



The Art League of Germantown, Inc.  
[www.alog.org](http://www.alog.org)

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## President's Message

May 2022

Dear Members,

I cannot believe that it is already May and our 2021-2022 season is nearly over. The year went by quickly, and it was great to crawl out of our pandemic shells and see each other now and then. Our Fall and Spring shows were in the Kay Gallery at BlackRock, and it was wonderful to see artwork in its full form and to meet many of our members in person. We had new members join during the pandemic, so it particularly special to greet them face to face.

I look forward to next year, which will be the Art League of Germantown's Fortieth Year! I spell that out, because it is a big deal. In 1983, Lynne Oakes started this organization, and over all these years, we have supported many local artists in their journeys. ALOG is a truly local group, there to support not just established artists, but anyone interested in the arts in the greater Germantown area. I would like to make a shout out to Lynne for all she has done for this organization.

I would like to encourage members to think about those they know who are not in ALOG. Would they benefit from being a member? Would they enjoy our meetings? Are they reluctant to show their work and could use a small push to meet other artists who were possibly in that same position sometime not that long ago? I am hoping that we can use our 40th year to recruit new members. Invite someone to come to our September show and tell meeting. We'd love to see their work. Help spread the word!

Please participate in our newsletter reading challenge! Go to <https://bit.ly/3sPeiG1> and answer a simple question taken from somewhere in this newsletter! From the responses, we will choose a random winner, who will receive a small token of appreciation. The drawing occurs on Tuesday, May 10 at 7 pm, so don't put it off! Last month, our winner was Gail K.-W.! (Board members cannot participate.)

Yours,  
 Thom



*Carol Moore, "Spring!" show chair receiving a well-deserved thank you gift from ALOG president Thom Germer.*

## May Meeting

By Carol Moore

Dear Members,

We will be holding our **May 4, 2022** membership meeting both live at BlackRock and virtually on Zoom. BlackRock requires that all visitors show proof of vaccination. Masks are optional.

Our guest speaker will be presenting live at BlackRock. If you are able, please attend the meeting in person to support our guest.

To join by Zoom, send an email to [president@alog.org](mailto:president@alog.org) for details.

### AGENDA

- **Our meeting begins at 7:15** pm in the BlackRock Auditorium with ALOG announcements.
- May Featured ALOG Artist: Jeanne Sullivan – Collage Artist
- Guest Speaker: Jeanne Sullivan – "Mixed Media Collage, My Unique Inspirations, Practices and Processes"

### About our Guest Speaker

This presentation will focus on where she gets her inspirations, practices and the processes. What dominates? Does the process drive the art or does the inspiration? How does she take a jumble of papers, paints, pencils, napkins and maybe the kitchen sink, to work together? She will discuss her practices - getting started, organized. How does she select which techniques, colors and organizational designs with so many choices? Jeanne will discuss some of her "arsenal" of techniques and the search for more. The processes examine more of what happens when all this comes together. See samples of her artwork and learn about their unique inspirations, practices and processes.

## Member News

Beverly Valdez will be having a solo exhibit:

[The Spirit of Carnival](#)

**June 9 - July 3, 2022**

Opening reception: Thursday, June 9 from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Location: The Art League Gallery at the Torpedo Factory  
105 N. Union St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Jean Finkleman recommends the [Artists of the Atelier](#) exhibit at Brookside Gardens. The show will be on display through May 22nd and the hours are every day from 10 - 4.

Craig Higgins had the distinct pleasure of being the Featured Artist on "Artsy Shark": [www.artsyshark.com/2021/08/24/featured](http://www.artsyshark.com/2021/08/24/featured).

Craig also shared some thoughts and wonders if others have similar experiences.

- If any of you have been able to sift through the barrage of "I have sold a million of my art" stuff, let me know if you had any luck. I'm still searching for a 'road'! Too many shows, too many hours....too much spent. As the old saying goes: When there's a gold rush, the only ones who make money are the ones who sell the shovels!
- I'm a tired artist, with no sales, despite the "promos", special deals, etc. I have two websites and find that "friends" simply copy the image.
- I've spent too much with no return **except the pure joy of the creation of the image**. Technology has made OK photos, good, and good photos very good, very good ones excellent and excellent ones outstanding.
- I hate being negative, but the real world is REAL. Enjoy my work anyway at: [craigshigginsphotography.com](http://craigshigginsphotography.com) and <https://www.picfair.com/users/craigshiggins>. I welcome comments that reflect your favorite images.
- ALOG friends. DO NOT buy out of sympathy; just 'vote' for what you love and that will fill my heart.

Thank you Craig, for voicing some of the thoughts I imagine many had had, myself included. If you would like to send a message to Craig you may send it to [newsletter@alog.org](mailto:newsletter@alog.org) and it will be forwarded.

## Featured Artist - Jeanne Sullivan

By Carol Moore

### Artist Statement:

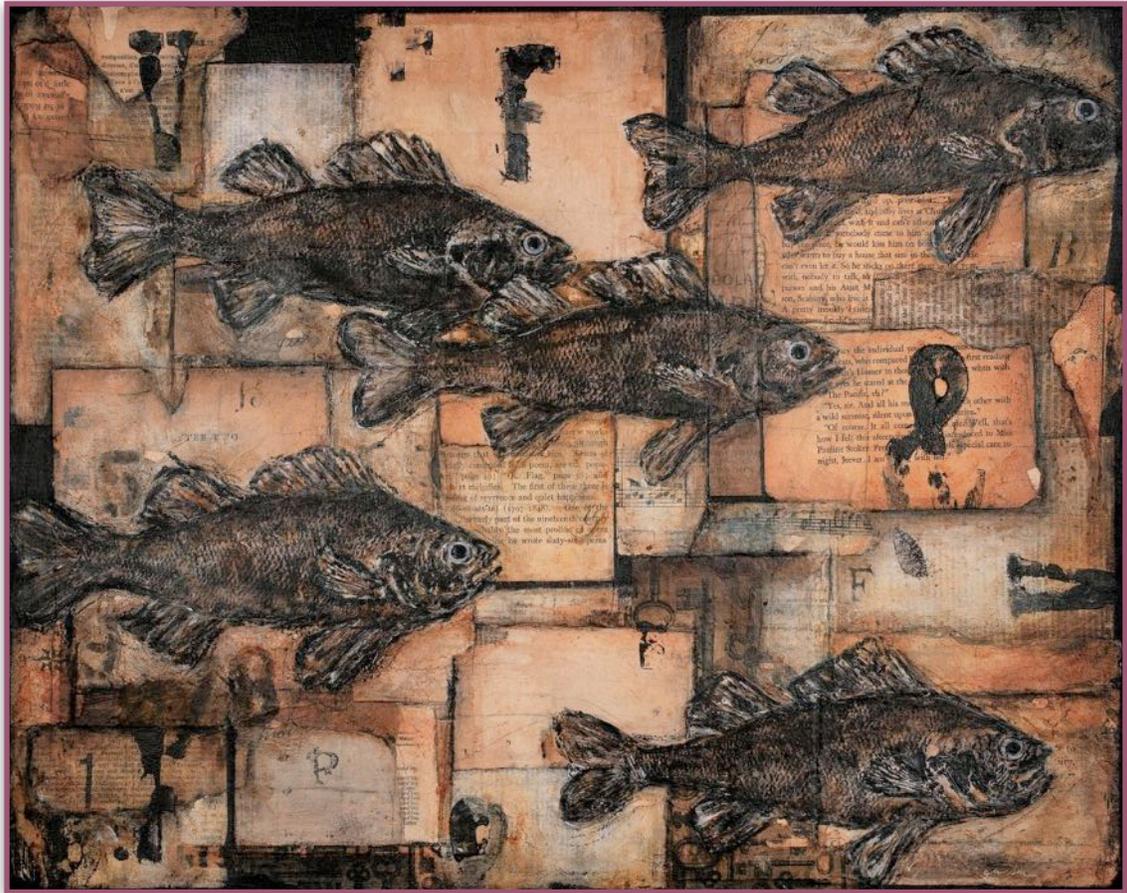
Jeanne's work invites you to discover plays of color, contrast, texture, line, and mystery. She enhances her work with a variety of collage techniques. She combines paints, inks, pencils, and other mediums. She loves to recycle papers, using maps, books, found papers and drawings. Papers are altered with transfers, stamps, stencils, paints and more to create unique mixed media collages. Inspired by her love of travel and nature, she often creates abstract places, reimagining the natural world or a favorite destination. Although her collage may be planned, she lets the work flow in its own direction. Jeanne also takes her collage approach into jewelry, jars, and reproductions of her work into "Signature Bags". "Mermaid Masterpieces" highlights miniature collages in oyster shells. Many of her works are also available in giclee prints and miniature framed prints.

### Artist Bio:

Jeanne is from the DC area. Art has always been part of her life, with art camps and art academic programs. She enjoyed art classes even while studying for her B.A in Urban Studies in London. While working (Program Specialist for Montgomery County Department of Recreation and Education Director at BlackRock Center for the Arts) and raising two sons, she continued her studies in printmaking, encaustics and collage. Her past art administration background introduced her to varying art mediums, which she mixes in her collages. She is a thirty-year member of ALOG, a member of the Gaithersburg Artists Collective, International Miniature Society, Montgomery Art Association, Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Society of Washington, D.C., Yellow Barn Studios, and she is also a resident artist at the Gaithersburg Arts Barn. She teaches collage techniques in workshops and summer camps at the Gaithersburg Arts Barn.



*A Lady of Letters*



*A School of Gifted Fish*



*The Secret Language of Trees*



## Artlines

by Lynne Haussler Oakes

### Looking Ahead

I have been deeply involved with sorting and tossing MANY papers, letters, photographs, negatives, slides, and articles that were part of my parent's lives. They came to live with me 20 years ago and their entire household (a place they lived for 63 years) came with them. I do not regret this, but it has been an immense amount of work and yet it has also been a blessing to be surrounded by the loving, caring and interesting lives they led.

It is, however, a sort of constant matter of looking back, not looking ahead. And I think of that rather often and in different ways I see how it made my life what it has become. Foremost, I have had the opportunity to revisit the art lives of my parents, my father a professional photographer and my mother a water color artist. And I see how all that shaped my life as the artist I am. Encouragement was always there for me and propelled me forward. That encouragement helped me do that for others in my teaching and in my friendships with other artists.

I have even come upon love letters they wrote to each other before they were married and that was a great treasure to discover. That love still surrounds me today and I wish it were so for everyone.

I have their art, and their art collection and that is living testimony for me of what art can do for others. I lift my eyes over top of my computer screen and there is one of my mother's wonderful paintings! And a beautiful portrait of my mother that my dad took on their honeymoon. They are always with me everywhere I look.

But with all this said, I am really looking ahead as well as carrying with me what is useful, what is precious, what is lasting.

I have read that if we don't put a future there, there won't be one. Even at this time of my life, I continue to create a future that includes family, friends, my work and whatever else seems of value to the life I am leading. I entreat you to do the same. You have a great deal to offer this world. As artists, we all do. Lucky us!



Contact Lynne at [artlines@alog.org](mailto:artlines@alog.org).



## From the Drawing Board

By Bill Mapes

**“I dream of painting and then I paint my dream.” – Vincent van Gogh**

Vincent van Gogh is one of the most recognizable and intriguing artists of our time. His life was tragic and compelling. We all know the story of how despondent he became over an argument with Paul Gauguin that he sliced off his left ear with a razor. He lived a life of disillusionment and hallucinations. He consumed absinthe and “pointed” his oil brushes in his mouth. No wonder he was considered to be mad and lived his surviving years in a sanatorium under the care of a doctor. He painted much of his work in the final months of his life. In the end, he reportedly shot himself and died soon thereafter. An unfitting end to a life of seemingly no consequence. And that is where his story begins.

**“I can very well do without God both in my life and in my painting, but I cannot, suffering as I am, do without something which is greater than I am, which is my life, the power to create.” – Vincent van Gogh**

As a student many years ago, I became a fan of Van Gogh’s work. Just learning how to paint with oils I was enamored with the bold lushness of his strokes and his unabashed use of color (Did you know he is now considered to have been color blind?). His style still haunts me to this day, and I will always be thankful for his influence on my approach to art and my love of color.

**“One must spoil as many canvases as one succeeds with.” – Vincent van Gogh**

I recently travelled downtown to see “Van Gogh – The Immersive Experience”. A truly remarkable event and one that all should experience. Immersive experience says it all. There is plenty of solid information about Van Gogh’s life to learn but that is just the beginning of this adventure. The technical effects thrust you into his world and his work. The virtual reality (VR) portion of the exhibit allows you to see the world that he saw it when he created several of his works. The effects throughout the exhibit are spectacular on their own in their scope and presentation. It is powerful, enlightening, and informative. A technological wonder for every artist. I recommend it to all.

The exhibit has been extended several times and is now scheduled to close the end of May. You can go online at: <https://vangoghexpo.com/washington/> for more information.

**“Even the knowledge of my own fallibility cannot keep me from making mistakes. Only when I fall do I get up again.” – Vincent van Gogh**

Contact Bill at [fromthedrawingboard@alog.org](mailto:fromthedrawingboard@alog.org).

### Formatting Guidelines for Submitting Photographs

Photographs of our artwork and events are an important way to publicize our craft and art league. Here is the format for submitting images for our newsletter, website Gallery page, Facebook, etc.

***Each image should be 180 dpi or greater and 4” or larger on the longest dimension of the image***



## BlackRock News

BlackRock Center

Hours: Monday – Friday

10 AM – 6 PM

## BlackRock Art Classes and Workshops

Available online [www.blackrockcenter.org](http://www.blackrockcenter.org)

### **Basics of Watercolor**

Learn the fundamentals of Watercolor painting! Students will become familiarized with basic watercolor materials and equipment, use transparent watercolor medium to learn basic painting techniques, such as soft and hard edges, creating a sense of light, depth, dimension, and weight by applying tonal values, glazing and layering.

**When: Apr 28, 2022 to Jun 2, 2022**

**Time: Thu 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Cost: \$216**

**Location: Wet Studio**

**Instructor: Fariba Niazi**

[Enroll](#)

## Upcoming Art Opportunities

### **From Marina to Mountain**

Maryland Federation of Art (MFA) invites all MFA Members residing in the United States, DC, Puerto Rico, Canada, and Mexico to enter From the Marina to the Mountains 2022. Any original 2D or 3D work following entry guidelines will be considered. The show will celebrate the artistry of MFA Members in a new forum at the Savile and Schwab galleries of the Allegany Arts Council.

**Submission Deadline: Jun 8 2022**

**Entry Fee: 1 or 2 entries \$25 for MFA Members (\$95 for non members, includes 1 year of MFA Membership)**

[More Information](#)

# Calendar of Events

View [www.alog.org](http://www.alog.org) for updated information.  
Our meetings are currently held virtually.  
Watch our monthly announcements for confirmed speakers and other details.

May 4, 2022

Jeanne Sullivan

## ALOG Goals

- Provide members with the stimulation to thrive in their personal art goals, and to foster creativity.
- Encourage enthusiastic support and appreciation for art and for other artists' work.
- Contribute to the surrounding community in furthering art awareness and education.

Our meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday of each month, September through May, at 7:15 p.m. at BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Center Drive, Germantown, MD, in the Germantown Town Center on the corner of Rt. 118 and Middlebrook Road (across from the Safeway) or online during Covid-19 restrictions.

ALOG is a group of professional and amateur visual artists fine crafters and art appreciators organized to further the careers of its members and to bring an appreciation of fine art and crafts to the community. ALOG draws members from throughout Montgomery County. Learn more at [www.alog.org](http://www.alog.org) or [www.blackrockcenter.org](http://www.blackrockcenter.org).

## ALOG Cares

Ruth Sentelle has a large parcel of cards, notes and good wishes waiting to be sent to any ALOG friends and family members who could use a little encouragement, thoughtful praises or even some sunshine.

Kindly let her know at [ruthiam@yahoo.com](mailto:ruthiam@yahoo.com) or text to 240-449-9063.

She is eagerly waiting to send out positive thoughts in the mail. Receiving a note in the mail could brighten someone's day.

Let's remember to show that ALOG CARES!