



# FCA NEWSLETTER

www.fcacalgary.ca

JUNE 2003

**"If it Doesn't Stem from Yourself, Where Will You Go to Find It?"**  
Zen Proverb

## Natalie Kurzuk, 1st Vice-President

### Coming Events

- Program for June - Critique of Member Works by Katherine Ylitalo. Don't forget to bring a painting to the June Meeting.
- Workshop - Life Drawing and Painting with Doug Swinton, June 17, 19, 20, 2003
- Level Best - National Qualifying Show in Calgary 2004

As an artist and an art educator for over forty years, Natalie has studied, worked and taught in a variety of art disciplines: drawing, sculpture, printmaking, photography, and painting in acrylic, oils and watercolour. Primarily a "process painter", she delights in exploring various aspects of uncertainty in the creative process. Natural and manmade discards, such as used teabags, rose petals, seeds, burlap, sand, wood, bottle caps and metal scraps, are often incorporated into her artwork. Each piece evolves from the manipulation of materials such as gels, modelling paste, marble dust, wax, acrylic paints, and found materials. Natalie's paintings undergo numerous transitions and often contain multiple layers of partially obliterated information. These highly-textured and distressed surfaces are meant to excite the eye

and stretch the imagination.



life. Often, the experiences of her extensive travel (to over twenty countries) are reflected in her work.

In the past seven years, she has had eleven solo exhibitions and been involved in over forty group art shows in Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. She has received several art awards from the Federation of

Natalie was born in the farming community of Danbury, Saskatchewan. She received her B.Ed from the U of S (Saskatoon) in 1970 & her B.F.A. from the U of C in 1979. She was introduced to the "joys of art" by artists, Wynona Mulcaster and Otto Rogers, 1961-66. Natalie has been a Calgarian since 1966.

Canadian Artists. Natalie has served on the FCA (Calgary Chapter) executive and held the position of Exhibition Coordinator for the past few years. She is also an active member of the national FCA.

Natalie's artwork has been shown in the following Calgary galleries: The Centre Gallery, Artspace, The Untitled Society, Muttart Art Gallery, Leighton Art Centre, Noland and Reid, Nickel Arts, Platinum Art and Garrison Gallery.

Natalie's art is influenced by and reflects responses to her personal journey. Her mixed media art pieces are an outer expression of her inner self. Her work is filled with symbolism as she explores the rituals and ceremonies in everyday

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## FCA Executive - 2003/2004

| Position                       | Name            | Phone          | E-Mail Address            |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| President                      | Neil Locke      | (403) 277-0561 | nblocke@shaw.ca           |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President | Natalie Kurzuk  | (403) 254-6697 | nakurzuk@telusplanet.net  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President | Lorna Hannett   | (403) 637 2454 | lorna12@telusplanet.net   |
| Secretary                      | Karen Aulik-Now | (403) 2771586  | mntnpropt@telusplanet.net |
| Treasurer                      | Jocelyn Goodman | (403) 238-4149 | jocelyngoodman@shaw.ca    |
| Past President                 | Marg Stevens    | (403) 932-6383 | stevenss@telusplanet.net  |

## Profile—Diane Knight

**Diane Knight** is a Canadian artist from Calgary, Alberta. Her childhood was spent moving every few years. She lived in numerous cities all across Canada as well as spending 4 years in France. It was here that she became enthralled with European culture and started painting street scenes on small canvas boards to decorate her bedroom. Her other passion was poetry which she found to be an excellent outlet for her teenage emotions. She neglected her



painting for many years as she delved into her poetry and then started building a career in the oil & gas business. Her 28 year business career was spent primarily in a marketing role which allowed her to travel extensively in the United States and Canada.

Diane lost her husband to cancer in 1982 and turned back to painting to fulfill a need to express her pain and capture her memories before they slipped away. She spent hours looking over photographs of her life and transforming those memories into watercolor paintings.

Diane started painting in acrylics in the last decade to achieve the intensity and freshness of color that you find in her work today. Her recent paintings are mostly of her travels in Mexico and reflect her love of the vibrancy found in the Spanish influenced architecture and culture. Diane believes art should not just be an object to be viewed and strives to create the feeling of being able to enter and become a part of the painting. She has recently fulfilled her dream and paints full time in her studio in Calgary as well as in San

Jose del Cabo, Mexico. She has just started organizing painting adventures to Los Cabo to introduce the culture and scenery she loves to other artists.

Diane is a member of the Leighton Foundation and the Federation of Canadian Artists. Her work has been displayed in galleries in Calgary, Bragg Creek and Mexico.

You can find Diane's recent paintings on her web site at [www.dianeknight.ca](http://www.dianeknight.ca).

**Artists' Statement:** I am inspired by vibrant colors and how different cultures use color to express themselves. I have traveled throughout my life and love to travel, but I also have a need to feel rooted, to be at home. To satisfy both needs, I make each destination my new home by searching out places where I can become drawn into the "scene" and feel like I've lived there forever.

I try to portray this in my work. It is deeply satisfying for me when my paintings trigger a memory or a fantasy and the viewer feels that they can escape to this other place.

## Framing Your Water Colour Art

### Jim Graham,

#### Conservation Framing

Many artists are aware of the "need" for conservation materials in framing to protect their watercolour art. Your customers are also becoming aware of the need for these materials to protect their investment over many years.

When you add information to the back of your watercolour art work indicating it contains "conservation framing materials only" you are actually making that artwork more appealing to buyers. If it does not say archival, conservation board or acid free materials on your watercolour art work you leave the buyer in a position of not really knowing what they are buying.

How do you know you are receiving this type of conservation material

when you take your work to a framer? First and foremost you have to **"ask specifically"** for conservation framing materials. Don't assume that just because you are paying a lot of money in an expensive looking framing store that you are getting conservation materials.

I recently put new frames on two large watercolour paintings for a customer and found brown cardboard used to support the paintings as backing material. This cardboard had changed the back of the painting to a yellow colour and effectively ruined the beautiful watercolour paintings.

One easy way to determine if matt board is archival is to turn to the back of the corner sample the framer is recommending to you. The two major matt board suppliers are

Nielsen-Bainbridge and Crescent. They both supply 100% cotton boards and Nielsen-Bainbridge supplies a buffered cellulose board.

On the back of the corner samples you will see some of the following kinds of information;

- Museum Quality – Artcare System
- Meets Library of Congress Standard for Conservation
- 100% Virgin Alpha Cellulose
- Fade and bleed resistant
- Alkaline PH + Buffer
- Acid-free coloured surface on 100% rag acid-free board.
- Museum Grade – Conservation Board
- Acid free and lignin free

## Framing (Con't)

One other consideration is the material used for backing. Ask for acid free foam core backing. Cardboard should never be used for backing material.

Ask your framer to certify in writing "conservation material used" on the back of your framed art. It is a helpful selling point for you in marketing your art work.

### Damaged Framing

Recently I have had a large number of customers bring me frames that had been damaged in transportation to and from art shows or actually damaged at the art show or gallery. When you pay good money for framing you must take extra steps to prevent damage to your work. Here are some tips to avoid damaged frames;

- If you place a framed picture on its edge on the floor in front of the back seats of a vehicle the bottom edge of the frame tends to ride forward and slide under the back parts of the front seats where there are often many sharp metal or plastic parts

protruding downward which can scratch your frame or art work.

- Don't use screw eyes to hold the hanging wire for your pictures. Eventually your pictures will be stacked or placed together and the screw eyes will damage the frames they touch
- If you have had a frame scratched while at a gallery have the condition included in your contract that if the painting is to be moved in the gallery you will come and move it personally. This can be a real problem for artists leaving their work, in a gallery, on consignment. Discuss with the gallery operator who will move your art work and what precautions will be taken to avoid damaging your frames.
- Wrap your frames in Zippy Wrap. Both the Zippy Wrap and the dispensers are available from Shippers Supply Inc. There are two locations in Calgary listed in the phone directory.
- Use bubble wrap to wrap your pictures for transport

- Your framer may be able to supply you with discarded cardboard boxes in which he/she receives shipped matt board. It is easy to use a sharp knife to cut out one edge from these boxes and add a small hole on each side for handles for a safe secure way to carry your framed art to and from an art show. The boxes carrying framed pictures this way can be safely stacked in your trunk for transport.

It is far better to prevent damage to a frame than it is to try and repair the damaged frame.

### Reducing Framing Costs

When you go into a framing shop to get your art framed be sure you ask the merchant if his samples consist of polystyrene frames as well as wood frames. Get him to show you some samples of each type of framing material and get estimates for either type of material. The cost of polystyrene frames is considerably less than wood frames. The polystyrene frames look every bit as good as or better than wood frames.

## Notices

**Emma Lake Artists' Workshops** Affiliated with Kenderdine Campus of the University of Saskatchewan, fifty kilometers north of Price Albert, Saskatchewan July 25 - August 8. For more information go to [www.emmalake.usask.ca](http://www.emmalake.usask.ca).

**Critique of Member Works with Katherine Ylitalo** - Come and join us at the June meeting for a critique by Katherine Ylitalo. Bring a painting to the meeting (maximum 2). Ms. Ylitalo has a Masters from Stanford University in California. She has worked as a curator at the Contemporary Arts Museum at the Glenbow and at the Nickle Arts Museum from 1986 to 1995. Since then, Ms. Ylitalo continues to work as an independent curator, writer and art instructor. Katherine did the well-received "Artists and Curators - What a Team" presentation in June, 2002.

**Natalie Kurzuk** thank you for stepping in at the last minute and putting together a wonderful program for our May meeting. Natalie explained her Quilt Pieces exhibit and invited the membership to participate in the exhibit. Natalie also demonstrated various new, "experimental" techniques using acrylic. She also shared with the membership various opportunities for exhibiting work.



**Artwaves Shuswap Summer School of the Arts 2003** find your expressive potential through acrylics in combination with drawing media. July 19 and 20th. Go to [www.shuswapartscouncil.bc.ca](http://www.shuswapartscouncil.bc.ca) or email to [sdac@jetstream.net](mailto:sdac@jetstream.net). Cost is \$130.00 before June or \$150.00 after June 1, 2003, supplies not included.

**Art and Soul Studio/Gallery** are looking for artists to host a one-man or group show in High River Art and Soul Studio. Artists may book the space for a 3-day show. The gallery will advertise the show.



## FCA General Meeting, May 20, 2003 - Minutes

### Approval of Minutes of April 15, 2003:

Lorna Hannett motioned to approve the minutes; Dorothy Barraclough seconded. All approved.

### Treasurer's Report

Jocelyn Goodman read the treasurer's report.

### Proposal: National Qualifying Show in Calgary

The proposal for the Calgary chapter to host a National Show was presented to the membership by Marg Stevens. Approval by national has been received. The theme, for the interim, will be "Level Best". Marg Stevens will serve as Exhibition Coordinator. It was suggested to strike a committee for the National Show. Lorna Hannett, Marian Bax-Slater, Neil Locke and representatives from other chapters will fill key positions. A call was put out for additional committee volunteers; if a volunteer is already on a committee it was asked that they find a replacement for that position, if they intend to be on the national show committee. The date for the show will be set ASAP; sometime in 2004 and probably in the fall. Canvassing of galleries will begin to determine a venue for the show.

### Edgemont Show Debrief

Natalie Kurzuk reported that the art quality was good, comments were good, and the signage was excellent. 14 paintings sold, 380 attended and there were \$3,745.00 in sales. A suggestion was put forward that positions for ambassadors for various parts of the city be created to aid in promotion of shows. A discussion regarding juror's choice vs. chapter's choice; it was decided to go with what is on the painting. Delivery of paintings between takes place between 9-10 am. Regarding bookmarks for future shows, Marian Bax-Slayer is working on getting glossy ones made. New volunteers are needed for easel set-up and Neil Locke and Dianne Knight volunteered. It was suggested, as a reminder to exhibiting artists that they should circulate to talk with perspective purchasers and not sit on chairs at the perimeter of the exhibit. Also it was suggested that all artists remember to assist with clean up at the end of the show. It was further suggested that more people are needed to help with kitchen duty, not just those on the committee.

### May Workshops: M i c h a e l O'Toole

Because there were not enough registered, this workshop was cancelled and will be re-scheduled for

October.

### Doug Swinton

Three spots are open in this workshop.

### Membership: Update

Dianne Middleton (membership) reported that we have 120 members.

### Stampede Artist Window

Those drawn to participate in this event are as follows: Jocelyn Goodman, Lorna Hannett, Lyla Couzens, Kathleen McCallum, Lillian Tkach-Matison, George Bates, Lucy Bates, Neil Locke, and Maria Petricevic. Coordinator Neil Locke will contact those selected and inform them of what time slot they have been given.

### Guests & New Members

Lorna Addison new supporting member.

Sergio and Rocio Ledesma new supporting members.

Evelyn Colijn new active member.

### New Opportunities

Leighton Centre Clothesline Show - June 1

### Motion made to adjourn meeting:

Dianne Knight 1<sup>st</sup>, Bonnie Curran 2<sup>nd</sup>, all approved.

Meeting adjourned.

## President's Message: Neil Locke

I would like to introduce myself to those who don't know me and say "Hi" to those who do. My name is Neil Locke and I'll be the President of the FCA Calgary Chapter for 2003-2004. In the same breath I would like to thank Marg Stevens for her three years of service in this position and mentoring me as I enter into the fray.

Congratulations to those artists who managed to sell their work at our past show at Edgemont Community Centre. The word in the art market for the past while is buyers are being extra careful with their disposable income. If you as an artist can capture the attention of those who

are ready to purchase, but still need a little educating, take the time. Good things will come your way. To those who were able to introduce yourselves to possible clients, "Good on ya" is all I can say. You'll probably see that person again.

FCA Calgary is stepping into the field of national exhibitions! After proposing to FCA National the idea of holding a National qualifying show in Calgary, the idea was approved and is now going forward. Our Past "Fearless Leader", Marg Stevens is stepping in as Exhibition Coordinator and will need the expertise of those members who have the skills to put together a top notch function.

This year's applicants for the Artist's Window at the Calgary Stampede have been selected and I'd like to extend a congratulations to those artists. I hope everyone exhibiting their work has a great time.

Paint with a smile on your face and take care,



## Workshop - Life Drawing and Painting with Doug Swinton

### Figure Drawing and Beyond June 17, 19, 20, 2003,

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Swinton's Art Supplies at 7160 Fisher St. S.E.



Participants will cover a variety of

figure drawing and painting skills during this 3 day intensive course. From expressive sketching to constructive drawing techniques for making the painting work i.e.

- Figure Structure
- Composition
- Under painting
- Keeping your colours clean

You will have the opportunity to work with a wide range of materials and mediums; pencil, charcoal, conte, wash and your choice of oil, acrylic or watercolour.

**About the instructor:** Doug was born and raised in Calgary, Alberta. He attended the Alberta College of Art and then managed an art supply store in Calgary before opening his own store.

Doug teaches painting classes throughout southern Alberta. He works primarily in oils and his paintings hang in many private and corporate collections throughout Canada. He is an elected member several artist organizations and is also a member of the National Art Materials Trade Association. Doug has an extensive background in art materials and the manufacturing process.

Members \$100.00 or Non-members \$125.00. *To register contact: Marian Bax-Slayter at (403) 949-2873*

**Fax: (403)949-3670 or email: [mslayer@telus.net](mailto:mslayer@telus.net)**

More of Doug's work can be viewed at: [www.swintonsartsupply.com](http://www.swintonsartsupply.com) or [www.gainsboroughgalleries.com](http://www.gainsboroughgalleries.com)

## Edgemont Show



**L. Couzens & N. Locke**

### Natalie Kurzuk, Exhibition Coordinator

A beautiful sunny day, a wonderful setting and great art, made for another positive experience at Edgemont on Saturday, May 10th. Although our sales were down from our past records, we were pleased to have such a great turn out. Thanks to all the volunteers (especially the new crew), our FCA show was well presented and had much positive feedback.

The last show of the year (2003), is at Strathcona Christie on Saturday, December 6th. Jury night is on Monday, November 24, 2003. Please mark these dates on your calendar. We look forward to seeing members' new work - so, paint from the heart!



**S. Adams**



**D. Middleton**



**M. Petricevic**



**L. Hannett**



**Tric Syz**

## Artist's News

**Jeanette McClelland-Brooks** will have a private showing of her recent paintings at the Alliance Francaise, 2<sup>nd</sup> flr., 12<sup>th</sup> Ave & 2<sup>nd</sup> St. S.W., Calgary, in the Old Memorial Park Library opening on June 26 at 6:30 pm and runs through to July 13/03. She wishes to extend an invitation to all FCA chapter members to attend.

**Jean Pederson** has been awarded the Silver Medal in the CIPA National Portrait competition, presentations will be this summer. Jean has a painting in the NWSW Exhibition in Seattle and another in the Red River Watercolor Society. Jean had an article printed in the Artist's Magazine January issue, another article will follow. Jean is doing several workshops one was in Winnipeg May 2, 3 & 4 and in Gibson's Land B.C. on July 21-25, 2003.

**Sheila Adams** has several paintings in the Western Art Gallery at this years Calgary Stampede.

**Marian Bax-Slayter, Lorna Hannett and Dianne Middleton** attended the Victoria Chapter "Artbreak" at Salt Spring Island in May. The Victoria Chapter put on a wonderful event from lining up the guest artists, to making sure everyone had a place to stay, to the great food provided including

catered luncheons and a banquet for all the artists to meet and mingle. It seemed to run like clockwork.

Artbreak was a jam packed weekend full of panel discussions, talks, demos and slideshows, as well as a wine and cheese meet the artist social at The Bateman Gallery in Artspring Center, showcasing the wonderful art of the Victoria chapter. Guest artists included Robert Bateman, David Goatley, Robert Genn, Catherine Moffat and Kathryn Amisson.

It was an enlightening experience, listening to the artists speak of what it is to be an artist today, their own personal struggles and their passion for art. Robert Bateman gave a slide retrospective of his life, work and insights the Friday evening we arrived. It was interesting to find out that until the age of 36 he was primarily an abstract painter. Many of them shared the thought, that in the end, success is in the achievement of finding the "joy" in your work, the ability to paint your interpretation of a subject. Robert Genn has recently taken up a practice of mentoring artists. All of the guest artists generously donated all of their time for the weekend.

### Noteworthy quotes:

*"Paint the truth in your work. What you are is very important to your art."*

*"What makes up your psyche is inherent to what you paint, it influences you."* Robert Bateman

"We should get up in the morning and ask ourselves **What am I going to paint today?**" and then go out and do it!" Robert Genn.



**David Goatley at Salt Spring**

**Sherry Mitchell** Victoria Chapter was the featured artist in Canada Showcase May issue.

**Karen Aulik-Now** One of her submitted paintings has been selected to appear on the website of the international magazine, "Watercolor Magic". It can be seen at: [www.watercolormagic.com/creativechallenge5.html](http://www.watercolormagic.com/creativechallenge5.html)



## Level Best - National Qualifying Show in Calgary 2004

### Marg Stevens

National has approved a Qualifying Show in Calgary for 2004 and the Calgary Chapter will be the host for this event.

The show is open to all "Active" and "Signature" members of the Federation of Canadian Artists. Jury will be done by National via slides/images. Information will be posted as we work out the details.

The Calgary Chapter Executive have formed a Committee to work with National on this event. The Committee members are:

- Marg Stevens, Exhibition Coordinator

- Lorna Hannett
- Marian Bax-Slayter
- Neil Locke

This will be a great opportunity for everyone and we're going to need lots of volunteers. If you are interested in being a part of this great opportunity please contact Marg at (403) 932-6383 or email at [stevenss@telusplanet.net](mailto:stevenss@telusplanet.net). This is a great opportunity to be a part of the team have fun and contribute to a world class event.

The first order of business is a Gallery and a date. The Committee is in the process now of approaching potential

galleries.

Our goal is to confirm a date and location by the end of June 2003. We will set up an information page on our website, as soon as it's set up we will let you know. We'll be working hard on this over the summer and will have more information for you in the September Issue of the Newsletter. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Marg.

We need you, please call or email if you are interested.

We can't do it without you.