



# Community Outreach Oakland & Martinez VA

## Martinez VA

Our December CWA Community Outreach at the Martinez VA tends to be unpredictable due to the holidays. Artists welcome challenges and I arrived to find a darkened workroom, because of the funeral for George H. W. Bush. The VA was on holiday. I set up as usual and welcomed staff and clients in. We had a seasonal still life to work from and it was a low key but productive day. Old and new faces came and went and interesting conversation flowed easily. Concepts such as “make a mark” and “painterly” were explored. It was a good day.

*Maggie Metcalf, CWA*



## Oakland VA

There is no doubt that CWA Community Outreach to our veterans is genuinely appreciated. Our December gathering began with painting holiday wreaths on cards to go with envelopes for our veterans to give to their friends and family. One particularly talented vet, Rudy, whipped out a series some with red berries, others with tree ornaments worthy of Hallmark. Another vet painted a bagel wreath (cream cheese not included). It was a party atmosphere with chocolates and other treats being passed and stories (some sad, some hair-raising and some humorous) being told.

The gathering concluded with the vets giving us cards on which they had written “Thank you so much for helping and healing us,” and “Thank you so much for your teachings.” We extend our notes of appreciation to you, the CWA community members. Thank you for participating and thank you for volunteering.

*Sheila Cain, CWA*



**Volunteer with Community Outreach and help bring the wonders of creativity to your community.**

**Call Sheila Cain (510) 845-0863**