

# SEARSTONE *seasons*

The latest news from SearStone Summer 2008



Painting by Ann Hair

## *Original Artwork on Display*

SearStone has found a unique way to honor its past as a working farm while supporting local artists.

On May 2, members of Plein Air IN the Triangle, North Carolina area (PAINTNC) staged a Paint Out at the historic Sears Farm property. PAINT NC ([www.paintnc.org](http://www.paintnc.org)) is an all-volunteer organization of about 48 professional and amateur artists dedicated to painting “en plein air,” French for “outdoors.” More than 24 artists spread out around the property to paint outdoor scenes of barns, a pond, a tenant house and rolling hills.

SearStone Depositors were invited to a special reception on June 20 for an exclusive preview of the “Sears Farm Scenes” Art Show. They were able to view more than 40 framed, original paintings created during the Paint Out and to meet the artists. On the following day, SearStone opened up the art exhibition to the public.

“SearStone is designed to be a vibrant senior community with plenty of special programming for our residents, guests and the public,” said Susan Linthicum, Director of Sales. (cont. inside)



**SEARSTONE**  
A DISTINCTIVELY DIFFERENT  
COMMUNITY FOR SENIORS

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## SearStone Assembles Distinguished Board

We are pleased to announce and introduce the Board of Directors of SearStone. We are sure you will recognize many of them as friends and neighbors within the Cary, NC and Greater Raleigh community.

**Mark R. Leath, Jr., President**

**Melba T. Sparrow, Vice President**

**Thomas A. Beebe, Vice President**

**Koka Booth**

**The Reverend Dr. Luther Brewer**

**Dr. Jan Busby-Whitehead, M.D.**

**Michael Desmond**

**Charles H. Henderson**

**The Reverend Dr. John R. Nagle**

**Chuck Norman**

**James B. Pierce, CPA**

**Jean Smith**

“We are thrilled at their willingness to support this exciting endeavor and for their ongoing commitment to ensuring that SearStone is a true asset to the community,” says Developer Bill Sears.

## A Passion for Service

While other couples their age may be content with slowing down, Alex and Marilyn Knittel’s passions and compassion keep them active. Although they enjoy plenty of leisurely pursuits like fishing at the North Carolina coast or attending basketball games in Chapel Hill, it’s their church-related work that fully enriches their lives. As parishioners of Christ the King Lutheran Church, the Knittels are active in the Stephen Ministry in which they provide one-on-one care to families facing illness, personal crisis or other life emergencies. They also traveled to Pascagoula, Mississippi for three straight years as part of a church ministry program to help citizens rebuild in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Recalling their first visit, they remember seeing houses that were “blown apart” by the hurricane. On one lot, all that remained of the house was a bathtub and the home’s cement footings.

Rolling up their sleeves, the Knittels helped deconstruct houses, put up drywall, paint, sort supplies and even do data entry. Their Stephen Ministry training came in handy as well, as they found many of the local residents just wanted someone to talk to.

“In both areas of our ministry, the Stephen Ministry and the mission work in Mississippi, I’ve found you always get back more than you give,” says Marilyn.

The couple first met at a German dance in Detroit, Michigan. Originally from Augsburg, Germany, Alex had moved to the United States in search of better opportunities. Marilyn’s family is of German descent and was active in the local German community. Alex worked as a toolmaker in the automotive industry and as an engineer for DuPont, helping them develop tooling for prototype parts. The couple moved to North Carolina 32 years ago when he accepted a position with Square D. Marilyn worked for Burroughs Wellcome and then for a law firm in Apex. The Knittels have two daughters, Carolyn in Silk Hope and Pam in Raleigh, and two grandchildren. They selected SearStone as their future home because they felt it is very well planned, and is very close to their church, their doctors and the hospital.

“Our children won’t have to worry about us here,” says Alex. “We plan to be active in the SearStone community and to continue our volunteer work.”

The Knittels also like attending Ambassador functions at SearStone, like meetings of their church’s Wisdom Club and the Red Hat Society. “It has been our pleasure in the past year-and-a-half to attend the many functions that have been provided by SearStone and to have a chance to meet and socialize with our future neighbors,” says Marilyn. “The staff here is fantastic. They have always responded promptly to any questions we had.”



## Art Continued

“This painting exhibition is just one example of the many ways we hope to engage the community and support the arts.”

“Sears Farm Scenes” will run through September 30, 2008 at the SearStone Information Centre. The paintings, some of which will be featured in the upcoming book “Painting North Carolina” by Kimberlee Maselli, are available for sale to the general public.

## MEET THE SEARSTONE SALES TEAM

**Susan W. Linthicum** - Director of Sales

Susan is responsible for managing and directing sales for SearStone, ensuring that she and her enthusiastic team exceed the expectations of everyone involved in shaping this exciting, new community. She brings to her leadership role more than 15 years of marketing, sales, public relations, and business development expertise, including serving as Director of Sales for Marriott International, Inc. Susan is a native North Carolinian and a graduate of UNC in Business Administration. [slinthicum@searstone.com](mailto:slinthicum@searstone.com)

**Debbie DeRosa** - Marketing Coordinator

Debbie’s career has always focused on doing what it takes to create fulfilling experiences for her clients. Prior to joining the SearStone sales team, she served for 11 years as a marketing director within the shopping-center industry. Originally from New Jersey, Debbie now enjoys gardening and hiking in the outdoor-friendly North Carolina climate. [dderosa@searstone.com](mailto:dderosa@searstone.com)

**Morgan Lamphere** - Sales Associate

Morgan is responsible for Sales, Marketing and Business Development. She brings more than four years of senior living marketing experience and has served as the Director of Community Relations at Sunrise Senior Living. Morgan hails from Ohio, and is a graduate of Ohio University’s Scripps School of Journalism. She and her husband, Mark, currently live in Durham. They enjoy gardening, cooking and traveling. [mlamphere@searstone.com](mailto:mlamphere@searstone.com)

**Karen S. Lawrence** - Sales Assistant

Karen has always worked with quality customer service as a top priority. After studying at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, she spent 21 years with IBM supporting customers in many capacities. She enjoys working on her new home, spending time with her family, especially the grandchildren, and entertaining friends. [klawrence@searstone.com](mailto:klawrence@searstone.com)

## Upcoming Events

Now through September 30 – “Sears Farm Scenes” Art Show

August 12, 14, 26 and 28 – Informational Luncheons (RSVP required)

September 18 – Emergency Preparedness Workshop by Wake County Emergency Management Office (RSVP required)

September 27 – “Scenes at Searstone” Final Sale and Open House

October 21 – “A Cup of Soup” Cooking Demonstration and Tasting presented by Chef Todd Mohr

Please call for times and locations. Stay tuned for more information about these events, as well as other seminars we are planning. Please note: events are subject to change.



## Directions

SearStone’s Information Centre and Model Home are located just seconds from the intersection of Davis Drive and High House Road in Cary, NC and only minutes from Raleigh-Durham International Airport. From I-40, take Exit 287 onto Harrison Avenue, right onto Cary Parkway, right onto High House Road and left onto Davis Drive, and SearStone is just two-tenths of a mile on your left.

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