

Saco Bay Artists

August 2023 Newsletter

Our meetings are held monthly from March-December, usually on the second Monday of the month from 10:30 am -12:30 pm. The meeting location is the Saco Parks & Rec Center at 75 Franklin Street in Saco. OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 - ALL WELCOME. Masks are currently optional, so do whatever makes you comfortable.



We host a “drop in” at the Rec Center on the non-meeting Mondays from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm for those who would like to get together to paint, create, chat, etc. Please let Ellen (pastelpainter84@gmail.com) know if you might like to join on those Mondays; she has been trying to email around on Sundays to see who plans to attend, which helps us in planning.

August Meeting Minutes:

- Ellen called the meeting to order and reviewed the treasurer’s report.
- Heather’s membership report noted 53 SBA members, including 4 new additions. There were a number of new faces in attendance at the meeting, so introductions were done around the room.
- Kathy gave an update on the success of the August show in Ocean Park, which had 29 registrants this year. The weather was perfect (this time!) and the show went well. Wade Harris was the judge and the winners were as follows (with his comments):
 - **Best in Show - Philip Lamson for overall booth**; consistent, high quality work
 - **First, Fine Art - Pam Shockey for Lunch at the Harbor**; paint quality, composition, color, strokes
 - **Second, Fine Art - Richard Winslow for his paintings**; paint quality, color, composition
 - **Honorable Mention, Fine Art - Rick Lang for booth**; Rustic look with framing for all his work
 - **First Prize, Fine Craft - Cheryl Goguen**; color, texture and originality
 - **Second Prize, Fine Craft - Patti Wheeler for landscape in wool felt**; texture of the piece
 - **Honorable Mention - Kathy Angel Lee for overall booth**; variety, color
 - **Bill Edmunds Award - Joe Rokowski for State Inspection Stickers**; different/unique subject matter
 - **Purchase Prize for People’s Choice Credit Union to Pam Shockey**
- The Saco Bay Artist tent was well received (see panorama photo below), although a recommendation was made to have a banner made for the tent with the SBA name, logo and web address. The motion was received and Heather and Nancy offered to work on this. There was also a suggestion to have the SBA tent at one or both of the other summer shows instead of just August.



- There is a good showing for the September show and Kathy talked to a number of artists around South Portland's Art in the Park who may be interested to participate.
- Further to SBA marketing, there was discussion about having SBA business cards or rack cards made with information about the organization. These could be handed out at shows and also stocked in community buildings around the area. A suggestion was made that perhaps the show cards that Kalleigh kindly produced could be updated with "evergreen" information about SBA.
- The Libby Library will be hanging an indoor art show for the month of September. 21 SBA artists are participating and Ellen has sent all the details separately, including artwork labels and required information. She and Sylvia will need help hanging from 6-7 pm on Thursday, August 31. Artists may bring 3 works each, at least 2 of which will be hung (ideally all 3). Pick up will occur Thursday, September 28th between 6-7 pm.

Carry over from prior meetings:

- Ellen and Sylvia met with Libby Library to discuss SBA being part of the OOB Fall Fest on Saturday, September 30. The aim is to promote local crafts and businesses to the residents of OOB. SBA is hoping to have two spaces, one of which would be a tent featuring art from our members.
- Monthly portrait sketching is again being offered at Libby Library and is taking place indoors. Participants can sketch or paint and the library pays to have a live model for each session (models needed!). The dates are the second Thursday of the month from 1:30-4:30 with two remaining sessions for the season: Sept 14 and Oct 12. Sylvia (sgorch6648@gmail.com) can add people to the call list each month if they'd like a reminder.
- For new or current members who have an online presence for their art—either a dedicated website, Instagram feed or Facebook page—you have the option to have the SBA website link to that page (see the Artists tab at the top here: <https://www.sacobayartists.org/>). If you'd like to have your page added, please let Christine (art@christinelabaree.com) know and she will put you in touch with Stephen who maintains our website.

August Demo by Gerard Bianco

During the August meeting, SBA member Gerard Bianco hosted a live watercolor painting demo for the group. Gerard works in both watercolor and oils and feels the former has positively influenced his work in the latter. He feels that practice is key for artists to succeed and also noted that composition, color mixing and using quality materials (such as Arches watercolor paper) are also very important. He uses 300 lb cold press paper because the smoothness allows for layering, whereas hot press offers transparency. When painting with watercolor, Gerard begins with a light sketch and then works from the top down and back to front. He uses masking fluid to preserve any white areas he needs to paint around. He likes to mix the colors he needs ahead of time so he has them ready and can work quickly. This also allows him to constantly adjust and shift colors which makes elements of the painting stand out. Photos follow.







Upcoming Demos

Dwayne Turpin, woodcarver, is scheduled to speak at the September meeting. He'll be bringing tools to show and will demonstrate carving techniques. Dwayne started carving when he received his first knife in Boy Scouts but didn't get serious about it until he graduated from college. His early tools were a knife and sandpaper and he started relief carvings when he was on cruises in the U.S. Navy. In California he joined a woodcarver's group and there discovered the different blades available for carving. He has done numerous hiking sticks and recently started wood blocks for printing.

Ellen is seeking volunteers to host demos during our monthly SBA meetings in 2023...and you get paid for it too! You are encouraged to show us how you make your art, but if you prefer not to "perform," a demo related to your art/technique, tips of the trade, history/influencers, etc. would be just as valuable. Feel free to get creative!

SBA Summer Shows in Ocean Park

The final 2023 SBA show date is Saturday September 2 from 9 am – 4 pm. The application can be downloaded or printed from the SBA website: <https://www.sacobayartists.org/pdf/SBAShowApplication2023.pdf>.

SBA awards cash prizes and the categories are Fine Art, Photography and Fine Craft. Be sure to check off which category your work falls under when you submit your application. Feel free to reach out to Kathy if you have questions (207-937-2125 or kathyangellee@gmail.com).



SBA Leadership Roles and Needs

We have been incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated and talented members who have volunteered their time for SBA Chair and Committee positions over the years, but several of our current leaders have understandably expressed a desire to identify successors so they can pass the torch. Members are encouraged to review these positions and to please express their interest in taking on these roles or even just helping with some of the responsibilities.

- **SBA Chairperson:** Ellen has served as Chair for several years and has also faced some recent health challenges so she would like to transition out of the role. Responsibilities include preparing agendas, running SBA meetings and collecting attendance, ensuring that reports are provided from other committee chairs (finance, membership, etc.), arranging demos, and other responsibilities as needed.
- **Summer Show Coordinator:** Kathy has asked if someone would work with her this spring/summer to learn about our shows and how to put them together, with the idea that this person would transition into the show coordinator role. Kathy is preparing a month by month checklist of tasks that need to be completed.
- **SBA Finance:** David Steed has stepped back from his finance role due to other commitments. There is a need for someone to oversee the budget and work with the treasurer to develop the budget.
- **SBA Treasurer:** Lettie would like to transition out of the Treasurer role. This involves depositing checks, making payments, working with SBA's bank, tracking deposits and withdrawals from the various accounts, and working with the Finance person on budgeting.

Please let Ellen know if you are interested in learning more about the Chair or financial roles (pastelpainter84@gmail.com) or contact Kathy about the Show Coordinator role (207-937-2125 or kathyangellee@gmail.com).

DUES REMINDER

If you haven't yet paid, 2023 dues are \$45. Please bring your check made out to Saco Bay Artists to the next meeting or mail it to Heather Fountain at 2 Pavia Ave, Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064.

A note for SBA members who participate in the summer shows, if you attend 3 business/program meetings during the year, your show fee will be \$35 instead of \$55/show. This is a nice benefit for attending meetings. Plus you get to meet other artists and enjoy excellent demonstrations.

SBA Chairs/Committees

Chair

*Ellen Pelletier – Prepare agendas, run meetings, demos

Committee chairs

*OPEN – Facility, Finance

*Lettie Lemay – Treasurer

Christine Labaree – Meeting Scribe & Newsletter Editor

*Kathy Angel Lee – Summer Show Coordinator

Heather Fountain - Membership Coordinator

Sylvia Orchard - Events

Stephen Beckett – Webmaster

Kailleigh Archibald – Facebook Coordinator

** Seeking successors – for more information, see meeting notes above or contact Ellen/Kathy.*