

## ABOUT THE PAINTERS EXHIBITING THEIR ART ON THE WALLS

On display on all the walls of art gallery in the Cape Coral Library from July 3 through August 24 will be artwork by several artists who are all members of the Pine Island Art Association. The artists, who also happen to be friends, have taken classes at PIAA over the years and are teaming up for this exhibit. The result is an exciting mix of paint media, subjects and styles. **Contact the artist directly if interested in purchasing their artwork. Each individual artist's email & phone number are shown here at the end of their paragraph.**

**Kay Atwood** has been painting in watercolors for the past five years. She's taken classes offered by the Pine Island Art Association as well as private one-on-one lessons with a respected local artist. Kay's favorite subjects are Italian villas and Florida scenes, especially sunsets on the beach. She enjoys employing vivid colors and doing abstract artwork. Kay expresses her appreciation for the opportunity to display her paintings at the Cape Coral Library along with her talented artist friends. [kayatwood@juno.com](mailto:kayatwood@juno.com) 719-351-8047

**Lisa Burke** is originally from Maryland and came to Cape Coral almost 15 years ago. Soon she discovered "the wonderful world of watercolors." She's amazed every day by the beautiful surroundings here in Florida and strives to capture them in expressive paintings. She was originally a self-taught watercolorist until taking classes at the Cape Coral Art Center and then PIAA. Moving forward in time to the present, Lisa has now graduated to teaching classes for them in her favorite medium! [bluepearlart@yahoo.com](mailto:bluepearlart@yahoo.com) 239-471-9094

**Laura Kelly-Bestor** has been painting since the tender age of 14. Although she had worked in oils and pastels in the past, watercolor became her preference after taking classes in that medium twenty years ago at the Pine Island Art Association. She likes the spontaneity of watercolor paint that allows her to work loosely- and often finds the results surprising. Laura paints what she sees, but with her own unique and often impressionistic interpretation. She and her husband have owned a house barge/boat in France for twenty years, and the scenery along the water has inspired much of her artwork. [Ldbestor@yahoo.com](mailto:Ldbestor@yahoo.com) 239-308-6756

**Karen Mesch** has always found art to be a passion as far back as she can remember. Her mother had studied at Chicago's Art Institute and encouraged Karen, who reminisces that "Painting was magical for me as a mixture of color forms unique and unexpected results!" Her husband and two daughters moved to Cape Coral where Karen loved teaching school for 30 years. There was always creativity going on. Retirement has given her time to work with some excellent teachers. She works in watercolor and acrylic and says "My pictures are all about Florida and the beautiful colors all around me." [meschm01@comcast.net](mailto:meschm01@comcast.net) 239-247-2098

**Connie Saddler**, an Orlando native who now enjoys living on Pine Island, started with drawing lessons seven years ago and then followed up with classes in watercolor and acrylics. Birds are her favorite artistic theme, but she is also captivated by old houses and buildings as subjects for her paintings. Connie continues to attend weekly classes with the Pine Island Art Association, focusing on further developing her skills in both acrylic and watercolor techniques. [eyekw@comcast.net](mailto:eyekw@comcast.net) 912-713-6616

**Norma Jean Sass** has a passion for art that takes her in many directions. Although she has always loved art, a demanding career and a family with three children and a Great Dane often left it out of reach. After retirement and a move to Florida, she was able to take art classes and explore different mediums. Norma Jean is especially fond of working in watercolor and acrylic. Her favorite subjects are animals and people, but she enjoys all types of painting. She has won several awards for her animal paintings done in watercolor. [sassynjs@gmail.com](mailto:sassynjs@gmail.com) 248-761-5885

**Virginia "Ginny" Simms** had always enjoyed teaching various creative activities to pre-school and kindergarten children for years. But after retirement and a move from Illinois to Florida, she finally found the time to explore her own artistic pursuits. Ginny has now been painting for over a decade and has taken classes as a member of the Pine Island Art Association. She especially loves capturing images of flowers and primarily works in watercolor, but has also been known to use acrylic paints when that medium best fits the occasion. [simms4921@comcast.net](mailto:simms4921@comcast.net) 630-561-9261