

# IT'S A CAN'T-MISS ART SHOW

By Toni Garrard Clay



"Ketchikan Waterfall" by Norma Fitzwater

**NINE YEARS AGO**, a small group of women with a shared love of art started the Star Harbor Watercolor Society. Their vision has led to a vibrant community of artists of all skill levels who meet regularly to improve their craft. It has also led to one of the most anticipated art shows in Henderson County: For the Love of Art.

The society will host its eighth annual For the Love of Art Show & Sale on Sunday, Feb. 16 from 1 p.m.- 5 p.m. at the Star Harbor City Hall on 99 Sunset Boulevard. Admission is free and refreshments are available.

"The art show came out of a desire to provide a free show offering original work to the public," said Lou Sutton, who has been a group member for seven years. "We have over 100 watercolors displayed beautifully. It's an afternoon of browsing and fun. There's no pressure. People can buy something framed or unframed or nothing at all."

Last year's show brought in around 200 people. All the work at the show and sale is by members of the Star Harbor Watercolor Society. The group has around 25 members who gather to paint most Friday mornings in a meeting room at Star Harbor City Hall.

"We're at all different levels," said Sutton. "I was a beginner in watercolor when I joined, having come from oils. My work has absolutely improved."



"33 Duesenburg" by Carolyn Seely

Several of the group members also belong to the Southwestern Watercolor Society and are considered "break-out artists." The most senior member of the Star Harbor group is 96-year-old Martha Dee Thompson, an accomplished china painter who attends meetings regularly. Artists will be present at the show to talk about their work. "Come and enjoy and bring your friends," said Sutton.

Star Harbor is located just north of Malakoff. Take FM 3062 at the Malakoff Fire Station off Hwy 198. Continue past the high school 1.4 miles into Star Harbor. Go left at the Y, and the city hall building is at the golf course. For more information, call 903-489-0091.

