

JKß - JOY KROEGER BECKNER - JKß

classical realism, from hounds to humans & and more!

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

Is it time for Happy Valentine's Day???



"Merry Sunshine"

LIFE-SIZE: 42½" L BRONZE ED. 5 & 1 ARTIST'S PROOF ©2015. APPROX. 110 POUNDS





"Miss Me..." MS

LIFE-SIZED MINIATURE SMOOTH

19 1/2" x 11 3/8" x 6 1/2" H BRONZE ED. 20 & 2 AP ©2015. APPROX. 22 POUNDS

Above photos by Mel Schockner



So Good To See You
by Joy Kroeger Beckner. Donated by Richard & Doris Dale. In memory of Eric B. Stander. Friend & Publisher from South Africa. 2015

"So Good to See You" ML

Fountain Hills Arts & Cultural Center Permanent Collection, Fountain Hills, AZ.

OCT. 30, 2015: "Sweet Roll" 1:6 Scale, earns Best Sculpture in the Miniature Art Society of Florida 41st Annual International Miniature Art Show! Dunedin, FL.



Don Casper Photograph

Nov. 1, 2015: Sweetness arrives in an email from a collector. The subject line: "Edgar is Beautiful." The note? "He is wonderful! Just unpacked him. Thank you, Joy, for allowing us to share in the beauty of your talent." Thank you, Gayle and John for adopting "Life's a Ball!" SS!



"Life's a Ball!" SS
Mel Schockner Photograph

Nov. 2015: "Big Heart" earns the Helen G. Oehler Memorial Award at the American Artists Professional League. The image is shown from the AAPL website.
Mel Schockner Photograph



Joy Kroeger Beckner (s-3)
:Helen G. Oehler
Memorial
\$150

Nov. 22, 2015: Brian, Bo and I arrive at the trusty LaQuinta in Loveland, CO after a 13-14 hour drive. I am here to check metals of dachshunds, "So Good to See You" ML, "Siesta" MS, and "Miss Me..." MS. I also need to chase four "Miss Me..." MS waxes. Each "Miss Me..." takes at least 6½ hours for me to chase. It is a very complicated piece and, thus, very time consuming. I take one to chase over Thanksgiving, and will chase one or two more when we return to Loveland after Thanksgiving.

Nov. 23, 2015: My magical metal chaser Nancy Palm has my life-sized "Merry Sunshine" complete in metal. We drive it to Dale Cisek for patina. To my delight, he has it patinaed by Wednesday, Nov. 24! Mel Schockner will photograph it the week after Thanksgiving.



Nov. 25, 2015: Mitzi is right at home on Jeanne's mantel. Yes, we drove to Brian's mother's home in Grand Junction, CO, and arrived yesterday. It feels good to sit as I have been cooking ever since we arrived. Jeanne is doing better than she was in July by eating more, but at 94, she is definitely more forgetful than last year. She and Brian's brother Charlie "share a car, but Charlie drives all the time."

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.



KFC rooster from my friend, Nonnie.

The saga of my heart continues... along with life, thank goodness!

Dec. 7, 2015: My right eyetooth now has an implant! This is not a crown, mind you, but the titanium screw into which the crown will be anchored. This will heal and graft to the bone for around three months at which time we will order a crown. Time, oh everything takes time...

Dec. 9, 2015: I have an ablation and spend a night in the hospital. I'm glad it is only one night.

Dec. 16, 2015: My primary care doctor's EKG reveals I am back in A-fib. I drop a copy at my arrhythmia doctor's office and receive a call this evening. The nurse tells me, "You can go into and out of A-fib for three months after an ablation!" Now they tell me! Am I one of the 30% for whom an ablation does not work?



Dec. 18, 2015: The first life-sized "Merry Sunshine" graces the personal golden retriever cemetery that is at the home of a couple who live in Cape Girardeau, MO. He writes, "Mary snapped this picture out the window this morning. One-year-old Josh was out with the gang checking out the new dog next to the azaleas. 'Merry Sunshine' is hanging out there while our friend is preparing her flat stone for mounting. We are delighted with your work."

Upon receipt of the Certificate of Authenticity, my collector sent a charming email: "Not to be confused with the Jerry Reed song, *Pretty Mary Sunlight*, although our girl does fit the lyric nicely. 'Pretty Mary Sunlight, she's alright with me. Pretty Mary Sunlight she's everything I need. Pretty 'Merry Sunshine', she's alright with me.'" Thank you, new Cape Girardeau friends!



Dreaming of Tomatoes, MS dreams under a collector's 2015 Christmas tree Thank you, Mari-Ellen!

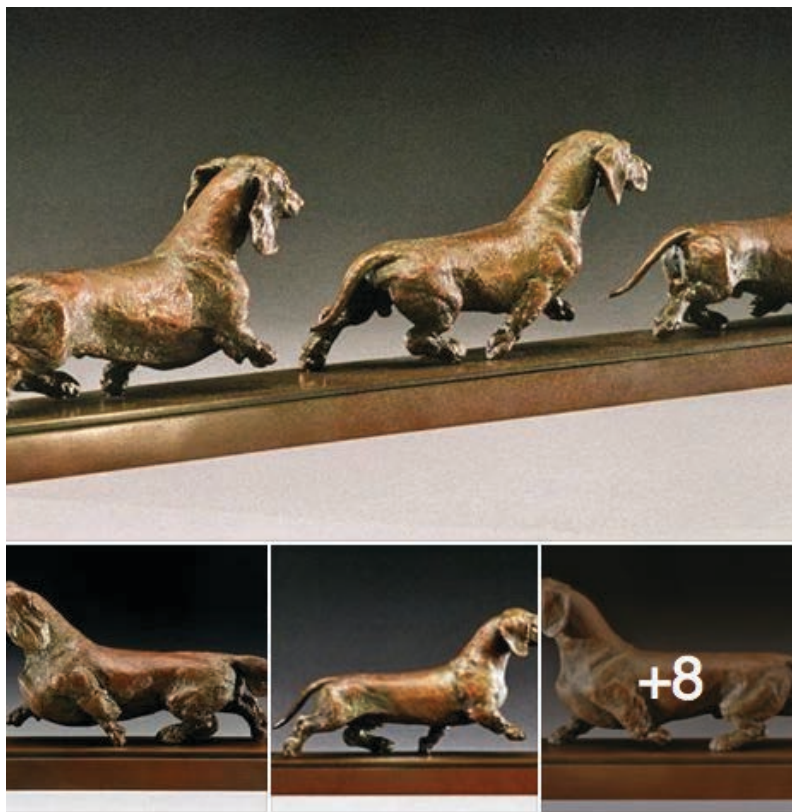
DEC. 28, 2015: I finally decide on and order a new printer, a Xerox Phaser 3320. It prints B&W with 1200dpi! It's been a long time deciding. I would still rather have VERY good quality black & white over less than glorious color. I hope I like it as well as my trusty 15 year-old HP 2100tn. HP makes no drivers to work with the latest operating system on my Mac.

DEC. 29, 2015: Brian thinks I must have needed to sleep 11 hours last night. My pulse feels fairly normal, at least to me.

DEC. 31, 2015, 3:47PM: My pulse still feels normal! Yay! But, oh am I tired. Yesterday I decided to buy new Elfa shelving for my office at The Container Store. I removed everything from the shelves in one of my two 49" W x 26"D x 90"H side-by-side closets. One was empty already. Stuff is everywhere, but I wanted the two closets to match. This morning, Brian helped by removing a gazillion screws and parts from the old shelving, and loaded the eight shelves and parts into my Suburban. I managed to get to my favorite paint store at 11:50am before they closed for the holiday. I bought drywall mud so I could fix all the holes before painting the closet to ready it for installing the shelves. Nap time.



Life is Beautiful! Happy New Year!



Uma added 11 new photos.
January 2, 2015 · 🌐

✓ Liked ▾

Created by sculptor Joy Kroeger Beckner, these bronzes are of several moving Dachshunds; one of each coat. They show such correct conformation and structure, we thought they should be featured to assist breeders who really want to master how, why and where correct structure is needed in the Dachshund. This is very hard to explain in mere words, but you should be able to see how these muscles and structural attributes are put to effect in a most natural way.

JAN. 2, 2016: I am pleasantly surprised to learn that a stranger posted my "Dream Chasers-Best of Breed" on Facebook - and - they gave me proper credit as the sculptor! THANK YOU!

JAN. 5, 2016: A gentleman orders his second shiny new "Coming & Going" Smooth coat sterling belt buckle! Thank you and Happy New Year!



JAN. 7, 2015: My heart feels GOOD! I almost run up and down the stairs, basement to my second floor office while Xerox tech support is on the phone helping me install my new printer. What a job to get my new Phaser 3200dni printer installed! It's 3:30 and it seems it has been an all day project. The first print is a bit more pixelated than my old HP would have been, but black & white is good. I like it!

JAN. 12, 2015: Xerox Rescue spends well over an hour helping me figure out my new printer. So far, so good!

JAN. 13, 2015: My still heart feels fine. We decide to stay here rather than testing my heart at the 6500 feet altitude in San Miguel de Allende. I miss the long days of sunshine and our friends, but still need to install shelving and organize a huge amount of stuff. Unfortunately, our 87-year old SMA landlord is having some health issues and plans to put our apartment on the market in April. We will have to find another place for next January. But, better to err on the side of safety than test my heart so soon after the ablation. After all, I was warned that my heart could flip in and out of A-fib for three months after the ablation.

Brian is recovered from his month long sinus infection. Whew! I've never seen him so sick.

JAN. 14, 2015: My Arrhythmia doctor, Dr. Andrew Krainik, is encouraged that my heart went back into regular 'sinus' rhythm - all by itself - back on Dec. 29. He is happy we decided not to go to Mexico. The ablation worked! So far, so good!

Dr. K schedules an echocardiogram in late March after which I may be able to get off one or more drugs. In six months, if all continues to be well, I should be off all prescription heart drugs! He says my primary, Dr. Varsha Rathod, has me on all the right supplements to help strengthen my heart. Among them are Ubiquinol and L-Carnitine.

After seeing the doc, Brian and I see Winston Churchill's paintings at the Kemper Museum. I could easily live with the one of the Terrace where so many parties took place, or the portrait of his wife, "Clementine."

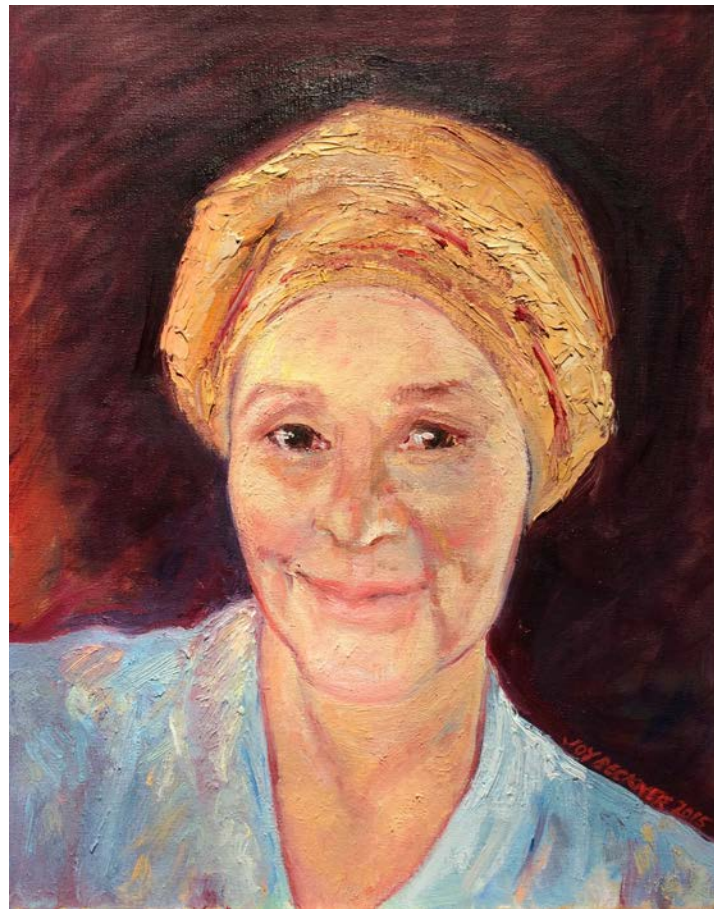
Brian and I watch a wonderful movie on U-Verse: "McFarland, USA". It brought Mexico to us and should be nominated for an Oscar based on the strength of the story. It reminds me of my German grandparents

who immigrated to Illinois in the late 1800's. As farmers, they too surely knew how to work! Kevin Kostner is the lead in "McFarland, USA."

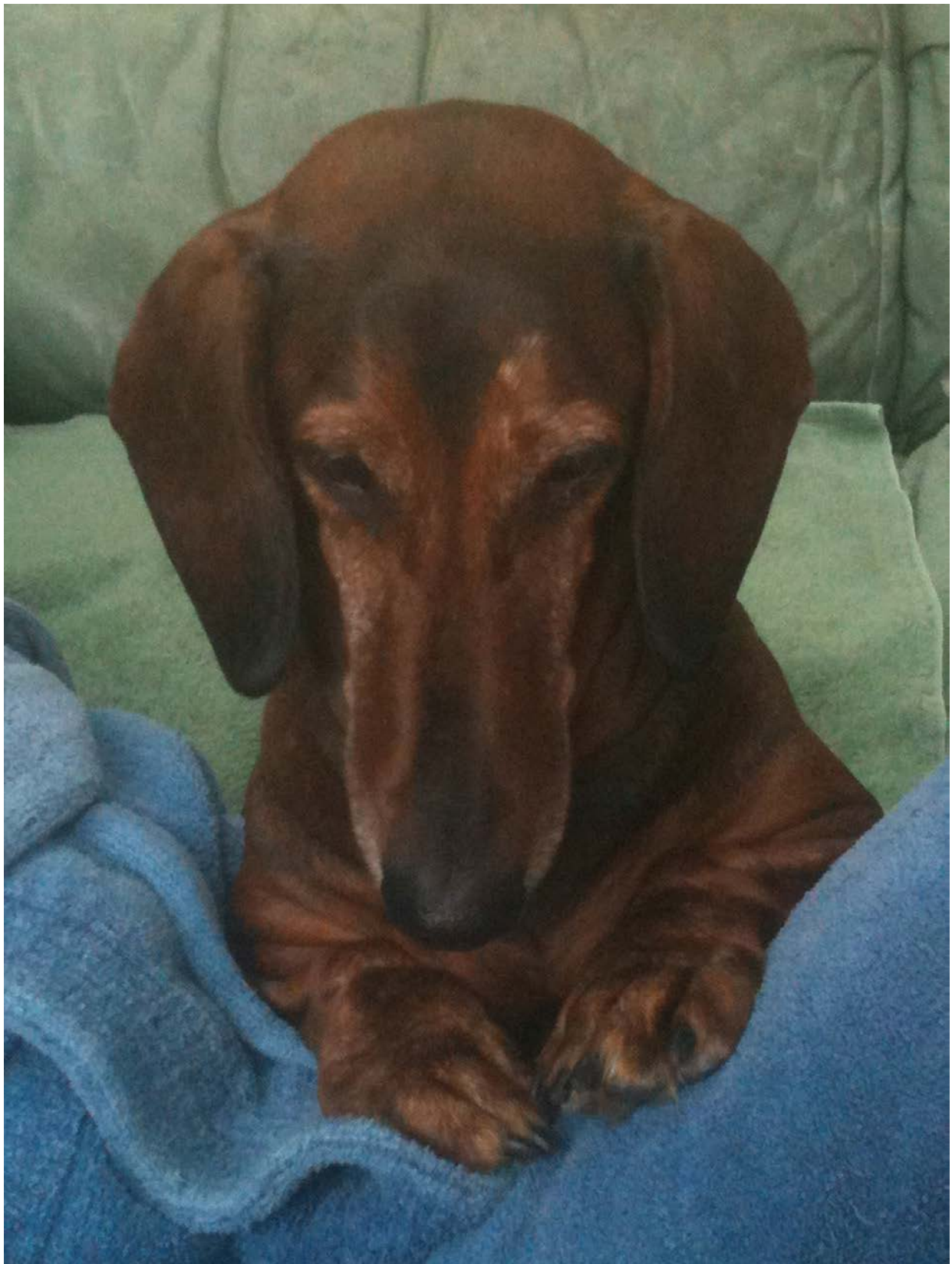
JAN. 16, 2015: My dear friend and second sculpture teacher Jaye Gregory surrenders to cancer. January 29, 2015 Jaye emailed photos of herself trying on scarves and they inspired me to paint her. This is the first portrait I've painted in 26-27 years. She said she looks like she looked 20 years ago. We met in about 1990 when I chose to pursue sculpture over painting.



In retrospect, it is especially hard to "see" someone when they wear glasses - and - when only a photo on my iPad mini is in front of me. I now see improvements I could have made. I miss her, especially since December, when she chose to go into hospice. Goodbye, dear friend. Rest in Peace.



Life is beautiful. Do your very best to stay healthy.



JAN. 17, 9:30 am: Brian writes, "It's cold here, but it hasn't deterred Beau from his morning stare down of my coffee cup. Hang on Beau, you will get licks in a second....." I take this photo with Brian's old iPhone G3. How phone photos have improved!



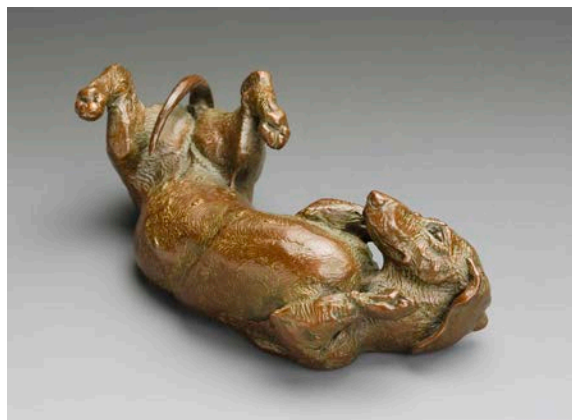
JAN. 19, 2016: YAY! "Miss Me..." is accepted into the 83rd Annual Exhibition of the Hudson Valley Art Association! The show runs from March 20–April 1, 2016 at the Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Ave., NY, NY.



"Miss Me..." MS
Life-sized Miniature Smooth, MS

Which patina will I send? I have one in "Tomatoes" patina and one in "Toad." Toad is on the left. Which do you prefer?

JAN. 23, 2016: WOW! The Miniature Art Society of Florida outdid itself! The 1:6 Scale "Sweet Roll" Award of First Place in Sculpture arrives - and - it is *beautiful*, complete with hand drawn calligraphy and gorgeous color! The check is nice, too! Thank you!!!



"Sweet Roll"
1:6 Scale

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

JAN. 17 – FEB. 7, 2016: Miniature Art Society of Florida, Forty-first Annual International Miniature Art Show. Dunedin Fine Art Center, Dunedin, FL.

MARCH 20 – APRIL 1, 2016: Hudson Valley Art Association, 83rd Annual Exhibition, Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY

MAY 2 - 7, 2016: DCA, Dachshund Club of America, The Best Western Premier Hotel & Conference Center, 800 East Park Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112.

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

THROUGH AUG. 2016: Artists for Conservation, 8th Annual Juried Virtual Exhibition. Online.

THROUGH JUNE 2017: David A. Straz, Jr. Center for Performing Arts, Tampa, FL.



JAN. 28, 2016, 9:34AM: The sun is shining. It's 39 degrees. Snow and ice are thawing and Surprise Lilies AKA *Lycoris x squamigera* (Nekkid Ladies) are drawn to the sunlight. It's a beautiful day!

In August, they will bloom a beautiful pale pink.



Photo courtesy of Plant Delights Nursery



Beau and me

May you and yours enjoy sunshine and good health!

Happy Valentine's Day!

Happy 2016!

Joy

Please keep in touch!

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