

JKß - JOY KROEGER BECKNER – JKß

classical Realism, from hounds to humans & and more!

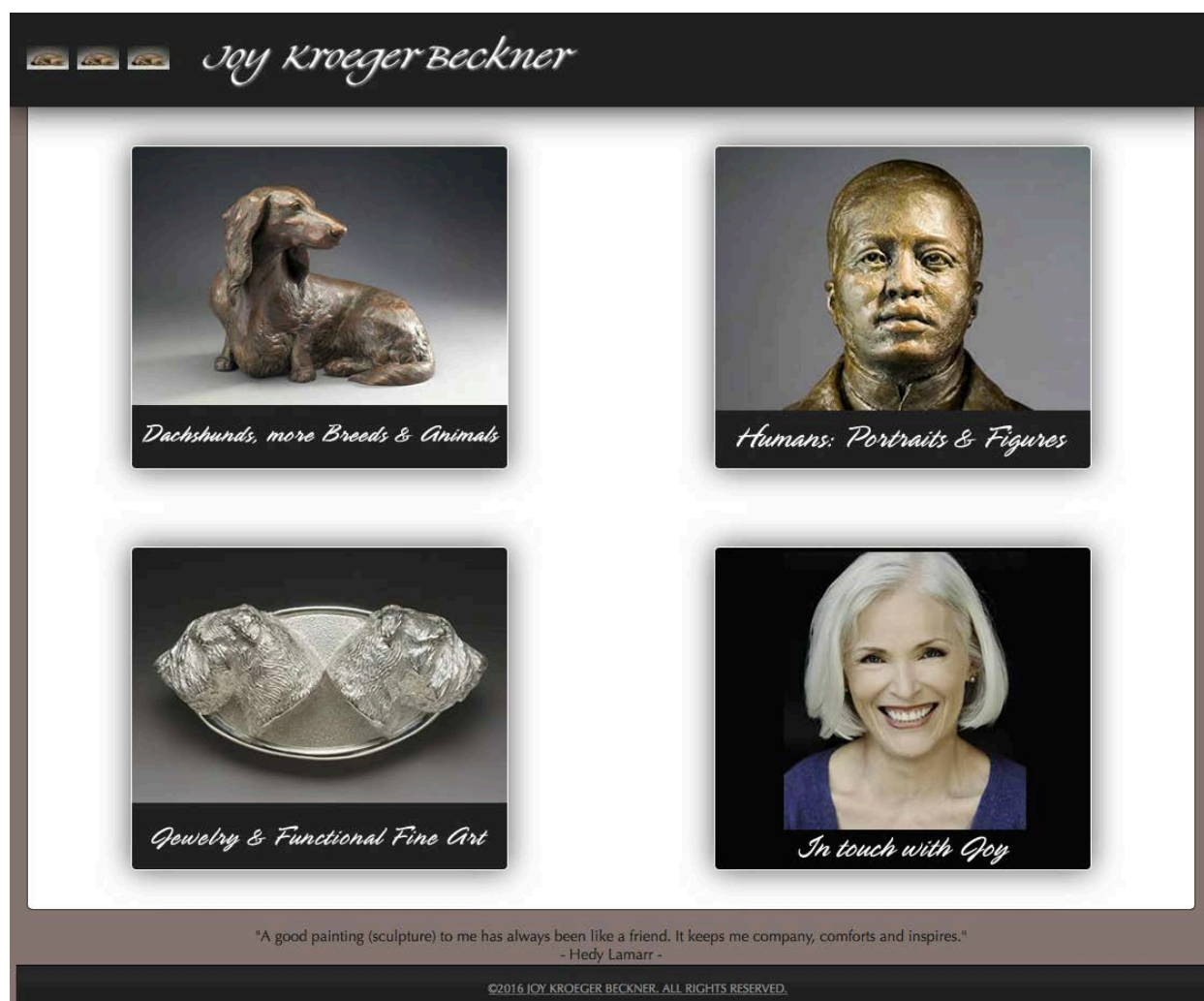
NEWS & JOURNEYS OF JOY! :: VOL. TWELVE, NUMBER ONE :: AUGUST 2016

greetings! Here is good News!

AUGUST 22 2016: My eye appointment goes well. I learn I have VERY DRY eyes!!! My doctor recommends Blink eye drops over the drug store brand of Artificial Tears because the preservatives are better in Blink. She also says my eyes have changed so little she would not pay for new lenses. Yay! I think the blurriness I've been experiencing is a side effect of the diuretic my cardiologist has had me on. Soon, I'll get back to the studio.

AUGUST 25, 2016, 6:05PM: Wonderful Nurse Nancy tells me my arrhythmia doctor, Dr. Andrew Krainik is happy with the results from my wearing a heart monitor for a week! I can get off the anti-coagulant, Eliquis! I still need to stay on two other drugs, but one down is GOOD! Yay!

AUGUST 27, 2016: My website has a new look. Below is a screenshot of my new home page. Each quadrant is its own site, so finding things should be easier.



JUNE 22, 2016: Sharon, our friend and neighbor in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, shares sadness. Ernest Baele, our wonderful, elderly landlord, is no longer with us. Since 2007, we have seen this handsome man with his pale blue eyes and white hair - padding around his common areas in his house slippers and white bathrobe while tending his beloved plants. I'll miss Ernest and his classical music coming into our kitchen from behind the door to his casita. We missed seeing him this winter due to issues with my heart.



Sharon and Ernest are shown when we celebrated his December birthday in January 2014.

JULY 10, 2016, 6AM: Brian, Bo and I leave for the long drive to Loveland, CO, to work and see his mom, Jeanne.

3:50PM: We are ready to go down the hill on I-70 to Limon, CO. Brian reports that it was 101 degrees 3-4 miles ago. Now it is 99 degrees – and - at about the Kansas/Colorado border, we lost 24mph winds from the south.



Happy cows graze north of Limon, CO, on State Road 71 looking north toward Brush, CO.

5:29PM: Brush, CO, is 101 degrees at the corner of State Roads 71 and 34. It's just a little farther to Loveland.

6:50PM, MDT: Loveland, at 5000 feet, is 100 degrees! Brian is an amazing driver. We left at 6:am CDT!

JULY 11, 2016: My metal chaser extraordinaire, Nancy Palm shows her first welds on the inside of my puzzle known as "Merry Sunshine".



Nancy, my amazing metal chaser, shows the inside of "Merry Sunshine".



"Merry Sunshine" relaxes in Nancy's shop. Soon she will have four feet.



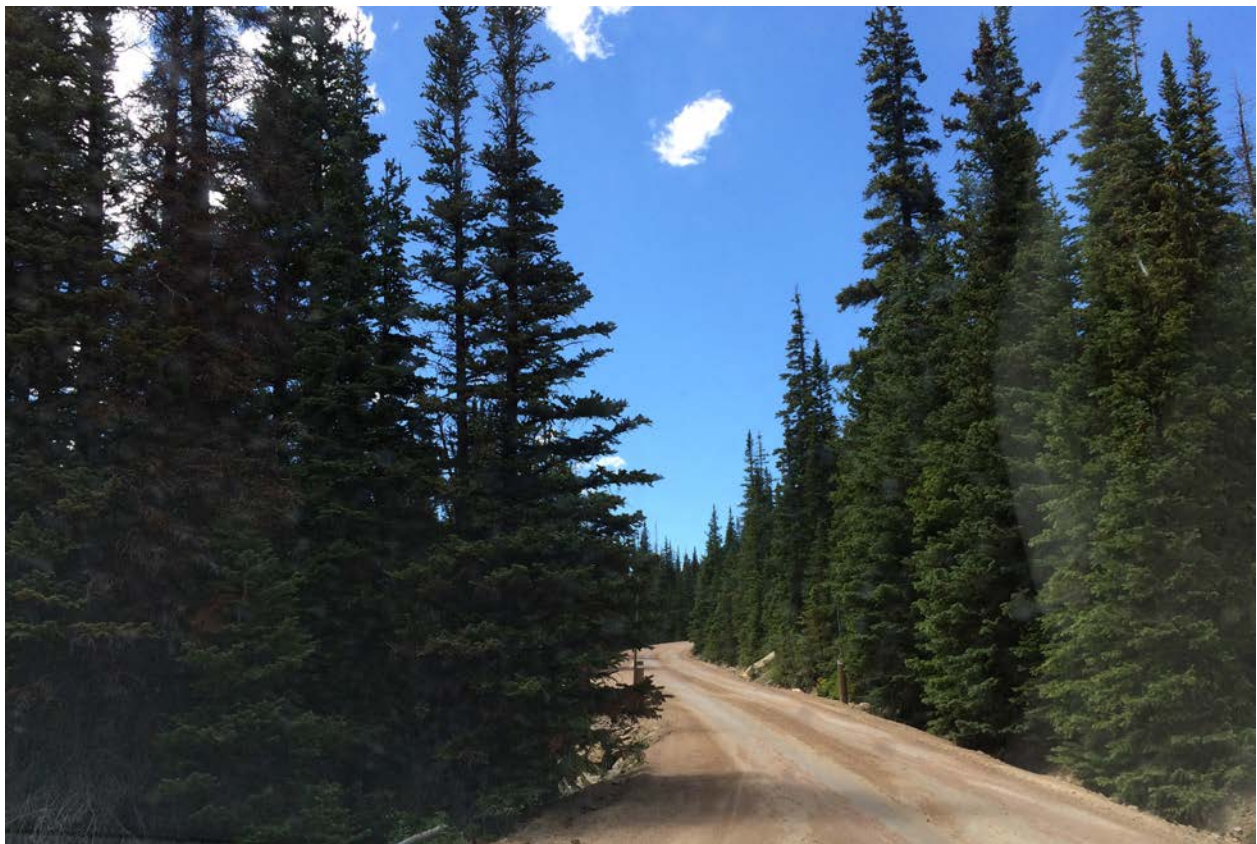
"Merry Sunshine" wearing her halo!

Please note the line where the neck is welded to the shoulders and chest. I think "Merry Sunshine" is beautiful as a portrait head as well as a full body bronze.



An afternoon in Rocky Mountain National Park

JULY 12, 20016: Brian and I drive the westbound one lane Old Fall River Road to the summit. Evergreens appear to almost lap at the sides of the old dirt trail that was built in 1921. Gorgeous!







Yellow Cosmos and other wildflowers at the top of Trail Ridge.



Trail Ridge Road, AKA Colorado-34, looking east toward Loveland.



Long's Peak, elevation 14,114 feet, is the distant peak to the left above.



See the fifty or more elk sunning themselves?





JULY 14, 2016: We pick up “Merry Sunshine” life size, from Nancy and deliver it to Dale for patina. We meet with Bo’s caretaker and wish her the best with our shy boy. By one o’clock, we are on our way to Grand Junction to see Brian’s 95-year-old mom Jeanne and his little brother, Charles.



Jeanne with Brian on her front porch.

JULY 15, 2016: Historic Downtown Grand Junction Main Street.



Highlights in an antique shop



A sign on the sidewalk on Main Street, Downtown Grand Junction, CO.



JULY 16, 2016: Jeanne likes to ride through the Colorado National Monument, above, near her home.

JULY 17, 2016: We travel the two lane Trail Ridge Road, Colorado-34, back to Loveland. In Grand Lake we visit our friend and my former husband, George Zaboji, who shares this photo looking out his back window. What a sunset!





Along CO-34, elk are on the move, males with males and the females? Who knows where they are!



What a Rack!



JULY 17, 2016: We pick up the beautifully patinaed life-size “Merry Sunshine” and deliver it to Shippers for crating. I pay Dale for his patinas, Sheree at Shippers, and Nancy for her beautiful metal work. We head to Eaton to deliver waxes and pay Gary for raw casting. I have worked with these good persons for around 10-15 years. I feel very lucky to have them in my life. That includes Sharon who sprus waxes before Gary casts.

JULY 19, 2016, TUESDAY, 3:30PM: Home again! Yay!

JULY 20, 2016: An unexpected pleasure greets me in the mail: a check for a “Squirrel Season” Smooth, from Jeremy Hildt whose Hildt Gallery is in the Drake Hotel on Michigan Avenue in Chicago. Go Jeremy!



“Squirrel Season” Smooth ©2003 :: Mel Schockner Photography

JULY 22, 2016: The crate with “Miss Me” for the Society of Animal Artists 56th Annual Exhibition is ready to ship next week to the Houston Museum of Natural Science. I am very honored to have been elected to Signature membership of SAA in 1999.



JULY 22, 2016: A collector sends me to Etsy to discover if any of the dachshund works there are knock offs of mine. Fortunately none are. I so appreciate when everyone watches out for knock offs! *Thank you!*

JULY 23, 2016: Yay! An email arrives with an order for “Lord of the Couch” Wire, 1:6 scale, and a “Coming & Going” Wirehaired sterling belt buckle for a Christmas gift! Thank you, Sharon, for thinking ahead!



“Lord of the Couch” Wire, 1:6 scale, Wild Boar patina.



I hold a freshly cast “Coming & Going” Wire Buckle, ©2001



Over time, Mother Nature will give your “Coming & Going” sterling buckle a glowing patina.



"Miss Me" MS Bronze, Ed. 20 & 2 AP ©2015 Joy Kroeger Beckner

JULY 26, 2016: Yay! An email arrives stating "Miss Me" has been accepted for the Allied Artists of America Annual Exhibition! The show will be held September 1 - 18 at the Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Ave., NYC.

On a sad note this morning, I learn from Marie, who is the daughter of my cousin Vernon and his wife Betty, that Betty passed away today. Vernon was the son of my dad's eldest sister, Hilda Lippert nee Kroeger.

JULY 27, 2016, WEDNESDAY, 4:PM: Brian's long time friend and mentor, Charlie Lowery and his special son John arrive for a long awaited visit. Today Charlie, age 91, drove all the way from Stillwater, OK. He is an inspiration! I cook and ready us for a road trip tomorrow.



JULY 28, 2016, THURSDAY: We drive through old town St. Charles, MO, with its beautiful brick streets. Here we visit the Foundry Art Center, which is housed in an old railroad car foundry. Next, we visit a dealer in restored old vehicles, and then drive up the Mississippi lowlands to cross a river on a ferry.

Just before the river a sign states, "This is NOT FERRYLAND!" The ferry runs only on weekends! Happily we find the Golden Eagle ferry, and cross the Mississippi to an island.



We meander through rolling hills of farmland, find another ferry and cross the Illinois River into Illinois to find Pere Marquette State Park. The lodge reminds me of Yellowstone; it is huge and impressive. After lunch we take the Great River Road south to Elsah, IL, and tour the beautiful campus of Principia College.



Mississippi River valley overlook near Pere Marquette State Park

JULY 29, 2016, 9:30AM: I pick up my cousin Herm Kroeger in south St. Louis county and drive us to Hoffman, Illinois, for Betty's funeral. Our cousin Vernon Lippert's wife, 85 year-old Betty passed away Wednesday. Vernon, who is no longer with us, is the son of my dad's eldest sister, Hilda Kroeger Lippert. Afterwards, I drive a short distance to see my Grandpa Boeker's farm. The barn and pump still stand and the outhouse, AKA one of the first "gender neutral" bathrooms, is in the center of a chicken yard! It seems I was about five years old when I last saw it.



The Guardian

AUGUST 4, 2016: My good arrhythmia doctor, Dr. Andrew Krainik, advises me that his parents just purchased a standard wirehaired dachshund puppy from one of my collectors, the honorable Midge Martin! Small world! He also tells me he will mail me a heart monitor that he wants me to wear for a week and mail back. If all is well, I will no longer need Eliquis or my other heart meds! My fingers are crossed.

AUGUST 7, 2016: I am at a loss to find my car keys. I drove home. They are here somewhere....

AUGUST 11, 2016, THURSDAY: My heart monitor arrives. I will install it Monday so as to not have wires everywhere for my family reunion, Saturday.

AUGUST 13, 2016: The Boeker Family Reunion is in Hoyleton, IL. Over 90 persons attend – and – that's not all of them! After coming from Germany, Grandma & Grandpa Boeker started a lot of begatting in this country!

Photos of photos challenge my limited Photoshop skills.



*Rear left: William, Ida, Sophie Broeker (Half sister), Anna, and my mom, Dina.
Front left: Henry, Grandpa & Grandma Boeker, and Charles.*

My best guess is that this photo was taken in about 1912.



*My parents' wedding party
Rear left: Ted Kroeger, Arthur Kroeger, Henry Boeker
Front left: Alice Schnitzmeyer, daughter of Sophie Broeker Schnitzmeyer, Dina Kroeger, Elsie Kroeger Willis*

This photo was taken June 9, 1920-something,

AUGUST 17, 2016: Bo enjoys acupuncture at our good holistic vet. I will try to remember to take a picture of him the next time. He is SO relaxed! What prompted my taking him? He's been involuntarily kicking back on occasion. Better to take care of it before it gets worse.

AUGUST 24, 2016: My arrhythmia doctor's magic nurse calls to tell me the heart monitor report shows no signs of A-Fib. Yay! Now I wait until Friday to hear from my doctor about getting off the drugs!

See, touch and be touched by my work at these upcoming shows...

THROUGH 2018: Art on the Avenues, Wenatchee, WA: www.artontheavenues.org

THROUGH 2017: "Performance in Sculpture" exhibition at the David A. Straz, Jr., Center for Performing Arts, Tampa, FL

THROUGH OCT. 30, 2016: National Sculpture Society 83rd Annual Exhibition, Brookgreen Gardens, Pawley's Island, SC

SEPT. 1 – 18, 2016: Allied Artists of America, 103rd Annual Exhibition, Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003

SEPT. 8 – FEB. 19, 2017: AKC Museum of the Dog, "Dogs of St. Louis Artists" 1721 South Mason Rd., St. Louis, MO 63131. *I'll be there! Please come!!!*

SEPT. 23, 2016 - JAN. 1, 2017: Society of Animal Artists 59th Annual Exhibition, The Houston Museum of Natural Science, Houston, TX

OCT. 21, 2016, 5-7PM: Opening: Art Exhibit at Chesterfield City Hall, Chesterfield, MO Please come; *I'll be there! Please come!!!*

OCT. 21 – DEC. 19, 2016: Art Exhibit at Chesterfield City Hall, Chesterfield, MO



July 1, 2016: Chinese Trumpet Lily Regale Album in my garden.
How I wish I could send you its fragrance!

*Thank you very much for your continuing interest.
I appreciate you very much.*

*Please keep in touch!
Joy*