

Islands in the Puget Sound

VASHON ISLAND , WHIDBEY ISLAND & THE SAN JUANS
INCLUDING THE ROCHE HARBOR COLLECTION



VASHON ISLAND AND WHIDBEY ISLAND

Fairy Tales for Trick or Treats ~ 10.1996

Halloween - a day when reality succumbs to fantasy! Celebrating with a fairy tale theme is the hostess of the house, Donna, as "Rapunzel," pictured with her daughter, Katherine, as "Alice in Wonderland." Trick or treaters (L-R) are my sister, Marilee's God-daughter, Aubrey, as "Snow White," Marilee as "Sleeping Beauty," and me as "Cinderella." Donna's log-style home is part of a compound with a fully functioning garage for her husband (who loves tinkering with vintage cars), offices for the couple, and a gazebo for al-fresco dining. The main house overlooks Puget Sound and the Seattle skyline from its perch on Vashon.

S'mores @ Sparklers on Puget Sound ~ 11.2011

The idyllic, tranquil vacation home this family calls the "Beach House" turns into a BIG playground each Independence Day. Grandparents, children, siblings, cousins, and friends feast on food and drink, compete in games and shoot off fireworks in honor of the holiday. Children spend hours collecting sand dollars, sea glass, driftwood - seaside treasures to share. They're pictured in the foreground of this artwork roasting marshmallows, making s'mores and waving sparklers. Fluttering flags remind all how proud they are to be Americans.



LOPEZ ISLAND IN THE SAN JUANS

Flying Kites at Lopez Island ~ 3.2011

When I painted this artwork, the Lopez Island retreat Edenwild Inn (EdenwildInn.com) overlooked the harbor and offered its guests charming accommodations and delicious gourmet meals. Once grey with white trim, later proprietors gave the two-story structure a coat of buttery yellow paint and added flags to the front of it. A breeze filled the air here more often than not, so I pictured my husband Doug and me with my sister Marilee flying kites with the numbers of the inn's address on them. *Highlight* - At one time, Edenwild Inn was owned by actor Tom Skerritt whose movie screen credits included "Top Gun," "Steel Magnolias" and "A River Runs Through It."



Springtime at Lopez Island ~ 11.1994

This lovely setting in Puget Sound belongs to my friends, Daryl and Judy Jensen, and their extended family. This vacation spot has been the setting for countless gathering and parties. Enjoying the spring day with me are Daryl, Judy and their Aunt Mabel who owned a home just behind this one. This family shared their home with me Memorial Day weekend in 1994 - which inspired this painting.

Today, Two Morrows, and Always ~ 2001

This artwork was completed as a commissioned painting for the Morrows who planned their wedding at a lovely lakeside setting on Lopez Island in the San Juans. This painting was used as cover artwork for their invitations, which also provided a beautiful record and memento for their guests.



Patti Simpson Ward



Islands in the Puget Sound

VASHON ISLAND , WHIDBEY ISLAND & THE SAN JUANS
INCLUDING THE ROCHE HARBOR COLLECTION

ORCAS ISLAND IN THE SAN JUANS

Scott's Dream Day at Deer Harbor ~ 12.2008

This pastoral, natural setting at Deer Harbor on Orcas Island in the San Juans hosted Brian and Christine Scott's wedding that took place there on May 19, 2001 - their dream day! Ribbons, blossoms and delicate vines threaded the whimsical gazebo and pots of pretty pansies flanked the walkway to the gazebo - beautifully framing this happy couple. This was one of three painting commissioned by Christine Scott of memorable settings that she gave to her husband Brian for Christmas in 2008.

THE ROCHE HARBOR COLLECTION IN THE SAN JUANS

Afternoon at Afterglow Vista ~ 9.2000

John McMillin founded the seaside village of Roche Harbor which once housed his lime quarries, factories, residences and a hotel for visiting businessmen and dignitaries (including President Theodore Roosevelt). There was also housing for his employees and their families, a school, church, hotel and company store on the property. He built this grand memorial to his family in the woods behind the harbor in the early 1930s. The pillared mausoleum which had one column intentionally gapped, was designed using elements of the Masonic Order, the Bible, Sigma Phi fraternity and McMillin's personal views on life. It was to be his family's final resting place, but a rift between McMillin and son Paul prevented this from coming to conclusion. The chairs (crypts) contained only the his remains and those of his wife and son Fred. This idyllic setting offered visitors a short, but breathtaking walk through the forest behind the harbor. After his father passed, Paul sold the property including this mausoleum to the Tarte family who developed the setting into a seaside resort. When the Tartes discovered "Afterflow Vista" was part of the parcel, they tried to return it to the family, but Paul dismissed their offer.

Dallying on the Deck at Roche ~ 4.2001

When I painted this piece, it was the deck of the beautiful Madrona Grill, focal point of picturesque Roche Harbor Resort & Marina. The grill shared its spectacular view of the harbor and beyond with its guests, especially on Independence Day when it was crowded with hundreds of vessels. In the early 1900s, this was the private residence of John McMillin, who operated the lime quarries, kiln and processing plant housed here.

Hotel de Haro ~ 4.2000

This painting celebrates the beautiful sunken gardens planted in front of the historic Hotel de Haro, part of Roche Harbor's Resort and Marina. This enchanting - and still functioning hotel - has hosted a number of memorable guests over the years, including actor, John Wayne, and President "Teddy" Roosevelt. The president made the journey here when the setting was still a successful lime kiln and processing plant owned and operated by the McMillin family in the early 1900s.

Morning Walk at Roche ~ 8.2000

Mornings at Roche Harbor are the perfect time for a quiet walk on the docks, boardwalk, and especially through the lush gardens that flourish at this picturesque setting. The retired McMillin kiln factory building can be seen in the background of this piece. When the business was developed into a charming seaside destination catering to visitors from all over the United States, this structure became a green grocer and café and that served hearty breakfasts. *Highlight* - my nephew Michael Barton was married in this garden in 2012.



Patti Simpson Ward



©Patti Simpson Ward. All Rights Reserved.
Web site - www.pattisimpsonward.com



Islands in the Puget Sound

VASHON ISLAND , WHIDBEY ISLAND & THE SAN JUANS
INCLUDING THE ROCHE HARBOR COLLECTION

The Old Schoolhouse at Roche ~ 6.2004

In the early 1900s, Roche Harbor was a "company" town in the truest sense of the word. John S. McMillin's Roche Harbor Lime & Cement Company was located on remote San Juan Island in Puget Sound, so he built bunk houses for his single workers and one- and two-story cottages for the married ones, so that they could raise their families in the setting - and live near the factories and mines. He also erected a church, general store and post office, and installed power, water and telephone systems. This red schoolhouse overlooked the harbor's beach at the top of a grassy hill dotted with the little family cabins, welcoming the worker's children with the promise of a decent education. When the setting became part of the Roche Harbor Resort, the cabins and schoolhouse were opened as accommodations for guests.

Our Lady of Good Voyage ~ 9.2000

This beautiful little church, which is tucked into the hillside overlooking Roche Harbor in the San Juan Islands, is a beloved setting for many brides. Our Lady of Good Voyage was built as a place of worship in the early 1900s by Roche Harbor's founder and lime baron, John S. McMillin, and was for decades the only privately owned Roman Catholic chapel in the United States. I took poetic license with this piece, painting Doug and our wedding party into this picturesque setting.

Paul's Place at Roche ~ 5.2007

This Roche Harbor garden scene pictured the home where John McMillin's son Paul lived with his family during his tenure as manager of his father's Roche Harbor Lime & Cement Company. In 1930, John moved his residence from its location by the sunken garden up the hill in order to take full advantage of the harbor view. He accomplished this painstakingly, inch-by-inch with workers using cribs and jacks. Later when the house became part of the harbor-side resort, lucky guests shared this same breathtaking vista from their suites. For years during the summer months, weddings were a mainstay at Roche Harbor Resort and this building often frequently served newlyweds as the Bridal Suite

Rearing Fire At Roche ~ 5.2012

Christmastime at Roche Harbor - I pictured my husband and me with friends singing carols and toasting our backsides in front of the blazing fire. Two huge stone fireplaces were built by Roche Harbor founder, John S. McMillin, in what was once the banquet court adjacent to his Hotel de Haro. Frequently the setting for his sumptuous barbecues and banquets, he had the masonry inscribed with "Friendships fires are always burning." The walkway leading from the hotel to the Roche Harbor pier bid his visitors adieu with the Scottish phrase, "God be wi' ye till we meet again" - a fitting holiday greeting!

Roche Harbor Reverie ~ 7.2000

The signature focal point of Roche Harbor Resort and Marina, this once private residence of the village's founder John S. McMillin became a fine restaurant. In the early 1900s, Roche Harbor housed a very successful lime kiln, processing plant with accommodations for all of its workers and families. The McMillin family homes and business out-buildings were purchased from McMillin's son Paul by the Tarte family decades ago. They beautifully restored it decades ago and converted to a resort. After it was sold, other developers carefully added other structures in keeping with the flavor of the resort - including charming craftsman-style cottages for visitors. During the summer holidays, and especially Independence Day, guests crowded the deck and dining room and enjoyed the magnificent harbor view and to feast on tasty dishes and libations. *Highlight* - My nephew Michael Barton and his bride Michaila were married at Roche Harbor Resort in 2012.



Patti Simpson Ward



©Patti Simpson Ward. All Rights Reserved.
Web site - www.pattisimpsonward.com

Islands in the Puget Sound

VASHON ISLAND , WHIDBEY ISLAND & THE SAN JUANS
INCLUDING THE ROCHE HARBOR COLLECTION



Rolling Fun at Roche ~ 6.2003

It was Independence Day in the quaint seaside resort of Roche Harbor, but the otherwise quiet morning was broken by wild squeals and screams of laughter. I painted kids of all ages at the annual game festival on the grassy hillside, engaging in egg-tossing, flour sack-racing, tug-of-war and more. This artwork was inspired by a visit to Puget Sound's San Juan Island, a fun destination for friends and families - but especially on the fourth of July where young merry-makers gave it their all.

U.S. Customs House on the Dock ~ 5.2004

Every year on the 4th of July, hundreds of vessels, large and small, crowd the docks and the waterfront of the little resort town of Roche Harbor. San Juan Island is just a few miles from the Canadian border, so for many vacationers, their visit began here at this quaint one-room structure at the end of the docks - the home of U.S. Customs. The agents festooned the office with colorful red, white and blue bunting, and I painted them enjoying a break in the sunshine with visitors walking the docks in search of vessels with the most creative patriotic trim.



Patti Simpson Ward



©Patti Simpson Ward. All Rights Reserved.
Web site - www.pattisimpsonward.com