



*September*  
2021

Newsletter

Celebrating 71 Years Est. 1950

# President's Message



**W**hen the first OAG Meeting approaches on Monday, September 13th at noon, I will be feeling like a new teacher *{which I was!!!}*, filled with hopeful anticipation for my coming school year!!! Like most Teachers at the beginning of the year, I will be wondering: "WILL THEY LIKE ME"?, but more importantly, "WILL I LIKE THEM?" As I look out on all those glowing faces, I will wonder those same questions about YOU: who will be my PET? Who will be the CLASS PEST? Who will be the class clown? You get the picture? This will also happen with my lovely group of ARTISTS!!!

Gratefully, I will not worry about the coming year BECAUSE I HAVE A GREAT Board of DIRECTORS and OFFICERS, who are already spending much time getting me UP AND RUNNING to do a great job this year. Each has not only shown extreme commitment, but also great work ethic and skills which will certainly make this year easier!!!

Please BE SURE TO ATTEND THIS VERY IMPORTANT MEETING AS YOU ARE NEEDED TO VOTE ON OUR NEW AND IMPROVED By-Laws. Please read the copy of the NEW BYLAWS we sent out to you BEFORE the meeting, so you know how to vote!!!

In the time during this short business meeting, we will discuss some interesting facts summarized as a result of OAG's recent Survey. The number of Members filling it out and returning it was RECORD BREAKING!!!! A ROUSING 63% of those SURVEYS sent out were completed and returned!!! YOU SHOULD BE VERY PROUD...I KNOW I AM!!! We will certainly work on implementing some new events/venues as a result. The Survey will be placed on our WEBSITE and featured in our Newsletter for all to study in their spare time...DO NOT MISS THIS!!!!

We will also give a brief summary of what we have been doing since May/June to set up some interesting Venues for our ART. In addition, I will reserve the BRICK 'S Patio from 11-12 each of our 7 Brick Meetings for Members to enjoy the beautiful area to share a lunch or snacks and SOCIALIZE with Members they haven't seen in a while!!! At Noon, you can join your Board of Directors inside for a brief Meeting followed by a lively Program given by Dennis from DK Art Supplies who has some interesting new Products to show us and even will give out some neat samples!!!

## **TO SUMMARIZE THINGS:**

For September's Meeting on September 13th, Come with your lunch to the Brick's Patio from 11-12:00 to socialize with Members you haven't seen for a while. Your Board of Directors will be inside from 11-12 meeting and planning things. THEN AT NOON...ALL MEET inside to have a short BUSINESS meeting followed by a very interesting Presentation!!! It will be exhilarating!!!

*Lee Asta, President*

# Board of Directors

## EXECUTIVE BOARD 2021 –2022

<b>President</b>	Lee Asta	<a href="mailto:dizasta3131@gmail.com">dizasta3131@gmail.com</a>
<b>1st Vice President of Exhibitions</b>	Lynn King	<a href="mailto:Sweptaway53@hotmail.com">Sweptaway53@hotmail.com</a>
<b>2nd Vice President of Programs</b>	Gail Bannock	<a href="mailto:gailbannock@gmail.com">gailbannock@gmail.com</a>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Joanie Ford	<a href="mailto:joanieford@yahoo.com">joanieford@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Marcelle Schvimmer	<a href="mailto:mschvimmer@gmail.com">mschvimmer@gmail.com</a>
<b>Membership</b>	Heather Doherty	<a href="mailto:jmdhld@aol.com">jmdhld@aol.com</a>
<b>Publicity</b>	Iris Kaplan	<a href="mailto:Iris.kaplan057@gmail.com">Iris.kaplan057@gmail.com</a>
<b>Newsletter</b>	Jan Kizonak	<a href="mailto:kizonakjan@gmail.com">kizonakjan@gmail.com</a>
<b>Website</b>	Barbara Fife	<a href="mailto:barbarafife@cox.net">barbarafife@cox.net</a>
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Marion Savage	<a href="mailto:Msavage24@cfl.rr.com">Msavage24@cfl.rr.com</a>
<b>Hospitality/Receptions</b>		
<b>Marion Theatre Exhibits</b>	Iris Kaplan	<a href="mailto:iris.kaplan057@gmail.com">iris.kaplan057@gmail.com</a>
	Jan Tindall	<a href="mailto:jtindall01@gmail.com">jtindall01@gmail.com</a>
<b>One Blood Exhibits</b>		
<b>Past President</b>	Sharon Harris	<a href="mailto:clayart@tampabay.rr.com">clayart@tampabay.rr.com</a>
<b>MCA Liaison</b>	Lynn King	<a href="mailto:Sweptaway53@hotmail.com">Sweptaway53@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Photographer</b>		
<b>Documentarian</b>		
<b>Grant Consultant</b>		

# Message From Our Secretary

**M**y name is Joanie Ford , I was appointed the chair for the bylaw committee. Our committee consisted of myself, and Past Presidents Sharon Harris and Vandy Shake. This committee was appointed by your current President Leona Asta.

The President charged the committee with the following duties. To make the bylaws current to how we are operating, to simplify them – making them easier to understand, and to take a look at the quorum requirements and officer duties.

You, the membership, will be asked to vote on these changes at our membership meeting on **September 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 (Noon)**. This is VERY important! Without a quorum and your vote the bylaw changes will not be passed. YOUR attendance at the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting is crucial to this organization.

If you have any questions when reading through the changes, please feel free to call me at 352-581-9405 or email me at [joanieford3@yahoo.com](mailto:joanieford3@yahoo.com). Or you can email your President, Leona Asta at [dizasta3131@gmail.com](mailto:dizasta3131@gmail.com)



# Message From Our Webmaster



## Members Section Added to the Ocalaartgroup.org Website!

Ocala Art Group values our members. We want to showcase our artists and recognize your artwork. To celebrate our Members, we are adding three new pages to the website <https://ocalaartgroup.org>  
1) Spotlight on Members to celebrate your Awards and Achievements; 2) Links to Members' Personal Art Websites; and 3) A Members' Gallery

**AWARDS-** Have you received an award or special recognition for your work? Or completed a special art project? Please send an email to [ocalaartgroup1950@gmail.com](mailto:ocalaartgroup1950@gmail.com) with a paragraph about the art competition, project, or art achievement AND a high quality digital image of the featured artwork. Be sure to include your name as you wish it to appear in the article.

**ART WEBSITE** – Do you have a personal art website to promote your work? OAG would like to include the link to your website. Please send an email to [ocalaartgroup1950@gmail.com](mailto:ocalaartgroup1950@gmail.com) with one high-quality image of your art along with the link to your website.

**MEMBERS' GALLERY** – Whether you have a personal website or not, as a Member of OAG you are invited to submit three digital images of your art to be added to our Members' Gallery. Please name each image with your Last Name-FirstName-Title Of Work . A file name would look like: Picasso-Pablo-The Old Guitarist *Note the use of hyphens instead of spaces in the filename.* Please send the email with the 3 high-quality image files to [ocalaartgroup1950@gmail.com](mailto:ocalaartgroup1950@gmail.com)

We look forward to putting your art in the spotlight!

Barbara Fife , Website Director and Editor



**Dennis Kaminski**  
**Best Products for YOUR Media**

**\$ Cost—free**  
**Location—BrickCity Center**  
**for the Arts**  
**23 SW Broadway**  
**Ocala, FL**

**Monday, September 13, 2021 Meeting—12 PM**  
**Program follows the brief business meeting**



***DENNIS KAMINSKI***

Meet Dennis Kaminski, the owner of DK Art Supply & Custom Framing in Leesburg, Florida. He is a graduate of Rhode Island School of Design and has been named one of the top Graphic Designers in the country by Vocational Industrial Club of America.

He has owned and operated many art supply and framing stores in Massachusetts, Maryland, West Virginia and Florida. Dennis's current store in Leesburg has been a main go to for a vast amount of artists in Central Florida.

His knowledge and expertise of all art mediums is invaluable to his customers who show up wanting to pick his brain when buying the best products for their creative needs. Even experienced artists walk away with wonderful suggestions of quality new products on the market to use to produce their art.



**DK Art Supply & Custom Framing**  
**is located at 9916 US Highway 441, Leesburg, Florida.**

***WHAT DENNIS WILL COVER***

**Make your artwork stand out by choosing the best products for YOUR media.**

**A review of the superior colors, products and manufacturers for most commonly used media will be covered by Dennis.**



# Art-venture- WEC- Aug 4, 2021

Despite the rainy day, several OAG Members and spouses, dressed in their red shirts, braved the bad elements to explore this amazing new landmark!! If Ocala wasn't on the map before, it certainly is now!!!

Armed with maps provided and all manner of rain protection (which we left safely in the car), we headed to the newly built Equestrian Hotel's Lobby to start our adventure!!! As all good explorers who don't want to miss a thing...we started looking around first at the top level, then eye level and finally at lower floor level, knowing we surely missed something!!!! 11 OAG members dressed mostly in suggested red shirts, met for a day of exploring and laughs to see the much acclaimed Worldwide Equestrian Center in Ocala. Although we didn't fly there....the exotic and luxurious ambiance presented to us managed to transport us to a faraway exotic country!

The architecture of the hotel, The Equestrian, was so breathtaking and the interior decor so luxurious that we were made to feel like we were away on an exotic interlude. The Equestrian was suitable for a 5 Star Hotel- if not better!!! The artwork was mostly of all kinds of dogs presented in a realistic and Classic formal way. It was entertaining and amusing and beautiful! I never felt that way about DOG art before!!! Books were provided on tables below the art to embellish the experience.

We managed to see some gorgeous horses and uniformed riders! We met "Sunshine" heading out for a ride pictured here!!! We managed to stay on "schedule" and meet up at noon at the informal Italian restaurant for a delightful ethnic lunch. Even though we did NOT imbibe wine to go along with the Italian food, we managed to have some laughs and even managed to share a secret or two....which I was banned from including here... SORRY!!!!

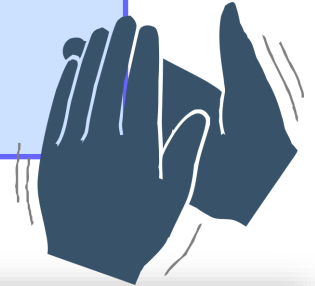
Well, although we saw a lot today, we specifically did NOT see it all because we want to go back again! Marion Savage us our official Guide there as she is a frequent visitor and she will let us know when there are some interesting HORSE Events to see!!!!THEN we will be BACK and bring you too!!!



A request from our President, Lee Asta  
**And they wore red !!!**



*If you are a Member and have a solo exhibition, award, or special art project, send your news to:  
ocalaartgroup1950@gmail.com*



## **Venetian Gardens!**

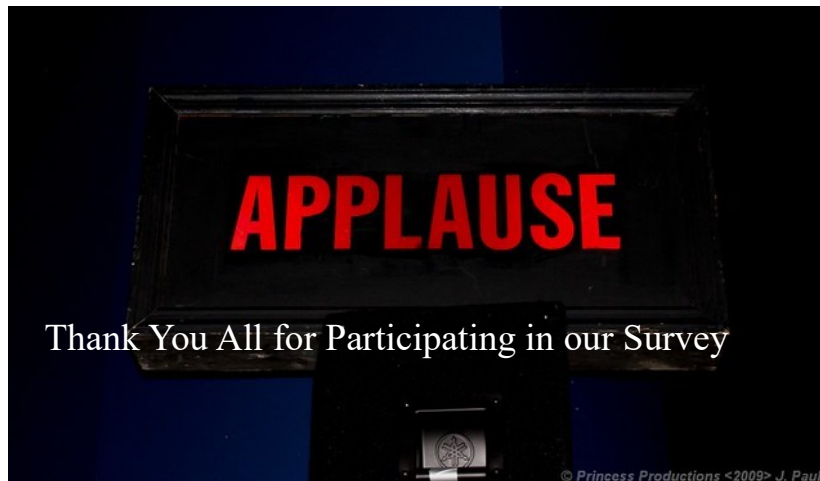
**Linda DeLuca**, OAG member, recently completed this mural of Venetian Gardens. The mural was painted inside the Morrison Opportunity Thrift Shop in Leesburg. Linda generously gave of her time and talent to paint this beautiful artwork for the Thrift Shop.





# 2021-2022 SURVEY

Summary of 41 Responses to a 12 Question Online Survey



Submitted to the OAG Board  
by Barbara Fife  
August 12, 2021

<https://ocalaartgroup.org/survey-report/>



The Exhibit will be on display in the Lobby of the Theatre for the entire month of September

See Exhibits Call to Artists webpage for details **and** downloadable Type-in-Forms for future exhibits

21A

*A reminder from your Membership Chairperson*

- the time to renew your membership is NOW! Dues are renewable in June. If you are a new or past member and have joined since January you are fully paid up until June of 2022. If you are a member who paid dues for the 2019-2020 year it is time to renew. Email me - **Heather Doherty** at [jmdhld@aol.com](mailto:jmdhld@aol.com) and I will be happy to check the records.

**OAG Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Single Membership \$35 \_\_\_\_\_

Family \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

**Release of Liability:** Ocala Art Group shall not be liable for any injury to Artist, or for any damage or loss of Artist's work. Artist agrees to assume all risk of damage to or loss of his/her own art from whatever cause.

In addition, Artist agrees that all members of the Board of the Ocala Art Group shall not be liable for any actual, consequential, or other damages or losses to Artist arising out of Board or Board members' decisions regarding the operations of the Ocala Art Group or events sponsored by such group.

Please sign \_\_\_\_\_

Mail application and check to:

**Ocala Art Group  
P.O. Box 772834  
Ocala, FL 34477-2834**



# Member SPOTLIGHT Lee Asta



Lee was born and raised in Queens, N.Y. She spent 23 years as a NYC Teacher...the last 16 as a Special Education Middle School Teacher which she not only found very challenging, but also totally loved it!! The idea of retiring at the age of 57 scared her!!! Would she be bored? To prevent this from occurring, she decided to take a Watercolor painting class in her local Library while still on Long Island to learn what to do after you opened a paint tube. The Lighthouse painting she did ( along with everyone else's) was displayed for a whole month in the Library Lobby and she loved stopping in to see it often. She couldn't believe that she had painted it!!!

She NEVER thought she was an "ARTIST" and never intended to be one!!! Upon moving to The Villages, she immediately joined a new art group (VAA) just starting up and actually become its President a couple of years later.

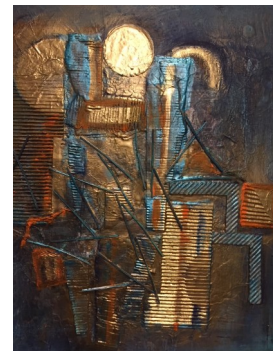
Lee dabbled in Watercolor for a while, but it wasn't until almost 60 years old that she took her first WORKSHOP (by Marilyn Roland) in Mixed Media that she totally FLIPPED!!! She loved it!!! She entered her first Art Show and won an HONORABLE MENTION and she was OFF!. The next show she entered, she put in 3 pieces: one in Oil, one in Watercolor and one in Mixed Media. She won 2 Ribbons and sold the LOSER!!!

Although she has won about 50 Ribbons since she started 22 years ago, she still has trouble calling herself an Artist because of her lack of "FORMAL" training. She will still hand in an Entry to a SHOW with her eyes closed saying "Here is my Entry, I don't even know if this is art?" Upon returning later, she will often find a ribbon on that same piece of art!!!

Lee has many entertaining stories about her art, but is most impressed by two achievements .... both at art shows: First was when she won "BEST OF SHOW" at the OAG Fine Art Show at the Appleton Art Museum for her Watercolor/Ink painting called "Nana's Vase" in 2004. The Second time was the Spring of 2021 at the NOMA Art Gallery when her Mixed Media piece called "Generation X=Y=Z" won Second Place, monetary prize and was donated and sold in an Auction for a Fundraiser there.

Lee loves the creative process of producing her art (mostly Acrylics and/or Mixed Media) .She will tell anyone who listens, she strictly creates for her own enjoyment. She rarely plans what she is going to paint and may start out with one subject which suddenly disappears and evolves quickly into something totally different.

Lee loves the creative process of producing her art, even though she was diagnosed 7 years ago with WET Macular Degeneration. She goes for shots in BOTH eyes every 5 weeks and is still able to drive and paint (**but not at the same time!!!**) She recently has even taken on the Presidency of our 71 year old Ocala Art Group. She loves the CHALLENGES that this group is presenting to its members and has picked up Watercolors again to paint for the Classic Movie Shows we have set up. WHAT FUN!!!



How lucky we all are to have our art with us AT ALL TIMES . . .through thick and thin, sad and happy, fast and slow, good and bad times!!! LUCKY US!!!

# AREA EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## Keep the second Monday – members meetings

### OAG Monthly Programs 2021

**September 13, 2021** - OAG Board Meeting at Brick City Center for the Arts 11- Noon  
Brief Members' meeting at 12 PM followed by a program  
presented by Dennis Kaminski –DK Art Supply and Framing :  
**MAKE YOUR ARTWORK STAND OUT!**

### OAG Classic Movie Challenge at Marion Theater

**September 2** Movie The Beatles - "Hard Days Night" Application Pickup at Marion Theater Lobby  
"Funny Girl" Art and drop off "Hard Days Night" Art **Sept.2, 11am - 1 pm**

### First Friday Art Walk - Resumes September 3 - 6PM

Held the first Friday of each month from 6-9 p.m., September thru May takes place in Ocala's historic downtown. Performing and visual artists may participate by applying at [www.ocalafl.org/artwalk](http://www.ocalafl.org/artwalk).

### First Saturday at the Appleton Museum - FREE Admission

**Ocala Plein Air Painters (OPAP)** Meet the 2nd Saturday each month  
Contact: Rich Woy [Woyzrus@cs.com](mailto:Woyzrus@cs.com) or (352) 598-9069

### Ocala Calligraphy Guild (OCG)

Meet 3rd Monday at Library Headquarters. To request the Zoom Link , email [info@ocalacalligraphy.org](mailto:info@ocalacalligraphy.org)

**Ocala Figurative Artists (OFA)** will resume meeting with a clothed model for drawing or painting on Thursday July 22. They will meet every first and third Thursday from 1-4 pm at the NOMA Gallery, 939 N. Magnolia Ave, Ocala. \$10 model fee. Questions, Contact Don Borie [donborie@gmail.com](mailto:donborie@gmail.com)

### The Villages Workshops [villageartworkshops.com](http://villageartworkshops.com)

ACTIVE CLASSES NEW LOCATION: Spruce Creek Professional Center  
10935 SE 177th Place - Ste 406, Summerfield, FL 34491

For questions or registration: Contact: Wanda Boyd [wboyd2009@yahoo.com](mailto:wboyd2009@yahoo.com) or (804) 536-1794  
Beverly Hennessy [bbaugh97@aol.com](mailto:bbaugh97@aol.com) or (352) 753-1383

**Citrus Watercolor Society (CWS)** Citrus Watercolor Society resumes monthly meetings on second Friday Painting of the Month, Social with light refreshments, Program: [citruswatercolorsociety.org](http://citruswatercolorsociety.org)

### Save the Date: Light Up Ocala Returns Saturday, November 20, 4 to 9 p.m. 2021)

Light Up Ocala is a longstanding community tradition that kicks off the holidays and attracts thousands of people to downtown Ocala. This year will mark the 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event. Thousands of lights will be displayed throughout the downtown area and will feature over 100 vendors including arts, crafts, interactive displays, live music and plenty of food options. Vendor, youth performance and Jr. Sunshine Parade applications are currently open. The deadline to apply is Friday, August 20, 5 p.m. Digital and hard copy [applications](#) are available. Sponsorship opportunities are also [available](#). For more information about upcoming holiday programming, visit [www.ocalafl.org/holidays](http://www.ocalafl.org/holidays) or call 352-368-5517

Keep checking our fabulous OAG website [ocalaartgroup.org](http://ocalaartgroup.org)  
for new updates!

Designed and managed by Barbara Fife

**Exciting things are in the works!**

OAG has a page on Facebook managed by Barbara Fife.  
Join the group!

[Click FB the link below.](#)



### **ONE BLOOD THEMES 2021**

Start painting now in preparation for upcoming themes.

[Need A Volunteer\(s\) to  
Organize these Exhibits](#)

THEMES: In the Mood  
Imitation of Life  
Secret World  
Art Outside the Lives  
Bright and Beautiful  
Seeing the Light

[VOLUNTEERS](#) needed for positions of HOSPITALITY Chair  
and One Blood Exhibit Chair

Interested parties contact Lee Asta [dizasta3131@gmail.com](mailto:dizasta3131@gmail.com)  
or Lynn King [sweptaway53@hotmail.com](mailto:sweptaway53@hotmail.com)

**Please send news items, awards and happenings to Jan Kizonak  
by the 20th of the month. [kizonakjan@gmail.com](mailto:kizonakjan@gmail.com)**

**Send any changes of contact information to  
Heather Doherty at [jmdhld@aol.com](mailto:jmdhld@aol.com)  
and/or [kizonakjan@gmail.com](mailto:kizonakjan@gmail.com)**