



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter May 2022

Dear BACS friends,

I hope you are well and having as much fun indulging your artistic and craft interests as the little guy (Henry) in the photo. It all begins somewhere, right? Enjoy!

All good wishes,

Sylvia



Time to Renew Your BACS Membership

Taline Saatjian, vice president and co-chair for Membership, reminds us that May 31 is the due-date for renewing your BACS membership for fiscal year 2022–2023. Please renew without delay! Your support of our mission, programs, scholarship, and community service is vital to our continuing success as we mark the 66th year since the founding of BACS.

Dues are \$30 for individual membership and \$35 for family membership (two or more people from the same family).

Along with your check made out to BACS, please mail your renewal form (attached to this e-mail) to:

Membership Chair
BACS
P.O. Box 604
Bedford, MA 01730

The form is also available under “Forms/Brochures for download” on the member page link on the BACS website, <http://www.bacsma.org>. The password is “Bedford.” Thank you!

Attention BACS Chairs: Receipts and Budget Projections Due

BACS treasurer **Dawn Warrington** asks our chairpersons to send her any outstanding unpaid receipts for fiscal year 2021–2022 **by the end of May** so that she may close out the books for the year. Looking ahead to the next fiscal year, please also send Dawn a projection of your costs for 2022–2023. You may e-mail the information to her at d_warrington@verizon.net.



Annual BACS Luncheon on June 4

A quick reminder that our annual luncheon is coming next month. This year's festivities will take place on **Saturday, June 4**, (rain date: June 11) beginning at noon. We will gather in the lovely home and gardens of **Kathy Morse**, 11 Reed Lane, Bedford.

Mark your calendar and look for details via e-mail very soon! If you plan to come, we ask that you RSVP promptly so that the committee knows how much food will be needed. RSVP info will be included in the e-mail invitation. Thanks, and join with us now in visualizing a bright, sunny day!

Bedford Cultural District Launch on June 11



The Town of Bedford's Cultural District Committee is planning a celebratory launch of the District on Saturday, June 11 (rain date: June 18), beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members (and BACS colleagues) **Sylvia Mallory**, **Barb Purchia**, and **Chris Wojnar** hope you'll come out that day to have some fun and to learn what the District has to offer. Look for details forthcoming in *The Bedford Citizen* and local social media.

Institutions and businesses that have a footprint within the District will welcome visitors at open houses. The Town Common at First Parish Church will be the setting for an art and culture



festival with cultural groups and businesses exhibiting. Plans are under way as well for a scavenger hunt, live music performances, hands-on chalk drawing along the Rail Trail, Kindness Rocks celebrations, and more!

BACS is planning to have tables on the Common. We are looking for volunteers who can spare a little time to spread the word about BACS and show our



visitors samples of art and crafts created by BACS members. **Taline Saatjian** will lead kids and adults in making colorful prints on a gelli plate press. More info will follow! For questions, please get in touch with Sylvia (slmal@hotmail.com) or Taline (talineks70@gmail.com).

May Workshop: Felt an Animal with Elizabeth Stubbs

Our May workshop will feature the fun craft of felting. Participants will learn the basics of felting and will create their own needle-felted bunny. The instructor will be master felter **Elizabeth Stubbs**.



The workshop is an in-person *afternoon* event and takes place on **Tuesday, May 17, 1:00 to 4:00**, in the Vestry Room at the First Church of Christ, Congregational, 25 Great Road, Bedford. It is free for BACS members and \$10 for nonmembers. In addition, there is a \$20 materials fee payable to the instructor (or \$30 to include the felting tools if the participant wants to buy them).

To sign up, send an e-mail indicating your interest to RSVP@bacsma.org by Tuesday, May 10. Hurry, because this workshop is limited to 12 participants!

This event is funded in part by a grant from the Bedford Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

April Stained Glass Workshop: A Big Hit

Last month's stained glass workshop, led by BACS member **Barb Purchia**, turned a lazy Saturday afternoon into a crafting adventure. Several nonmembers joined the BACS members who attended. The crafters gathered at the well-equipped



Glass Cooperative studio and fashioned an elegant, colorful glass ornament to take home. Thanks to Barb and her associates for this inspiring and well-organized workshop!

“Welcome Spring” Card Swap

Enthusiastic BACS members participated in our springtime card exchange. We thank **Kathy Morse** for orchestrating this super-fun activity. Here are a few samples from the swap. What an amazing range of approaches!



Cards by (left to right) Kelly Flook, Linda Cargiuolo, and Taline Saatjian

Wednesday Crafting, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Weekly

BACS members continue to get together for in-person crafting on Wednesday afternoons, 2:00-4:00 p.m., in the Flint Room in Bedford’s Town Center Building, 12 Mudge Way.

Marita Hartshorn reports that the crafters recently cleaned out their cabinet and now have plenty of storage. **Sandi Rosenfeld** did research on how to use some parchment cards they unearthed, and she will lead the group in using them in the May 11 session. In upcoming gatherings, the crafters will be making alcohol ink tiles and garden art.



Coming soon: Alcohol Ink Tiles!

We give big and very sincere thanks to Marita for so vivaciously and creatively leading the crafters over the past year. Beginning in June, **Sandi Rosenfeld** will be managing the scheduling and the sessions, with assistance from **Sally Rubin**. We thank Sandi and Sally for stepping up to keep our wonderful Wednesdays rolling along.



Marita



Sally and Sandi

Check **Dawn Warrington's** weekly e-mail blast for specifics on the schedule, because the line-up sometimes changes. For any sessions you wish to attend, please remember to send an email to crafts@bacsma.org to ensure adequate supplies of crafting materials.

The group welcomes new Wednesday participants, as well as volunteers for upcoming sessions. Even if you can't lead a session yourself, don't hesitate contact Sandi at rxsandi@hotmail.com.

New Art in the Town Center Galleries

On April 19, **Judi Babcock**, **Sylvia Mallory**, and **Laura Wallace**, aided by creative input from **Eileen Larsen** and **Mary Pierce**, changed members' artwork hanging in the Flint Room and COA Computer Room in the Bedford Town Center Building, 12 Mudge Way. Drop by and see what members have been painting, collaging, printing, etc.!

For any members' work sold, BACS receives a 20% commission; for nonmembers, a 25% commission will be charged. What a great way to show your work to the community and possibly make a sale!

Members' Artwork on Exhibit

Maria Green's etching *A Maine Moment* is on exhibit in LexArt's juried "Natural Visions" show, which runs through May 15. To see this diverse show virtually, visit this link: <https://www.lexart.org/exhibits/natural-visions>. Maria also had an etching in Concord Art's recent juried show "Among the Trees."



***A Maine Moment* by Maria Green**



In the Belmont Gallery of Art's just-closing show "Bits and Pieces: Art Repurposed," **Maria Green's** collages were on display, along with two collage works by **Doris Smith** from her jazz collage series. <https://virtualbga.org/bits-and-pieces>

Jazz Collage #14 by Doris Smith

A mixed media painting by **Sylvia Mallory**, *Mountain Air*, received third place recognition in the current "7th Annual Landscapes" online show sponsored by Fusion Art. The show is up until June 4. You can view the exhibit at <https://www.fusionartps.com/7th-annual-landscapes-art-exhibition-may-2022/>



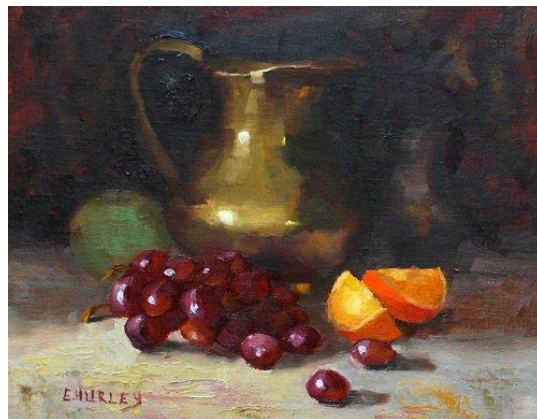
Mountain Air by Sylvia Mallory

In addition, Sylvia's painting *Belles Fleurs* is on exhibit in the juried show "What Does Art Mean to You?" which runs May 6–June 5 at the Chelmsford Center for the Arts, 1A North Road, Chelmsford, MA. <https://www.chelmsfordarts.org/>

Florence Como has paintings at the North Shore Arts Association's juried show "Exhibition One," which runs through May 12. In addition, Florence, along with **Ellen Hurley**, had two paintings in the Rockport Art Association's recent Contributing Members' Show, which ran last month. To visit the latter show virtually, go to <https://www.rockportartasn.org/contributing-members-show>. For a peek at both artists' work from the Rockport show, see below.



Poppy Fields at Sunset by Florence Como



Fruit with Brass Pitcher by Ellen Hurley

Upcoming Art Demo from the Newton Art Association

Interested in trying your hand at creating artists' books? If so, here's a cool Zoom art demo you can attend, sponsored by the Newton Art Association.



Thursday, May 14, 2022, 7–9 p.m. | **Stephanie Stigliano,**
Artists' Books

<https://newtonartassociation.com/event/demo-with-stephanie-stigliano-artists-books/>

Artists' books by Stephanie Stigliano

Attention Quilters & Quilt Lovers: Rising Star Quilters' Spring Fair!

The Lexington-based Rising Star Quilters group is sponsoring a Spring Fair on Saturday, May 14, 10:00 a.m. –2:00 p.m., at the Jason Russell House Lawn, 7 Jason Street, Arlington. Check out the sidebar to see what's for sale!



Recommended Getaway #1: Ralston Gallery in Rockport, Maine: A Destination for Photographers and Photography Afficionados



If you are in or around Rockport, Maine, consider a visit to Ralston Gallery, co-owned by **Peter and Terri Ralston**. Peter worked for a decade as a freelance photojournalist and began photographing the Maine coast in 1978, drawn especially to the working communities that define the region's enduring character.

***Sun Tern* by Peter Ralston**

Ralston Gallery opened in 2011. Along with Peter’s stunning photographs, the shop showcases the work of his lifelong friends **Andrew and Jamie Wyeth**.

If you can’t visit the gallery in person, you can do the next best thing and subscribe to Peter’s blog, to which he posts on most Sunday mornings. It’s full of inspiring stories and images from his coastal travels. You can access it here: <https://www.ralstongallery.com/the-blog>

Ralston Gallery is located at 23 Central Street, Rockport, Maine; (207) 230-7225; <https://www.ralstongallery.com/>

Recommended Getaway #2: Summer Star Wildlife Sanctuary

You may also want to visit the Summer Star Wildlife Sanctuary in Boylston, Mass., now that the weather is turning warm and beautiful. Comprising forty-five acres of natural land, Summer Star is home to plants, streams, glacial boulders, and wild animals large and small. Summer Star is open to the public free of charge.

This spring and summer, you can combine a trail walk at the sanctuary with a visit to “The Sanctuary of Nature,” an art exhibit at the Summer Star’s Linden Street Gallery. The show runs from April 22 to September 11.

Featuring artwork from the Rockport Art Association’s Permanent Collection, as well as some pieces from Rockport’s current members, “The Sanctuary of Nature” showcases the beautiful landscapes and seascapes of Cape Ann in every season. Summer Star Wildlife Sanctuary, 690 Linden Street, Boylston MA 01505; <https://summerstarwildlife.wordpress.com/>

Art in the Area

Our area has such a wealth of visual resources for artists, crafters, and art appreciators. Consider checking out some of work currently (or soon to be) on view in shows at local institutions such as the following. **NOTE** that the exhibitions listed here are organized by the show *closing date*.

“Georgia O’Keeffe, Photographer,” at the Addison Gallery through June 12

Renowned for her paintings, **Georgia O’Keeffe** also had a lifelong connection to photography, as this

Jimsonweed (1964-1968), Polaroid Photo by Georgia O’Keeffe



exhibit explores. [Editor's note: I attended this show and loved it. It's nicely paired with the Addison's exhibit on the work of **Arthur Wesley Dow**, who was one of O'Keeffe's teachers. See info below concerning the Dow exhibit. –SM] Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy Andover, 180 Main St., Andover, MA; <https://addison.andover.edu>

“Coastline: A Celebration of the New England Shoreline and Coastal Way of Life” at LexArt, on view May 21-June 12



Opening later this month, “Coastline” will feature two-dimensional, representational, and abstract paintings that relate to the New England shoreline and/or coastal lifestyles. Works are in a range of painting media, from oil to acrylic to watercolor to mixed media. LexArt, 130 Waltham St, Lexington, MA 02421; <https://www.lexart.org/>

***By the New England Seashore* (c. 1910) by Edward Henry Potthast**

“For the Birds” at the Arts League of Lowell, on view May 6–June 26

Do you sing along with **Paul Klee's** *Twittering Machine*? Soar to **Constantin Brancusi's** *Bird in Space*? Find hope in **Pablo Picasso's** *Dove of Peace*? Throughout history, birds have been depicted for their beauty, on behalf of science, and to symbolize some of our own human needs and desires. This show explores our many relationships to birds, from serenity to strength, from information to icon. Arts League of Lowell, 307 Market Street, Lowell, MA; <http://www.artsleagueoflowell.org/>



“Turner’s Modern World” at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, through July 10

One of Britain’s greatest artists, **J. M. W. Turner** (1775–1851) lived and worked at the peak of the industrial revolution, when steam replaced sail, machine power replaced human power, and wars, political unrest, and social reforms transformed society. “Turner’s Modern World” explores how this artist embraced these changes and developed an innovative painting style better to capture the new world. This landmark exhibition brings together more than 100 paintings, watercolors, drawings, and sketchbooks by Turner. These vivid and dramatic compositions demonstrate the artist’s commitment to depicting the era’s great events and developments, from technological advances to causes such as abolition and political reform. Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston; MA; <https://www.mfa.org/exhibition/turners-modern-world>



Keelmen Heaving Coals by Moonlight (1835) by J. M. W. Turner

“Real Photo Postcards—Pictures from a Changing Nation” at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, through July 25



This fascinating show focuses on 300 photographs taken with “the postcard camera” released by Eastman Kodak in 1903. Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston; MA; <https://www.mfa.org/exhibition/real-photo-postcards>

From “Real Photo Postcards” at the MFA

“Arthur Wesley Dow: Nearest to the Divine” and “Past Is Prologue: History in Contemporary Art” at the Addison Gallery; both through July 31

“Nearest to the Divine” showcases over 100 works, including photographs, prints, drawings, paintings, and ephemera, by the remarkable **Arthur Wesley Dow**. The show highlights the profound beauty of Dow's groundbreaking artistic contributions across media.



“Past Is Prologue” spotlights several artists who mine the past to explore enduring issues of identity, race, gender, memory, and truth. The show includes paintings, prints, and photographs.

Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy
Andover, 180 Main St., Andover, MA;
<https://addison.andover.edu>

***Souvenir II* by Kerry James Marsh from “Past Is Prologue”**

New England Triennial 2022 at the deCordova Museum and Fruitlands through September 11

The New England Triennial 2022 recognizes the vitality of contemporary art across the Northeast amid the recent years of upheaval and transformation. Spanning two museum venues—deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum and Fruitlands Museum—this year’s iteration features artwork by twenty-five artists from throughout New England.



**Cyanotype on paper by Shaina Gates
from the New England Triennial 2022**

Prioritizing change over stability, many of the artists’ practices involve unmaking and remaking—patching things together, dissecting, and rebuilding forms using discarded parts. Their collective artistry reveals interconnected tendencies: a focus on kinship and ancestral lineages; a search for one’s place in the world; the visualization of data; themes of ruin and decay; and processes of alchemical

transmutation. For further information: <https://thetrustees.org/program/new-england-triennial-2022-exhibition/>

Opportunity for Emerging Artists to Exhibit Art

The Rockport Art Association & Museum invites emerging artists to apply for entry into its upcoming “Grassroots 2022” exhibit, which features work by non-juried RAA&M members. “Grassroots 2022” celebrates emerging artists within the contributing membership and the creative community. The show will be juried digitally. Key dates: online submission by May 31, 2022, 11:59 p.m.; notification of results: June 4, 2022; show runs July 9 –August 7, 2022. For additional information visit <https://www.rockportartassn.org/grassroots-exhibition>

New BACS Member

We welcome **Bobbi Tornheim** to BACS. Bobbi tells us that woodworking is a particular interest of hers. You can reach her at homeswithbobbi@verizon.net.

Artist Support Group

The BACS artist support group meets every other Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 18, at the home of **Judi Babcock**. For details, please send an e-mail to Judi at judibabcock@gmail.com. For those who wish to attend via Zoom, please let Judi know a day in advance.

Annemarie Creason showing her painting at a recent artist support group

If you are Zooming in, you can sign on to the support group with this link:

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



Happy May, and see you next month!

