

December 15, 2006 Issue

Technology Update



Winter in the Northwest is grey and green. It is twinkling with red and gold lights. It is wind and rain. It can be sparkling with vivid sunshine or deep dark, mysteriously overcast. Sometimes the weather brings a dusting, or a dump, of silvery snow. There have been times when the falling rain becomes ice, surrounding even the tiniest twig with a crystal sheath.

These are the times for folks to be safe and warm inside the protective shell of a snug home. These are times when our hearts go out to the less fortunate who have no shelter. I encourage everyone to do what they can to help the homeless on these blustery winter days and nights. Then let us all relax and enjoy the beauty of lacy bare tree limbs; the fleeting hours holding on to a clean white blanket of snow, the laughter of children, and a fireplace a-glow to share with family and friends.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Next issue: The Colors of Winter

“Times they are a-changing”, is a quote running through my head. (I don’t know who said it or when) It is so true here in the twenty-first century! Cellular telephones are everywhere! How could one have gotten by without them? Our new cell phones (yes, Ed and I now have our own personal cell phone) not only operate as great telephones, but also a digital camera, alarm clock, appointment reminder, and more functions than we will ever figure out how to use, and the minutes roll over.

Computers command our diligence daily at work or play. We have instant communication any where we wish to “visit” around the globe via the internet. I marvel at the sights and sounds sent to Earth from the Hubble telescope. (You can see the pictures in full color online). Technology seems to indicate that the Future is now here!

“Cellular telephones are everywhere”

In my computer room, the changes have been multiplying (no pun intended). We have installed two new custom designed state-of-the-art computers. Mine is for color management and scanning of original artwork. It’s configuration takes full advantage of the capabilities of the sophisticated photo management software that we use. Ed’s is for the documentation, layout, and all the backup for the art.

We purchased a new 13” Epson printer. The wider format allows me to print 13 inch wide canvas that will be gallery wrapped to a 10 inch width by up to a 40” length. A wider printer is being ordered that is 17” wide giving us a viewable canvas 14” wide. The next step will be a 24” wide printer.

A new, comprehensive color management software has been

ordered which will allow more flexibility for printing on a variety of substrates. We will be able to develop profiles for the digital cameras (used for research and publicity material), scanners (used to digitize my artwork, monitors (used to digitally view the artwork), and printers (used to create limited edition archival prints on a wide range of substrates).

As mentioned earlier, we now offer archival prints on canvas as well as on a variety of paper substrates. Archival prints are created using Epson Ultrachrome K3 archival inks with improved print permanence characteristics that provide lightfastness ratings of up to 108 years. Canvas prints are printed on Epson water resistant canvas then coated with a protective spray to seal and protect the artwork from moisture, UV light fade, humidity, atmospheric contaminants, abrasion, and fingerprints.

The new prints on canvas are recommended as “accent” pieces that can be hung framed or unframed in smaller spaces in bathrooms, kitchens, hallways, family rooms, children’s rooms and more.

“The new prints on canvas are recommended as ‘accent’ pieces”

Designing the computers, acquiring the printers, scanners and software is just the beginning. Now the learning begins. Ed will be spending most of his time installing software and equipment and making it all work. I’ll be painting and writing. Then it will all come together and new artwork will be scanned, color managed, printed, and made available to the most discerning collector.

Carol Thompson

Featured Artwork

Alaska



"A friend introduced me to fascinating 'Alaska'. Spectacular scenery abounds, and yet on a sunny day, with bright fall colors, even the sky seems icy cold."

Mountain Glen



"An early dusting of snow lies upon golden grass beneath towering pines in winter's first visit to a high 'mountain glen'."

Winter Scene



"As the sun comes up and the sky begins to glow, a wonderful 'winter scene' greets you. The newly fallen snow rests gently on trees, fields and fence, begging you to come out and enjoy the world before you."