

Spokane's South Hill, Washington

"THE HILL" NEIGHBORHOODS ENCOMPASSING
CANNON HILL, MANITO PARK, CABLE ADDITION AND MORE



9th Avenue - Springtime Celebration



9th Avenue - 4th of July Frolics



9th Avenue - Pumpkin Pie Palace



9th Avenue - South Hill Ice Skaters' Ball



227 West 25th

FOUR SEASONS - COMSTOCK-SHADLE "SISTER" HOUSES ON 9TH AVENUE

1. 9th Avenue ~ Springtime Celebration ~ 2003

Easter in Spokane! This artwork pictures my family celebrating this favorite holiday when I was very young. All of us Simpson children are dressed head-to-toe in new Easter outfits made by my mother, Sally. Just home from church, we're all focused on finding our Easter baskets and, of course, chocolate bunnies. Lent is finally over . . . bring on the sugar! The home featured here is one of four "sister" houses (very similar homes next to each other on 9th Avenue) constructed in the early 1900s for the Comstock-Shadle families, located on the lower part of Spokane's South Hill.

2. 9th Avenue ~ 4th of July Frolics ~ 2004

Summertime in Spokane, Washington, the place where I grew up, is a true slice of "Americana." Although Spokane is a large city, it has always enjoyed that "small town feeling" where everyone knows everyone else - and I tried to give that quality to this painting. Family and friends are picnicking, heading out to the golf course, and just enjoying the sunshiny outdoors on a holiday weekend. With gaily waving flags and patriotic bunting decorating this scene, it could be Memorial Day, Independence Day or Labor Day - all wonderful, authentic American summer holidays. This Tudor is one of four Comstock-Shadle family "sister" (similar to each other) houses on 9th Avenue, constructed in the early 1900s.

3. 9th Avenue ~ Pumpkin Pie Palace ~ 2004

Autumn in Spokane . . . this artwork pictures my chums arriving for a lesson in baking the best, most scrumptious pumpkin pies on the block! What says more about the joys of this season than that tantalizing aroma? The home featured here is one of four Comstock-Shadle family "sister" houses (very similar homes next to each other on 9th Avenue) - constructed in the early 1900s.

4. 9th Avenue ~ South Hill Ice Skaters' Ball ~ 2004

Spokane is a winter sports lovers' playground - skiing, sledding and ice skating are at the top of the list. There are several ponds and lakes scattered around Spokane County that freeze over every winter, some with huge stone outdoor fireplaces for hardy outdoor merrymakers - thus this Tudor's "Ice Skater's Ball" theme featuring my husband and me on the frosty front walkway. This handsome home is one of four Comstock-Shadle family "sister" (similar to Each other) houses on 9th Avenue, constructed in the early 1900s.

HOMES, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES AND OTHER SOUTH HILL LANDMARKS

5. 227 West 25th ~ 1975

This is the first artwork that I painted in the American Primitive Style. Completed in 1975, it features the lovely two-story Dutch Colonial house that my family lived in during the 1950s and 1960s on Spokane's South Hill. The home was distinctive - both inside and out - lovingly updated by my parents when they moved into it in 1952. My mother, Sally decorated the interior with English floral fabrics, sheer priscillas and shining mahogany furniture, giving the home an "English Country" feel. My dad took the 1930s style kitchen into the 1950s with a large picture window overlooking the garden, shiny cupboards, appliances and an amazing new convenience - a dishwasher! They re-dug and re-planted the gardens and surrounded them with decorative brick borders, which are shown in this painting. I subsequently painted it four more times - once as a wedding gift for my sister, Peggy, then with a Halloween theme, another with a Christmas motif, and the fifth as part of a neighborhood of homes I've lived in and loved.

Patti Simpson Ward



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Blooming Magnolias on Manito



Chalet Hohenstein in Springtime
Cannon Hill Cozy



Chalet Hohenstein the Springtime



Christmas Lights on 25th



Dawn at the Davenport House

6. Blooming Magnolias on Manito ~ 2007

This artwork portrays the Gray family's distinctive ranch-style rambler on Spokane's South Hill in the 1970s. Mother of five, Kay Gray, is painted carrying in groceries. Daughter Gail greets her while standing on stilts made by her father, Carroll, who mows the lawn. Sons Tom and Joe love baseball and enjoy a quick exchange of catch while the family cat, George, cheers from porch. Sisters Peggy and Teresa stand beneath the big blossoming Magnolia, about to ride their bikes. This was commissioned by the Gray children as a special Christmas gift for Carroll and Kay Gray.

7. Cannon Hill Cozy ~ 2006

This charming two-story brick beauty overlooks Cannon Hill Pond in one of Spokane's pretty parks on the South Hill. For decades, this was home to the Pat and Janie Shelledy family, pictured here on their leaf-strewn driveway with their two little ones, Dave and Patty. Grandparents, R.B. and Tess ("Memo" Shelledy are on the front steps, carrying a tray of steaming hot chocolate to their work crew. A very young couple, Pat and Janie were on their way home from Sunday Mass at St. Augustine's Church, when they spied a "For Sale" sign on this home, originally put up by the builder for himself in the '30s. Enchanted, the Shelledys had to have this "mansion," even though it was a stone's throw from the "in laws." (Memo had wisely let them discover it themselves.) With help from their in-laws on the down payment, the Shelledys moved in and stayed for 40+ years. Filled with lovely interior architectural details like rare gumwood trim, this house is as pretty as ever today.

18. Chalet Hohenstein in the Springtime ~ 2004

This charming, decorative chalet, perched on the brow of the South Hill on 7th Avenue overlooking downtown Spokane, was the home of famed architect, Kirtland K. Cutter (pictured on the second story). He designed every inch of it - both inside and out - endeavoring to create a more simple, natural ambiance compared to the opulent mansions that he was building for Spokane's wealthy industrialists. Tragically, in 1922, due to extreme financial difficulties, Cutter and his wife, Katherine, lost the home and its contents to the Superior Court of Washington. In the 1960s, it was demolished to make way for an apartment complex - a huge loss to the South Hill's skyline. (Photo courtesy of Eastern Washington Historical Society.)

19. Christmas Lights on 25th ~ 1993

This is my third portrait of the Codd-Simpson House on 25th & Bernard, our family's classic Dutch Colonial-style home. Built for the Codd family in the thirties, the living/dining room suite featured unusual gumwood built-in bookcases, windows, french doors and crown molding. My folks bought it from the Codd's in 1953 and began a remodel. When Bernard Street was widened into a busy major thoroughfare, our growing family moved to the suburbs and the home was purchased by the Sullivan family. Subsequently, the Starbucks became the fourth family to own it in 2002, and they have given the house a fresh, new look. This piece shows the Simpson family hanging Christmas lights.

10. Dawn at the Davenport House ~ 2003

This handsome Arts & Crafts-style home, designed for Louis Davenport (of the famous Spokane hotel) by Kirtland K. Cutter, featured basaltic rock on its lower walls and half timbers and shingles on its upper ones. The mansion was large - but cozy and English in flavor - with jerk in-head hipped gables and an unusual whimsical stone gate-house and towers guarding its entrance. Built in 1908, the home was filled with luxuries, such as a bathroom for each upstairs bedroom and an indoor swimming pool - incredible for its time. Sadly, this remarkable home was demolished in the mid 1900s to accommodate Spokane's burgeoning Sacred Heart Hospital complex. Louis Davenport's young son, Lewis, is pictured in the foreground.

Patti Simpson Ward



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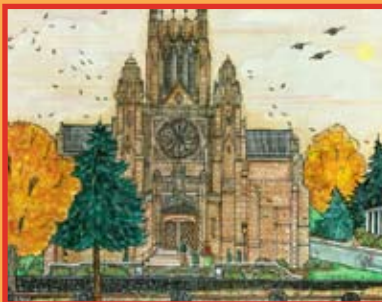
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December Dreams



Dining with the Doohan's



Evening at St. John the Evangelist



Fine Fall Finish



Fine Fall Finish (Detail)

11. December Dreams ~ 1995

This holiday-themed painting was completed as Christmas card artwork for 1995. It's my version of "Sugar plums dancing in my head." I'm wearing festive tartans, decorating a tall evergreen with all of the things that I loved the most that year. I painted shells from the Pacific coast, sweet terra cotta angels, art supplies, musical instruments and fuzzy teddy bears. There are also shiny red fire engines, gardening tools, golf clubs, romantic hearts and cozy kitties. But my favorite "ornaments" that year were my nieces and nephews - all bundled up in boots, scarves and matching snowsuits, ready for a day of fun in the snow. Behind the tree is a ribbon and holly-trimmed picture window framing two distinctively different Victorians across the street - South Hill beauties festooned for the holidays!

12. Dining with the Doohans ~ 2006

This artwork features the beautiful old Dutch Colonial located near Bernard and 13th that is home to Joe and Mary Doohan, pictured here (two generations) with Joe's folks, Mike and Winnie, arriving to enjoy dinner. My mother, Sally, my husband, Doug, and I are part of the dinner party, too! One of four paintings that I have created for the family of their two residences (the other a Queen Anne-style house on the North Side near Gonzaga University), this home and its surrounding grounds have been a "labor of love" for Joe, Mary and their family.

13. Evening at St. John the Evangelist ~ 2007

Even if you never leave the freeway on your travels East through Spokane, when you look towards the South Hill neighborhood, the spires of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist are clearly visible against the skyline. The dream of Right Reverend Edward Makin Cross (Third Bishop of Spokane), the project was begun in 1925 by architect and parishioner, Harold C. Whitehouse. This majestic Gothic-style cathedral is French-influenced. With its exterior constructed of stone from Tacoma, Washington, the interior features sandstone from Idaho (nave) and limestone from Indiana. Work on the building project proceeded through most of the 1900s. The cathedral prides itself on opening its doors to everyone - as its carvings and stain glass windows include symbols of many faiths. It is a "house of prayer for all people."

14. Fine Fall Finish ~ 2010

This is a portrait of three uniquely different Spokane homes, completed as a surprise gift for Lance Elliott and Chris Garrett the partner contractors who so diligently and beautifully restored our place in Manito. The project was fraught with every sort of challenging unforeseen difficulty, including a freak accident which put Lance in a wheelchair for a bit - but the two persevered. The art pictures Doug and me joined by Lance and Beth holding their Yorkie, Roxie. Chris and Rick are at the table flanked by golden retrievers, Lexi and Pally. We're enjoying a fall picnic in honor of wrapping up the work. Our house is the Craftsman at the top, the Garrett's is in the lower left, and to the right, the Elliott's.

15. Fine Fall Finish (Detail) ~ 2010

This is a detail of the portrait above showing a neighborhood with three uniquely different Spokane homes, completed as a surprise gift for Lance Elliott and Chris Garrett, the partner contractors who so diligently and beautifully restored our place in Manito. This detail focuses on our home, and Doug and I are pictured with picnic fare in hand on a gorgeous fall day. Kittiewinks Andy and Sophie are keeping an eye on the place for us.

Patti Simpson Ward



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Forever Yours at the Yellow House



Giving Thanks in a Winter Wonderland



My Grandmother's Garden



Happy Times at Hannah's Garden Inn



Hebert House on the Hill

16. Forever Yours at the Yellow House ~ 2003

I was driving around Spokane with my mother on a particularly dismal wintery day on a "fishing expedition" for a home to use as a backdrop for a wedding-themed painting. Hours and many photographs later as the afternoon was waning, this yellow Victorian at the crest of the South Hill leapt out at me. It was so beautiful - the second story oval window, the scalloped picket fence, the twin arbors to the east of the brick front walkway and bordered flower beds. What a perfect setting for my summer garden wedding painting!

17. Giving Thanks in a Winter Wonderland ~ 1996

The Gillum Family home is located just a few blocks from both Manito Park and Cannon Hill Park. The beautiful three-story home was designed by Harold Whitehouse, the architect responsible for the magnificent landmark on the brow of the South Hill, the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. The Gillums, who fell in love with this house, have worked tirelessly to restore much of the original beauty to the home. Inspired by the family's efforts, Mary Doohan, commissioned this painting to be completed as a Christmas gift for Ann (Thompson) Gillum. The family is pictured on the front lawn joined by my sisters, Marilee and Peggy, in the lower right corner.

18. My Grandmother's Garden ~ 2005

My father's mother, Jessie Simpson, loved to garden. Although she passed away when I was only six-years-old, I remember clearly the beautiful grounds surrounding my grandparent's home. Built on a double lot not far from Rockwood Boulevard on the lower portion of Spokane's South Hill, half of the property housed this beautiful "Arts & Crafts" style bungalow, and the other, my grandmother's huge magnificent gardens. Filled with rockery, foot paths, little tucked away seats, a grape arbor - and hundreds of colorful blooms - Jessie Simpson's gardens were a magical place for children. My sister, Marilee (who has inherited my grandmother's "green thumb"), my mother, Sally, and I are pictured in the lower right hand corner of this painting, holding our plants and receiving a valuable bit of gardening wisdom from my grandmother.

19. Happy Times at Hannah's Garden Inn ~ 2006

Designed and constructed in 1908 by the Cutter and Malmgren architectural team, the Corbet-Aspray house became Hannah's Garden Inn & Delaney's "musicafe." Original owner James M. Corbet and his family lived here until 1924 when he died. It was sold to the Conrad Gotzian family, where they lived through 1938. Sold to Dr. Melvin Aspray and his wife, Grace, their family enjoyed the home for 53 years. After a brief tenure by a California couple, Shawn Nichols and Ann Marie Byrd bought the house in February 1999 and opened their inn that fall after a complete restoration and renovation. The Inn and musicafe are named for the couple's two daughters who are pictured in this piece with their parents on the front porch. My friend, Mary Doohan and I are in the foreground, bearing gifts of potted petunias. (Photo courtesy of Hannah's Garden Inn.)

20. Hebert House on The Hill ~ 2006

Henry Hebert arrived in Spokane in 1889 and went into partnership to open the Kemp & Hebert Department Store on Main and Washington (currently Auntie's Bookstore). He married the Head Millineress from his store, and the couple built this lovely English-style three-story home in 1928 for a reported \$35,000. Mrs. Hebert lived here until about 1945. The home, which enjoys a sweeping city view from the back, is constructed of brick, stone and stucco, trimmed with wood, is topped off with a tile roof. The interior features a walnut-finished living room which runs the length of the house, a large reception hall, tiled terrace, second floor library, sleeping porch, several bedrooms and more. A French imported sandstone double fireplace divides the living room and sun room. G.A. Pehrson, who was the architect, also designed the Paulsen Medical & Dental Building, where, (on a personal note), my father first practiced law as a newlywed in the early '50s.

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Kid's Camp on Overbluff



Kittiewinks Castle



Lighting Up the Lincoln House



Marycliff in May



Oktoberfest at Cataldo School

21. Kid's Camp on Overbluff ~ 2007

David Meyer and Anni Ryan purchased the old 1935 Marie Hughes estate in March 1986, and moved into the three-story fixer-upper after their honeymoon. (Yes, David did carry Anni over the threshold). Thus began their "project" - life, children, dogs, and a huge remodeling/addition project. They created an inviting friends and family-oriented home, filled with their children's artwork all over the walls. Their door is always open, especially during December when it's the center for many happy holiday gatherings.

22. Kittiewinks Castle ~ 2004

It's a celebration for cat lovers! There are TEN kitties in this artwork including my dearly departed K.C., my sisters' cats, Betty Kitty and Chloe, my two newer kitties, Sophie and Andy, pictured in the lower left corner of this piece - PLUS five others! It's a painting filled with love - down to the heart-shaped shrubbery in the garden on the front lawn. Spokane is particularly noted for its picturesque, charming neighborhoods. One of the prettiest is the South Hill, a short ten-minute drive from downtown. This imaginative shingle- and basaltic rock-constructed home, with its unique castellated tower, is located just west of Bernard Street, not far from the city's famous Manito Park.

23. Lighting Up the Lincoln House ~ 1987

Christmastime in Spokane! I have fond memories of growing up and celebrating the holiday season there as a child. Raised Catholic with a houseful of brothers and sisters, our whole family got into the act when it came to decorating for the holidays. The first house I remember was a small cottage-style home on Lincoln Street. During the our family's short stay there, one of the coldest, snowiest winters on record dumped several feet, making the scene a true picture-postcard memory. I remember my parents stringing lots of colored lights and placing a big Santa Claus face just above the front porch. I pictured my young parents, Joe and Sally, and younger sister Marilee in this fun holiday season piece.

24. Marycliff in May ~ 2003

Designed by famed architect Kirtland K. Cutter, this English-style home was built for F. Lewis Clark in 1898. The rear grounds of the walled estate also included a water tower - a glimpse of which is showing in this painting. In 1909 the house on Seventh Avenue was sold to the Burgess Lee Gordons who donated "Undercliff" in 1929 to Bishop Charles D. White - and it opened as "Marycliff," a private high school for girls. May is a particularly pretty month in Spokane, and the school celebrated "Mother Mary Day," a coronation festival held in the grotto on the school grounds. Marycliff High School closed in the early '70s, leaving its students and faculty with many fond memories. The beautifully preserved building still stands today as "Undercliff."

25. Oktoberfest at Cataldo School ~ 2006

Once St. Augustine's School, Cataldo Catholic School currently educates youngsters from not only St. Augustine's parish, but Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Lourdes as well. This handsome old building holds fond memories for hundreds of South Hill kids (including me) - now parents and grandparents of the children who attend classes today. This artwork, inspired by my sister-in-law, Jan Simpson, celebrates the arrival of autumn, a particularly beautiful time in Spokane. My niece and nephew, Scot and Isabel, are pictured with their chums (girls in their plaid uniforms and boys in navy), about to enjoy a fun, fall-inspired celebration at school.

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Roosting Robins at the Robert's house



Sally's Secret Dream House



The Simpsons on the South Hill



Springtime Comes to Simpson Street



Springtime Comes to Simpson Street (Detail)

26. *Roosting Robins at the Robert's House ~ 2008*

In the early 1950s, my family lived next door to the Bill and Marguerite Roberts' family who owned this pretty, white Dutch Colonial home. Marguerite is pictured on the front porch enjoying a cup of morning coffee with her sister-in-law, Jean McCarthy and my mother, Sally Simpson. We kids have set up a "Birdseed" stand to welcome the robins back in springtime. Molly, Tracy and Mac Roberts are hauling bags of birdseed. Sally and Maggie McCarthy (Maggie was my best friend in grade school) are happily manning the booth, and my sister Marilee and I are putting up the "Welcome Robins" flag. This two-story is still one of the loveliest residences on Spokane's Lincoln Street.

27. *Sally's Secret Dream House ~ 1998*

This Four-square two-story is located next door to the pretty Dutch Colonial home owned by my friends, Joe and Mary Doohan. It must have been spectacular when the builder finished it decades ago, but at the time that I painted this, the property owner had done little to maintain the home. When my mother drove me to see it, the house was in terrible shape. My mother shared that she'd always had the dream of buying the old mansion and restoring it to its former beauty - quite a challenge! For a special birthday gift, however, I painted the place as it should have been - immaculate and shining - with my mother's best friends, Dolores, Winnie and Mae sharing the day with her.

28. *The Simpsons on the South Hill ~ 1993*

Just off Rockwood Boulevard on the South Hill is the first house that my brother Bob and sister-in-law Jan purchased after their wedding in 1993. (See "Sunday Morning at St. Al's," part of the North Side collection). Very charming and cozy-feeling, this home became the all-consuming "improvement" project of the first decade of their marriage. Bob and Jan are shown in their front window. This painting was completed as a gift to celebrate their first Christmas holidays together.

29. *Springtime Comes to Simpson Street (Composite) ~ 2012*

This piece is a large 16x20-inch painting of an imaginary neighborhood featuring houses that I have lived in and loved throughout the years.

LINCOLN STREET - My parents, Sally and Joe lounge in the back yard while grandparents Charles and Jessie watch my sister Marilee and me.

25TH & BERNARD - Easter has our family in outfits sewed by Sally (Peggy, Marilee, me in jumpers, John in a suit.) Cousin Jim is on the porch.

21ST AVENUE - Sally, Joe and I on the deck with picnic fare, Marilee and Peggy by the bike, and Bill, Bob and John with our two dogs.

221ST PLACE NE - The Wards - Doug and I are seated, Leah and fiance Sean behind us, Matt, Heidi, baby Addison, Kevin and his kitty nearby.

18TH STREET - Sally is helping with roses and bedding plants, while I "plant" a kiss on husband, Doug, just returned from golfing.

30. *Springtime Comes to Simpson Street (18th Avenue) ~ 2012*

DETAIL: This is our current home on the South Hill. In 2006, my husband and I bought the old Monsignor Buckley residence on 18th Avenue. This detail shows the upgrades that we have accomplished while still keeping the home's original personality - new porch with stucco columns, railing, paint and more. This was completed with a gardening theme. My mother Sally is lending a hand with the bedding plants, while my husband Doug "plants" a kiss on me!

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Springtime Comes to Simpson Street (Detail)



Springtime Comes to Simpson Street (Detail)



Trick or Treating on 25th & Bernard



Tulip Time at The Doohan's



Visiting Mrs. Love's

31. *Springtime Comes to Simpson Street (25th Avenue) ~ 2012*

DETAIL: It's Easter time for my sisters Marilee and Peggy and my baby brother John. My cousin Jim is pictured on the front porch with candy-laden Easter baskets in his hands, while all of us Simpsons are lined up on the sidewalk in front. Easter was a big holiday for our family - an excuse for us to get dolled up in our Easter finery. There were new bonnets and patent leather shoes for us girls, and a suit for my brother. Mother sewed matching robin-egg-blue jumpers for us and we wore these with rosebud-print puffed sleeve blouses. We felt like little fairy princesses. You'll see Boots, my mother's favorite kitty, and our beagles Jigs and Jigger in the scene as well, as they were part of the family. I've painted this home five times now, and needless to say, it was my favorite growing up! We spent nearly ten years here.

32. *Springtime Comes to Simpson Street (Lincoln Street) ~ 2002*

DETAIL: This is the second rendition of the first first residence that my parents purchased after leaving the Poplar Arms Apartments ("Pretty Poplar House" artwork) in Browne's Addition. My sister, Marilee, and I are pictured in the foreground of this pretty little home on Lincoln Street playing while our grandparents, Charles and Jessie ("My Grandmother's Garden" artwork), keep a watchful eye. My folks, Sally and Joe, are relaxing in the newly created backyard space. They put up a new picket fence, planted lawn and carved out flower gardens for us. This home was remodeled in the 1950s, and looks nothing like the cottage pictured here.

33. *Trick or Treating on 25th @ Bernard ~ 2002*

The Codd-Simpson House on the corner of 25th and Bernard, is a handsome Dutch Colonial-style home. I painted five portraits of it and this one features a Halloween theme with costumed kids on their way up the sidewalk for sweets that my dad "The Ghoul" is handing out. Built for the Codd family in the 1920s, the home featured beautiful gumwood trim, built-in bookcases and French doors on the main floor. When our family outgrew our cottage on Lincoln, my parents bought this two-story and began face-lifting it with new fabric and paint, giving it a warm "English Country" feel. In 1962, when Bernard Street was widened into a busy arterial, we moved out of the neighborhood. The home was purchased by the Sullivan family, and subsequently, the Starbucks, who have lovingly updated it.

34. *Tulip Time at The Doohan's ~ 1998*

This handsome Dutch is the third home owned by my dear friends, Joe and Mary Doohan. They moved from the darling Queen Anne Victorian they renovated in the Gonzaga University neighborhood to this hospitable two-story on the South Hill. Their growing family (shown here with just two of four children) meant that they all needed a little more room. This residence is not only inviting and spacious inside, but has a beautiful yard and gardens surrounding it - painted here with dozens of tulips in blossom.

35. *Visiting Mrs. Love's ~ 1994*

This Craftsman cottage is located at the foot of the South Hill, a few blocks from Rockwood Boulevard. More importantly, it is also across the back alley from what was my grandparent's home in the '40s and '50s. My mother, Sally, moved to Mrs. Love's home upon completion of high school in Springdale, a small town north of Spokane. She lived with the family while she was working at Fairchild Air Force base. When my father returned from Navy World War II, the two young people met (my mother was irresistible), fell in love, and subsequently married. My parents celebrated 40-never-a-dull-moment-years before my father passed away in the late '80s. I'm pictured with my folks in the foreground of this early springtime-themed piece.

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Whispering Pines Inn

36. Whispering Pines Inn ~ 2007

Located just off Bernard Street near the west entrance to Manito Park, this pretty French-styled home has always sparkled like a jewel on its block. Several of Spokane's famous prolific Ponderosa pines stands in the back yard (there are thousands of these majestic trees scattered throughout the city's neighborhoods). I painted the shingled, two-story home as a cozy B&B, fictitiously naming it "Whispering Pines Inn" (actually this home is a single-family dwelling). We're all here to welcome our guests - kittiewinks, Andy, Sophie and me on the front lawn with my darling husband, Doug, waving in the doorway.

Patti Simpson Ward

