

## Sketching tours draw the face of the city

**Saratoga Springs** Architecture is model for students of drawing

By **KATHLEEN DOOLEY**  
Staff writer

Besides migrating birds, spring brings out clusters of artists sitting on canvas chairs around the city, sketchbooks in hand while drawing soft scenes.

Graphite pencils move in their hands. Their eyes focus on a doorway, a perennial garden, a pattern in a roof, a gazebo, an unusual window.

They are participants in Anne Baldwin Butler's Sketching Tours.

Butler wanted to take advantage of the sketching opportunities found in the architecture around the city, her winter home. She has been operating Sketching Tours at Nantucket Island during the summer for seven years and added Sketching Tours of Saratoga in September.

"Look at the shape inside, not the outside," Butler tells Joanne Bennett at the restored 1873

Batcheller Mansion during the first lesson.

Bennett, a retiree, says she signed up for the sketching tour because she wanted to learn to draw to help with her oil painting technique.

Pat Friesen's goals are to do travel journal and develop some artistic talent.

Ericka Herzog, who came from Long Island, shows sketches of a dancer's dress from a tour at the Dance Museum. Herzog designs folk art

and wants to expand her drawing and sketching skills.

Classes begin with simple drawing exercises to loosen the hands and put participants at ease. The lessons are informal and brief. The more confident sketchers choose their own subjects with help from Baldwin.

The tours usually last 3½ hours. They are for both beginners and those interested in serious sketching.

During the lesson, Baldwin guides students to look at a flower arrangement or a sculpture, opening up participants' view of the world.

"Instead of drawing window panes, line after line..."

Please see **CLASS F3**

### DRAWING THE CITY

■ **What:** Sketching Tours of Saratoga: Grand Interiors by Anne Baldwin Butler gives sketching tips on architectural gems of Saratoga Springs

■ **When and Where:** Tuesday, harness track; Friday, April 11, Saratoga Springs Public Library; Tuesday, April 15, Caffe Lena; Friday, April 18, Lyrical Ballad Bookshop; Saturday, April 19, Saratoga Post Office

■ **Cost:** \$70 for first tour; \$50 for second; and \$35 for three or more tours.

■ **Info:** April schedule at <http://www.sketchingtours.com> or 580-0224

hand without turning her eyes to the sketch...  
sion Inn in Saratoga Springs. Friesen joined...  
k at the city's architecture and get some

win Butler, center, leads a class at the...  
ngs.

