

---

---

# Tay River Tattler

Arts News & Views from Tay River Gallery  
Volume 1 Issue 3 October 2002

---

---



## October Feature Artist Arlene McGee

### LANARK COUNTY COLOURS

*Lanark County Colours*, opening at Tay River Gallery on Tuesday October 1st, features an exhibition of original watermedia paintings by Arlene McGee depicting scenes of the rivers, farms and gardens typical of Lanark County. Arlene's distinctive style with bold use of colour is a poignant reflection of this artist's spiritual connection with nature. Among her most stunning and memorable paintings are *Around the Bend*, (featured on the cover of *Maple Lanes 2002 Visitors Guide*), and *Nature's Altar*. Her works have been exhibited at various local galleries throughout the year. The show continues to October 21st, and the Meet the Artist Date is Saturday October 12th at 2:00 p.m.

Arlene McGee has been painting on a full-time basis for the past 12 years in her studio, Riverain Studio, on the Mississippi River near the hamlet of Ferguson Falls. Her lifelong passion for drawing and painting in oils, pastels, watercolours and

acrylics has evolved over the years through studies and workshops with several well-known artists, including the late Ralph Burton, a painting companion to A.Y. Jackson.

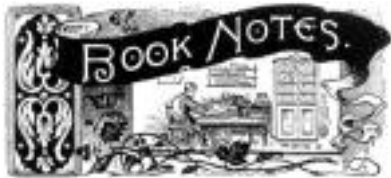
Arlene shares her enthusiasm for the creative process by holding workshops in Ferguson Falls. Her fall workshop, *Watercolours and More* begins next weekend on October 5th & 6th at Ferguson Falls Community Centre. For more information call 259-2869.

Arlene McGee's works are in numerous private and corporate collections across Canada and the United States.

### Artists' Statement

It is important to me that my paintings engage the viewer in a visual dialogue - perhaps one that leaves the impression of familiarity or connection to the subject matter, or which allows the viewer's own creative interpretation. I'm grateful for the artistic inspiration I derive from the Mississippi River where I live. My emotional response to what I see around me is reflected in my choice of strong and exciting colours. It is here that each season brings a kaleidoscope of new colour and patterns of light and shadow. This provides never-ending subject matter - whether it be the river itself, the landscape, the local farms or the wonderful flower gardens which dot the countryside. I believe that art is an adventurous journey which constantly stirs my creative spirit and moves me to paint.

Arlene McGee



## **The Book as Art Form** *Spotlight on Ontario authors and publishers*

### **RendezVous Crime Snapshots**

*Northern Winters Are Murder, and Blackflies are Murder*. Belle Palmer Mysteries by Sudbury author Lou Allin, set in Northern Ontario wilderness

*Speak Ill of the Dead, and The Icing on the Corpse*. Camilla MacPhee Mysteries by Ottawa writer, Mary Jane Maffini, that take place in Ottawa urban setting.

*Down in the Dumps, Dead Cow in Aisle Three, and Cue the Dead Guy*. Polly Deacon Mysteries by H.Mel Malton of Huntsville featuring zany puppetmaker in rural Muskoka Ontario setting.

*Do or Die*. First Inspector Green Mystery by Ottawa writer, Barbara Fradkin, featuring Ottawa police inspector in urban Ottawa setting.



## **Upcoming Local Events**

**Watercolours & More** – Weekend mixed watermedia workshop Oct. 5 & 6, Ferguson Falls Community Centre With Arlene McGee. Call 259-2869.

**10th Annual Perth Autumn Studio Tour**, October 12, 13, 14 ~ 2002  
This year's Studio Tour includes 31 artists at 10 studios clustered together on rural roads close to town. For more information, check [www.perthstudiotour.com](http://www.perthstudiotour.com) or call Riverguild Fine Crafts at 267-5237.

**Barn Door Productions presents The Company of the Studio Theatre in Drinking Alone**, A comedy by Norm Foster - Oct. 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 2002 at 8:00 p.m. Oct. 20 -2:00 p.m. at the Studio Theatre, 63 Gore E. Call Studio Theatre to reserve: 267-7469.

**By the Falls Art & Crafts Show**, Ferguson's Falls Community Hall, October 26 & 27, for info. call 257-2942.

## **Upcoming Gallery Events**

**Nov. 9 – Nov 30**  
Exhibit of Oil Paintings by John Topelko of Ottawa.

**Dec. 1 - Dec. 31st**  
Christmas Show featuring oil, watercolours, and acrylic paintings of local visual artists.

### ***New in the Gallery***

We have a new group show this fall featuring paintings of John Topelko, John Alexander Day, Patricia Savoie, Renate Wesley, Arlene McGee, and Donna Naprstek.

New artists featured in the gallery as well as artists who have not yet been highlighted in previous newsletters are detailed below:

Brock Clow, a young artist from Crow Lake, paints large dramatic works in acrylics on pine and carves strokes into the compositions.

Catherine Kelly, of Image +, exhibits a few of her striking photographs featuring rural scenes in Ireland, matted prints and art cards and a sampling of her clothing designs.

Sue Maxwell of Smiths Falls carves many delightful Santas in a variety of shapes, sizes and styles in basswood, and also creates sturdy crocheted bags in cotton.

Laurel Minutillo of Laurel Leaf Studio exhibits some of her fine silver jewellery in the gallery. Items featured include rings, toerings earrings, bracelets, necklaces, brooches and barrettes in silver and other metals.

Barbara Handley, woodcarver from McDonald's Corners exhibits some of her small, detailed woodcarvings; the amusing spirits, and elves and small hand-sized carvings from her goddess series.

Cecile Reichert from Brockville, with Conversations in Jewellery shows her colour switching collection of earrings in the gallery.

Beelites Beeswax Candles created by Ian Fraser from the Arden area are now featured in the store. These long- burning candles come in a variety of sizes and finishes and have the lovely natural sweet scent of beeswax.

Latimer Soapworks , natural vegetable - based soaps are made in small batches in Tamara Kayfetz's farmhouse in the

Kingston rural area. Tamara's glycerine soap slices and bars have added glycerine and are available in many assorted fruity flavoured scents and funky patterns and colours. Goat's milk and buttermilk bars are also featured.

Brigid's Bard, earth, animal and skin-friendly soaps handcrafted by Lori Stinson O"Gorman of the Ottawa area, are a very different natural soap offered with very subtle fragrances of herbs, oils and spices. Lori creates ten different varieties of super-fatted, cold- process soaps that are extremely gentle to the skin.

Watch for the November Issue of the Tattler , which will highlight Ontario Musicians featured in Tay River Gallery.

### ***Mainly Murder & Mayhem***

Many of the mysteries featured in our Mainly Murder & Mayhem section of the Gallery are recent releases. Check for your favorite author's latest book. We also feature many fine mysteries by Canadian authors in our nearly-new book inventory. Eric Wright, Peter Robinson, Gail Bowen, Suzie Moloney, L.R. Wright, and Timothy Findley to mention a few.



*Still on the topic of Murder, here is a cute poem I ran across & decided to share:*

He poisoned her coffee, he poisoned her tea,  
Then practiced his tears for the wake.  
But at his first cough, he detected that he  
Had picked up her mug by mistake.  
*Tom Kreitzberg*

## **Tay River Gallery Welcomes New Artists & Artisans**

We are looking for quality works from local artisans on a consignment basis for the upcoming fall season. We are also looking for submissions of quality recordings by Ontario musicians for our music centre.

Interested parties please apply in person, by email [lbrown@tayrivergallery.com](mailto:lbrown@tayrivergallery.com), or call the gallery at 613-264-5448.

## **Famous Quotes by Artists**

A painting is never finished – it simply stops in interesting places.  
*Paul Gardner*

The creation of something new is not accomplished by the intellect but by the play instinct acting from inner necessity. The creative mind plays with the objects it loves.  
*Carl Jung*

I like not only to be loved, but to be told that I am loved; the realm of silence is large enough beyond the grave.  
*George Eliot*

There is hope if people will begin to awaken that spiritual part of themselves – that heartfelt acknowledgement that we are the caretakers of life on this planet.  
*Brooke Medicine Eagle*

We don't see things as they are, we see them as we are.  
*Anais Nin*

Fiction gives us the second chance that life denies us.  
*Paul Theroux*

Many people hear voices when no-one is there. Some of them are called mad and are shut up in rooms where they stare at the walls all day. Others are called writers and they do pretty much the same thing.  
*Meg Chittenden*



## **Parting Thought**

*Poem by poet David Whyte*

### **Tilicho Lake**

In this high place  
It is as simple as this,  
Leave everything you know behind.  
Step toward the cold surface,  
Say the old prayer of rough love  
And open both arms.  
Those who come with empty hands  
Will stare into the lake astonished,  
There, in the cold light  
Reflecting pure snow  
The true shape of your own face.