

Member Carole Milne Awarded Lifetime Membership

The Directors of our Society are pleased to announce that Carole Milne has been awarded a Lifetime Membership in the South Surrey & White Rock Art Society for fiscal year 2019-2020. A Lifetime Membership category was established this year to honor someone who has been a member of the SSWRAS for at least 10 years and given exceptional service to our Society by serving in at least three elected positions on the Executive, as well as advanced the welfare and position of our Society within the community at large.

Carole Milne has more than met these qualifications. Carole is currently serving as Program Coordinator and has agreed to stand for election for another two year term. During her years of membership, she has served as Coordinator for both Membership and our Website. She wrote the original version of our Members Handbook which was edited by members Georgina Johnstone (Newsletter Coordinator) and Pat Vickers (past Show Coordinator and past Secretary).

But perhaps Carole's most significant contribution to our Society — and to the community at large — was to establish and oversee our Workshop and Thursday Night Class educational programs. These offer an opportunity to our members and to the community to participate in, learn about and expand our artistic capabilities while exploring new techniques and other media. No other art society offers such an expansive and successful program. Carole's efforts have grown and expanded in recent years under the coordination of other dedicated SSWRAS members. But Carole was responsible for laying the foundation.

In addition to her service to our Society, she has been a very active member of the Daughters of the Nile, a women's organization dedicated to raising money for "Make a Difference." This vital program is dedicated to sustaining and growing its permanent foundation which benefits Shriners Hospitals for Children. To date it has raised and given over \$64 million.

Her other arts involvement include having served as a Board Member for Semiahmoo Arts; she is an active member of the Federation of Canadian Artists; a member of the Fraser Valley Chapter of the FCA; and served as an Executive member of the Burnaby Artist Guild.

Her own artistic background is as a self-taught representational artist. Born and raised in Vancouver, she started painting in watercolor in the late '80's. Over the years she continued to work in watercolor and expanded her repertoire and expertise to include acrylics, oil and fabric art. Today her primary painting medium is with oils.

"My passion is painting and my inspiration is the wilderness in all its beauty," she says. "Grasses and trees dancing in the breeze, animals with their grace and beauty and the relaxing feeling of rivers and ocean. I love painting en plein air in the peace and quiet of nature." Carole's paintings have been shown in many venues and shows in the lower mainland.

We are so proud of Carole and grateful for her service to our Society. She has made a real difference to us and to the community. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor!