



## TAS Turns 40 in 2009



Forty years ago, a group of artists formed the Truro Art Society. They wished to support each other in their work, to promote art in the Truro area and to bring exhibits of outstanding Nova Scotia artists to the area. They held workshops and programs. Initially the exhibits were held in the auditorium of the Colchester East Hants Library. Today they are displayed in the impressive McCarthy Hall Gallery on the NSCC campus on Arthur Street.

TAS membership today is approximately 100, but the number of those actively involved is much smaller. The work load is considerable. The number of exhibits held has increased, and the Society has considerable visibility. Both town and county now hold acquisition shows.

The executive is now planning special events for this special anniversary year. Stay tuned, think up ideas and get involved. Keep the dream alive!

### **Lise Durling's *Beyond the Brush* Opens Our 40th Year in January**

The paintings exhibited in *Beyond the Brush* represent a personal journey back to her art. Like many artists, Lise gave up painting in order to get a 'real job'. She was an employment and business counselor for various government funded programs for several years. During this time, she never once painted or drew.

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After the loss of her husband, she faced some troubling times. One afternoon, after watching a poignant episode of the Oprah Show about Africa and the death of a child, her son asked her to paint this little boy so his mother could remember him. Moved by her son's request, she did. She adds, "And it was one of the most thought-provoking, healing and spiritual experiences of my life."

Lise continues, "This show represents the past 1 ½ years of my life. All of the paintings have a spiritual significance and a message. Some of these paintings are now drawing international and media attention due to my humanitarian efforts to create awareness.

"I am not just an artist, but a woman and a mother who wants to explore the world and tell its story. I love to break the rules and combine techniques to explore the emotions of my viewers. I paint whatever I want to; never wanting to be labeled as one particular style. When painting, I only use acrylics and love pushing them to the limits by using oil and watercolour techniques. I also use colour pencil, graphite and pastels. Art is my life; life is my passion."



## *President's Message*

With the Christmas season upon us, I find myself counting blessings and giving thanks for gifts received. We are very fortunate in this great country, as many of us are able to live in relative comfort. In order to produce art, it helps if you don't have to constantly worry about where your next meal is coming from. However, many artists do produce great work in just that situation, and have throughout the centuries. Artists will continue to create and express their vision regardless of the obstacles placed in their path.

Sometimes, however, the obstacles might be of our own making. Our inner critic says that we are not good enough, or procrastinating tendencies insidiously put painting at the bottom of our to-do list. At those times it is important to remember to be kind to ourselves, and that the housework will still be there tomorrow.

So this Christmas, I suggest that all artists give themselves the gifts of generosity of spirit, and permission.

Happy Holidays, and I hope to see you all at our next opening reception!

*Judy Arsenault*

### **TAS SILENT AUCTION A SUCCESS!**

A giant thanks to all members who so generously donated items for our silent auction fundraiser. We managed to raise close to \$400 !

## **Utata Gallery**

Several TAS members have work in the new Utata Gallery in Windsor. Check out the website at <http://gallery.utata.org/>

## **TAS Website**

Plans are well underway for the new TAS website, many thanks to those members who offered a suggestion or help. Keep them coming! We have a team assigned to us at NSCC, it will be fun and we will learn a lot.

## Artist's Profile

### Lise (Lisa Marie) Durling

Lise has extensive training in natural and traditional medicines from Master Teachers and Traditionalists from around the world. These teachings included: The Flying Star Classical School of Feng Shui (traditional and ancient), Master Teacher of Usui Reiki, Aromatherapy, Traditional Chinese Medicine and Mi'kmaq Medicine and Traditions. All of these teachings are incorporated into her use of colours and composition to create an unforgettable visual energy.

Her art education began by studying with spiritual artist Barbara Davidson. Mrs. Davidson's work can be viewed in many churches across North America. Lise has studied with Mrs. Davidson since she was eleven, concentrating on portraiture and the spiritual elements of art.

As a young teenager, Lise's interest in art intensified when she met artist and gallery director, Robert Dietz. She was first introduced to Mr. Dietz while participating in a 4-H project. Mr. Dietz requested that Lise revisit on a regular basis and began mentoring her.

He taught her to look beyond what she initially saw to understand her subject on an emotional level. He encouraged her to continue combining impressionistic methods with her spiritual purpose for art. Life will be your teacher, and then you will paint." These words have inspired Lise since the day they met. Lise continued her studies with watercolorist, Ivan Fraser. Presently, she is studying under the direction of world renowned artists, Barry Raybould and Michael Chong Voon Kong.

Lise constantly studies the works of other artists in efforts to expand her knowledge and skill. She has successfully combined her business skills with her love for art to create a sustainable art business. She loves to inspire others, especially creative people, to reach for their own goals.

### **'Back to the Wall'**

paintings by TAS member **Roger Green**  
Marigold Cultural Centre

Opening reception: Saturday, December 6, 6-8 p.m.

Show runs to December 22

***Let's show Roger TAS support by attending!***

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1:30 pm at McCarthy Gallery**  
**TAS MEMBERS PLEASE ATTEND!**

The Truro Art Society is in crisis. We do not have enough volunteer assistance to continue to operate effectively. Virtually all of the work is being done by a handful of our members, and everyone is tired. If you want TAS to continue, now is the time to step up and lend a hand!

After repeated calls for volunteers for the positions of *Exhibitions Coordinator, Publicity and Social Coordinator*, these positions still remain empty; however, the work still needs to be done if our exhibitions are to continue!

So it is up to you, the Membership, to step up and get involved. Please take time to attend this special meeting! These various positions and tasks can be shared. No one person has to work alone. Consider trying out one of these positions, for a chance to have real input into the workings of TAS!

## **Upcoming TAS Exhibitions 2009**

*January*

**'Beyond My Brush'**

art by Lise Durling

Opening Reception:

Thursday, Jan.8 at 7pm

*February*

**'In This Place'**

Black Art in Nova Scotia

*March*

paintings by

**Carol Morrison**

*April*

**Town of Truro**

**Annual Art Acquisition**

**Show**

*May/June* TBA

*July*

**Pamela Swainson**

## Marigold Notes

Attic Painters have opened a new display in the lobby of the Marigold Centre.

Marilyn Whalen's show "**Imagine**" was featured in the gallery in November. 16 pieces celebrated our fall colours in spectacular colour.

Roger Green's "**Back to the Wall**" will open in the Gallery on December 6 and run through the month.

## Gallery Attendants.

The position of Gallery Attendant has been eliminated. This was at the request of the NSCC staff, and although attempts were made to meet their requirements, eventually it was decided our volunteer time could be better utilized in other ways. Although this may diminish the daily regular TAS physical presence in the space, members must continue to work hard to promote this beautiful gallery and ensure any potential sales are not lost.

## Attic Painters

The Attic Painters' work will be at the Hearthside Cafe (formerly Jim's) for the month of December and also, as always, in the Marigold lobby.

## Want to display your art online?

Check out the following website. You will also see one of our TAS members featured on this site, under Nova Scotia of course!

[www.artistscanada.com](http://www.artistscanada.com)

## Workshop Updates

Twenty people attended the terrific November workshops with Wayne Boucher. We may be able to offer another workshop with him some time.

Several people have asked about a drawing and watercolour workshop with Frans Aeyelts. Please call Kerry at 673-2500 by January 30 if you are interested in an April workshop.

Sorry. Santa's workshops are all full. The elves are going full tilt until Christmas.

Season's Greetings!

## Maitland Artist's Work Added to Colchester Acquisition Program

**Art Show 2008**, the collaboration of the Municipality of Colchester and the Truro Art Society, was a fine success. Seventeen Artists and approximately 36 paintings celebrated the life, history and colour of our region. The exhibit adorned the walls of McCarthy Hall for the month of November.

Judy Arsenault's "*Tide Turning*," an abstract representation of the tides of the Bay of Fundy, was the winner of this year's Acquisition Show. The work will be added to the Municipality's Permanent collection.

Judy, a resident of Maitland, has been painting professionally for about ten years. She is not only a talented artist; she's also the hard working President of the Truro Art Society. We congratulate Judy on this well-deserved recognition.



Judy Arsenault's *Tide Turning* was this year's winner at the Colchester County Acquisition Show (2008)



Website: [www.truroartsociety.wordpress.com](http://www.truroartsociety.wordpress.com)

Exhibitions held at McCarthy Hall, NSCC, 36 Arthur St. Truro, NS  
Mail Membership Fees to: TAS 45 Saywood Dr. Bible Hill B6L 4G9



**New Member**

**Annual Membership Renewal**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Fees/calendar year: Adult \$20 Family \$30 Student \$10**

**The Truro Art Society, founded in 1969, is a volunteer organization dedicated to promoting the arts in Truro and area. Members receive Newsletters, Invitations to Exhibitions and Opening Night Receptions, and Opportunities to Exhibit and Appreciate Art. Welcome to TAS!**

**Thank you in advance for checking off areas where you can assist TAS.**

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Workshop Planning             | <input type="checkbox"/> Opening Reception Refreshments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hanging Assistance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Show coordinator (can be shared) | <input type="checkbox"/> Silent auction                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Assistance                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone committee            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Website Aid                                 |   |