



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter August 2020

Dear friends,

Happy August! It's good to be seeing so many members at our Saturday morning Zoom events. Read about upcoming BACS get-togethers and more, below.

First, though, I want to share these photos from a recent visit to beautiful New Castle, New Hampshire, on what was a perfect summer day. They seem to capture appropriate themes to keep in mind as we continue to navigate the pandemic.



Take care!

Sylvia

Slate of Executive Officers for 2020–2021

The board wishes to present the following slate of executive officers for 2020-2021. Details will follow about voting arrangements. We are delighted to have a full executive board ready to tackle the new season!

President: **Sylvia Mallory**
Vice President: **Heidi Trockman**
Secretary: **Susan Schwartz**
Treasurer: **Dawn Warrington**

Thanking Tanya Lee

As she prepares for a likely move to Florida, we give our sincere thanks to **Tanya Lee** for serving as president over the past couple of years. Tanya reports that she is doing well as she prepares her house for sale. During her time in BACS, she has been an active participant in our crafting and painting activities and has made many lasting friends among us. We hope she will stay connected to all of us as she moves forward with her life. Than you, Tanya!



Membership Renewals: Last Call

If you haven't done so yet, please renew your BACS membership. You can mail your renewal application and your check, made out to BACS, to Membership chair Taline Saatjian at 16 Bertha Circle, Billerica, MA 01821. You can alternatively mail the payment to P.O. Box 604, Bedford, MA 01730. Dues are \$30 for an individual; \$35 for a family (two members of an immediate family).

Please remember that in these days of the pandemic, your support of BACS and all the good we do for the community is more important than ever.

Thank you!

2020-2021 Yearbook

Barb Purchia reports that the yearbook update is in progress. We hope to have copies available next month. If you have last-minute changes to your contact information, please let Barb know at bsrpurchia@aol.com

Saturday Morning Tea/Coffee Meet-Ups



We hope you will join us on Saturday, September 12, at 10:00 a.m., for the next Saturday morning Zoom brunch for members. Come to say hello to friends, share tips and experiences, or just visit. As the meeting date gets closer, we will re-send the Zoom invitation. Bottoms up!

Batik Workshop on August 29

The batik workshop is scheduled for the morning of Saturday, August 29, at the home of **Laura Wallace**. We'll begin at 9:30 a.m. Let's hope for a bright, sunny day since we'll be working outdoors.

Laura has sent the details to those who signed up previously. The workshop is full, but if you would like to get on a waitlist, let Laura know: laura.b.wallace@gmail.com **Please bring a mask, disposable gloves, and hand sanitizer.** Laura's final e-mail message will give additional information. It promises to be a fun occasion.



Time to Plant, batik by Laura Wallace

BACS Demos and Workshops

We are planning a full array of workshops and artist demos. Due to the pandemic, we will be offering them via Zoom, at least for the time being. We can help with technology if that is an issue. Let Sylvia know if you need assistance with Zoom. The full roster of programs will follow. Stay tuned!

Classes with Bedford Recreation



We're also planning to co-sponsor some classes and workshops with Bedford Recreation. These, too, will be offered via Zoom. For any classes that are so co-sponsored, BACS members will have priority in enrolling. Details to come ASAP!

BACS Crafting

Jane Franklin and her team are at work planning a series of regularly scheduled Zoom craft sessions beginning in September. Look for specifics in upcoming weekly e-mail blasts. In addition to having regular opportunities to hone our craft skills and learn new ones, the overriding goal is for us to stay positive, connected, and supportive of one another in these difficult times. Please send Jane your ideas: jane001@yahoo.com



A big, big shout-out to member **Barbara Kupfrian** and BACS friends **Priscilla Grunes** and **Susan Wingfield** for donating a boatload of stamping supplies to BACS. Needless to say, we'll put the items to great use in our upcoming card making. Barb also generously donated the proceeds from her recent yard sale to BACS. Thanks to all!

Crafter of the Month: Marita Hartshorn

Marita Hartshorn, fabric artist extraordinaire, has been applying her considerable skills to some great charitable work. Specifically, she has been hand-crafting both “wonky house” quilt blocks and face masks in all kinds of fun patterns. Way to go, Marita!

About the wonky house blocks, Marita says, “They are easier than they look. They start with a center block (in the picture it is blue with colored circles) and go around and around counterclockwise, with a total of nine strips trimmed a little off square. The triangular roof is added last. You can Google Wonky Houses to see more.” Rising Star Quilters, based in Lexington, collects the blocks and makes them into benefit quilts that are distributed to four groups, among them Welcome Baby in Dorchester, the Tufts neonatal ward in Medford, and REACH shelter in Waltham. Marita comments, “This was such a good opportunity to use scraps of fabric that were too small for other projects!”



As for the face masks, Marita started them when she returned from Spain in March and was quarantined for two weeks. To date she has made 818. These are contributed to the Masks Coalition Network, which distributes them to those in need, such as food pantry patrons, the Navajo and Sioux Nations, cities and towns with high coronavirus rates, and schoolchildren who qualify for reduced lunches. At the end of July the coalition had distributed 23,831 masks. For those who are interested, the contact person is Jessie Steigerwald

at jess@shininghours.com.

BACS Members Are Exhibiting Online

Although local galleries generally remain closed, you can see recent artwork by various BACS members at each of these links:

- **Concord Art Connect members' gallery:**
<https://www.concordart.org/exhibitions/concord-art-connect>
 Once you access the page, click "View" and then click on the individual pieces to enlarge and read the details, which are to the upper right.
- **"Tweet" exhibit slide show at Grace Chapel Art Gallery's website:**
<http://play.smilebox.com/SpreadMoreHappy/4e4463774d446b304f444e384d5441344d6a597a4d6a6b350d0a?title=tweet+may+2020+rev&image=4e4463774d446b304f444e384d5441344d6a597a4d6a6b350d0a.jpg>

Enjoy!

The BACS Artist Support Group Is Zooming . . .

The artist support group is continuing to meet via Zoom. We show each other what we're working on and offer feedback and general support. We also share information about places to exhibit and all things art. It's the same link for all BACS Zoom sessions:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81678201720?pwd=a28rZ0k5eVZKakxSRTNxQWR1NkRBZz09>

Meeting ID: 816 7820 1720
 Passcode: 571744

The group's next get-together will begin at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, August 12. If you are interested in attending, contact **Judi Babcock** at judibabcock@gmail.com

Town Center Galleries

If you have artwork hanging in the Flint Room or the COA Computer Room, let Laura Wallace know if you wish to retrieve it: laura.b.wallace@gmail.com

In Memoriam

We are saddened to learn of the recent passing of three current or former BACS members. We fondly remember **George Hand, Maureen Oates, and Dee Russell**. Our condolences go to their families, among whom are our members **Kati Oates** and **Jean Kates**.



E-mail Changes

Nancy Allen has a new email address: wnallen1@gmail.com

Jim Larsen has added his email: jimlarsenski@hotmail.com

These changes will appear in the forthcoming new yearbook, but please update your address books in the meantime. Thank you!

Resource for Calligraphers

Jean Hammond has passed along a tip regarding John Neal Books, a retailer of all kinds of lettering and calligraphy supplies. The company also publishes *Letter Arts Review*, with illustrations (droolworthy, says Jean) accompanying their articles. And they have been offering virtual classes. If our February calligraphy workshop whetted your appetite for more of this this gentile craft, you might want to visit the company's excellent website:

<https://www.johnnealbooks.com/>

Virtual Destination of the Month: Arts Wayland's W Gallery

You might be interested in checking out the website for Arts Wayland, a nonprofit educational organization founded in 1981 in the town of Wayland. In December 2018, Arts Wayland began a new initiative, the W Gallery, in the Wayland Town Center. The bright and airy gallery has art exhibit space with rotating shows, offers classes and workshops, and hosts musical events. Although the facility is closed now due to the pandemic, there are some nice features to check out online. Here's your ticket to explore:

<http://www.artswayland.com/>



Call for Art for Concord Art's Roddy Show

Concord Art has announced the call for art for this year's Frances N. Roddy Annual Exhibition. The show features all media and will run from September 25 through October 22. Online submissions may be made from now through September 9. For additional information, visit

<https://www.concordart.org/exhibitions/frances-n-roddy-annual-exhibition>

A Thought for August

“Blessed are they who see beautiful things in humble places where other people see nothing.”

--*Camille Pissarro*

Camille Pissarro (1830-1903), *Landscape at Saint-Charles, Sunset* (1891), oil on canvas, 81 x 65 cm, Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, MA.

