

2006 2026

VAA newsletter

February, 2026

Volume 23, Issue 2

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 March 5** at Mill Ridge Condominium Community Center **4299 Mill Ridge Circle, Eau Claire- bring show and tell art to share; Steve Cole** available after program to schedule or if you need more information about the **website gallery update-March 5-21**
- Program for March meeting- **Kay Brathol-Hostvet “Presenting Your Art to a Show Juror or Judge”**
- Last call for annual membership dues. Don't lose your member benefits. March 1st last date-**\$25 individual/\$35 family. Mail your check to VAA, PO box 674, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729**
- **Spring Heyde show** entry deadline **FEBRUARY 20th!** Appy at **cvca.net**
- Attachments- **LOTS OF THEM!**
 - General meeting minutes February, 2026
 - **Valley Fiber Artists** origin story by Ellen Nelson
 - **Valley Fiber Artists** Call for Artists
 - **Urban Sketchers** event (Feb 28, March 1, March 11)from Des
 - **Weaving Wannabes** event with Pamm Spooner (Feb 21)
 - **Wet Felting classes** by Gerlyn Brasic (Mar 24-25 and 27-29)

- Sad news- our friend and fellow VAA artist, **Kate Mulvaney**, died February 17, 2026. She will be missed by family and her many friends. May she rest in peace. Arrangements TBD.

Welcome New Members!

Louise Schotz- fiber
Thomas Dircksen- wood and painting

Exhibiting at VAA venues- March /April 2026

E.L. Pilates – **Julianne Johnson** Decadent Gifts – **Steve Cole**
Acoustic Café- **Mindy Huntress**

Exhibit opportunities: Openings for 2-month exhibits at

E.L.Pilates for Sept/Oct and Nov/Dec 2026

Contact sarahj724@gmail.com for more information

Artists Around the Town:

- Decadent Gifts Artists in residence: **Mindy Huntress and Helen Buck**
- **Mindy Huntress** voted in the top three favorite artists in Eau Claire per Volume One!

Dates to Remember

- **TBD**- dedication for park bench for Priscilla Mae...rescheduled for spring.
- 2026 Fall Heyde Member Show dates- **November 25-December 23;**
artists reception December 3.

Programs 2026 -subject to change

January 8 th – Holiday party at Market on River	
February 5 th – Valentine after Robert Indiana	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
May 7 th – Noriko Slowinski -painting art for tote bags	Mill Ridge Community Center 1:30 pm
June 4 th – picnic	TBD location
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 on hand lettering	Mill Ridge Community Center 1:30 pm
October 1 st – Pamm Spooner on needle work	Heyde Center 1:30 pm
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, Norinko Slowinski, Helen Buck **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.