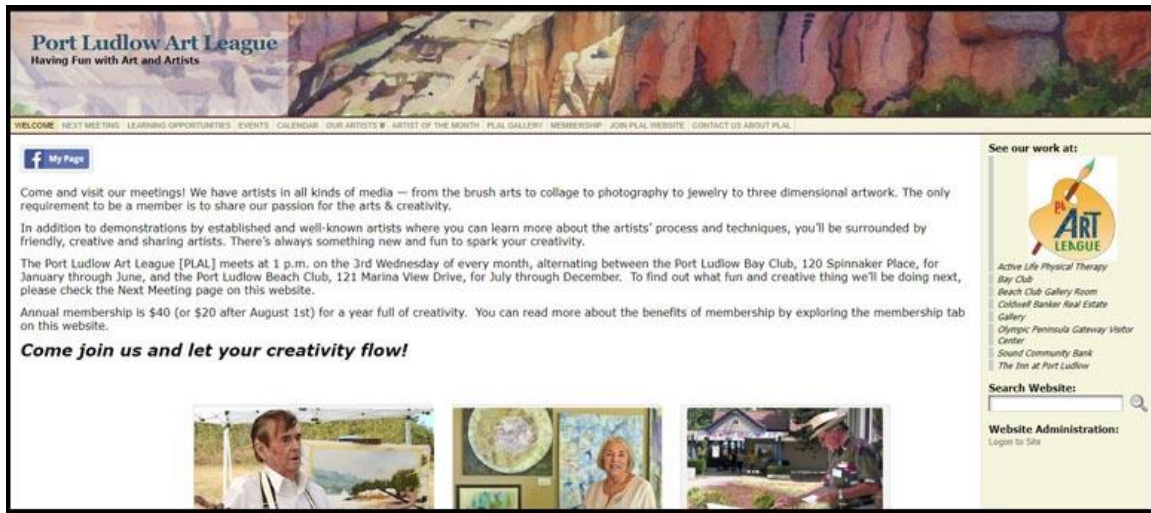


Good News! Web News!

Port Ludlow Artists' League will be starting the New Year at their meeting on **Wednesday, January 16th**, with **Bob Selby**, owner of **Olympic Mist Web Services**. Selby, who is designing the League's new website, will be showing the various features of the new webpage, walking members through the steps of how to set up their own pages. This will allow each member to display his or her own artwork on the League's new webpage.



As a retired web designer for SBC Communication, Selby formed his own company in 2001 with the goal of helping people build low-cost, high-quality websites. "Currently I am moving more and more clients to WordPress which gives them access to update their website without any additional software. Plus, WordPress allows access to thousands of software modules created by a massive support community," he says. "For me, it's like having a building full of programmers just waiting to improve your website. Plus, they generally work for free!"

In addition to web design, Selby is an avid photographer, movie creator, glass artist, and also likes to dabble in graphic design. "Besides the creative aspect of my work, I enjoy working with customers, making their vision come alive on the internet!" says Selby.

Petite Galleries All Around the Village!

A fresh new year and fresh new exhibits come to our Port Ludlow Village Merchants by way of the Port Ludlow Artists' League's quarterly displays. The talented artists work in many different styles and mediums, and our loyal merchants provide places where that art can be viewed. So, check out all those little galleries at these places of business while you're checking out the services that these merchants provide:

PLAL MERCHANT EXHIBITS:

*Active Life Physical Therapy ~
Coldwell Banker ~
Columbia Bank Conference Room ~
Home Instead Senior Care ~
Mats Mats Chiropractic ~
Port Ludlow Community Church ~
The Inn at Port Ludlow ~*

JANUARY THRU MARCH 2013

Christine Witte - Watercolors
Fran Bodman - Acrylics
Wanda Mawhinney - Oils
Carol Durbin - Acrylics
Jeanne Joseph – Graphite, Acrylics
Barbara Adams - Watercolors
January/February Exhibit - PLAL Artists

Additionally, **The Inn at Port Ludlow** provides a larger venue for even more great art! This display changes out every two months and carries a specific theme; in **January and February** the theme is **“Frame-Up!”** Visit the Inn and see the many variations to that mostly unadorned and under-appreciated little bit of wood surrounding each picture or photograph. You’ll be in for a treat to the eyes and your tummy as well!



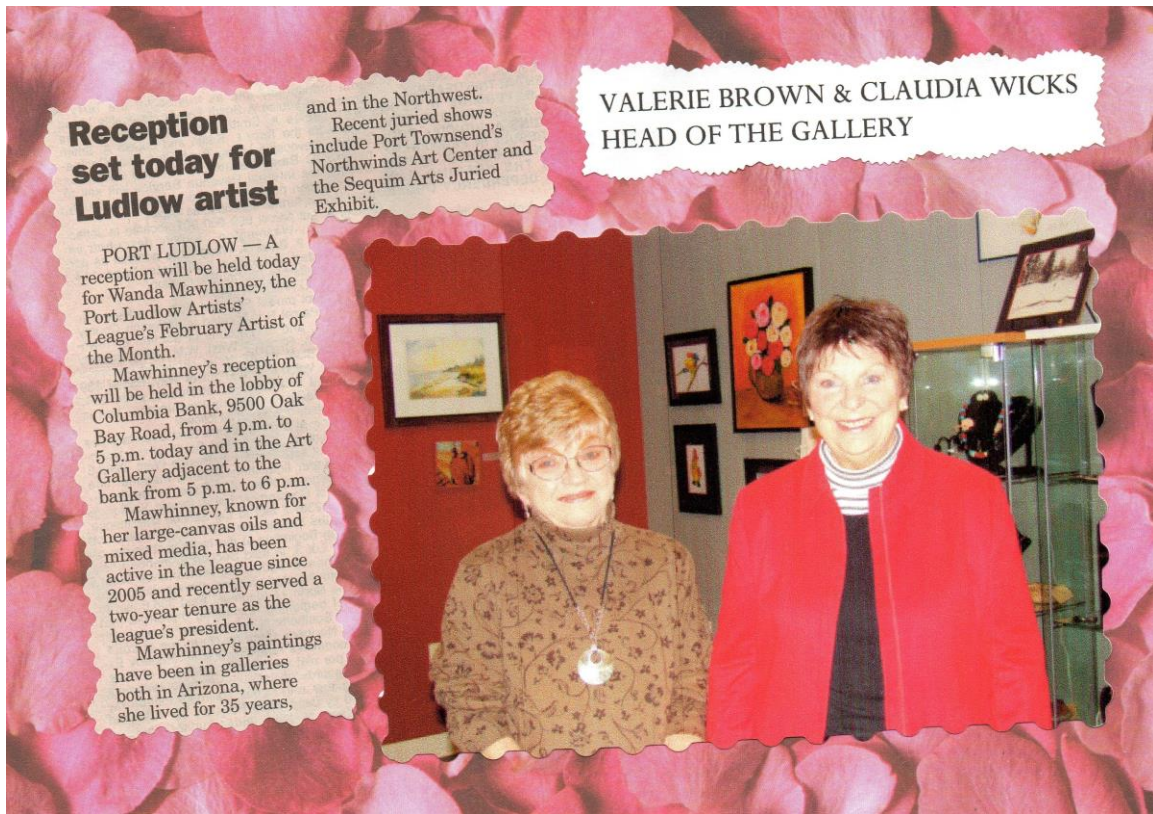
**Port Ludlow Artists’ League
Features Wanda Mawhinney**

The League’s February Artist of the Month, **Wanda Mawhinney**, will be featured in the lobby of Columbia Bank, Oak Bay Road. Mawhinney, known for her large canvas oils and mixed media, has been active in the League since 2005, has recently stepped down from a two-year tenure as the League’s president.

Her use of vibrant colors, unusual design, and bold composition and line create a style that is her signature

“As an experimental painter, every new canvas is an intuitive adventure; I have no preconceived ideas when I begin. My challenge is to use color and texture to build rich layers of paint while incorporating materials that fascinate me.”

Mawhinney’s paintings have been in galleries in both Arizona where she lived for 35 years, and here in the Northwest. Recent juried shows include Port Townsend’s Northwinds Art Center and the Sequim Arts Juried Exhibit in both 2006 and 2009.



**Reception
set today for
Ludlow artist**

PORT LUDLOW — A reception will be held today for Wanda Mawhinney, the Port Ludlow Artists' League's February Artist of the Month.

Mawhinney's reception will be held in the lobby of Columbia Bank, 9500 Oak Bay Road, from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. today and in the Art Gallery adjacent to the bank from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Mawhinney, known for her large-canvas oils and mixed media, has been active in the league since 2005 and recently served a two-year tenure as the league's president.

Mawhinney's paintings have been in galleries both in Arizona, where she lived for 35 years,

and in the Northwest. Recent juried shows include Port Townsend's Northwinds Art Center and the Sequim Arts Juried Exhibit.

VALERIE BROWN & CLAUDIA WICKS
HEAD OF THE GALLERY

Artists' League February Happenings

Ah, February – the month for hearts and flowers and declarations of love. One history of Valentine's Day (according to Wikipedia) is that it actually began as a liturgical celebration of an early Christian saint, Valentinus, who was imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry, and for ministering to Christians, who were persecuted under the Roman Empire. The association with romantic love came from Geoffrey Chaucer in the High Middle Ages, when the tradition of courtly love flourished. By the 15th century, it had evolved into an occasion in which lovers expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards known as "valentines."

With that little bit of history in mind, come to the Port Ludlow Artists' Gallery adjacent to Columbia Bank and see our local artists express their ideas on the "Faces of Love." You will find love in the many faces represented in many different ways –children, and adults, pets, and other things that will bring a smile to your heart. What a great place to pick up something for your Valentine!

February also brings a new artist to the League general meeting. **Christy Camerer**, charcoal and colored pencil artist, began sketching in elementary school drawing for classmates in charcoal pencil. A Northwest Washington native, she has always had a strong love for the amazing mountains, waterways and for animals. Her Grandmother Beryl Williams encouraged her to pursue her dreams and passions and with the years her talent grew.

Camerer took up watercolor for a period of time, but desired more detail. She found color pencil to be the medium of choice, and was told by family members to go beyond just drawing gifts for friends and family. This began Bluewater Artworks, a husband and wife team that develops fine art, prints, and note cards. All matting, framing and fitting work is done in-house to produce a superior archival product. Both avid hikers and kayakers, photography from these outings are used primarily as the source for inspiration on a project. Christy and husband, Russ, live in Poulsbo and own the new Bluewater gallery situated where the old Nielsen's store used to be (for all of you old-timers!)

March Winds at Port Ludlow Artists' Gallery

Blown in by the winds will be new art from your favorite artists as March is the change-out for both the Port Ludlow Artists' League Gallery and The Inn at Port Ludlow. While the Gallery will be displaying the best of Ludlow's finest in all manner of topics and representations, artists displaying at The Inn will meet the challenge of art in *Black & White*. The old joke "what is black and white and red all over?" will be answered in an amazing display for the months of March and April. Stop by the Inn, have a glass of wine and check out this challenge – black & white has never been so colorful!

The paintings of the League's February Artist of the Month, **Wanda Mawhinney**, featured in the lobby of Columbia Bank, Oak Bay Road, will remain up until the end of March. Mawhinney's, colorful canvases are strong and bold, hinting at scenes both real and dreamed – all in "the eyes of the beholder."

How Have You Felted Lately?

The Port Ludlow Artists' League regular March meeting is pleased to have **Kim Thomson** of Port Townsend presenting the program. For those of you who attend the Port Townsend Saturday Farmers Market during the spring and summer, Thomson is the one with the other-worldly felted creatures, wild dolls and crazy hats all done in felted wool. Another hint: she's usually got perched on her head, a felted hat adorned with a ball of yarn and a pair of knitting needles. She's hard to miss!

After the early years of crayons, finger paint, and gluing beans onto things, Thomson began painting in oils at about the age of 12. A number of years later, she received a BA in painting from UCSB and an MFA in painting from Columbia University. Settling in Santa Fe, New Mexico she explored various subjects in a variety of mediums including oil on linen, acrylic, gouache, serigraph and monotype. She sold her work through galleries in Santa Fe, Scottsdale, Austin, San Diego and Kansas City. In 2001, after becoming chemically sensitive from years of exposure to her art materials and faced with having to give them up, she moved to Washington State and played fiddle on street corners while living in the forest.

One winter with the idea of getting warm, Thomson loaded up her bicycle, fiddle and tent, setting out for New Zealand to play on corners in a warmer climate. While pedaling from town to town she couldn't help but notice sheep – a lot of them! She stopped to visit friends near the bottom of the North Island and began knitting with them, and her new career in wool was begun. Thomson returned home to Washington and began selling her wool things (sculptural vessels and wall pieces, as well as hats, gloves, pins, scarves, purses, and dolls) at the Port Townsend Farmers Market. She enjoys processing raw fleeces and dyeing, carding and spinning or felting them. Currently she is working on a series of egg tempera paintings (completely non-toxic) that are related to the sculptural forms she has discovered by working in wool. Thomson and her work can be found at **Thomson Art Forms**, a studio and gallery on Water St. in Port Townsend.

“Art Gala” to be held by the Port Ludlow Artists’ League

Outstanding artwork by members of the Port Ludlow Artists’ League will be available for sale from 4 pm - 7 pm, Saturday, April 13th at the Port Ludlow Bay Club when the League sponsors its annual **“Art Gala”** (previously known as the Scholarship Auction).

With generous community support during the past seven years, the League has been able to provide over \$15,000 in scholarships to 18 Chimacum-area students. Students pursuing majors or minors in the visual arts, drama, and music have been helped with their college expenses by the money raised from the League’s annual art auction.

This year, the League will be trying something new. In this one-night-only event, art will be available in four areas at the Gala: **“Silent Auction”** - artists will be offering artwork in a silent auction ending at 6:45 pm.; **“Buy it Now”** - small items such as cards, bookmarks, and jewelry will be for sale at a stated price; **“Price as Marked”**- larger pieces of art, both framed and unframed, will be for sale at a fixed price; and, **“Quick Draw”**- artists Kathy Constantine (mixed media), Gary Griswold (watercolors) and Bob Jamison (oils) will be creating artwork that evening during the event. These original pieces of artwork will be available for sale throughout the evening in a live auction.

Entry to the event is \$5 a person, which entitles the bearer to appetizers and a glass of wine. Tickets for the Gala are on sale now and are available from a League member, at the League’s Gallery (located next door to the Columbia Bank in the upper village) or at the door the night of the Gala. Information about the Gala and pictures of some of the available artwork can be viewed on the League’s web page www.portludlowart.org under the Events tab.

The Gala is a wonderful opportunity to pick up artwork from a local artist and help a local college-bound student at the same time.

Port Ludlow Artists’ League 2013 Scholarships

The Port Ludlow Artists League is pleased to announce the 2013 recipients of the League's scholarships. Three graduating seniors will receive money from the League to pursue their college degrees, with money also going to four previous recipients.

Elena Sharpe will receive \$1000 to pursue a degree in art from Cornish College of the Arts. "Art has always been a better way of communication for me," she says. In addition to her passion for art, Elena is an avid horsewoman who participates on the Equestrian Team. She graduates from Chimacum High School with a 3.44 grade average.

Morgan Music and Maxwell Peet will each receive \$500 towards their college studies. Morgan plans to study music at Eastern Washington University. Her long term goal is to become a band director. She graduates with a 3.73 grade average. Maxwell also plans to study music in college with an emphasis on music composition. His goal is to attend Brigham Young University. He graduates with a 3.58 grade average.

The League is also pleased to be able to continue to support four previous Chimacum graduates. For the past three years, the League has given a scholarship to **Rosaletta Curry, who will receive \$1000** this year to continue her studies in drama at Ithaca College. Rosaletta just completed her junior year studying abroad at Gaiety School of Acting in Dublin and the prestigious London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. Cali Kopczick is also receiving a \$1000 scholarship to continue her studies in English and writing at the University of Washington. Cali has been accepted in the school's Creative Writing program. Well-known local musician **Jarrett Hansen will also receive a \$1000** scholarship to continue his study of music at Central Washington University. **Jordan Alban Vallat will receive a \$300** scholarship to continue her studies at Seattle Central Community College.

To generate money for scholarships for students looking to pursue degrees in creative endeavors, the Port Ludlow Artists' League held an Art Gala this April. This year, almost \$5000 was raised to help these students.

The League would like to congratulate all these recipients, as well as thank the larger community for the support of the League's scholarship efforts.

PLAL Honors Collage Artist, Marilyn Sandau

The Port Ludlow Artists' League will be featuring collage artist Marilyn Sandau as April's Artist of the Month. A one-woman show of her colorful and intricate collages will be displayed at Columbia Bank, as well as several of her pieces in the "*Black & White*" show going on at The Inn at Port Ludlow through April.

Generally color-driven rather than thematic, Sandau has currently been working on more abstract collages and experimenting with various textures to give her pieces more body and depth. Inspiration for one collage oftentimes expands the work into a series or grouping.

A member of the Northwest Collage Society, Sandau's works have in hung in various galleries from Vermont and Massachusetts, to local galleries in Port Townsend, Port Ludlow and Sequim. Recent solo shows have included one of the Concert Series at the Bay Club, and participation in Port Townsend's Art Walk with her collages displayed at the Wine Seller this past December. In March, Sandau was on an artists' panel presenting to the AAUW (American Association of University Women). Currently, her collages hang at the Blue Raincoat Gallery in Port Townsend.

What You See Isn't Always What You Get!

At the April 17th meeting of the Port Ludlow Artists' League regular meeting will be photographer Gary Settle, speaking on "Composition in Art and Photography." Born and raised in Kansas, Settle has been a Port Ludlow resident for almost nine years. He got into photography at his father's knee, and by his 16th birthday he was a part-time darkroom boy and photographer at his hometown newspaper. His course was set!

Settle's 45-year career in photojournalism included such newspapers as The Chicago Daily News and The New York Times in the 60's and 70's. He was named the Newspaper Photographer of the Year in both 1968 and 1970, was president of the National Press Photographers' Association in 1977-78, all high honors.

With his artist wife Patti, Gary came to the Seattle area in 1979 to accept a job as the Assistant Managing Editor/Graphics at The Seattle Times, where he was responsible for supervising the photography and art departments, as well as the overall design of the newspaper. Retiring in Port Ludlow has given him a wealth of scenery and subjects to photograph, not the least of which is the well-known Sophie, his Siamese cat who graces many of his photos.



Gallery Flash!

Starting May 1st, the Port Ludlow Art Gallery will be open ***Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 pm.***

Located adjacent to Columbia Bank, the gallery's hours are changing to better accommodate the League's fans and clients. The Gallery is a great place to take a break and feast your eyes— there's always inspiration waiting to be found there.

The Gallery change-out brings great new artwork for May and June. The Inn at Port Ludlow will also be showing off new art which will have a nautical/boating theme. Stop by both of these venues to check out the works of your favorite artists and enjoy how they see the world!

All You Ever Wanted to Know about Gel Prints!

The Port Ludlow Artists' League May meeting will feature Kathy Constantine, a multi-talented artist, speaking on the processes and techniques of gel prints.

Constantine is a self-taught artist and really thinks of herself as an “art experimenter!” She works primarily in acrylics and pastels, using hand-colored and hand-formed papers along with computer-drawn or painted images and photography to create her artwork. She is particularly drawn to layers, texture, metals, metal foils, and iridescent colors. Her works vary in style from abstract to impressionistic to primitive, and her paintings often include figurative birds and animals, as well as the human form.

Constantine's other passion includes jewelry which she creates from miniature images of her artwork and is sold at galleries and stores throughout the Pacific Northwest. Locally, *About Time* in Port Townsend carries her line of jewelry.

Her works have been accepted into many juried shows, including the “Best of the Northwest” and Art Port Townsend. Northwinds Art Center exhibits have included her works in their shows “Collage,” “Spirit of Place,” and “Pieceworks,” where she won a merit award. One of Constantine's mixed-media collages was selected for publication in “*Incite: Dreams Realized,*” a book on mixed-media to be published by North Lights Books in September, 2013.

Gail Larson Honored as May's Artist of the Month

Artist of the Month, Gail Larson, a multi-talented artist, exhibits her colorful paintings and collage pieces during the month of May in the lobby of Columbia Bank, Oak Bay Road.

Larson starts her paintings, as well as her collages, with a primary focus on design and value (color).

“Letting go with my subconscious in charge, my most successful pieces are those that seem to progress on their own. I let myself truly enjoy the process,” says Larson. Her formal education includes the Cornish Art Institute, Shoreline Community College, North Seattle Community College, and many workshops with locally and nationally recognized artists. In 1996, she received “Signature Membership” in the National Collage Society, and is an active member of the Northwest Collage Society. Her pieces have been shown in various venues on the Peninsula, including the Sequim Arts Shows and Port Ludlow’s “Festival by the Bay.” She has received awards in collage, water media and oils.



The Strange World of Constantine!

ARTIST RECEPTION
4 ~ 6 PM
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

Featuring: Kathy Constantine



Self-taught artist Kathy Constantine of Port Ludlow Artists' League, is June's Artist of the Month. Her artwork will dress the walls of Columbia Bank in June and the collection is a must-see by artists and art-lovers alike.

Constantine's style is primarily impressionistic and tends to the abstract or primitive, and she favors using layers upon layers in her works. Colorful and bold, her pictures evoke an unfolding mystery as images float up from the depths and coalesce to create imaginative scenes from her mind's eye view of the world. Constantine's pictures range from serious and thought-provoking to caricature and whimsy, and present a vision whose meaning is to be discovered by the viewer.

Join us the second Wednesday of the month for a glass of wine and hors d'oeuvres, while viewing the new artwork and meeting the artists.



Music Curled Her Hair



The Moon Watcher

He Was Framed!

Make that "He *Is* the Framer!" Russ Camerer, framer and gallery owner will be at the June 19th meeting of the Port Ludlow Artists' League, to speak on the art of framing, preparing, and showing artwork. Ever been in awe at a museum or gallery where the picture is not just surrounded by pieces of wood but *enhanced* by the frame? Camerer will be sharing the do's and don'ts, the how to's and why's of frames that can make or break a piece of artwork. He will also sharing tips on preparing and showing artwork, something every artist needs to know more about.

Camerer and wife, Christy, own the Bluewater Artworks in Poulsbo which evolved from a husband and wife team developing fine art, prints, and note cards and now includes matting and framing. All work is done in-house to produce a superior archival product that enhances the artwork as well as protects it. Along with the framing side of the business, their Bluewater Gallery showcases many talented local artists in a wide variety of mediums.

Artists in Action



For those of you who enjoy the good foods, fresh produce and array of specialty items by the vendors at Port Ludlow's Farmers Market, there is an additional attraction on the 3rd Friday of each month this summer that will pique your interest. The Port Ludlow Artists' League will have an *Artist in Action* who will create masterpieces before your very eyes! Gail Larson was our June Artist in Action; look for Ginny Ford on July 19th and Gary Griswold on August 16th, each from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Stop by the tent, watch them work on new masterpieces, and see a sampling of the artwork that is available at the Artists' League Gallery. Warm summer days are not only for making art but also for showing it off. July, August and September will have the following artists displaying at our local businesses:

Clint Webb's watercolors at Active Life Physical Therapy; Wanda Mawhinney's bold oils at the Beach Club Gallery Room; Cathy Thomas's watercolors at Coldwell Banker Real Estate; Barbara Adams' local watercolor scenes at the Columbia Bank Conference Room; Carol Durbin's Sumi-e at Home Instead Senior Care; Jeanette Best's paintings at Mats Mats Chiropractic; Penny Sanzaro's watercolors at Port Ludlow Community Church; and Randy Radock's block prints at the Port Ludlow Golf Course.

July also brings new art to The Inn at Port Ludlow with a *Farms & Garden* theme which continues through August. Stop by these local merchants and admire their walls ... and services too!

And don't forget the Festival by the Bay where the Artists' League will have 18+ artists showcasing their works in the old Harbor Master Restaurant, July 26, 27, 28. This will

be a great time to meet your favorite artists and check out all the new pieces they've been creating.

Art Walk at the Port Ludlow Festival by the Bay

Port Ludlow Artists' League annual Art Walk and Sale will again be held during the *Port Ludlow Festival by the Bay* at the Port Ludlow marina. Inside the old Harbor Master restaurant, will be 20+ talented artists participating and presenting a show of various mediums ranging from paintings in watercolors, oils, and collage to block prints, photography, gourds, jewelry and other fine art. The Art Walk hours will be noon to 5:00 pm Friday, July 26th, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Saturday, 27th, and 10:00 am to 3:00 pm on Sunday, the 28th. An inspiring and easy walk all in one venue, the Art Walk is an opportunity to visit with your favorite artists and meet some new, soon to be favorites. More information can be obtained by contacting President Carol Durbin at 360.437.0204 or by e-mail at gramcr@aol.com.

Festival By the Bay 2013





Artists' League Weather Report for July



The forecast for the Port Ludlow Artists' League's July 17th meeting is warm with blue skies, intense creative activity, and a smattering of engaging conversations! After a brief business segment, the majority of the meeting will be devoted to a *Plein Air Picnic* at the Beach Club. Members bring your favorite art mediums, your creative juices, a sack lunch, and prepare to thoroughly enjoy the summer's day! If you are an aspiring artist but not yet a member, this would be a good time to meet this inspiring group of individuals and check out all the talent and methods they use to create a body of work worthy to be in any gallery worth its salt!

Through the Lens of Rick McKenzie

ARTIST RECEPTION
4 ~ 6 PM
WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

Featuring: Rick McKenzie



An avid shutterbug since youth, McKenzie grew up in Massachusetts and after service in the Marine Corps attended college in California where he earned a degree in Forestry and studied photography. For twenty years he managed commercial landscaping and the view of natural surroundings led him to photograph natural architecture.

Since moving to Washington, "I've had one adventure after the next. The love of the outdoors and photography in landscape, nature and wildlife has evolved into more of a passion to share my experiences with others," says McKenzie.

His work has been displayed at Northwinds Gallery in Port Townsend, and currently his photographs are displayed in Port Hadlock at Sunshine Propane, Shear Attractions, Hadlock Motel, and Edward Jones as well as in Port Ludlow at the Artists' League Gallery, Active Care, and The Inn at Port Ludlow. In 2000, McKenzie started online [Pixture You.com](http://PixtureYou.com) and uses this venue to share his love of the outdoors and nature's exciting splendor with all who view his exquisite photography.

A copy of his photograph, "Sol Duc Falls" is shown at right.

The Artists' League extends an invitation to all to join them in honoring Rick McKenzie at the **Second Wednesday Reception on July 10th, from 4:00-5:00 p.m.** in the lobby of Columbia Bank, Oak Bay Road. In addition, the Art Gallery, adjacent to the bank, will be hosting new artwork by members of the League from **4:00-6:00 p.m.** that same evening. Regular Gallery hours are 12-noon to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.



Sol Duc Falls

Hot August Artist of the Month!

A founding member of the Port Ludlow Artists' League, Kathy Follett will be honored as the August Artist of the Month. Her paintings will be on display in the lobby of Columbia Bank in the upper Port Ludlow Village for the month of August. Although her art major specialized in sculpture, she is a talented artist not only in three-dimensional works but as a painter as well.

Follett, Canadian-born, who lived in New York before moving to Washington, draws inspiration for her paintings and sculptures from the landscapes of northern New York and the Puget Sound region of Western Washington as well as her world-wide travels, hitchhiking alone through 26 countries in Europe and North Africa. Even her experiences of 44 skydiving jumps can be found in some of her artwork! Her sculptures are in such mediums as cast bronze, polyester resin (fiberglass); plaster over welded steel, cast aluminum, cast paper and fiber. She paints in oils, acrylic and watercolors. Follett is truly a renaissance artist with a mastery of a variety mediums and techniques.

Artists' League Meets the Challenge!

Ever been at a loss for words? Mary Lynn Laker, Port Ludlow Artists' League Program Chair, has and she hopes the League's artists will find them! Laker's "challenge" for this year is WORDS: words which inspire, whimsical or serious, esoteric or well-known, meaningful or ordinary. The members can draw from all manner of props – individual letters, stencils, anagrams, scrabble tiles, or any other letters/words that strike their fancy and is to be the basis or theme of the artwork.

The August 21st program will be devoted to the finished art pieces of each artist's WORDS and a sharing of the inspiration or meaning behind each. Past challenges have resulted in a friendly competition between the artists with the end product being an amazing gallery of talent. The WORDS exhibition will be hung in the Art Gallery (next to Columbia Bank) on August 26 and remain on display during September and October.

SEPTEMBER

Artists' League Welcomes Jeannie Grisham

September's meeting will feature Jeannie Grisham of Bainbridge Island and known for her mixed media paintings. Her talent in combining watercolor with "gouache" brings texture and depth to her paintings and she will be sharing this technique with the Port Ludlow Artists' League.

Gouache is a painting technique in which a gum or an opaque white [pigment](#) is added to watercolors to produce opacity. In [watercolor](#) the tiny particles of pigment become enmeshed in the fiber of the paper; in gouache the color lies on the surface of the paper,

forming a continuous layer, or coating. A gouache is characterized by a directly reflecting brilliance. When applied with bristle brushes it is possible to achieve a slight but effective impasto (thick-coated) quality; with sable brushes, a smooth, flawless color field is obtained. (source, the Encyclopedia Britannica.)

“I believe art should not be too serious, it is meant to be enjoyed, and should add some spice to your life,” says Grisham. Painting for her lies in the process of creating and dipping her brush in water, loading it with the pigment and introducing it to paper, takes her to a different world. The painting starts with transparent watercolor and continues developing darks while managing to keep the lights.

“During this process I usually end up adding gouache to the work. It is great fun to manipulate and adjust the textures until the results are pleasing. The painting is considered finished only when it feels just right. Any media, as long as it is water soluble, is fair game, and any tool I can think of to help create textures on hot press paper is a welcome find,” shares Grisham.

Influences of the East

The Port Ludlow Artists’ League presents “*Influences of the East*” during the month of September. Four artists, trained in the ancient “sumi-e” style of the art of Asia and one, in the “chigirie” style, will be showing and sharing their artwork in the lobby of the Columbia Bank, Oak Bay Road.

Some 2000 years old, *Sumi-e* aims to depict the spirit of the object, rather than the object itself, by expressing its simple beauty and elegance. In the art of brush painting, the artist must grasp the spirit of the subject, attempting to capture the "life spirit" of the subject.

Patience is essential in brush painting. Balance, rhythm and harmony are the qualities the artist strives for by developing patience, self-discipline and concentration. The goal of the brush painter is to use the brush with both vitality and restraint, constantly striving to be a better person because his character and personality come through in his work.

Ink painting evolved from the elegant Calligraphy of China. The stroke that forms the character for number one, becomes the trunk and branches for the bamboo tree. If you look closely at the Chinese word for horse, you can see the legs, tail and mane. It is necessary for brush painters to know enough calligraphy to sign their names and add characters of descriptive or poetic calligraphy to their finished paintings. The artist must learn to use the ink freely with a controlled brush stroke.

Ali Gruszewski was taught Asian brush stroke basics for alphabet lettering during a summer Governor's School Japanese Language Program in high school (1999). After learning the brush strokes, she was self-taught. “I am inspired by capturing the movement and essence of the image, and the simplicity of detail,” says Gruszewski.

Jeanette Best became interested in Asian art while living in San Francisco, and took a class in Chinese water color from a retired Chinese general from Taiwan. In addition to sumi workshops she took two artist trips to China, painting and watching demonstrations. “I enjoy the puzzle of trying to solve the problem I have created for myself after the first

few brush strokes are placed on the paper,” shares Best. She wants the person viewing her work to enjoy her interpretations and enter into that puzzle too.

Carol Avoy Durbin “lived the dream” for six years, living in Okinawa, Japan, embracing the culture and its people. She took her first sumi-e class in college and while in Japan studied with a university professor for several years. “In Japan we sat on tatami mats and, in an almost meditative state, we painted,” says Durbin. She hopes her art portrays the pleasure of simple beauty and tranquility found in Japanese art.

Ann Arscott’s love of things Oriental led her to study painting at the China Institute in NYC. some 20 years ago. She paints in the antique style on silk as well as a more contemporary Chinese style on paper. Her paintings include the traditional flowers, animals and landscapes. She is inspired by the joy of mountains, water, canyons and wilderness found here in the Northwest. Arscott’s work has appeared in the National Sumi-e regional show on the East coast, at the Institute in NYC and in Kyoto, Japan. “I am in seventh heaven here surrounded by all these sources of inspiration and delight,” she says.

Elly Peters was in Foreign Service during much of her adult life, traveling and living in many countries with the longest stay being in Japan for 13 years. An art major in college, she took lessons from other artists while in Japan and found her muse in the art of “chigirie.” An oriental art form, chigirie is the process of using handmade papers, wetting with a brush and tearing the paper at the wet marks leaving fuzzy edged shapes, laying them onto the board and drawing or painting on the paper to make a more or less abstract picture. Peters’ took the basics of that process and “... ran with it; the end process nothing like they had seen before!” Her chigirie pictures brought her seven, one-woman shows in Japan. “They were unique and totally my own,” Peters relates.

OCTOBER

Scratchboard Art for All

Port Ludlow Artists’ League advertises all year long that the League and meetings are for “artists and art lovers” and so one will want to miss this month’s meeting on **Wednesday, October 16th**, 1:00 pm at the **Beach Club**. Two of the League’s artists will be showing a “side medium” called ‘scratchboard,’ departing a bit from their usual genre of abstract/acrylics, sumi-e and local scenes in watercolor and ink.

Carol Durbin loves to create and has a hard time confining her art to one medium. She has an ongoing passion for most things Japanese, delighting in creating Ikebana floral arrangements and her simple, yet elegant sumi-e cards. When feeling a need to let loose, she plays with acrylics on canvas. Occasionally, she likes to experiment with watercolors, small sculpture and even shaving cream and ink.

Barbara Adams paints in watercolor with pen and ink from photos of houses, churches, boats, boathouses, golf course holes, marina sights, and especially, all things local. She

routinely makes prints and cards from most of these paintings. Last fall she printed paintings on coffee mugs that tell who she is: “Just playin’ a round in Port Ludlow” or “Finding JOY in Port Ludlow” and her woman-activist cards and cups, “Let the Woman Speak.”

These two artists will be showing their scratchboard art and encouraging each one present to “scratch around on your own” by providing a half sheet of paper with black ink over white or multi-color surface. So bring a drawing, photo or design and your favorite stylus (a sharpened wood stick) and come join in the fun; whether an artist or art lover, “...we’ll all be creative and explore together” says Durbin. Come scratch a little and discover hidden talents!!

A Marti Mathis Exhibition in Port Ludlow

October’s here and the Port Ludlow Artists’ League celebrates fall with Marti Mathis, Artist of the Month. During October, Mathis’ watercolors will be on display in the lobby of Columbia Bank. For those of the community who know Mathis, it is obvious her love of painting is an integral part of who she is. She started drawing and painting when she was five years old and is as natural to her as breathing!

Mathis’ paintings encompass a wide variety of subjects, but flowers are her favorite as she works at portraying their amazing colors and shapes, and capturing the sunlight as it casts patterns of shadows dancing on the petals and leaves. While she does paint from photographs, most of her subjects are real life. “Still subjects are a fun challenge, and although they don’t move around, they do tend to have a short table life which means, I need to paint, now!” says Mathis. For her, every day is a beautiful day to paint.

Currently, Mathis’ art is on display at the Port Ludlow Art Gallery, at North Kitsap Baptist Church, Poulsbo, as well as her October show at Columbia Bank. Mathis also teaches a weekly watercolor class in her Port Ludlow studio. For more information on that subject, please e-mail her, martimathis@wavecable.com.

NOVEMBER

Keeping Art in the Family

November highlights an unusual Artist of the Month show for the Port Ludlow Artists’ League. Making art a “family affair,” Sharon Zabloney along with brother and sister-in-law, Lee and Nancy Dunn, share the spotlight at Columbia Bank this month.

Sharon’s search for an artistic medium took her through graphite, watercolor, acrylics, pastels, and colored pencils but it was in making jewelry where she found her muse. Zabloney had the opportunity to learn from several “master” silversmiths in Tucson and her jewelry soon caught the admiration of friends and family who urged her to expand her market. It was at the Tucson annual Gem and Mineral Show, several years back, where she took a one-day lesson in lampworking and fell in love with the process and creativity that making glass beads offers. Sharon will be sharing her artistic journey in this November show.

Lee came to the art world late but has made up for lost time. At the persuasion of his sister and his wife, he took a lamp-work bead making class in Olympia and was, as they say, “hooked!” Says Dunn, “I think what interests me the most about making lamp-work beads, is how different color glasses react to one another, as well as (the) blending of the different colors.” Dunn, although officially retired, still consults for his former company, but glass bead-making has become his passion.

Nancy, as a small girl, learned how to embroider from her grandmother and as her skill increased went from ironed-on designs to making her own. When her children were small, a friend encouraged her to try “counted cross stitch, and as this form of embroidery became popular, more and more intricate designs were available with stores devoted to this art-form. Many, many hours go into these thread masterpieces. “If I could work only on my cross stitch and not have interruptions (eat, sleep, bathroom privileges, etc.), I could probably finish a piece in four months by working 12-hour days,” says Dunn.

The Art of Basket Weaving

Port Ludlow Artists’ League November 20th meeting will be presented by member Jodie Morris, known for her incredible basket weaving. She will be sharing the processes she uses in weaving those beautiful baskets and necklaces as well as the history of pine needle weaving.

Morris, a native Washingtonian, attended college in Northern California and while attending College of the Redwoods, became focused on Textile Arts. Continuing at the Mendocino Art Center, she explored her interests in spinning, dyeing and weaving.



While there, she became fascinated by Native American weaving, and through a friend was introduced to a Paiute basket-weaver who taught her pine needle weaving. “My love and interest in this type of pine needle basket weaving has now lasted for 40 years,” she says. During the 1980’s she taught both pine needle and yarn basket weaving in the Rogue Valley, passing along the knowledge given to her by her Paiute friend, many years before. She continues to learn from other weavers with her weaving continually evolving as she learns new techniques.

Morris belongs to the Northwest Basket Weavers Guild of Seattle, where the focus is on the process of collecting natural materials, the techniques used to weave, the art of weaving, and the deep appreciation of the work that goes into each woven piece. Recently she added small pine needle basket necklaces, nestling a sea shell in the small pine needle basket as part of her weaving.

In addition to weaving pine needles for baskets, Morris has used seaweed, moss, sweet grass, cedar bark, bear grass, and wooden spoke weaving. She has a “... strong and deep

appreciation for the beautiful work the Pacific Northwest Native Americans put into their baskets, the many hours it takes to weave a basket, each being a work of art.”

Holiday Shopping Local

One of the best ways to support your community is by shopping local. On the Olympic Peninsula there is a wonderful selection of summer markets as well as year-round merchants from Port Ludlow to Port Townsend, Sequim and on up to Port Angeles. Holiday and gift shopping can be done right here in Port Ludlow without having to cross the bridge or take long drives just to battle full parking lots and harried salespeople. You guessed it ... the Port Ludlow Artists' League Gallery adjacent to Columbia Bank opens their **Holiday Shoppe, November 1st**. Original, one-of-a-kind paintings and drawings, prints, photographs, jewelry, wooden items, fiber arts, pottery, greeting cards and more are only a hop, skip and a jump away (for those of you who need the exercise!). Not only is it easy to reach, the added benefit is, that by buying at the Gallery, you keep the local artists from starving!

The Gallery hours from noon to 4:00 pm. Tuesday through Sunday are after most “T-times” and before happy hour, so what could be nicer than spending an afternoon going through the unique gift items found there? Let the Happy Holidays ring!

DECEMBER

Who Doesn't Like Cookies?

The Artists' League continues their new tradition for December's meeting, a cookie exchange. Oh yes, and their installation of the 2014 Officers - slightly more important than cookies, but only slightly!

Last year a unanimous decision by the League members was made to forego the annual holiday luncheon and instead, donate the party budget to the local Food Bank along with private donations from the members. Each member brings a dozen and a half of their favorite cookies to sample and exchange. The League members are not only wonderful artists but wonderful bakers too!

After a short, end-of-the-year business meeting, there will be the installation of the new board officers and the gavel is passed on. A huge Thank You! goes to the 2013 officers who have done a great job in serving the members. The Artists' League, with over 100 members, is a very active and vital group here in Port Ludlow; stop by the Gallery or the Inn to see just how talented those artists are.

The Jewels of Port Ludlow

Celebrating the “Art of Adornment,” jewelry artists of Port Ludlow Artists' League will join together as December's Artists of the Month. On display in the lobby of Columbia Bank will be a sampling of the wide range of talent and styles that these artists apply to their creations.

Mary Lynn Laker: The importance of color has always been a part of her creative process. Initially, she worked with silver and copper, but soon added stones and beads, bringing that all-important element, color, to her jewelry.

Ginny Ford: The artistic aspects of color, texture and design are important to her but it is the “engineering” of a piece that captures her imagination. She works primarily with sterling silver and copper with Asian influences showing in many of her pieces.

Linda Henderson: Jewelry making fulfills her creative spirit and helps to keep her “sane,” as she puts it. Her jewelry is both bold and colorful, and she creates a look unlike any other, no two pieces are ever alike.

Sharon Zablotney: The freedom in taking raw materials and transforming them into intricate and beautiful beads is the height of her creative process. Her jewelry incorporates all of her techniques, metal work and lamp work, giving them her distinct style.

Lee Dunn: The physical process of blending colors or seeing how one color works with another in making glass beads is challenging, and incorporating those beads into jewelry completes his creative process.

Judy Danberg: Pearls and semi-precious gems are incorporated in much of her jewelry, but her greatest challenge is finding beads or findings that have a history. Some of her beads date back to the 1750’s and using them for “today’s” jewelry is her delight.

Maggie Smith: In making her lamp work beads, the feeling of “flow” that she gets while looking into the flame as she creates beads is her favorite part of making those beads. She feels connected to an artistic process that has been practiced for centuries by artists all over the world.

As you will see, each artist has a distinct “style,” and each compliments the other in the entire presentation of the group. Please join the artists and the Artists’ League at the Second Wednesday Reception, **December 11th** from **4:00-5:00 p.m.** in the lobby of Columbia Bank, Oak Bay Road, and from **5:00-6:00 p.m.** in the Art Gallery adjacent to the bank.