an opportunity to **hang 2D artwork at The Lake Villa Library from Jan. 8 to Feb. 26, 2025**. It has a beautiful space for about 25-30 pieces of art.

**"Meet the Artist" evening:** Feb. 4, 2-3:30 pm

As a bonus, the Lake Villa Library will hold their annual party/fundraiser event, **"Grapes and Growlers," on Feb. 21, 2025**. This event draws some 400 people.

**Submissions:** Only one submission per member; the 1<sup>st</sup> 25 submissions will be guaranteed a spot. Please email the following to Erin Galbraith ([galbraith@gmail.com](mailto:galbraith@gmail.com)) **by Dec. 15, 2024**.

- Title of Artwork • Size (unframed) • Medium
- Value/NFS\*\* • Clear .jpg of artwork

(\*\*Sales will not be through the library. Value/NFS will not be on your tag. Interested buyers will be given your contact information. Sold artwork cannot be removed from display until the official end of the exhibit.)

**Drop off dates:** Jan. 6, 3-7 pm; or Jan. 7, 9 am – 1 pm

**Pick up dates:** tbd

The Lake Villa Library is not liable for damage and loss; individual release forms will not be utilized.

More information is provided at their [website](http://www.lakevillalibrary.org).



## Upcoming Events, cont.

### Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art MEMBERS SHOW; Jan. 21 to Feb. 13, 2025

**Reception:** Fri., Jan. 24, 5-7:00 pm

This annual exhibition showcases the latest fine art media from our current members of the Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art. Join us to celebrate our talented, diverse and much valued membership.

**For more information:** [visit this link](#) or contact Curator, Ann Rintz at [ARintz@clcollinois.edu](mailto:ARintz@clcollinois.edu)

College of Lake County, 19351 W Washington St, Grayslake

### Adler Artist Member Exhibit; Jan-Feb 2025

Adler members show will be Jan. 17 – Feb. 22, 2025. Opening reception will be on Jan. 17, 6-8 pm. Stay tuned! More information about this exhibit will be provided when it becomes available. See also the Adler [website](#).

### Color Pencil Workshop, Feb. 8, 2025

LCAL is sponsoring this 1-day workshop, conducted by LCAL member, Phil Schorn, at State Bank of the Lakes, 50 Commerce Drive, Grayslake from 9 am to 4 pm. Lunch Included!

This is an introduction to color pencil. Participants will learn how to layer and mix colors, and will create a finished rendering. The class is designed for all levels of artists.

See last 2 pages of *Sketches* for the sign-up form.

### Anyone Interested in Winter Coffee Meetups?

The LCAL would like to have coffee meetups during daylight hours for sketching and socializing over the winter months (weather permitting).

This will give members opportunities to meet in person during the winter months, when our membership meetings will be over Zoom to avoid nighttime driving.

**We are looking for volunteers to organize these events.**

**Contact** Deb Edmunds [edmundsdl@gmail.com](mailto:edmundsdl@gmail.com), if you are interested.

### LCAL 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 August!



### Welcome All New LCAL Members!

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

### New Members in December!

- Ruqayyah Polk (Ali Albakiri's daughter)  
[ruqayyah.polk@gmail.com](mailto:ruqayyah.polk@gmail.com)  
Ceramics
- Thomas Kosonen  
[Thomas.kosonen@gmail.com](mailto:Thomas.kosonen@gmail.com)  
Watercolor and color pencil
- Suki Michelle  
[suki.michelle@ymail.com](mailto:suki.michelle@ymail.com)  
Mixed media

**Questions:** contact our Membership Director,  
Louise Villegas at [lou999@comcast.net](mailto:lou999@comcast.net)

### Meet Board Member, Chris Tanner

I always loved being an engineering consultant, and in my mid-50s, I decided to do that as a one-man shop. I was surprised to then hear that it was also the moment to set aside time just for myself; time to explore something quite different from my demanding job. That of course would be my lifetime curiosity about art, and for a lot of reasons it would be about the unpredictable watercolor medium.



In this new “myself” time slot, I studied artistic composition, technique and color, but I also wondered what it was that made artists tick. So, around 2002 I joined the Lake County Art League to find out.

I discovered that I had embarked on what they call a “journey” that would soon teach me to see my world in exciting new ways, and would reveal that I badly wanted to start others on their own journeys.

Over time, I saw that my art — the process as much as the results — affected others, sometimes remarkably. And I learned all of this in the company of an incredibly diverse and genuine group, people who dared to share what they did, people who gently offered suggestions. I started to call myself an artist.

I took on a lot of different jobs in the art league, in part because I had some useful skills, but mostly because that's how you get to understand and embrace the group culture, make lifelong friends, and yes, learn what makes artists tick.

**Questions:** contact Chris at [chrisetanner9@gmail.com](mailto:chrisetanner9@gmail.com)

### 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 websites. In 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](mailto:denesemanley@gmail.com)

#### 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 7-9 pm; 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:

**Hospitality, Art Festivals, Tours, and Publicity**

Directors *	Name	email
Historian	Ali Albakri	<a href="mailto:nyika1940@gmail.com">nyika1940@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality	(vacant)	
Membership	Louise Villegas Bobbi 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	<a href="mailto:socoro@comcast.net">socoro@comcast.net</a>
Virtual Library	Denese Manley	<a href="mailto:denesemanley@gmail.com">denesemanley@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>		



# Color Pencil Workshop

*SPONSORED BY THE LAKE COUNTY ART LEAGUE*

*presented by Philip Schorn, CPX*

Date: February 8, 2025

State Bank of the Lakes, 50 Commerce Drive, Grayslake

Time: 9am-4pm / Lunch Included!

This one day workshop is to introduce and enhance the students use of the color pencil for creating a finished rendering. Learn how to layer and mix colors to create a vibrant image. The class is designed for all levels of artists.



**Student Cost: \$120**

Supplies and lunch are included in the fee (Yes, you do get to keep the supplies).

**How to Register:** **Need registrations by January 25**, so supplies can be ordered in time.

Scan the QR Code to register and pay!

Visit: [pschornstudio.com/classes](https://pschornstudio.com/classes)

or Mail: Check made to: Philip Schorn

Address: 1494 Leeward Ct  
Grayslake, IL 60030



**Any Questions: [Phil@pschornstudio.com](mailto:Phil@pschornstudio.com)**

# Saturday Feb 8

## 9:00 - 4pm

9:00 - 9:30am	Instructor Introduction Purpose of the Course Student Goals from this workshop
9:30 - Noon	Why the supplies chosen Drawing from a photo  Demonstrate effects of the color pencil, blending techniques Blending Pen  Start with test sheet of marble.
Noon - 1pm	Lunch
1:00 - 3:30pm	Using a reference photo
3:30 - 4pm	A review of what we did. How it could be done better.  Questions