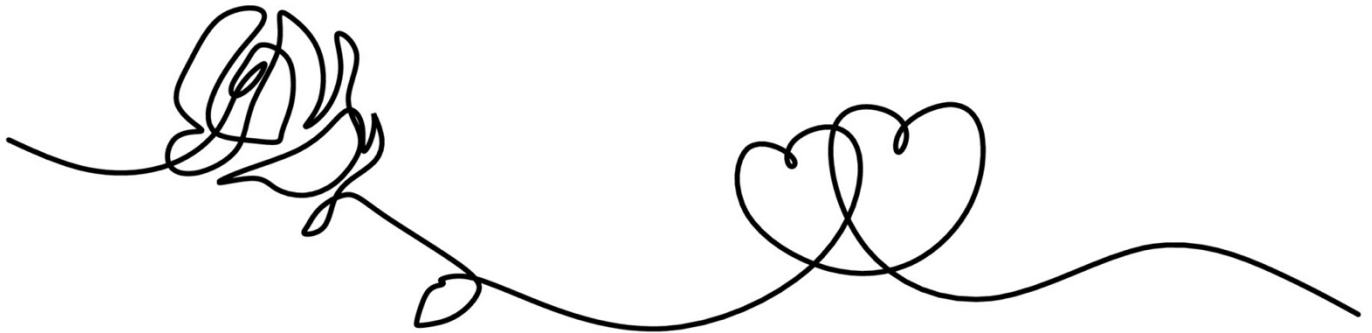


Saco Bay Artists

February/March 2023 Newsletter



While there are no business meetings during January and February, we still plan to offer “drop in” painting/sketching for those who would like to get together to create, chat, etc. on Mondays from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm at Saco Parks & Rec Center (75 Franklin Street in Saco) as weather allows. 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 if there are folks who intend to attend, which helps us all in planning.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 13 at 10:30 am at the Rec Center - all welcome. Please look for signs at the building entrances indicating whether masks are required based on community COVID levels. Once in the meeting room, masks are currently optional, so please do whatever makes you most comfortable.

UPDATES:

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. This will be an important topic of discussion at the March meeting but members are encouraged to review these positions and express their interest in taking on these roles or even just helping with some of the responsibilities.

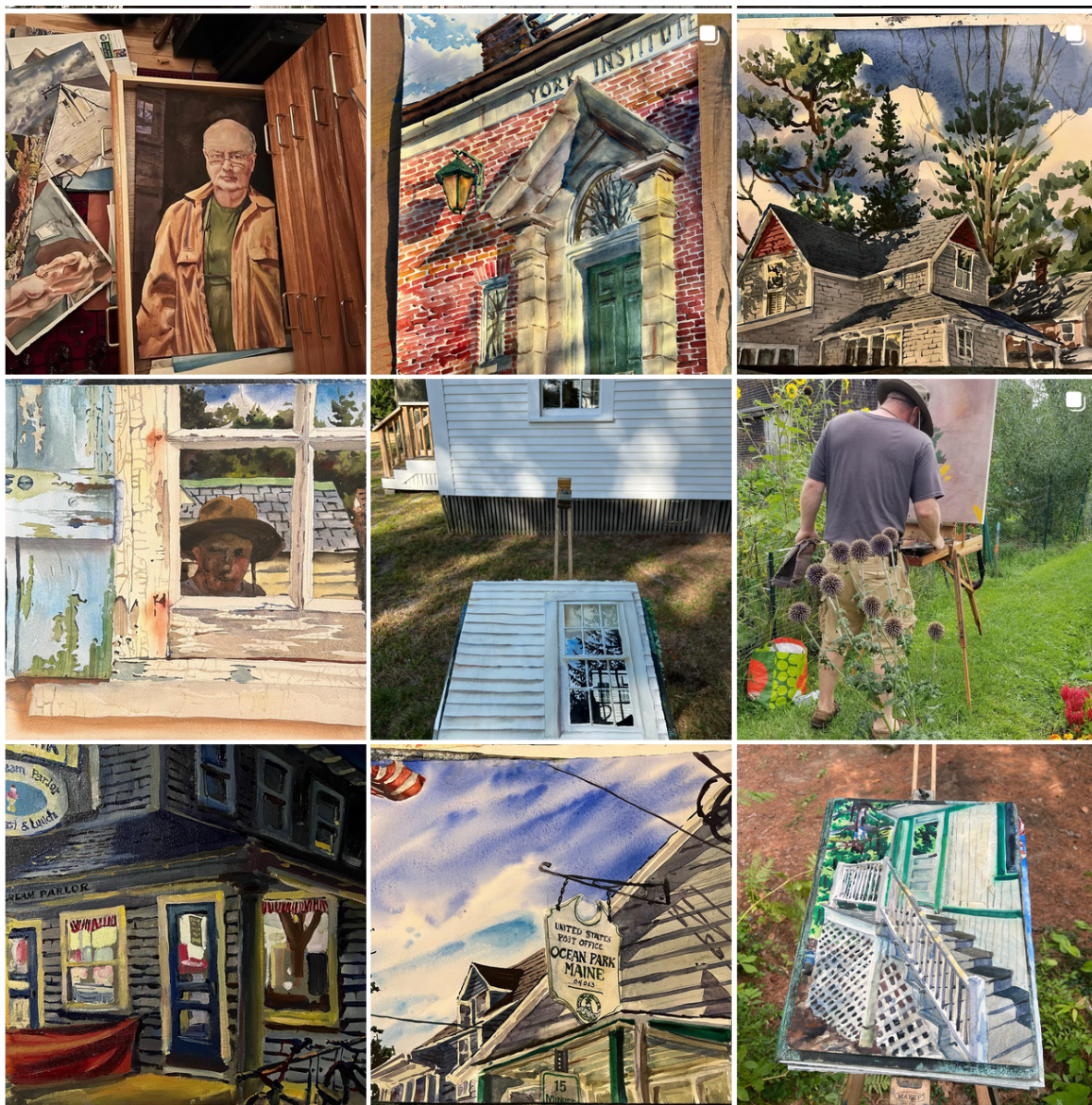
- **SBA Chairperson:** Ellen has served as Chair for several years and has also faced some recent health challenges so she would like to transition out of the role. Responsibilities include preparing agendas, running SBA meetings and collecting attendance, ensuring that reports are provided from other 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).

March 13 Meeting: Demo by Russel Whitten

Join us for the March meeting and what is sure to be an enjoyable and informative demo by local artist, Russel Whitten, who teaches watercolor. Demos typically last 60-90 minutes and should begin around 11 am or whenever the business meeting ends.

Russel studied art at Maine College of Art, Heartwood College of Art and the Art Students League of New York. He is a member and showing artist with the Ogunquit Arts Association/ Barn Gallery and the Kymara Gallery. His painting experience also includes scenic artistry in theater painting at The Ogunquit Playhouse, Good Theater in Portland Maine and Prescott Park, Portsmouth NH. See a selection of images from Russel's Instagram posts below.



Gertrude Eastman Scholarship

For those of you who may not know, Saco Bay Artists offers the Eastman Scholarship Award (\$500) each year to eligible students residing in the Saco Bay area (Old Orchard Beach, Biddeford, Saco, or Scarborough). The applicant must be planning on studying in the arts leading to a degree or certification in the arts. Ellen will be contacting the guidance departments at the relevant schools but please help get the word out!

The fund was named in memory of Gertrude Estelle Eastman¹, "...a local artist and a founding member of the Old Orchard Beach Art Association. She was instrumental in establishing the local art association in 1955, and in 1977 successfully petitioned the town council for permission to convert the former fire station into a permanent art center where local artist could exhibit their works and participate in the annual art festival. Under Mrs. Eastman's direction the art association developed studio facilities where area residents of all ages have received instruction in different art media. She was nominated for the Jefferson Award for her efforts in attracting educators and students of all ages to the art center. She was a self-educated artist, well known for watercolors and oils, and had exhibited her paintings in numerous exhibits throughout Maine and New England."

Libby Library Sketching

Sylvia has confirmed that sketching will be offered at the Libby Library in Old Orchard Beach again in 2023, running from June through October on the second Thursday of the month from 1:30-4:30 pm. The sessions will be held indoors this year. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

SBA Summer Shows in Ocean Park

As you may have seen, Kathy sent out an email in late January with information and the application for SBA's summer shows in Ocean Park. The application can be downloaded or printed from the SBA website: <https://www.sacobayartists.org/pdf/SBAShowApplication2023.pdf>. The dates are set as Tuesday July 4, Saturday August 5, and Saturday September 2 from 9 am – 4 pm.

SBA has awarded cash prizes for each show. For this year, the cash prizes will continue, and we will present a proposal at the March meeting to change the categories to Fine Art, Photography and Fine Craft. Be sure to check off which category your work falls under. More definite information will be available during and after our meeting on March 13, but feel free to reach out to Kathy in the meantime (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 March 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.

¹ https://www.nosorigines.qc.ca/biography.aspx?name=Gertrude_Lalonde&id=2043518&lng=fr

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