Jan McLaughlin – Nana, Artist, Crafter, Scientist Email: Jan4Art@yahoo.com



Jan works in a variety of media including pastels, acrylics, watercolors, clay, weaving, using recycled materials, paper craft, and a variety of other crafts. Jan plays the guitar, sings and has been known to write songs as well as poetry. Often, Jan tinkers and explores new ways to produce artistic results. She has been providing free arts and crafts workshops to area seniors at the Londonderry Senior Center for more than ten years.

Art has always been a way for Jan to relax or focus often doodling pictures during meetings and phone calls. Her fourth-grade teacher, Miss Brown, encouraged her draw during times when she needed to pay attention. While pursuing her Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction at Notre Dame College, she produced many works of art during lectures. The professors were given the artwork at the end of the courses. Jan, trained in Science at UNH (BS in Botany and Plant Pathology), but worked in business and education, including as the State of New Hampshire Science K-12 consultant. Neurological problems prevented art activities for a number of years but after a time, Jan began to slowly work with different materials and re-discovered the joy that art can bring to life.

Jan credits her grandmother and her father as being most influential in developing her artist talents. Her Nana, Marjorie Dyke Putnam Caswell, a designer and artist, bought Jan her first set of oils when she was 10. Her father, James Sproul III, involved Jan different 3D art installations using a variety of tools and natural materials including living plants from a very early age.

Jan has called Londonderry home since 1986. Her husband, John, passed away in 2021. Art has been a help during this time of loss. Her son and his family (his wife and two children – my grandkids!) live in Londonderry. Her daughter (and soon to be son-in-law) lives in Seattle, WA.

Works on Display for the Month of September by Jan McLaughlin:

1. Sunset Over Nahant (1976)	Oil on Canvas framed
2. Orchard and Mountain View (2022)	Woven on Loom, in Shadowbox
3. Ammonoosuc Memories (2006)	Chalk Pastel on Wood Cut
4. Lilac and Forsythia for Mom (1996)	Watercolor & India Ink, Framed
 5. Wall Hangings: a. Sunset and Mountain View (2022) b. 3D Sunrise (2021) c. Geometric patterns (Grey and Blue) 	Woven on Loom, on wood dowel Woven on Loom plus crochet Woven on Cardboard w/ straw
6. Tropical Island Palm (2018)	Acrylic on Canvas board
7. Covered Bridge (2002)	Pastel on Canvas board, framed
8. Cliffs of Mohr (2013)	Acrylic on Canvas board, framed
9. Trees various (2012 to 2019)	Crayon; Acrylic; Colored Pencil
10. Glacier Bay Alaska Sketches (2019)	Colored Pencil, Paper



Leach Library Exhibit – September 2022

Artwork:	Sunset Over Boston from Nahant (1976)
Artist:	Jan Sproul (McLaughlin)
Media:	Oil on Canvas framed; Canvas size 24Hx36L

This was painted on canvas on easel over one 24hr period with oil paints. The artist was located on the top balcony of a condo in Nahant. This deck had an unobstructed view to the Boston Skyline. The bridge pictured is the Tobin although it looks the much newer bridge. This was painted for my then boyfriend, John and hung in all of offices at GE Aerospace Instruments and AMETEK Instruments after our marriage in 1977. This picture now hangs in the office/craft room once shared by Jan and John McLaughlin in Londonderry Condo.



Artwork:	Orchard and Mountain View (2022)
Artist:	Jan McLaughlin Woven on Loom
Media:	Textile work on Loom, Hung in Shadowbox

This work of art was produced using thickened yarns and materials using a large lap loom. In the lower edge you see evidence of blooming apple trees. Three are represented to convey the time of year. Beyond the Orchard, the land changes from with colorful hills and mountains seen. Living in Londonderry has made me appreciate the bloom time of fruit trees and their effect on the eye. Since it's framing, this has hung on the wall beside Jan's craft area.



Artwork:	Ammonoosuc Memories (2006)
Artist:	Jan McLaughlin
Media:	Chalk Pastel on Wood Cut

During a pastels class that Jan was teaching at the Senior Center, she was asked if pastels could be used to paint any surface. Jan was given a slice of wood and proceeded to draw a picture from memory of the Ammonoosuc River up in Bethlehem. The family had a small second home near the water and spent many days swimming from the bank or sitting on rocks in the flowing river summer and fall. This drawing represents the rocks and rivers behind the McLaughlin Property in Bethlehem Hollow. The property was sold in 2021.



Artwork:	Lilac and Forsythia for Mom (1996)
Artist:	Jan McLaughlin
Media:	Watercolor, Pen and Ink, Framed 11x14

Often mixing a variety of materials is a hallmark of Jan's work. In this piece, she used watercolor and pen and India Ink to construct a picture of two of her mom's (Sheilah P. Sproul) favorite spring flowers. This was given to her mom for her new apartment in 1996



Artwork:	A Series of Wall Hangings
Artist:	Jan McLaughlin
Media:	Textile woven on loom

<u>Sunset and Mountain View (2022)</u> woven on a lap loom using a variety of materials. The bottom, almost macrame give the impression of a road or stone wall where one might stop to watch the unfolding splendor. Backed with Cotton print and hung from a dowel.

<u>**3D Sunrise (2022)</u>** woven on lap loom using a variety of yarns and textiles. The sun was crochet and the sewn in place. Different widths of yarn were used to give texture and depth to the scene. Covered with a cotton fabric and hung from a pair of knitting needles</u>

<u>Geometric patterns</u> (Grey and Blue 2014) This smaller weaving was done on a carboard loom. Various industrial scrap yarns were used to create the blue and grey patterns. A straw was recycled to hang the final product.



Artwork:Tropical Island Palm (2018)Artist:Jan McLaughlin (2016)Media:Acrylic on Canvas board, framed 11x14

Details:

After returning home from a cruise to the Caribbean but facing the thought of a long cold winter in New England, Jan decided an island with a palm or two would help remind them of warmer days gone by and to come.



Artwork:	Covered Bridge	(2002)
Artist:	Jan McLaughlin	
Media:	Pastel on canvas	board, framed
Details:		

Always a favorite topic of artists, covered bridges are a favorite for Jan and her family. This is reminiscent of a covered bridge located on the way to Mt. Chocura in NH.



Artwork:	Cliffs of Moher (2014)
Artist:	Jan McLaughlin
Media:	Pastels on Canvas board, Framed

During a trip with their grown children in 2013, Jan and John visited many wonderful sites around the Republic of Ireland. One of their stops, on a cold and windy day, was at the Cliffs of Moher. Upon returning home, Jan used the Cliffs of Moher as a subject of a pastel work of art. Note the low hanging clouds that were present on many days during their visit. It was a bit rainy in Ireland, but it sure beat the 18 inches of snow on the ground when they left Boston.



Artwork:Trees (Various – "There is nothing like a tree"Artist:Jan McLaughlinMedia:Assorted- Acryllic, Chalk Pastels, Oil Pastels

Details:

3 Trees – (Framed)There are three trees in one painting. These were painted in pastel and have a stone wall in the foreground. Trees planted in such a way would have a straight line and all be about the same age.

Tree on Yellow – (No Frame) Tree on Left with small stone wall on right and a few flowers. This was painted during a painting class on a cruise. We used non-traditional materials to paint with acrylic paint: sponges, paper towels and cotton swabs.

Dark Tree Silhouette – (Matted only) This tree is in shadow against a sunset bright sky. Done in pastel on canvas board

Tree with Sun – (Framed and Matted) This fantasy tree was drawn with oil pastels. Almost like crayons, they are very had to blend from color to color. It was fun to give this tree character.



Artwork:	Glacier Bay Alaska Sketches 2019
Artist:	Jan McLaughlin
Media:	Colored pencil – limited colors

Detail

These sketches were done from a cruise ship as we were travelling into and out of Glacier Bay National Park. They were done quickly as we continued to move slowly toward the largest glacier (Margerie Glacier) we would see. The only paper suitable that I had was a knitting planner. The paper had an unusual shape and texture but provided a sketch record of the trip in to see the glaciers.

