



OF COURSE YOU CAN PAINT

The Clinton County Arts Council in St Johns will be offering painting lessons again in the year 2009. The lessons have been an ongoing part of their art education program for approximately 5 years. The classes are for beginners and intermediate students. The media can be oil painting, watercolor, pastel, or all of the above. “I have students who like to dabble in all of the various mediums, and some who stick with their favorite”, said instructor Elaine Twichell, who is a past Director of the arts council. “Painting is an enjoyable way to pass the time, and it is so rewarding. People tell me that they have always wanted to paint, but they don’t have any talent! I assure them that anyone can learn.”

The classes are designed to be low-key with no pressure. Each student works at his or her own pace. Students can work from material provided by the instructor, or bring in their own photographs to work from. Even though there are people in the class working on different projects, and using different media, the instructor spends one on one time with each student. Elaine also teaches color theory and design principles in small doses. Every student, no matter if they are in their first session or if they have been coming for awhile, have created beautiful pieces of art that now grace the walls of their homes, and in some cases, the homes of friends, too. We were so pleased to have several students paint and produce their own Christmas cards this year. All of Elaine’s students will be featured in a show at the Arts Council Gallery in the spring of 2009.

“We are not trying to create masterpieces”, said Twichell, “we are just here for the sheer joy of creating something by our own hand, for making a new friend and for leaving the world behind for three hours once a week.”

Anyone interested in taking painting lessons should contact the instructor for more information, and to receive a list of supplies for the media you have chosen.

Classes are held on Tuesdays or Saturdays from 1:00 – 4:00 pm and begin January 6th. Elaine can be reached at 989-593-2072 or 517-242-1552. Her E-Mail address is: lamet@voyager.net.