Greetings and Happy Summer!

Can you believe summer is more than half over? I’m excited for fall when we’ll meet again. I hope you’re staying cool (if that’s possible) and enjoying a wonderful time, wherever your staycation or travels have taken you.

Please enjoy this third edition of our newly expanded newsletter. Follow the links to explore our informative new web page and more! Kudos to Cathy Cronin, Communications Chair, and her stellar team!

I’m excited to announce the addition of “Sophie’s Social Media Tips” to our newsletter. Sophie Bentham-Wood, VBMA Director of Marketing and Communications will help us spread the word about The Circle’s impact through your personal social media accounts, such as Facebook, Instagram, and others. By using Sophie’s tips, we can all become brand ambassadors for The Circle, increasing our visibility and attracting potential members.

If it’s time for you to renew your membership, please follow this link, or contact Natalie Murdy if you have any questions. Most members renew in the summer or fall, but if you joined in the winter or early spring, you may wait to renew until your anniversary date.

Special request for those who can:
This year, I’m asking every member to add a small contribution to the admin fund to help offset meeting costs. Just $7 per meeting will make a substantial difference. While most other organizations require such a fund, we’d like it to remain voluntary. Each year, we have a few generous and invaluable members who donate between $250 – $500 to help underwrite some of the cost of food and beverages at our meetings. Their contributions continue to be very much appreciated.

Please consider checking the box for “additional donation to offset administrative costs” and add what you can. In addition to helping with food and beverage costs, a donation of $35/season will also help pay for name tags, signage, printed materials, and more.

The Circle is your organization, and your participation is at its core. Thank you.

With deep gratitude and warm regards,

Trudy Powers Hoffman
Chair
We have exciting news to share! The Circle's new webpage is up and running on the VBMA website. Huge thanks to Robyn Orzel, Natalie Murdy and the web team for their guidance, and for their time and effort in bringing this vision to life. This easy-to-navigate webpage is our “go to” reference and is chock full of information about The Circle. It’s a wonderful resource for our members and for you to share with friends interested in joining The Circle.

Just click on the link: www.vbmuseum.org/thecircle to bring up the home page.

The home page shows a picture of the 2023-2024 Steering Committee and six clickable red boxes identifying the six sections of the site: About the Circle, Events Calendar, Meet Our Members, Programs We Support, In the News/Photo Gallery and Funding Opportunities.

About the Circle is where you’ll find The Circle Information Sheet, links to The Circle Brochure, Five Year Strategic Plan Summary, and key contact information to help you with any membership information you may need. 

"Events Calendar" has information and dates for the 2023-24 Season meetings and Special member only events. 

"Meet our Members" contains a member listing, Steering Committee contact information and member bios to help us all get to know more about each other.

The "Press/Photo Gallery" has links to press articles about The Circle, our Eye on The Circle newsletters, and our very fun Photo Gallery (look for your friends!).

"Funding Opportunities" is where you’ll find new member and member renewal forms, information on other funding opportunities, and the many ways we can support our programs or honor friends and family. All of these opportunities have forms you can download.

Communications Update

We invite you to click and explore! The Photo Gallery has wonderful pictures from last Season. To keep it fresh, we’d love to add more pictures of our Members out and about with their Circle friends. Please email your photos to Sue van der Stricht at suevanders@gmail.com. Sue is our committee photographer.

Suzanne Roff, a member of our Communications Committee, will oversee The Circle’s webpage and ensure the latest information about our meetings, member only events, proposed programs for funding, and event photos are there for you to view at the click of a mouse or scroll of your finger. Please let us know what you think about the new webpage and email suzrof@gmail.com with any suggestions you may have. We look forward to your feedback and working to make this webpage a great resource for our members.
**Sophie's Social Media Tips**

Sophie Wood, VBMA Director of Marketing and Communications shows us how easy it is to help spread the word and share the story of The Circle by posting photos with Circle friends, news tidbits, etc. on your own social media pages. This is a wonderful way to reach local friends who may want to join The Circle. Sharing your photos taken during The Circle’s “members only” enrichment events with us would also be appreciated, so we may include them in future newsletters and on our website. Please send your photos to acathy.egan@gmail.com. Please [click here](#) to view Sophie's Social Media Tips.

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**In The News…**

The Circle's "Art from the HeART" feature appeared in the May 8th issue of the *Luminaries* weekly magazine. Also, we had fabulous coverage in the VBMA Quarterly. Please [click here](#) to read them.

Three Circle members were recognized in VBMA's *Treasure Coast Creates: A Tribute to Local Artists* exhibition. This inaugural 2023 juried art exhibition opened on Friday, May 26th and runs through September 3, 2023. Over 350 applicants submitted over 800 works for consideration, and only 137 pieces were chosen. Through this exhibition, the VBMA's goal was to recognize the outstanding quality and diversity of work being generated by contemporary artists living in and around Vero Beach. The three Circle members who were chosen to exhibit their work in the show are: Elise Geary, Margaret Goembel, and Suzanne Roff. Congratulations to you and to all of the local artists who participated!

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"Origin" by Elise Geary  
"Beach Beiges" by Margaret Goembel  
"A Night in Cienfuegos" by Suzanne Roff

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Pictured are members of the outgoing and incoming Steering Committee (from left to right): Susie Kintner, Sally Roberts, Anne Golensky, Kate Walsh, Pam Larrick, Trudy Powers Hoffman, Cathy Cronin, Susan Von Hagen, Diane McGinn, Mary Wright, Catherine Cooke, Lori Lazorick. Not pictured: Barb Dorvee, June Fitzgerald and Joy Ann Coll.
Membership & Member Events

Hi Circle ladies…we are your new Co-Chairs of Membership …Catherine Cooke and June Fitzgerald, and are looking forward to an exciting season!!

Growing The Circle’s membership is one of our goals. You can help. JOIN US and invite your friends to join! Preserve the specialness of The Circle and VOLUNTEER for a committee. Share your energy and ideas. Why? Participating is a great way to meet new friends who have the same passions and interests.

We can’t accomplish this goal alone but together our goals are achievable. Phone or text June Fitzgerald at 917-744-7530 with any questions or to join the Membership Committee.

We look forward to meeting you at 3:00 PM on November 16th at The Opening Tea at VBMA. Check in with us when you arrive and say hello - Welcome back!

Members Only Special Events

Last season, The Circle offered seven special members-only events and more than half of our members attended at least one event. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback after every event, from both new and long-time Circle Members. These special events provided a relaxed, small group format for members to spend quality time getting to know each other, especially those who had never met before, while enjoying interesting activities together. We are delighted to see how these events help to preserve the specialness of The Circle, giving our members enhanced opportunities to develop meaningful relationships with likeminded women.

Next season, we hope to offer even more opportunities to attend one of these popular events. Look forward to additional dates at the Windsor Gallery, ELC boat tours, private home art collection viewings, and after-hours events at the VBMA where members can invite guests... and that's just the beginning.
Enjoy these photos from last season's members-only events. Private art collection tour and reception, ELC and lunch at Susan Von Hagen's home, a *Rolling Sculpture* after hours tour, and a Windsor Gallery Tour.

There is never a shortage of fun with fellow Circle members!
We are excited to be the new Site Visit Committee co-chairs and are already planning successful experiences for our volunteers. Serving on a Site Visit Team is one of the most important and fulfilling ways a member can support the mission of the Circle.

We have already launched the 2023–24 Circle Site Visit sign-ups, and encourage new and experienced Circle members to serve. We hope that all members will consider joining a Site Visit Team.

• Are you interested in learning firsthand about the community programs the Circle can support?
• Are you energized by the opportunity to work collaboratively with other Circle members in observing and sharing ways these outreach programs contribute to and enrich our community?

If your answers are yes, more information and sign up are just an email or call away:

Lori Lazorik, lori.lazorik@gmail.com or (772) 979-2548
Anne Golensky, annegol@aol.com or (203) 525-2671

Programs/Site Visits

Lori Lazorik & Anne Golensky

As we enjoy the last weeks of summer, our thoughts turn toward the fall in Vero Beach. Exciting upcoming events planned for The Circle at Vero Beach Museum of Art are soon approaching. Please join us for The Opening Tea, Thursday, November 16 at 3:00 pm as we kick off the 2023-2024 season.

We look forward to being your hospitality ambassadors. Together we have the fun job of making sure our members and guests feel welcome and inspired to be a part of The Circle. It is a wonderful place to develop friendships, to learn new things, and to help bring art into the lives of people of all ages in the Vero Beach community. What we personally enjoy about being members is the enthusiasm, camaraderie and passion that defines The Circle.

As we plan for the upcoming year, we're thinking of new and exciting ways to make our events enjoyable and bring even more people into The Circle to meet and expand our goals, and we welcome your ideas. Together let's spread some hospitality!

Hospitality

Diane McGinn & Mary Wright

Meet Barb Dorvee

We are lucky to have Barb Dorvee in The Circle - she has impressive volunteer experience. After graduating from SUNY at Canton and Rochester Institute of Technology, she had a varied career in Finance, working mainly in Southern California. Barbara hails from Seneca Falls, NY, home of the National Women's Hall of Fame where she volunteered as a greeter for incoming notable women being inducted into the Hall of Fame. She had the pleasure of guiding notables, such as Hillary and Bill Clinton, Tenley Albright (Olympic gold medalist) and Maya Lin (architect) when they arrived to accept their inductions. Barb also found time to serve as a docent and manage the book store for the Museum of Industry and Waterways in Seneca Falls. She loves and is drawn to The Circle's site visits; particularly the Childrens’ Programs, Senior Resources and Veterans activities.

Lori Lazorik & Anne Golensky

Programs/Site Visits

Member Snapshot

Connie Murphy

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Factoid from the Archives

Remembering when…

The Opening Tea has been a welcome tradition since November 16, 2010 when new friends and Steering Committee members Susan Von Hagen and Lee Albro organized an afternoon social gathering of Circle members and their guests.

The location was Lee’s home at the River Club, and the refreshments were hot tea, iced tea and goodies for the 45 ladies in attendance. The intention was to host a fun event that would launch each “new season of giving.” As The Circle grew in members over the years, The Opening Tea was moved to Marsh Island Club and other locations where many more ladies could be accommodated.

The Opening Tea is a special way for members to reconnect with old friends and make new ones, and to remind all of us of what brought us together: a passion for the Museum and its community outreach initiatives.

See you on November 16th, 13 years later on the same date, to kick off the 2023-24 season of giving!

The Circle' First Opening Tea
November 16, 2010

Diane Wilhelm, Cindy Gedeon, retired VBMA Executive Director, Reggie Bradshaw, Lee Albro
The Circle
2023-2024 Event Calendar
*Mark Your Calendars!*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>November 16th</td>
<td>3-5 PM</td>
<td>Opening Tea</td>
<td>VBMA Buck Atrium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>January 10th</td>
<td>10-11:30A</td>
<td>General Meeting Programs Introduced</td>
<td>VBMA Holmes Great Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>February 14th</td>
<td>9-11A</td>
<td>Breakfast - Guest Speaker</td>
<td>Vero Beach Yacht Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March 13th</td>
<td>10-11:30A</td>
<td>General Meeting Site Visit Presentations</td>
<td>VBMA Holmes Great Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>April 11th</td>
<td>3-5P</td>
<td>Closing Reception &amp; Final Vote</td>
<td>VBMA Buck Atrium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2023-24 Circle Steering Committee Members

- **Steering Committee Chair:** Trudy Powers Hoffman  
  - Email: trudy@tphllc.com  
  - Phone: 206 409-2484

- **Membership Co Chairs:**
  - Catherine Cooke  
    - Email: catepru@aol.com  
    - Phone: 516 330-1786
  - June Fitzgerald  
    - Email: jfitzgerald@sorensenrealestate.com  
    - Phone: 917 744-7530

- **Hospitality & Special Events Co Chairs:**
  - Diane McGinn  
    - Email: dianemcginn14@gmail.com  
    - Phone: 414 778-2116
  - Mary Wright  
    - Email: mlwdivero@gmail.com  
    - Phone: 305 336-4566

- **Site Team Co Chairs:**
  - Anne Golensky  
    - Email: annegol@aol.com  
    - Phone: 203 525-2671
  - Lori Lazorik  
    - Email: Lori.lazorik@gmail.com  
    - Phone: 772 475-3753

- **Secretary/Finance Chair:** Joy Ann Coll  
  - Email: jacoll1118@aol.com  
  - Phone: 772 559-6288

- **Communications Chair:** Cathy Cronin  
  - Email: acathy.egan@gmail.com  
  - Phone: 914 772-0647

- **VBMA Circle liaison:** Natalie Murdy  
  - Email: nmurdy@vbmuseum.org  
  - Phone: 772 231-0707, 154
2022-2023 CIRCLE MEMBERS

Lyn Adams
Lee Albro
Donna Aurienma
Judy Balph
Kathy Bantleon
Jane Beattie
Ilona Benham
Tracey Benton
Cindy Binder
Carla Mills Boardman
Marilyn Bosland
Nancy Bryant
Carmela Cagliero
Jan Calfee
Sally Calhoun
Kitty Carleton
Margaret Carnwath
Mary Carpenter
Brenda Nicholson Cavicchio
Carol Cepelski
Kathy Connolly
Barbara Cook
Catherine Cooke
Donna Coughlin
Cathy Egan Cronin
Nancy Cutshall
Diana Davis
Jean DeSantis
Diane Doherty
Marianne Doherty
Barb Dorvee
Linda Downey
Cathy Duckett
Ellen Dunn
Nancy Edmiston
Susan Filebark
June Fitzgerald
Cathy Fountain
Susan B. Fowler
Susan Friesell
Liz Gallagher
Elise Geary
Cindy Gedeon
Fran Gilson
Margaret Goembel
Anne Golensky
Mary Hall Goodman
Joanne Green
Gena Grove
Carol Hancock
Kay Harvey
Pat Hastings
Diana L. Hoffman
Trudy Powers Hoffman
Kathleen O'Brien Joachim
Miller Carolyn Jones
Susan Kintner
Serena Kratz
Pam Larrick
Phoebe Larson
Lori Lazorik
Holly Lentini
Mary Anne Liljedahl
Louise Macy
Susan Martin
Paula Matrullo
Diane McGinn
Evelyn McGlone
Ellen Mendez-Penate
Rita Mergemekes
Carol Mettam
Marian Michael
Lauren Michaels
Gwen Miller
Lynn Miller
Amy Morgan
Laura Moss
Kitty Mountain
Patsy Moynihan
Connie Murphy
Sharon Novak
Lisa O'Brien
Theresa O'Reilly
Mary Parker
Nancy Pierce
Arlene Platt
Gail Prauss
Louise Mary Preis
Marilyn Ragland
Katie Raynor
Sally Roberts
Suzanne Roff
Diane Rose
Lisa Rosmarin
Betsy Ross
Carol Ross
Barbara Ruddy
Christine Ryall
Mary Lasky Ryan
Pamela Sandzen
Debra Schmidt
Louise Schmitt
Jamie Schulte
Joan Semmer
Lou Shannon
Sue Sharpe
Gail Shepherd
Suzi Shriner McCoy
Pamela Siddall
Gerrt Smith
Mary Addington Smith
Marty Snyder
Gillian Stewart
Mary Streep
Caroline Taylor
Linda Teetz
Ann Tharpe
Leah Tompkins
Becky Torbin
Patty Tovell
Susan van der Stricht
Sandy Vest
Susan Von Hagen
Judy Walick
Kate Walsh
Stuart Weismiller
Jenny Wellschlager
Diane Wilhelm
Bonnie Wilson
Julie Wright
Mary Wright