

North Puget Sound, Washington

11 FINE ART "AMERICANA" PAINTINGS • INCLUDING PRETTY PUBLIC PLACES, BOATS, AND "HOME SWEET HOMES" IN ANACORTES, BOTHELL, EDMONDS EVERETT (EXCEPT EFD), LA CONNOR, LAKES STEVENS AND ROESIGNER, MONROE, AND MORE • ALPHABETICALLY



ANACORTES

Autumn Afternoon at Anacortes ~ 9.1994

This ornate Victorian two-story mansion near the Puget Sound Marina in Anacortes caught my eye as I was heading north for a weekend of boating on the "Honeybun" with good friends Dick and Gail Klein. Anacortes has always enjoyed the fine reputation of being the "gateway" to the San Juan Islands for commercial ferries, yachts and other pleasure craft. It was also noted for having several neighborhoods of historic mansions created as ocean-view getaways for Seattle's wealthy who wanted scenic getaways. Gail Clements Klein was the songstress "tomato" of the beloved 1980s jazz trio BLT that entertained folks for over a decade in the Seattle area. I pictured her with husband Dick joined by band leader, singer and jazz pianist Paul West with his family and bass player Lee Phelps and his wife Cheryl. I pictured my sister Marilee, brother Bob and me in the left corner of the painting - joining the others for the traditional Thanksgiving feast. *Highlight* - I gave framed prints of this memory-filled painting to the Kleins, Wests and Phelps as Christmas gifts in 1994.

BOTHELL / KENMORE

Autumn at The Artistree ~ 4.1999

The Artistree was a unique fine art gallery in Bothell's Country Village where I exhibited a revolving show of my artwork during the mid-1990s for nearly a decade. The gallery was part of a unique collection of gift, antique and garden shops with cafés and bistros tucked in between. It was created from vintage farm outbuildings from days when the area was completely rural. Country Village sprang to life in Autumn with Oktoberfest and at Christmastime when families witnessed Santa landing in the village square in his sleigh and reindeer. Sadly these traditions ended as the real estate at this destination became too valuable to support the quaint little retail setting. The Artistree was operated by Robin and Wendy James with help from their father, Bob - all three very talented artists. Robin illustrated the nationally famous children's Serendipity books while her sister Wendy created whimsical jewelry. Bob was the genius behind the Bon Marche's (later Macy's) Holiday trim for decades. Sadly, the James family sold the gallery in the early 2000s upon Bob's passing. *Highlight* - I had the privilege of working with Bob in a department that was part of the Store Planning Division from 1974 through 1988.



NEW! Happy Hideaway on Cat Whisker Lane ~ 6.2022

I created this special portrait to honor my little sister Marilee's milestone birthday in 2022. It pictured her beautiful backyard in Spring at the cozy Kenmore home she and sweetheart Ron had shared together for six years when I finished this piece. Gardening has always been Marilee's gift and most passionate pursuit - as evidenced by all the creativity captured here. Dozens of blossoms in pots and flower beds frame their friendly back deck (which had just received a fresh coat of robin's-egg blue-paint) and tulip-shuttered garden cottage in the background. The scene pictured the couple about to welcome friends for a fun evening - Ron carrying wood for a fire and Marilee's arms filled with tulips for decorating her table. *Highlight* - Fittingly, I included dogs Miko and Birdy, and kitty Peek-a-boo in this painting, as this pet-loving couple lived just off Cat Whisker Lane.

EDMONDS / LYNNWOOD

Darling Dinosaur Trick or Treating ~ 10.1984

This 1984 home portrait I painted of the Westbrook's family rambler was a very special birthday gift I created for my longtime pal Robin. This inviting suburban home north of Seattle and minutes from Puget Sound has been Robin and Kent's "bolt hole" for over 40 years. Robin and I spent ten-plus years working together at the flagship Bon Marché Headquarters in Seattle's Downtown District. We were part of the Store Planning Division - creating signage, department and promotional graphics for this huge Pacific Northwest retailer until it was ultimately purchased by the even more mammoth Macy's Corporation. Weddings, funerals, health challenges, birthdays and retirement parties - and of course, the birth of Robin and Kent's only daughter Sarah Valentine (the darling dinosaur here), marked the decades as they've flew by. Over the years, our friendship with this couple has deepened and ripened with age. How lucky we've been to have them in our lives! *Highlight* - When Doug and I married in 2000, I asked Robin to be my matron of honor.



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EVERETT

Pretty Lambert Place ~ 11.1993

This was a special Christmas gift home portrait I created for Greg and Jenifer Lambert when they moved out of their apartment and purchased their very first s"arter home."house. I painted it for the couple at the request of my good friend at the time - and Greg's father - Mike Lambert. Modest, but charming, and filled with kitties (note their cats on the driveway), this little ranch-style place was a welcome step up for the young couple in the early 1990s.



Taking White Bear Out for a Sail ~ 7.1995

Strolling around the docks in Summer has almost always been a pleasant pastime on gorgeous Puget Sound. The vessels moored at the marinas (this one in Everett, WA) come in every size, shape and color. Even more fun was sailing! I painted our handsome skipper Lynn Wildblood, my pal Cathy O'Rourke and me - waiting to board Lynn's "White Bear" for a picnic on Puget Sound. Lynn was a great friend and adventurous guy - up for anything!. *Highlight* - Lynn lived aboard his beloved sailboat for years before he met his wife and purchased a cottage (pictured further into this collection) on nearby Lake Roesigner.

LA CONNER / MOUNT VERNON

Touring the Tulip Fields ~ 2.2002

I painted this portrait of the picturesque signature windmill at Mount Vernon's nationally famous Roozengaarde (Tulips.com) Display Garden & Store several years ago when my mother Sally, chum Robin Westbrook and I made the trip north to Mount Vernon from Seattle one spring. Both the surrounding fields and the windmill's stunning display garden were in vibrant full bloom. It was a welcome education learning the names of each variety of tulip, daffodil, hyacinth and more as we made our way through the meandering flower beds. An enormous favorite with visitors and camera buffs from all over the United States and Canada, this picture perfect setting inspired this portrait of Roozengaarde's iconic windmill with our arms loaded with bunches of blooms for our springtime dining room tables. (image used courtesy of the Washington Bulb Co. Inc., Roozengaarde.) *Highlight* - My mother Sally reminded me recently during a visit to our local garden shop how much she loved that trip to Roozengaarde's decades ago. Maybe it's time to visit again!



Cruising La Conner in Justatug ~ 4.2002

Bill and Jamie Fowler commissioned this portrait of their summer home "Justatug" several years ago when I met the couple at my artwork booth at the Redmond Saturday Market. They were enchanted with my little paintings - and decided to choose me as their artists to memorialize their very unique Summer "home." These two enjoyed every second of the summer months cruising around Puget Sound and the San Juans in this handsome vessel. This was perfect retirement arrangement as they spent the cooler months of the year wintering in a cozy cottage they built on their son's property. This painting also featured the beloved resort town of La Conner in the background. *Highlight* - Located in the midst of surrounding tulip fields, every Spring La Conner welcomed folks from all over the United States and Canada for their Annual Tulip Festival.

LAKE STEVENS

Star Creek Ranch ~ 12.1993

At the time I painted the portrait of this modest,cozy little ranch-style cottage near Lake Stevens in Northeast Washington State, my friends John Tanaka (an Everett Firefighter) and Mary Anne Schmidt (a nurse) had just moved from apartments in King County to this pastoral setting where John had just purchased several acres of forested property. The land came complete with this small home, three idyllic lily ponds and a couple of babbling brooks that ran through the setting. Mary Anne, who also was a true equestrian, finally had a place where her huge Clydesdale "Knight" could call home. *Highlight* - I pictured the couple on the front steps of their "castle," perfectly christened "Star Creek Ranch." This fine artwork home portrait was the couple's housewarming gift when they moved in!



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LAKE ROESIGNER

Lolligaggin' at Lake Roesigner ~ 11.1994

The inviting beach cabin pictured here on the shore of Lake Roesigner was the result of many hours of very hard work on the part of longtime friends Jeff and Diane Lane. An hour or so drive north of Monroe, the couple completely remodeled their vacation getaway - inside and out. They very creatively used wood trim and special molding throughout the place, giving it a warm, inviting feel - with the most outstanding feature a huge fireplace constructed of river rock. This cabin was a magnet in Summer months for the Lane family and their wide circle of friends. I'm pictured heading up the deck to chat with the couple while my sister Marilee played with youngsters Cody and Aubrey (her God-daughter). When the Lanes decided to move from Seattle to the rural community of North Bend, to help finance construction of their lodge-style dream house at the foot of Mount Si, they sold this place to my buddy Lynn Wildblood who had been living a carefree life on his sailboat moored nearby in Everett, Washington. *Highlight* - When Lynn married a year later, I gave the newlyweds the original painting of this cabin as a wedding gift.

MONROE

Heidi's Happy House @ Ray's Roost ~ 7.2005

This buttery yellow two-story gabled house, located just east of the picturesque little town of Monroe, Washington, was home to Heidi, Ray, Alivia, Oliver (the dog) and Chloe (the kitty) Bressler. The scene was a beautiful summer day, and Ray was tossing Alivia into the air, while Heidi stood in the doorway, arms carrying a tray of refreshments. I painted the art as a birthday gift for Heidi.

Making Merry in Monroe ~ 7.2005

This lovely two-story gabled house located just east of the picturesque little town of Monroe, Washington, was home to Heidi, Ray, Alivia, Oliver (the dog) and Chloe (the kittycat) Bressler. This two-story cottage was portrayed on a beautiful Summer day with Ray tossing his toddler daughter Alivia into the air, while his wife Heidi stood in the doorway, arms laden with a tea tray for her guests - friends from boutique days at Maggie Rhodes in Redmond, Washington. Lounging in comfy wicker easy chairs on the lawn were: (L-R) Assistant Manager Katie and staff Dawn, me, Kathy, Judith, Sarah, Molly and Lindsay. *Highlight* - I painted this as a very special birthday gift for Heidi - and gave framed prints to all the co-workers to honor time spent together at the charming shop filled with April Cornell merchandise which had just closed its doors.



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