



January 5, 2026

General Art Meeting Minutes

Good News:

- Catherine Hillis is hosting a workshop in Italy in April 2027 (www.catherinehillis.com).
- The Virginia Watercolor Society will have an exhibit at VMFA in Richmond. The society is sponsoring a scholarship for high school students that needs to be advertised to students and their teachers.
- The Arts Center in Orange has a new director, David Kent, who is rebuilding the center with more classes. Catherine Hillis will be conducting watercolor workshops in February (<https://www.artscenterinorange.com/classes>).
- The LOW Community Center is looking for volunteers to paint a mural on a soccer return wall that is 16'x8'. If you are interested in participating or have design ideas, let Karen O'Donnell know. She will coordinate with Kimberley Toone.

Announcements:

- Karen O'Donnell reported that votes on two changes to the bylaws are needed. The proposed changes will be circulated and voted on next month.

4.3.1 Annual meeting to take place in December. With the change of our fiscal year, we will need to change this to March – proposed wording changes:

4.3.1 One meeting each year will be designated as the annual business meeting for club elections, reports on the position of the club and its committees, and calendar planning for the upcoming year. This meeting will take place in March ~~December~~ each year.

- After we voted to keep membership to just people who live in the Lake, there was discussion about members who lived here but moved out. Because we wanted to make exceptions for those members, we will need to vote on that change to the bylaws – proposed wording:

3.1 Membership is open to any interested party within Lake of the Woods. **Exceptions are members in good standing who have moved out of Lake of the Woods but still wish to participate as active members in the club.** Members must pay yearly dues and are entitled to the first option on all rights and privileges of the Club. These rights include, but are not limited to, voting in club business decisions.

- Upcoming Changes: Jim Funk is stepping down as vice president at the end of April. Lisa Spencer-Ballard is taking a lesser role in publicity in April as well. A new co-chair is needed to help Toni Maltagliati with publicity. Consider filling one of these positions.
- Volunteerism is a major issue. The club needs folks to step up and take the lead in organizing activities. A survey will be sent out for input on how the club can grow, what activities would be of interest, and how members can help out.
- The Special Events Committee (SEC) needs participants to suggest and set up activities. Gary Close offered to organize a bus trip to the Smithsonian. Karen Falcon is working with Jill Iglehart on a Yupo paper project. The Monet immersive exhibit in Richmond is a possible field trip.
- Dawn Faulkner suggested videotaping meetings and sending separate email alerts for volunteers needed. Ginny McCluskey suggested an origami project.
- Lisa Spencer-Ballard is planning a plein air event at a 60-acre farm near Culpeper in May.
- Karen Falcon posted a challenge in the December 2025 newsletter to rename famous paintings. See the images below to rename. New titles should be sent to LOWArts@lakeofthewoodsarts.com by January 10.

This painting is titled:
Would It Hurt You To Put The
Dirty Bowl In The
Dishwasher?



The picture at left, *Portrait of Admiral Sir Charles Saunders*, by Richard Brompton, is sent from Toni Maltagliati with the "new" title *Would it Hurt You to Put the Dirty Bowl in the Dishwasher?*

This inspired LOW Arts to put forward this challenge:
Please give a "new" title to one of the paintings below. Send your "new" titles to LOWArts@lakeofthewoodsarts.com by January 10, 2026. Be sure to tell us which painting you have retitled. The best (funniest?) responses will be included in the January newsletter.



William Blake, *Job and his Daughters*



John Singer Sargent,
Nonchalair (Repose)



Cariani, *Portrait of a Venetian Gentleman*

- Bill Mann features individual artists in articles in *Lake Currents*. Let him know about you and your art.
- Installation of the winter Fareways exhibit will take place January 10 from 10 to 11 a.m. Reception is on January 17 from 2 to 4 p.m.

- "The Heat Is On" is the theme for the LOW Arts exhibit at the Art Center in Orange in August.
- Treasurer Eve DeVito reported that most of the checks issued have been cashed. There is about \$10K in reserves. The club wants to spend what it takes in. Eve read a thank-you note from one of the elementary school art teachers.
- Marilyn Davis read a message from a calligrapher's newsletter: "I am an artist." The Washington Calligraphers Guild (<https://www.calligraphersguild.org>) is sponsoring a contest, "The Graceful Envelope," with the theme of Great Beginnings. Entries must be postmarked March 31.
- Jim Funk encouraged members to volunteer for creative exercises and artist in the spotlight presentations. Lisa Spencer-Ballard will speak on Impressionism in February, Mariana Concha is featured in March, and Kathy Walters in April.
- Barry Lotenberg as the artist in the spotlight spoke about his painting transitions from impressionist copies to his SpongeBob phase, to travel painting, to exhibiting at Artomatic, and to LOW Arts. He loves to hang out with artists.
- The Studio Tour planning meeting followed the general meeting.
- The next club meeting is on February 2.

LOW Arts Meeting, January 5, 2026

	Joanne Algera
	Aura Aten
	Janice Barker
✓	Patty Bell
✓	Daria Bessom
	Elizabeth Brewer
✓	Pete Brown
	Claire Cleveland
✓	Gary Close
	Mariana Concha
	Melissa Daly
✓	Marilyn Davis
✓	Eve DeVito
	Marco DeVlto
✓	BJ Elvgren
✓	Isabel Emmert
	Karen Espinosa
✓	Karen Falcon
	Leslie Farley
✓	Dawn Lee Faulkner
	Teri Fitzpatrick
✓	Elaine Freeland
✓	Joe Freeland
✓	Cheryl Funk
	Christina Funk
✓	Jim Funk
	Michelle Funk
	Joy Granados
✓	Jennifer Heinz
✓	Catherine Hillis
✓	Jill Iglehart
	Allita Irby
	Tracy Jacobson
✓	Gail Jones
	Linda Kadar
	Dee Knapp
	Lynne Kovach
	Debbie Davis Lamb
✓	Nan Lamb

✓	Susan Latta <i>Flu</i>
✓	Tom Latta
	Maribeth Logan
✓	Barry Lotenberg
✓	Elaine Machelor
	Toni Maltagliati
✓	Bill Mann
	Kate Martinez
✓	Ginny McCluskey
	Carol Monroe
	Edward Murray
✓	Jane Neubig
	Lillian Newton
✓	Karen O'Donnell
✓	Jeanne Porter
	Elena Pratt
	Ellen Raguette
✓	Christy Rappoport
	Rick Rappoport
	Maria Revetta
	Toni Ruther
	Dave Shull
✓	Peggy Shull
	Nate Smith
	Gaylen Smoak
✓	Lisa Spencer-Ballard
	Janet Stockman
	Linda Sutphin
✓	Kathleen Walters
	Sue Weber
	Frank Weingartner
✓	Karen Weingartner
	Doris Williams
✓	Lew Wills
	Cynthia A Wingo
	Pam Zaller-Farrington