

## Art on the block

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By Marichelle Roque-Lutz, Sunday News Correspondent

Retired artists never say die; they just create away, trying out new techniques, new subjects or new approaches to old subjects.

Marine artist R.C. Moore also paints Lancaster County landscapes. Regional artist Dale Ziegler continues immortalizing area farmlands on canvas. Potter Anne Stodder Adams now paints watercolors and acrylics.

Helena Dueck, whose home is filled with her paintings of people, flowers and animals, is creating appliquéd wall hangings. Annelore Smith, who had little time to paint until she retired, now has a houseful of acrylic and watercolor paintings with a music theme. Only prolific artist Myrtle Tremblay has stopped creating. But then, she's 100 years old.

These retirees are among 35 local artists whose donated works will be auctioned off Friday, May 8, to raise money for Compeer Lancaster.

Compeer is affiliated with Compeer Inc., a national nonprofit organization that matches trained volunteers in a friendly relationship with people recovering from mental illness to help them overcome loneliness and low self-esteem.

Program director Sarah E. Myers said Compeer has facilitated 156 friendships since she brought the program here in 2001.

"Our services are all for free. That's why this fundraiser is so important," she said.

Adams, who is donating an original watercolor titled "Tulips," said of Compeer's work, "I think it's very worthwhile and necessary."

Adams taught ceramics at Lancaster Country Day School as well as Elizabethtown and Franklin & Marshall colleges. When she retired, she lost the space she needed to make pottery. That's when she started to paint seriously.

Ten years into retirement, Smith, a former Bon-Ton employee, has exhibited at the Pennsylvania Academy of Music, Lancaster Museum of Art, Landis Homes and the Women's Expressions show at Lancaster General Women & Babies Hospital.

"I really admire the people giving their time to the program," Smith said.

Moore is a former Presbyterian pastor who is a signature member of American Society of Marine Artists. His seascapes are exhibited throughout the country in galleries specializing in marine art. His favorite occupation since he moved to Willow Valley more than two years ago is to drive around back roads in search of something interesting to paint. For Compeer's auction, he has donated "Lancaster Pastoral," an original oil painting.

Ziegler, a retired creative director for U.S. Tobacco, is a signature member of Pennsylvania Watercolor Society. His work has been exhibited in juried shows in several states. "I still exhibit, but I also donate many pieces for worthy causes," he said. For Compeer, he has donated a framed print as well as "Vermont Window," an original watercolor.

Dueck found time to paint between her jobs as cook, baker and housekeeper, and has exhibited at local retirement homes. She's now into appliquéd wall hangings and has donated several pieces to Mennonite Central Committee. Her donation to Compeer is titled "Grape Wreath."

Tremblay wasn't available for this story. Her friend, Mary Ann Duffy, said that until 2005 Tremblay made a good living as an artist. "She was also extremely generous in donating original artwork for auctions," Duffy said. For this auction, art consultant Carol Foley has donated a signed, limited edition print of Tremblay's "A Walk in Lancaster."

Auction chairwoman Cindy Hinkle, an art collector who once owned a gallery in Virginia, said of the more than 40 donated pieces, "The quality of art is so great. I certainly can't buy close to everything I'm interested in."

Compeer Lancaster will hold its art auction fundraiser from 7-9 p.m. Friday, May 8, at Mulberry Art Studios, 19-21 N. Mulberry St., in downtown Lancaster. For more information, call 735-0667.