

Seacoast Artist

The official newsletter of the Seacoast Artists Association

Dec. 2015 / Jan. 2016



SAA Members Only Show, *Lisa Allyson accepts her prize*

In this Issue:

President's Message, Scholarship, Classes.....	2
News From the Gallery	3
Featured Artist: Members Show	4 & 5
Theme Shows	6

Seacoast Artist Association
225 Water St.
Exeter, NH 03833

SAA OFFICERS:

Gallery: 225 Water St, Exeter, NH
03833 603-778-8856
Gallery@SEACOASTARTIST.org

Officers:

SAA President:
Ellen Ryder Griffin

Vice President:
Gerry Bresnahan

Treasurer:
Darlene Zahn

Secretary:
Open

Board Members:

Reid Bunker
Doris Rice
Mary Jane Solomon
Jim Faist

Positions:

Gallery Manager:
Mary Jane Solomon

Newsletter:
Editor/Layout/Design:
Denise Brown
denise@adceteragraphics.com

Membership:
Roger Goun

Gallery Calendar Monitor:
Annick Bouvron-Gromek

Marketing:
Ellen Ryder Griffin

Scholarship:
Gerry Bresnahan

SAA mail Coordinator:
Roger Goun
roger@rogergoun.org

Program Director:
Doris Rice

Coordinator of Classes & Workshops:
Elaine Sylvester
madburymam@aol.com

Webmaster:
Annick Bouvron-Gromek

SAA MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Seacoast Artists

Association is to enhance knowledge of, and stimulate interest and appreciation in, the variety of creative arts available throughout Seacoast New Hampshire, by hosting exhibits for established and emerging artists; providing a gallery to house works of art, collaborating with other arts organizations, and by providing art education, mentoring and scholarship opportunities for students pursuing a degree in the arts.

SAA WEBSITES

www.seacoastartist.org

"Meet Up" sites:

www.meetup.com/Seacoast-Art-Connection
www.meetup.com/SeacoastPhotographers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

The holidays are upon us! I wish you all a blessed and family-filled season.

Proposed New Location

As most of you know, our gallery lease will end in early 2017. We have been exploring a new location on Water Street, close to the Town Hall. Thanks to the members who attended our special board meeting who inspected the proposed location and gave their input. I was so impressed with the knowledge and expertise of our membership! We really do have a special group of artists.

The board has approved the pursuit of the new property, which is currently leased to Linda Anason, owner of Art & Tiques, at 130 Water Street.

We are in the process of negotiation but are facing some real challenges. The rent is appreciably higher than our current operating budget can sustain. We have had a proposal from a group who is interested in subletting a portion of the space, which would help with the finances, but would reduce our space to about the same square footage we currently have. However, the location is much more visible than our current space, and we would have access to the Town Hall for larger shows and classes.

Many of you have approached me with great fundraising ideas and offers to help. I am hoping to put together a fundraising committee and will call for membership, so please hold onto those ideas! First we have to ascertain if we can lease, or sublease, the space.

All members are welcome to our board meetings, which take place on the second Saturday of every month, from 9-10am. Our next board meeting is December 12 — we hope to see you there!

— Ellen Ryder Griffin, President dandegriffin@comcast.net

SAA SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

The Seacoast Artist Association Scholarship Committee, Doris Rice, Gwen Morgan, Darlene Zahn, Pat Boyd-Robertson, Revelle Taillon and Gerry Bresnahan have met twice this year for planning the upcoming Scholarship Competition.

Letters will be going out to 13 area high schools with follow up phone calls reminding the teachers to encourage the students to have their work submitted to the Gallery the week of March 22 to the 29th. We will again have sign in sheets for the Gallery sitters.

We are presently looking for someone who would like to help judge the students work which will take place on Friday, April 1st, 2016.

The Awards Night will follow the Annual SAA meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2016. A sign up sheet for food donations for that night will be available at the Gallery.

We are always looking for members to join us in our search for the talented high school seniors who are deserving of scholarship money. If this sounds like a committee you would like to be on, please email gerrybresnahan@myfairpoint.net.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CLASSES, & TIDBITS:

TWO NEW CLASSES FOR DECEMBER:

"Acrylic Painting for Beginners" runs from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

"Learn to Draw" runs from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

Both classes run for 8 weeks and start December 1, 2015. The cost of each class is \$145.00. Ten per cent of the fee is donated to the SAA Scholarship Fund. For info about this class and supplies needed, contact instructor Revelle Taillon at 603-382-3397. Minimum class size is 3 students. Maximum students is 6. Classes are held at the SAA Gallery, 225 Water Street, Exeter, NH 03833.

www.seacoastartist.org



*Michele Fennell
as Featured Artist*



*Leaves piling up inside the gallery
during NH Open Doors*



Monotype demo during NH Open Doors



Unlocked Mysteries on display

NEWS FROM THE GALLERY:

What a fabulous fall we were blessed with! The sun filled days and spectacular colors just kept coming. I have noticed the richness of autumn has been an inspiration to many of our artists and has been captured in their work. If you haven't stopped by the gallery recently, you must, and you will see no one is completely ready to give in to winters' blues and grays just yet. Though there are hints of what's to come...

Autumn in the art world was as busy, if not more so, than I predicted. The Mystery Kit show intended to be up for only one weekend was SO wonderful we just had to make space and keep the unlocked mysteries up for the entire month of October. This show elicited much interest and intrigue. It is a definite go for October of 2016 as a Theme Show Challenge. Now that it's been proven as possible, there's no excuse to not accept the challenge next year.

The Featured Artist wall is currently adorned with Michele Fennell's exquisite oil paintings. She hosted a well-attended reception of admirers, and visitors to the gallery can't help but admire the fine work and detail. Many times I've heard, 'there needs to be more oil painters in the gallery'. Hmmm.... I agree.

The trial show "Celebrating Abundance" held in the Millspace in Newmarket was also a success. Though limited this year in gallery open times, it was a wonderful 'foot in the door' of a really wonderful new venue to hold special shows. Thanks for all who contributed and stopped by to check it out.

What can be said about the SAA Members Only show but WOW!!! It was very rewarding to hang so many truly beautiful and varied works of art in the lovely Town Hall Gallery. As mentioned at the reception in the juror's statement, it was a real challenge to choose winners. Congratulations to those who did receive ribbons. Not often do I feel everyone who participated deserved a prize, but I feel they did here.

The first weekend in November played host to NH Open Doors, a statewide touring and shopping event focusing on the arts, crafts, and NH made products. SAA took part in this and joined a local branch called the Seacoast Fine Art and Sugar Tour. Many visitors who otherwise would not have been wandering the streets of Exeter that weekend came through our doors and had the opportunity to enjoy not only the art on our walls, but also take a try at creating their own unique monotype (I love mine!), thanks to Annick, or create a spectacular watercolor autumn leaf to frame or turn into a greeting card. The visitors truly enjoyed interacting with the artists present, which is what it's all about. Next year, please consider getting involved in this event. Not only for SAA, but it's great self-promotion.

Now through Christmas we have on display over 70 small works of art priced for giving at \$100 or less. Such a variety of subjects and styles, you are sure to find something for that someone on your list who deserves a special gift. A gift of art is a gift from and for the heart – zero fat, zero calories, allergen free, and the perfect accessory to any wall.

In November we welcomed a dynamic new member, Bonnie Lynn Demanche to our gallery and as a Board member. Bonnie does unique and very detailed colored pencil work as well as strong black and white Zentangle type word illustrations. It's always fun to have something new on our walls. Bonnie has also answered my prayers by taking on the decorating of the tree for the Exeter Area Chamber's Festival of Trees taking place December 3rd at the Exeter Town Hall. This event raises funds for warm clothing for area children in need, along with warming the season by kicking off "Ring in the Season" weekend in Exeter offering a wide variety of holiday events for all ages.

December 4th, from 4-7, please join us for a special Featured Artist Reception. Bill Childs has generously invited all the gallery members to hang one additional piece of art on this wall for the months of December and January. Please do come and meet the artists. It may inspire you to become a gallery member yourself.

As 2015 turns its head toward the exit sign, we turn our eyes toward the welcome sign and open them wide with anticipation for what's to come in during 2016. A new venue for our gallery perhaps? More shows? New gallery members? An excitement is growing and members are surfacing, ready to get involved adding new energy to SAA. Be one of those doers. We need everyone's input.

I end this year with deep gratitude for all we are so richly blessed with. Take time to enjoy your loved ones during this holiday season. Hope for peace, and welcome the blessings of a new year.

— Mary Jane Solomon

SAA MEMBERS ONLY SHOW:



The juror in action!

"Kayaker on Chauncey Creek" is a very blue painting, I love blues. I arrived at the bridge over the creek in the early evening when the sun was well over it's decent, seeing the light was both dark and silvery light it was not going to last long! Busy talking to photographer and setting up I surveyed the angle. It felt good and was close to the side not the middle. The blue of the sky reflected strongly on the water.

First a painterly and energetic sketch, often in pure water to get a feel of HOW I want to brush the paint on, a mistro's warm-up with nothing to see. Next a brush of paint, it lands and swirls around feeling it's own way. I enjoy the way paint moves on it's own. So the painting evolves all over from one part to the next with balance or imbalance if that's the way it goes...with purpose and quickly.

The sun seemed to stand still long enough to get the bones of it. I finished later with a couple of strokes to darken the lower left corner leaving the rest alone since a watercolor can be akin to Haiku, the writing of a moment in time. To me, this painting represents the first inspiration an artist has for a painting to come.

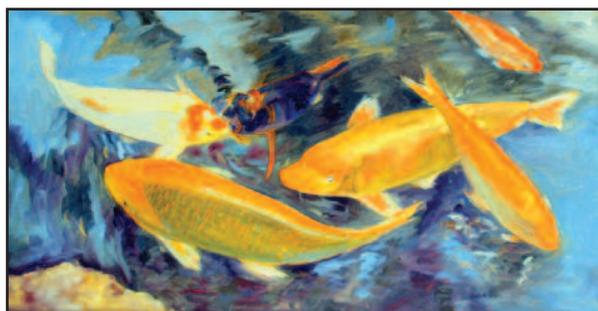
Thank You SAA for the opportunity!

—Lisa Lynn Alyson



1st Place

*"Kayaker on Chauncey Creek"
by Lisa Lynn Alyson*



*Grace Daly takes
2nd Place
"Dancing Koi"*

"I love to create and painting is one of my passions. Every painting starts off with an idea or inspiration from nature, people or a place. I hope to capture the moment as the painting evolves and I work through it. It's always a experience as I put myself into the canvas and hope to convey that feeling to others".

Grace Daly, artist and designer, has spent over 30 years working in the graphic design field a an Art Director and Graphic Designer. She studied fine art and graphic design graduating with distinction from the Boston Museum School of Fine Arts and Northern Essex Community College. Throughout the years, Grace has kept up her interest and love of painting and drawing.

Grace paints weekly with a plein air group (Band of Brushes) and in good weather travels to paint in local areas. She also continues to explore on-going classes in drawing, watercolor, oils and pastels from local artists. She has traveled to paint in France and Italy. Her work is exhibited locally and is in private collections.

Grace is a member of the Newburyport Art Association and the Seacoast Artist Association. She enjoys exploring all forms of mediums and crafts; oils, pastel, watercolor, acrylic, pen and ink, collage, photography, and beading. Each medium offers unique challenges for expressing herself.

—Grace Daly gdaly1@comcast.net

*DaveThompson
takes 3rd Place:
"Mount Washington
Auto Road"*



Dave Thompsen is a photographer from the seacoast region of New Hampshire, whose works focus on seascapes, landscapes, and architecture. He often uses High Dynamic Range processing and artistic filters on his images to give them a unique, painterly look. Dave is a member of the Seacoast Artist, New Hampshire Art, and Newburyport Art Associations. His works can also be seen on the web at dthompson.com.

DECEMBER GALLERY MEMBER SHOW

When it became apparent that there was a December-January opening in the Featured Artist schedule it seemed that we were all going to be pretty busy with the holiday exhibit schedule to have time for anyone to mount a one person display. So, I thought what if all the hanging members each contributed one painting! We could have a capsule display of all the gallery members and show off just how wonderful we are!

— Bill Childs



Bill Child's "Island House"



*PatCorlin
"Midwinter Nights Dream"*



*Jim Faist, "Breakwater, Clouds and Light
#1- Provincetown, Mass"*



Elaine Sylvester, "Glass Balls"



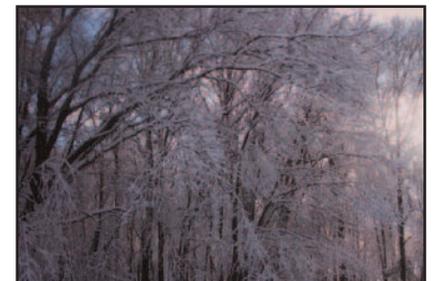
*Dave Thompsen,
"Phillips Exeter Academy Chapel"*



Natalie Rotman Cote, "Fall Sheeps"



Kevin Talbot, "Loon with Chicks"



Pat Boyd Roberston, "Winter Blues"

THEME SHOWS CHALLENGES FOR 2016:

Theme shows are open to members and non-members alike. All work must be framed in a professional manner complete with a wire hanger, sized at 16"x20" or less including frame, and properly labeled on the back with artist, title, medium, and price. For a more consistent appearance on the wall, we recommend frames of brown, black, gold, or silver.

Fee for SAA members: \$10.00 per piece up to two pieces, non-members: \$20.00 per piece up to two pieces. Pieces 16"x20" up to 24"x30" will count as two for \$20.00/\$40.00

*See Nov/Dec show for change in specs

Receptions will be held the first Fridays of the month from 4 – 7.

Let It Snow

Drop off Jan. 2

Pick Up Jan. 30

Reception Jan. 8

After last winter, the challenge here is to still find the beauty and excitement in a good old New England snowstorm. For you does it come from being outside in a winter wonderland of powder and ice crystals, or is it better viewed through a window while being toasty by a blazing fire?

Black and White

Drop Off Jan. 30

Pick Up Feb. 27

Reception Feb. 5

The challenge this month is to turn the bleakness of February into a strong expression of mood, contrast, the suggestion of color, and shadows using only black and white and maybe 50 shades in between.

Wild with Color

Drop Off Feb. 27

Pick Up March 26

Reception March 4

Had enough of winter whites? Take March mud season by the horns and show us your true colors. Wake up those who hibernate with a shout out in colors splashed upon our wall.

Feathers and Fur

Drop Off March 26

Pick Up April 30

Reception April 1

Who doesn't have a special furry or feathered friend? We challenge you to capture the texture of their coat and the personality coming out from beneath. This is always a favorite show melting hearts of visitors.



The tiniest art appreciators are the most colorful



*Annick Bouvron-Gromek
"Fall Inspiration"*



*Window teaser to the
Small Works Show*



*Shirley Lyle with her
"Foreign Places"
'Best of Show'*