

2006

VAA newsletter



April, 2026

2026

Volume 23, Issue 4

The Mission of the Valley Art Association is to promote visual arts and artists in the Chippewa Valley of Wisconsin through networking, creative development, and support for exhibits and workshops

From the president:

- Next meeting **1:30 pm** on **May 7** at the Mill Ridge Condominium Community Center
- Program for the May meeting: **Constance Heffernan**- “Making Feathers with Wool” Get ready for a fun and creative session! Constance will be showing how wool can be transformed to beautifully mimic feathers, the same technique featured in her stunning fiber artwork. All materials will be provided, so just come, relax, and learn! Thanks, Constance, for stepping back up after being cancelled last month for the “snow storm.”
- Dedication for park bench for **Priscilla Mae Olson** will happen right before the VAA picnic meeting on **Thursday, June 4 at 4:45pm** at **Flag Hill in Irvine Park**. It’s very close to the new pavilion. Hope you all who expressed condolences at Priscilla’s art sale and other friends can come. For more information contact Barb Harling barbharling@yahoo.com

Welcome New Members in 2026

Thomas Dircksen*Patty Martinson*Roger Nielsen*Loise Schotz

Exhibiting at VAA venues- May/June 2026

Decadent Gifts – **Barb Harling** Artist's reception, Saturday, 5/9 12-2pm
Acoustic Café- **Fiber Artists**

Winner of VAA award for best use of composition at the Heyde Spring show was VAA member June Hootman.

Congratulations!
See attached judge evaluation.

Artists Around the Town:

Decadent Gifts Artists in residence: **Mindy Huntress and Helen Buck**

Helen Buck- miniatures acrylic paintings at Two Roots

Heyde Spring Show **April 12-May 6**

Jeff Nelson-Art Z Gallery, Amery and Arts in Hand Gallery, Spooner

Kay Brathol-Hostvet- Abel Contemporary Gallery, Stoughton
4/24-6/14;

Karen Scarseth- artwork on display at the Art Z Gallery in Amery and The Stone Barn near Nelson Wi.

Ken Krautbauer- Spring Exhibit at the Orange Dragon Gallery in Prescott, WI. It will run through early July.

Arts West: **Sarah Williams, Gerlyn Basic, Kay**

BratholHostvet, Marlin Hostvet, and Steve Cole. March 14-
June 6

Yellowstone Art Trail- deadline **April 30**. See attachment for more information.

Falling Leaves Art Trail- October 9-1- sign up now at <https://www.fallingleavesarttour.com>

Barb Dunham will be at the Christine Center (Art Studio) Friday-Saturday, **April 24-25, 9a-5p**, for the Clark County Spring into the Arts festival. clarkcountywi.org promoting her collage/mixed media art, hand-beaded jewelry & embroidered Christmas ornaments.

Noriko Slowinski- Collagraph Printmaking Workshop Saturday, **May 2nd** from 10am to 2pm at the Heyde Center for the Arts-Reservation: <https://www.cvca.net/events/collagraph-workshop> or Call (715) 726-9000

Jeff Nelson, Ellen Nelson, Heidi Schreiner, Sarah Williams- LE Phillips Summer Show, “Something In The Water”, **June 15th-August 24th**.

Marlee Agner- ribbon cutting her shop The Imprompt **May 7-** looking for more artists. marleeagner@theimprompt.com

Holli Jacobson- Altered Landscapes (see attachment)

Randy Palmer- was recently accepted into OPA - Oil Painters of America - as an associate member. Three paintings submitted to 2026 **OnlineShowcase**. <https://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com/show/gallery/?show=123139&membership=&pagenum=16>

See artists activities in attachments- Yellowstone Art Trail and Altered Landscapes, Arrivals and Departures Call for artists
Celebrating Fiber Art Call for Artists

Dates to Remember

- 2026 Fall Heyde Member Show dates- **November 25-December 23; artists reception December 3**. Theme for this year “Planet Earth” Load in Nov 23 & 24 and Artist Reception Dec 3. Load out Dec 28 & 29

School of Heritage Arts

The School of Heritage Arts sponsored the first class on April 16 at the Cardinal Community Learning Center. Patty Woolum was the instructor in basic hand piecing quilts. There were 13 students in attendance. Patty was assisted by SHA committee members Val Naber and Kathy Stockton-Behnke. It was a lively three-hour class with demonstration of techniques by Patty and participation by students in hand stitching. The evaluations were positive and we look forward to future classes.

Programs 2026 -subject to change

January 8 th Holiday party at Market on River	
February 5 th Valentine after Robert Indiana-Helen Buck	Mill Ridge Community Center 1:30 pm
March 5 th Kay Brathol-Hostvet on "Presenting Your Art..."	Mill Ridge Community Center 1:30 pm
April 2 nd Constance Heffernan -making feathers w/roving wool	Heyde Center 1:30 pm CANCELLED
May 7 th Constance Heffernan- Making feathers with roving	Mill Ridge Community Center 1:30 pm
June 4 th –picnic, Plein Aire event before the picnic at 1pm	Autumn Harvest Winery 5:30 pm
July 2 nd – Professor Tim Tozer -Portrait Artist of the Year experience	Mill Ridge Community Center 5:30 pm
August 6 th – Susan Sveda Pachau on Installation Art (tentative)	Mill Ridge Community Center 5:30 pm
September 3 rd – Des Sikowski-Nelson " hand lettering"	Mill Ridge Community Center 1:30pm
October 1 st – Pamm Spooner on needle work	Mill Ridge Community Center 1:30pm
November 5 th – June Haigh-Boley to be determined	Mill Ridge Community Center 1:30pm
December 3- Artists reception for Fall Heyde Show	Heyde Center

Your VAA Board Members 2025

President – Kathy Stockton-Behnke - vaapresident2024@gmail.com

Vice President – Paula Delfosse **Secretary** – Sarah Williams **Treasurer** – Val Naber

Members-At-Large: Randy Palmer, Barbara Dunham, Mindy Huntress, Noriko Slowinski, Helen Buck, Jeff Nelson, Lillian Hillis **The VAA Website Gallery** is available to *all members in good standing*. A PDF is available on the website **EVENTS & MEMBERSHIP Pages** with instructions for both current gallery members and new to gallery members. Updates are completed twice per calendar year.