



# Eve's Easel Talk

Jan-Feb-March 1999 — Published in *The Artist's Journal*

Many news items I receive for this newsletter are too late for the current publication. To those who haven't seen their submitted material published, don't become discouraged! Please keep trying, but *please* make a note of the publication deadlines: They're posted on the bottom of page 2.

One of Canada's best known artists, **Jack Shadbolt**, passed away at age 89 last November in his Burnaby home. Jack Shadbolt (and his wife Doris) inspired countless artists and was a dedicated community supporter. He will be greatly missed.

I'm grateful to the many advertisers who have helped support the Artist's Journal. Each issue, I'll feature a few of the advertisers in this column. Among those mentioned this week, I'd like to boast about my faithful back-page advertiser, *A Touch of Elegance*. **Bill McKay**, his wife **Karen**, and their staff (*Vee and Deb*) have been hard at work since 1988, striving to have happy, satisfied customers, who *want* to return. They have something for both artists and art lovers. Their White Rock store (in the Hillcrest Mall at 1403 B Johnston Road ) offers giftware, framed decorator prints, limited edition prints and a large selection of catalogues of prints. Their Surrey/Langley wholesale warehouse (opened 5 years ago) specializes in custom framing. They do conservation framing, canvas transfers, lamination, photo restoration and Deb is a needlework specialist. There's also a large selection of ready-made frames, mats, liners and canvas. They even have a selection of framed mirrors (from simple designs to very ornate) and statuary decorator items from California: Pillars, columns, and vases. (The pillars, when combined with bevelled glass, make unique, elegant tables.) A Touch of Elegance offers wholesale framing prices to artists every Tuesday, or call Bill at 530-7411 to arrange another date.

Multi-talented **Tim White** gave an entertaining presentation at a recent *Surrey Arts West Society* meeting. He didn't demonstrate painting techniques, he talked about them. He offered tips, information and humorous anecdotes, and kept his audience interested and amused. Tim has ongoing workshops: Contact him at 438-1578. Tim's agent plans to bring a gallery exhibit *into his* Burnaby home. An interesting concept. Call Tim for details.

Contrary to the rumours, **Final Touch Frames** in Vancouver is still in operation. Owner **Rod Steere** says the business ran into some misfortune last year. However he assures me that his custom framing service has recovered nicely. Rod continues to offer the quality service as in the past 24 years, from

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his present location at 1947 Quebec Street (where he's been for some time). It's his fourth Vancouver location since he opened in 1974. Rod isn't an artist himself, but he's developed a great admiration for the countless works of art he's framed. *Final Touch Frames* evolved after he and a friend began importing Mexican frames. They wanted to provide struggling artists with wholesale prices, and even today he's still helping the artist: His store always gives 30% off custom framing to artists. He also rewards referrals: When an artist refers their client to bring in their painting, drawing, or photograph for framing, Rod makes a note of the artist's name and offers the artist a free same-sized canvas or mat of the work he framed. Drop in to visit Rod and his staff, or call them at 873-3992.

The *City of Burnaby* has officially opened the *Gallery at Ceperley House*. The building is a renovated 87-year-old Deer Lake Park mansion. Located at 6344 Deer Lake Avenue, this beautiful heritage building is certainly worth a visit. For more info on current exhibits and public programs call the Gallery at 205-7332.

*Chemainus* is becoming known for its 33 outdoor murals. These huge, detailed, colourful murals reflect the history of Chemainus. The artwork has brought fame and originality to a town with an uncertain future after the downturn of the forest industry. Chemainus is an hour's drive north of Victoria.

*Lyle MacDonald* (of the *Paint With Lyle* television series) is ready for another season of guided painting excursions in the mountains. Affordable rates, spectacular scenery, and the pleasant company of a talented instructor should make lessons with Lyle an enjoyable experience. Call him at (604)938-9414 about *Whistler School of Fine Art*. At his recent private show, Lyle and I discussed ways to get more artists (beginners or advanced) interested and informed about art lessons. Knowing who offers lessons would certainly help. There are many local or "getaway" locations offering art instruction: *Island Mountain Arts* in Wells (250)994-3466; *Mountain Haven Arts* in Mission 462-1107; *The Old School House* in Qualicum Beach (250)752-6133; *Acorn Art and Image* in Langley 530-2563; *White Rock Summer School of The Arts* 536-8692; and *Gambier Island School of Fine Art* 874-9562. These are just a few, who have recently contacted me. I wish I had room to list more. In a future issue of this newsletter, I plan to include a directory of art schools or private lessons. Watch for it.

A special thanks to artist *Ernie Faessler*, who has supplied me with clippings of many of the quotes used in the Artist's Journal and another publication I produce. Ernie is known for his paintings of barns. The talented Surrey artist captures the history and the memories of the farming lifestyle. If you'd like to see his work, call Ernie at 581-4149. 🍀