

The Community Enhancement Committee Presents



OCEAN DRIVE ART PROGRAM – ARTISTS' BIOS

(Listed in Alphabetical Order)

ANN BOTELER – Beach Dune Fence – Located at Ocean Drive and South 6th St.

Ann Boteler has been an avid amateur photographer since she was 10 years old. When her daughter was married in 1999, Ann showed such interest in the photography that the photographer asked her if she would like to learn to photograph weddings with her. So Ann proceeded to take an introductory course since she had never had any formal training. One class led to another and another. She loved learning more about the art. Ann began shooting weddings and events professionally. This new skill coupled well with Ann's established picture framing business.

Ann and her family spent two weeks every summer in Fenwick Island since Ann was a little girl. In 1989 Ann inherited the original South Bethany home that her parents built in 1973 and has enjoyed spending time with her children and husband enjoying the beach. In 2012, Ann and Don sold the 1100 square foot house off the corner canal lot on Sussex Place and had Marnie Homes build a new 3300 square foot house to accommodate their children and six grandchildren when visiting. Ann and Don sold their house in Severna Park, Maryland, and are now retired and living permanently in South Bethany.

Contact Ann Boteler at Boteler.ann@gmail.com



THE BUNOSKI FAMILY – “Cottage Charm”- Located at Ocean Drive & Jamaica Drive

The Bunoski family has owned a home in South Bethany for 12 years and Steve's family had lived in South Bethany for over 40 years. Stephanie and Steve have enjoyed watching their family grow up during the summers at the beach. Their children have had their summer jobs within the community of South Bethany. The photo was taken by daughter Shannen Bunoski. She is a sophomore at Salisbury University majoring in Elementary education with a minor in Creative Arts. She has been a summer resident in South Bethany for the last 12 years. The Bunoskis have always enjoyed taking photographs at the beach and in the surrounding beautiful area. Shannen has acquired an interest in photography and also enjoys taking pictures locally.

Contact Stephanie Bunoski at stef@bunoski.com



ROSEMARY CARROLL – “Sunset Heron” Located at Ocean Drive & S. 1st Street

Rosemary has been a Sussex County resident for almost 25 years and in Bethany Beach for nearly 16 years. She raised her family here and for 10 years had a studio in Bethany Beach and in Rehoboth. Currently she has a home studio and offers her art and photography at Sea Crest in Bethany Beach.

During her 25-year career, Rosemary has been a photographer, artist, author and publisher. She has produced proprietary products for hotels and numerous other corporate clients. In addition, she has produced imagery for Hallmark Cards and other companies and has appeared on Larry King Live, Inside Edition and others. Rosemary has also written and illustrated three books and contributed, designed and published many more. Rosemary has had the privilege of photographing celebrities and socialites but nothing gives her more joy than photographing families on the beach.

Having always loved to draw and paint and grown up by the water, Rosemary's natural inclination is to paint water scenes, boats, fishing and all the associated wildlife. To share her passion for watercolor, Rosemary created a lecture series, called "Anybody Can Paint" which she teaches aboard Celebrity, Royal Caribbean and NCL cruise lines in the "off season." Rosemary was educated at C.W. Post College and University of Baltimore Law School.

Contact Rosemary Carroll at bethanybill@msn.com



SHEILA CORBITT - “The Red Crab” - Located at Ocean Drive and South 2nd Street

Sheila Corbitt has always had a love of photography, and interior design; recently her interest has shifted to include painting. Sheila plans to continue with additional lessons to improve her skills and eye for composition.

Her love for the shore started when she was very young and made frequent family trips to Ocean City, MD. Her father was a high school biology teacher who taught her about the birds and sea life of the shore, how to fish and crab, and to enjoy time spent relaxing on the beach.

After starting her own family, she fell in love with Bethany Beach, DE and continued to vacation there for about 10 years. In 1999 they were fortunate to purchase some land in South Bethany, and built a home. They have many great memories of their children growing up in Bethany, riding bikes into town to shop and get donuts, and spending hours on the beach playing games and swimming. They absolutely love it here and can't imagine spending their beach time anywhere else! Sheila and her husband Tom live in Sykesville, MD and have two grown children, who understand how important it is to continue family traditions. They make every effort to join us in Bethany Beach every year.

Contact Sheila Corbitt at Sheilamcorbitt@gmail.com



LEIGH DWYER – Sunset Over Little Assawoman Bay – Located at Ocean Drive & Logan St.

Leigh Dwyer is a professional photographer who splits her time between the Washington DC area and South Bethany Beach, DE. She has always had a love for photography for as long as she can remember. Her work includes images of her travels, local interest and historical sights, portraiture, and events including weddings. When she's behind the camera shooting, she's usually having fun, and so are her subjects. She is light hearted and easy going, and can always make her clients relax and enjoy the experience.

Leigh and her husband raised all three of their children in Alexandria, VA, and her family has spent their summers in South Bethany Beach for the past 25 years. “Our connection to South Bethany is a pretty strong one. I would have to say that our very best friends in life are our neighbors at the beach. We have raised our children together, vacationed together, and generally just been there for each other. We have quite a community.”

Summer at the beach is Leigh's busy season for her photography. Vacationers love to have their family portraits done on the beach. She is also closely connected to the South Bethany Beach Patrol. All three of her children were on the beach patrol during their college years. Leigh can

always be found taking pictures at the local beach patrol competitions, and she does the patrol group picture for them every year. To see Leigh's work please visit her web site at

LD-Photography.com. leigh.dwyer5@gmail.com



TARA FUNK GRIM – Beach Brellies – Located at Ocean Drive and S. 3rd Street

A native of the Jersey shore, Tara began her art career painting seasonal themes on the boardwalk store windows. She graduated from Chestnut Hill College and received teaching certification from Kutztown University. Recently, she was the poster artist for ArtFest Fort Myers, won Best Mixed Media in Bonita Springs National Art Festival and is featured in several national publications, *100 Plein Air Painters of the Mid-Atlantic* and *AcrylicWorks 2: Radical Breakthroughs*.

Tara explores painting in an imaginative and creative way to see what is truly possible. She is a signature member of the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society, exhibits widely and is known for creative mixed media workshops. Tara has lived in So. Bethany for over 16 years and loves every minute of it!

Contact Tara Grim at www.TaraFunkGrim.com Tara@TaraFunkGrim.com



CAROLYN MARCELLO – Historic WWII Tower – Located at Ocean Drive & S. 9th Street

Carolyn was born and raised in Rochester, New York. Because she enjoyed art so much she enrolled at the Rochester Institute of Technology art department, graduating there with a Bachelor of Art degree and then a Masters in Fine Arts. Carolyn taught art and did various art projects. In 1994 she retired to South Bethany, Delaware where her sister, May Felerski had lived. Shortly after moving to Delaware a new art group formed, the Bethany Beach Water Color

Society. Carolyn painted for years with the group and exhibited in their yearly art show. Carolyn still enjoys painting today, usually on commission. She feels it's a pleasure to live in this area so conducive to the beauty of nature and the sea. Carolyn also feels very blessed.

Contact Carolyn Marcello at Cdm24@verizon.net



KAREN L. MESSICK – Colorful Beach Umbrellas – Located at Ocean Dr. & Kewanee St.

Karen is an award-winning photographer. She has been capturing images for the last 18 years and has been President of Karen L Messick Photography since 2007 and is present Past President of the Baltimore Camera Club. Her sense for design, color, composition and placement of subject elements is striking. In addition to traditional photography she has embraced imaging with High Dynamic Range software, and artistic adaptations of her images with plug-in software.

Karen has led photo workshops and lectured on composition and design throughout the U.S. and abroad. She has also participated in photographic workshops and excursions with professional nature photographers and attended numerous photographic seminars. Karen has written instructional articles and had portfolio pieces published in iPhoneLife Magazine and Nature Photographer Magazine. Currently she is a field contributor for Nature Photographer Magazine. Karen also teaches Intro to digital photography and iPhone Photography at Johns Hopkins University, in the Odyssey Program. Karen leads her own workshops and has conducted workshops and lectures for Penn Camera, Horizon Photography Workshops and Capital Photography Center. She currently has/had images on display at galleries and other locations in the Baltimore-Washington area, Delaware and Seattle, WA. Her images are held in “The Photography Collections, of the University of Maryland Baltimore County Campus.”

Karen has been an owner and seasonal resident in South Bethany since 1999. She is treasurer for The Bayshore Six Condominium Association of Owners. Karen loves getting up early at sunrise and making images on the beach!

Contact Karen Messick at karenmessick@aol.com or www.karenmessickphotography.com



KATHY MUMFORD – Summer Read – Located at Ocean Drive & S. 5th Street

Kathy Mumford earned a BS Degree in Fine Arts from Frostburg State University and has taken art education and advanced art courses at the University of Maryland, Salisbury University and the Philadelphia University of the Arts.

Kathy has been an art teacher since 1992 at Wicomico Middle School in Salisbury, MD. She loves sharing her knowledge and skills with her students, and finds it very rewarding to see them grow as young artists. Kathy has shown and won various awards for her artwork in Ocean City, Berlin, Snow Hill and Salisbury, MD. She works in mixed media and enjoys the subject matters of local buildings and people. Painting murals is one of her favorite activities and has done many residential and commercial murals.

Kathy lives in South Bethany where she enjoys the beach year round, but especially in the summer when she can relax with her “Summer Read.”

Contact Kathy Mumford at Mumf2008@yahoo.com



ERIC MURRAY – “Rods, Reels, and Coats” – Located at Ocean Drive & S. 9th Street

At the age of 12, Eric was given a twin lens reflex which he used all through grade school and college to produce 120 black & white images for 8 or 10 yearbooks and countless publicity shots. In 1970, he purchased a 35mm SLR and that has been his format ever since.

Eric apprenticed in commercial photography with Anthony Pinto in New York City and in wedding photography and color processing at Tunice Studios in Scranton Pa. In 1973 he opened and operated a black & white processing lab specializing in overnight production of prints. Eric describes that as “Good business before the days of One Hour photo at every drug store!” In the early 70s Eric pursued a career in industry rather than photography, a good decision as it was much more lucrative.

However, Eric never lost interest in photography. He shot dozens of weddings and as a gift to the couple, presented them with an album at the reception to take on the honeymoon. His career took him to many places around the world where he photographed many interesting sights.

Since retiring 5 years ago, Eric was invited to mount an exhibit of images at the South Bethany Town Hall and also exhibited at the art gallery in Bethany Beach. He and his family enjoy many wonderful times in South Bethany!

Contact Eric Murray at ericdmu@netzero.com



DAMON PLA – “The Stillness of August” – Located at Ocean Drive & S. 4th Street

Born in South Florida, Damon Pla was drawn to express himself through art at an early age. Upon completing various portfolio classes in high school, his advanced drawing and painting skills led him to pursue commercial and private commissions soon after graduation. After a decade of large scale projects throughout Florida and neighboring regions, the largely self-taught artist moved to Delaware to absorb a different landscape.

“Through ambience, composition, movement and light, creating art will always be an instrument for me to interpret my perception of our surroundings. To quietly converse with the viewer through my work, provoking thought and meditation, is my passion.”

Today, Damon continues to work full time creating timeless murals, large paintings and limited edition reproductions for his collectors. He resides in Dagsboro, DE with wife Dana and their daughters Maya and Zoey.

Contact Damon Pla at pla@damonpla.com



BONNIE RAE – “Beach Volleyball” – Located at Seaside Drive North Receptacle

Bonnie has always liked to draw and enjoys ART in most forms. In fact, her husband Al and their children are artistic, so it is something they all share! She has never painted professionally.

The Raes bought their South Bethany house in 1997 and retired to South Bethany in 2002 from Blue Bell, PA. Together they began water-color painting classes as a Christmas present several years ago and currently that is the medium Bonnie chooses. Since she used acrylics before, the art of water-color over the last 6-7 years has been very challenging to her!

Bonnie has made many acrylic paintings that hang on the walls of a former church, a nursery school and their children’s bedrooms. She has had an on-going activity with their oldest

granddaughter for several years, where she paints something on her bedroom wall most visits, as a surprise for her! Bonnie also painted a South Bethany beach house mural on their living room wall, eventually adding their own house. She jokingly says “it’s the closest we’ll come to beachfront property

Living the retired life, Bonnie has written and illustrated 20+ small books for their seven grandchildren. Each book is about something going on in that one child’s young life. She uses her own photos and drawing and currently is in the process of doing two with her own art work. She describes them as “labors of love” and her enjoyment comes from just thinking about the next idea, what to include and ways to do them... as much as actually creating them.

Artists develop their own style and subject preferences. Bonnie has found that her style is mostly pictorial caricature – more what you might find in a children’s book. She also enjoys painting people and has been trying to include more in her paintings.

Contact Bonnie Rae at sunraesurf@verizon.net



CINDY SCRUGGS – “Stand #2 – Season’s End” – Located at Ocean Drive & N. 6th St.

After majoring in Studio Art at the University of Richmond, Cindy Scruggs planned to paint often after she concluded her career as a graphic artist and raised her family. However, lots of good stuff got in the way, and the Ocean Drive painting marks the happy return to her hobby! The painting was a family affair, since it was modeled after a photo taken by daughter Laura and critiqued by daughter Kelly (a recent Rhode Island School of Design graduate). The Scruggs family has spent over a dozen years vacationing on the beautiful N. 6th Street beach in South Bethany, and is grateful for the gift of time spent there together with their friends and large extended family.

Contact Cindy Scruggs at Cscruggs14@aol.com



HEATHER LISA SHERIDAN – “Morning Waves at N. 6th Street” – Located at Ocean Drive & Division St.

Their beach house at 4 N. 6th Street was built in 1968. Heather grew up in Northern Virginia, but spent her summers in South Bethany. After graduating from Old Dominion University with a BS in Biology, Heather relocated permanently to South Bethany.

Heather was hired by Sussex County in 1976 and continues to work for the County as Director of Environmental Services. She manages a work force of 84 employees. They are responsible for the operations and maintenance of the County’s water and wastewater facilities, which consists of four wastewater treatment plants, 465 pumping stations and two water systems.

Growing up, Heather says she always loved to paint and draw. She considered majoring in art, but also loved science. So she kept the art for fun and the science for work! In college, Heather also became interested in photography.

Heather has two brothers and states how fortunate they were to spend their summers in South Bethany. One of her brothers moved here after college as well and her parents built a home in South Bethany after retiring.

Contact Heather Sheridan at hsheridan@sussexcountyde.gov



AMANDA SOKOLSKI – “A Day at the Beach” Located at Ocean Drive & N. 4th St.

Born and raised in Australia, Amanda Sokolski has spent a good deal of her life as a student and later, as a diplomat, living and traveling in Europe and the United States. In 2004 she married and emigrated to America.

Although based in the Washington, DC area, where she is a non-profit management consultant, Amanda spends as much time as possible throughout the year at Bethany Beach.

A product of Australia’s strong beach culture, Amanda is drawn to the coast, and seeks to capture in her work the sense of freedom, lightness and well-being that a visit to the seaside can bring. Through bold, bright and exaggerated color she expresses her fascination with the vibrant flora, fauna, landscapes and people of the Delmarva beaches.

Amanda has a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in French, Bachelor of Laws and Master in Arts from Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. She has studied painting, drawing and graphic design

at the Corcoran College of Art and Design where she completed a Certificate in Website Design in 2014.

Contact Amanda Sokolski at amandasokolski@gmail.com



CELESTE SPEER – *Dolphins at Play* – Located at Ocean Drive & N. 2nd St.

Celeste Speer has always enjoyed many forms of art, but felt untalented in painting. About 1995, Celeste states she was “still painting like I did in elementary school!” After moving to South Bethany, she volunteered at St. Ann’s Church in Bethany Beach to join a women’s group that was being taught by Betty Beck to paint objects for the St. Ann’s annual summer bazaar. The following year, Jean Coggins continued teaching Celeste how to paint with acrylics, on tables, chairs, old ironing boards, plaques, storage boxes, oars, etc. for the same purpose. Celeste claims that everything she can paint today is due to Jean’s tutelage!

Wintering in Florida in 2006, Celeste joined a Watercolor Club and has enjoyed working with that medium as well, having sold several watercolors each year during the River Bend Art Show. Painting has become a major endeavor in Celeste’s retirement years. She suggests that anyone who has been interested in art should pursue it on any level for pure enjoyment – at any age!

Celeste resides in South Bethany, wintering in Tequesta, Florida.

Contact Celeste Speer at jspeerjr@mchsi.com



SUSAN SPINGLER – “Seaside Walkway” – Located at Seaside Drive South Receptacle

Susan was born in Spring Lake, NJ and came to the Washington, DC area to attend college. She and her husband Frank have three grown children and have been vacationing in South Bethany for many years. In 2001, the Spinglers purchased their current property and have been coming to the beach most summer weekends as well as during the off-season.

After college, Susan took graduate courses at the University of Virginia, and then accepted a position at The Bullis School in Potomac, MD. At Bullis, she served for 19 years as Chair of the Fine and Performing Arts Department. For the past 20 years, Susan has served as the Director of Special Programs and Director of the Center of the Arts at The Holton-Arms School in Bethesda, MD.

Her entire life has been about some form of art. For her, “Life is Art.” She has experimented with almost every art form. Early in her career, painting was her primary medium. Most recently Susan has focused primarily on sculpture in both metal and clay. She has studied and sculpted at The Corcoran School of Art and the Glen Echo Park Arts Center. Susan has exhibited her work at Strathmore Hall and various other galleries in the Washington, DC area.

Susan states, “I fully support the South Bethany Art Program as it will greatly enhance the visual beauty of our community.”

Contact Susan Spingler at susan.spingler@holton-arms.edu

