

VSC Newsletter October 2019

1 message

Victoria Sketch Club <val@vallowton.com>
Reply-To: Victoria Sketch Club <val@vallowton.com>
To: victoriasketchclub@gmail.com

Thu, Oct 31, 2019 at 2:41 PM



Victoria Sketch Club Newsletter

October 2019Contact Information:Secretary victoriasketchclub@gmail.comVSC website www.victoriasketchclub.caFacebook <https://www.facebook.com/victoriasketchclub/>

Fall schedule

November & December, 2019**Time: 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm****Location: Windsor Park Pavilion**

Nov 5 Still life

Nov 12 Model character

Nov 19 BYO *

Nov 26 Still life

Dec 3 Luncheon

**Bring your own paintings to get feedback and/or to continue working on*

Thank you!

Nirmala Greenwell, Program Director

Indoor program convenors: Ruth Beninger, Franny Kerridge, Joan Head and Niramon

Prudatron

Scenes from October 1 session

Three VSC members shared their travel sketch books with the group, inspiring us all to do the same! Thanks to Christine Gollner, Victor Lotto and Ray Goldsworthy





This was also a critique session and local artist [Steven Dickerson](#) came in to consider and comment on VSC members' canvasses. Steven has worked as a professional artist in a highly realistic style for over 30 years, and his work ranges from fine art to illustration and design, and animation. A graduate of Sheridan College, he currently teaches Illustration, Design, Drawing, Painting, animation and computer programs at the Victoria College of Art.

Scenes from October 8 session

A lovely autumnal still-life





Scenes from October 15 session

Working with a character model

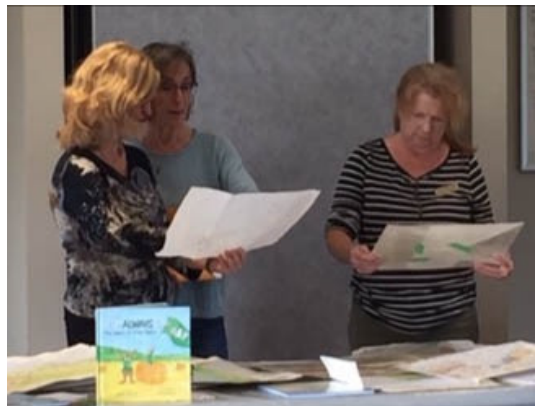


Scenes from October 22 session

Presentation on the Process of Book Illustration

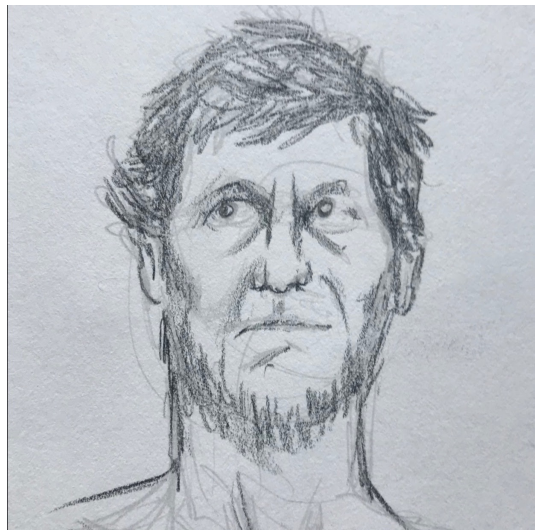


VSC member Val Lawton spoke to a good sized turnout of members about her process of illustrating childrens books. To see more samples of Val's illustration work, you can visit her [website](#).

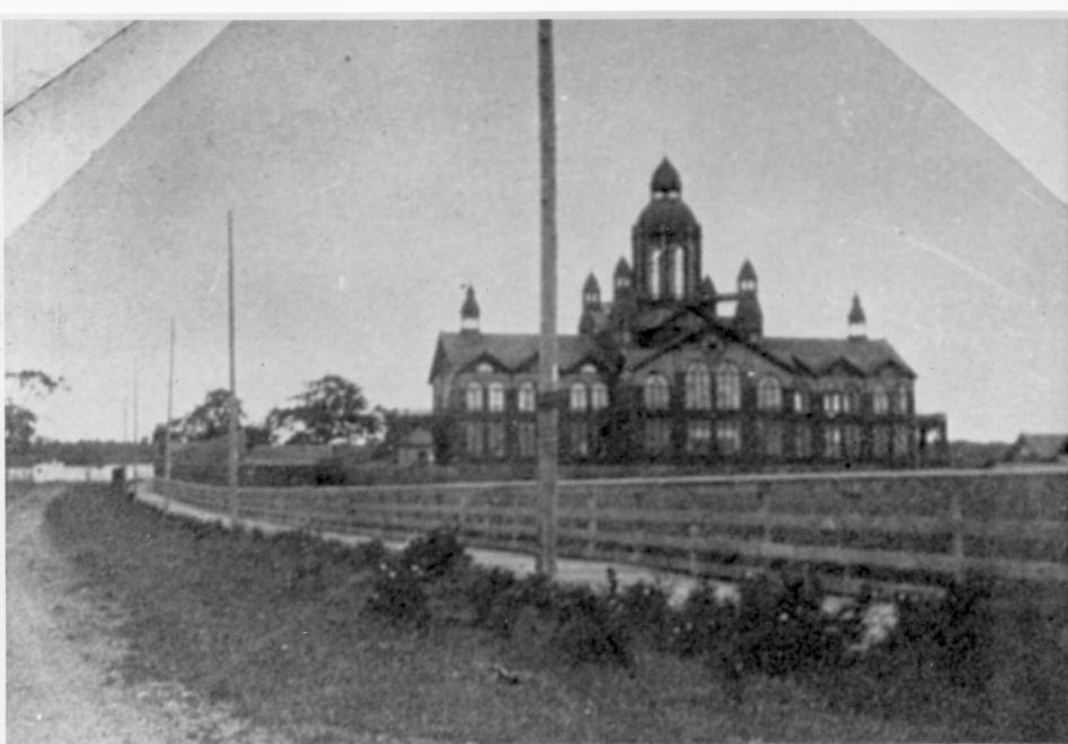


Scenes from October 29 session

Working with a Male model



HISTORY CORNER



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Remember our end-of-show party organized by Terry McBride at the Oak Bay Bowling Club in March? It's hard to believe that this area was once the site of the Willows Fairground / Exhibition Grounds, with the massive pavilion and racetrack now vanished without trace. Significantly, prior to the formation of our club in 1909, this annual fair, which endured from 1891 to 1941, offered an arts component providing the island's only facility for artists to display their wares.

According to the *Victoria Daily Colonist* of October 4, 1894, a 23-year old Emily Carr placed first in the Pen and Ink sketches category, and the following year she won first prize in Pencil Drawing, Pen and Ink sketches and Painting on China. Many years later, in 1926, Carr had her own show within the Willows Fair art exhibition, and the next year, the Island Arts and Craft Society as a group contributed 150 paintings, and thereafter assumed responsibility for these annual art shows, improving both their quality and scope.

The 1933 event, organized by IACS member Arthur Checkley, featured Carr and others of the "Modern" school, such as Max Maynard and Edythe Hembroff, and in 1934, Checkley bequeathed Carr a whole section to herself.

This proved to be her final exhibition at the Willows Fair, scene of her first public showings in the 1890s.

By this time, now in her 60s, her work had at last been accorded recognition on more than a regional scale, although the achievement was not reflected in her financial standing. Following a severe heart attack in 1937, her health and energy continued to deteriorate. By 1942, giving more time to writing, her painting activities had petered out. The road to Emily Carr's iconic status today was a long and hard one.

John Lover, VSC Historian

Members News



Sharon Wareing's painting, *Orchid Delight*, was accepted into the Sidney Fine Arts show, an annual three day event that began in 2003, and is held at the Mary Winspear Centre. This year's dates were October 18-20.



Christine Gollner's show at St Mattias' Chapel Gallery on Richmond Road was a resounding success! Well done, Christine!



Pop by the *Bruce Hutchison Library*, located at [4636 Elk Lake Drive](#), to admire VSC member Myra Baynton's work! Runs from October 26th to January 7th.

Oak Bay Artists' Studio Tour 2019

November 2 & 3, 2019 • Noon to 4:30pm

Oak Bay Parks, Recreation, and Culture will be holding its free 2-day, 20th semi-annual *Oak Bay Artists' Studio Tour* on Saturday, November 2 and Sunday, November 3, 12 to 4:30 pm. Many of Oak Bay's established and emerging artists are using their homes and studios as backdrops to display original watercolour, acrylic, and oil paintings, fibre, photography, woodcuts, glass, and pottery creations. The tour is juried and produced by Oak Bay Parks, Recreation, and Culture.

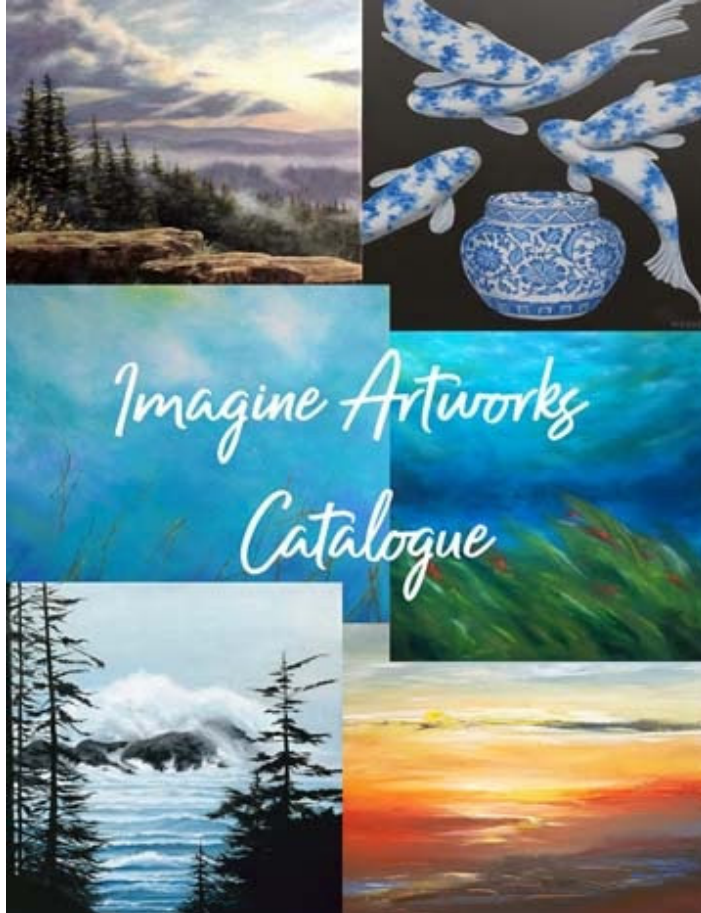
VSC has a wonderful contingent of artists participating this year, and they are Myra Baynton, Pat Hindmarsh Watson, Caroline Hunter, Terry McBride, Vic Lotto, and Bonnie Myers.

Imagine Artworks Collective

From Oct 21st

Artists Anne Bowen,
Sharon Wareing,
Maureen Ness, Barb
MacLeod, Susan
Geddes & Kathi
Thompson announce an
ongoing group art

show in collaboration with the *Marriott Delta Ocean Pointe Spa*, at 100 Harbour Road.



The Gallery at Mattick's Farm

Illumination of Love

Artists' Reception November 16

The Gallery at Matticks' Farm and participating artists are proud to continue its support for the BC Children's Hospital Foundation for the 5th year in a row. A portion of paintings sold from now through to December 31 will be donated in support of the BCCHF. VSC member Maureen Ness and other artists will be in attendance for the artists' reception on Saturday, November 16, 1 to 4 pm.

In memoriam

Remembering Dee

Dorothy ('Dee) DeWit, who is well-remembered with affection and respect from older members of the VSC as a very talented painter in oils, was noted for her originality and freedom of expression. She was a particular friend and painting partner of Ann Nolte, with whom she shared various two-person exhibitions. Dee left us some six years ago to be cared for by a daughter in Vancouver.

-- *John Lover*

DOROTHY HELEN UPHAM
PARSONS DEWIT

Physiotherapist.
Artist.
Mountaineer.
Mother.

Born July 1, 1924, in Fitchburg, Mass.; died May 20, 2019, in Vancouver, of sepsis; aged 94.

Mother would say to her misbehaving children: "You will behave or I will take steps which will astonish you!" No one dared to discover what those steps might be. But it was always apparent that she was capable of great strides, personally and professionally.

Dee Upham grew up in Fitchburg, Mass., where her family had lived for more than 200 years. She studied at the University of Michigan and then trained in physiotherapy at Stanford, where she attended to a basketball injury on the ankle of Ken Parsons, a Second World War veteran who was studying geology. He would become our father.

In their first seven years of marriage, Dee and Ken had five children, moved six times and immigrated to Canada when Ken was recruited to the booming Alberta oil patch.

Early family holidays were camping trips, with seven in the tent, eight if Aunt Nita was visiting. The '55 Chrysler wagon was loaded: our parents, the dog, and a flat of eggs took up the front seat, while the kids - Linnea, Eric, Andrea, Barbara and Brock - squished in the next row. In the back was a Rubik's Cube of tent, camp stove, air mattresses, army surplus sleeping bags, groceries, lanterns, dishes, and five small cardboard boxes, one allotted to each of us, for two weeks away.

Dee had shown talent as a painter from a young age. While raising her family, she studied art at what is now known as ACAD, taught workshops in adult education and exhibited her work. She became a founder of the Centennial Art Gallery and the Calgary Artists' Society, and painted landscapes for friends, family, and, by official commission, the Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta. Dee also studied flute and would one day play for her grandchildren as they fell asleep.

At 41, Dee requalified as a physiotherapist and, after working in a hospital, established her own practice in Calgary. Suddenly widowed a few years later, she added money management and financial planning to her skill set, and saw all her children through multiple university degrees.

Dee loved mountains. In the 1970s, she climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro and hiked the Dolomites, and was an avid member of the Rocky Mountain Ramblers. She met her kindred spirit and second husband, Rein DeWit, in the club. They married in 1978 and enjoyed many travel adventures, including cycling trips in Asia and Europe.

Dee and Rein retired to a hobby farm in Saanich on Vancouver Island, where visiting grandchildren loved to pick blackberries, collect eggs and feed the pigs, Yin and Yang. After many happy years, they moved to Victoria, near Government House where they were volunteer gardeners.

Our mother was not always a patient person, particularly behind the wheel of a car. She would drive fiercely and issued harsh judgments on other drivers, especially those who slowed her down. While Dee accepted with grace the many trials of growing old, she never lost her resentment at losing her driver's licence.

Dee's and Rein's happy marriage lasted 39 years until they went into care separately. Her last two years were not easy, but her strong New England character saw her through. Her family would take her to the shore for the view, but Dee would turn her back on the ocean to gaze at her beloved mountains. Dee was always modest, honest and resolute. She remained gracious, appreciative, good-humoured and loving to the end.

She did astonish us.

Linnea McCaskill is Dee's daughter.



Dorothy Helen Upham Parsons DeWit

Dee is fondly remembered by her daughter Linnea McCaskill in this *Globe & Mail Lives Lived* column, published September 20, 2019.

Paint Out 2020!

Start making plans for the 2020 Paint Out!

Next year's Paint-Out is at **Cusheon Lake Resort** on **Salt Spring** island.
This includes 1-bedroom cabins, cedar chalet cabins, and 2-bedroom cabins.
September 21 – 28, 2020.

Please contact **Glen Tremblay** at: **1-866-899-0017** to book your accommodation.

Be sure to tell him you are with the Victoria Sketch Club:

1 bedroom cabins **weekly: \$969**

Cedar Chalet cabins **weekly: \$969**

2 bedroom cabins **weekly: \$1474**

Please note: These prices do not include the 15% tax

There is a deposit required and 7 days notice for cancellation.

Quotes to Inspire Creativity

compiled by Virginia Hutzuliak

“Indicate the most by showing the least“

-- Ray Goldsworthy, VSC

“Get the identifiers right. What are the essentials that describe that particular place. Viewers notice those identifiers.” (Oh....I **know** that place!)

-- Steve Dickerson, Victoria College of Art

Do you have news you'd like to share? Are you an artist in residence or participating in a show or workshop? Please forward your news, along with any relevant pictures, to the [newsletter editor](#)

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Our mailing address is:

c/o Windsor Park Pavilion

2451 Windsor Road

Victoria, BC, V8S 5H3

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