

Eve's Easel Talk

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Enjoy these tidbits of history. I published this column during the early years of *The Artist's Journal*. You may remember some of the artists I mention and you may even be mentioned yourself! ~ *Eve Lees, editor/publisher*.

From the first issue: May-June-July-August 1997

One of the oldest art clubs in the area still has an original member. *Stella Loney*, an oil painting artist of the Port Kells Arts Club, is an honorary charter member. She's 85, and was one of the original eight members who formed the group in 1963. The Aldergrove Arts Club can also boast of having original members. *Doris Swensson* (who paints in acrylics), *Audrey Fatkin* (oil and watercolour artist), *Connie Johnston* and *Helen Poppy* (both do oil and watercolour) were instrumental in forming the club twenty-five years ago.

Members of the Surrey Arts West Society had a nice surprise when the club's former president *Melba Massey* dropped in at a recent meeting. Melba is currently painting up a storm at her new home in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

Surrey artist *Brent Lynch* again won a prestigious communications award recently in Las Vegas. His posters, promoting the Cloverdale Rodeo & Exhibition Association, have won the award two years in a row. Lynch has been painting posters to promote the Cloverdale Rodeo & Exhibition Association since 1989.

Ruth Sawatzky, a member of the South Delta Artist's Guild, was accepted into the 57th Annual North West Watercolor Society Spring Show, to be held May 20 - June 14 at the Howard Mandville Gallery in Kirkland, Washington. Of 697 entries, 100 were chosen. Ruth has been a watercolour artist for 15 years.

Three local artists have been chosen to display murals in the Surrey Place Mall. The murals will reflect life in Surrey, and help build community identity. *Moira Elliot*, a Surrey watercolour artist, will feature a mural entitled "Multicultural Surrey." The four separate canvases will reflect the various ethnic origins and lifestyles of Surrey. *David Klassen* is a Surrey artist, illustrator and art instructor. He will create "Fraser River/Waterway" a three-dimensional mural of salmon spawning, a pastel and charcoal drawing and a poem he's written. White Rock's *Polly Faminow* is the creator of "Recycle, Rejuvenation and Community". The artists were selected by a jury that included *Carol Prokop*, Surrey Arts Centre Curator, and local artist *Don Li-Leger*. The murals will be on display until September 20, then will be auctioned to raise money for local Surrey charities.