

JKß – JOY KROEGER BECKNER – JKß

classical realism, from hounds to humans & more!

NEWS & JOURNEYS OF JOY! :: VOL. SIXTEEN, NUMBER TWO :: MAY 2020

Happy Mothers' Day!!!

I truly hope this news finds you in good health.

Surprise! Surprise!



Dreaming of Tomatoes, MS

LIFE-SIZED MINIATURE SMOOTH (MS) 14.5"W x 5"H x 8.75"D
BRONZE ED. 20 & 2 ARTIST'S PROOFS ©2007. APPROX. 13 POUNDS

"DREAMING OF TOMATOES" MS, EARNED THE AUDUBON ARTISTS GOLD MEDAL OF HONOR FOR
SCULPTURE IN 2010.

*Soon, #16/20 will be available for adoption!
please ask.*



Portraits of dogs abound at the Museum of the Dog, where you'll also find historical dog-related artifacts, sculpture and a library.

The Museum of the Dog is unleashed in Manhattan

American Kennel Club collection explores all the 'good dogs'

BY MAURA JUDOKA
THE WASHINGTON POST

Sure, there are lessons to be learned at the Museum of the Dog. About the symbolism of dogs in art history, and the ways that artists humanize them, and their role as a worker and companion. But if you are a Dog Person — and if you're here, you're probably a Dog Person — they won't even register, because your brain will remain stuck in "good-dog" mode.

At its, "Look at that good dog."

"Look at that other good dog."

"What a good dog he is."

To paraphrase a popular

man: They're all good.

And they're all here.

In this two-story museum

at the bottom of an office

tower near Grand Central

Terminal in New York,

where the American Kennel

Club has moved its collection

of dog art and artifacts from

the museum's prior home in

St. Louis, The Museum of the

Dog opened in February

during the Westminster Dog

Show, and it will be a draw

for dog lovers curious about

the contents of a museum

dedicated to man's best

friend.

Enter, and right away,

you'll stand before a large

screen that invites you to

find out what breed of dog

you, a human, are — like

a BuzzFeed quiz in real

life. The screen will take

your picture, analyze it and

show you the dog you most

resemble. A woman with

long, red, curly hair was

naturally deemed an Irish

setter. A handsomely dressed



"A Good Life" is the title of this bronze of a dachshund at the American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog in New York City.

If you go

WHAT: American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog

WHERE: 101 Park Ave., New York City

INFO: 212-696-6060, museumofthedog.org

HOURS: Open Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

TICKETS: \$15 for adults, \$5 for children.

man was revealed to be a miniature poodle. I am not sure what I was expecting, but it wasn't to be told that I am a Norwegian lundhund, a "kind, energetic, alert" dog that looks like an anxious Chihuahua crossed with a wolf. "I can see it. It's in the eyes," a friend later proclaimed, examining the photo as if it were of my grandmother.

A museum devoted to dogs seems like it could be vapid Instagram candy, like the Museum of Ice Cream. But the Museum of the Dog

is serious, and its initial exhibition of collection highlights is composed of dignified paintings of dignified dogs, whether they appear as companions for the wealthy, masters of the hunt, or in proud portraits of champions. A great deal of the work is from the late 1800s (the AKC was founded in 1884) and the early 20th century, with little abstract or contemporary art. Wall text with each work identifies the breed of dog it depicts, whenever possible. This being the AKC, the museum is devoted to purebreds. There are a few celebrity dogs, such as a portrait of Caesar, "King Edward's Favorite Terrier," and of Millie, President George H.W. Bush's English springer spaniel, accompanied by a framed letter from first lady Barbara Bush.

Perhaps initially you'll admire the brushstrokes that capture the vivacious of a terrier's fur, or the regal

majesty of a hound on the hunt. But, at some point, your inner monologue will devolve into more familiar and banal observations:

"That looks like my Mutt."

"What a dippy face."

Because here's the thing about portraits of dogs: As an art history lesson, they can get a bit repetitive.

As a goofy, sentimental attraction, they're a delight.

Dog people are tribal, so owners of purebreds still gravitate toward portraits

that most resemble their own dogs. (The hound and terrier groups are well represented in art.)

Maybe that's why the experience starts with

learning what breed you are. You'll look for yourself

in the portraits of dog lovers

and identify with the various breeds.

"Me in 40 years," I teased

some friends, holding a

picture of John Henry

Frederick Baum's portrait

of "Maud, Daughter of

Colonel Temple," an elderly

bespectacled woman holding

two poorly whippet-like

"Bitches who brach," I

Instagram-captioned a

painting of four champion

Alghan hounds.

The Museum of the

Dog plans to rotate its

exhibitions, but this

Norwegian lundhund

suspects they will get a

similar reception to neither

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display cases.

"What a good boy!" a

woman asked of a bronze

sculpture of a hound resting

on its back.

"I'm a good boy," said her

friend, in the dog's voice.

FETCH

ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL | FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2019 | PAGE A5



DAVID WOOD/AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

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As in, "Look at that good dog."

"Look at that other good dog."

"What a good boy he is."

To paraphrase a popular meme: They're all good dogs. And they're all here, in this two-story museum at the bottom of an office tower near Grand Central Terminal in New York, where the American Kennel Club has moved its collection of dog art and artifacts from the museum's prior home in St. Louis. The Museum of the Dog opened in February during the Westminster Dog Show, and it will be a draw for dog-lovers curious about the contents of a museum dedicated to man's (and meme's) best friend.

Enter, and right away, you'll stand before a large screen that invites you to find out what breed of dog you, a human, are — like a BuzzFeed quiz in real life. The screen will take your picture, analyze it and show you the dog you most resemble. A woman with long, red, curly hair was naturally deemed an Irish setter. A handsomely dressed



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"What a derpy face."

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Maybe that's why the experience starts with learning what breed you are: You'll look for yourself in the portraits of dog lovers and identify with the various breeds.

"Me in 40 years," I texted some friends, sending a picture of John Henry Frederick Bacon's portrait of "Maud, Daughter of Colonel Temple," an elderly bespectacled woman holding two portly schipperkes. "Bitches who brunch," I Instagram-captioned a painting of four champion Afghan hounds.

The Museum of the Dog plans to rotate its exhibitions, but this Norwegian lundehund suspects they will get a similar reception no matter what's on the walls or in the display cases.

"Who's a good boy?" a woman asked of a bronze sculpture of a hound rolling on its back.

"I'm a good boy," said her friend, in the dog's voice.



APRIL 5, 2020, FRIDAY: A year ago today, the above article appeared on Page A5, the cover of the “Fetch” section of the Albuquerque Journal! Thank you, Lisa and George for sharing the article with your 2019 Holiday letter! I tried to get the legible article from Newspapers.com, but that was not to be.

ABOVE LEFT: Reporter Maura Judkis, left, of the Washington Post wrote the article.

BELOW: David Woo photographed my “A Good Life” at the Museum in NYC.

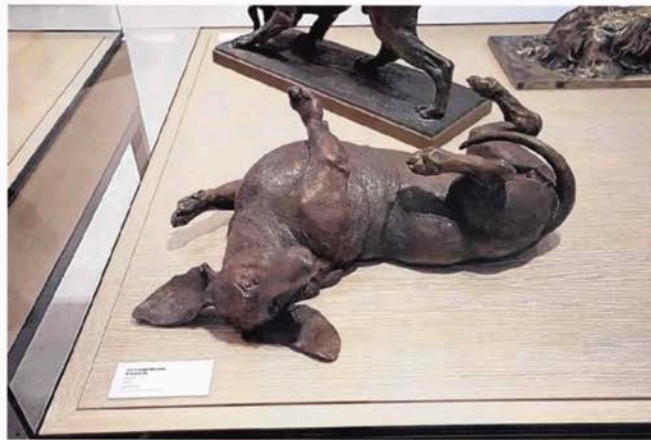
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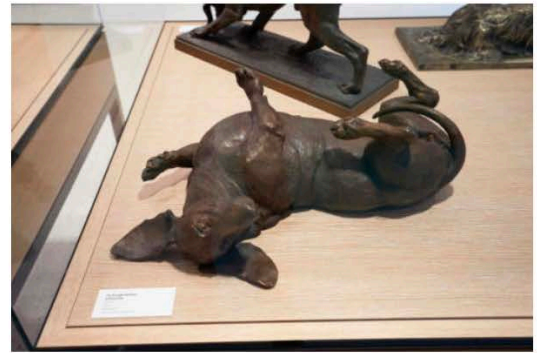
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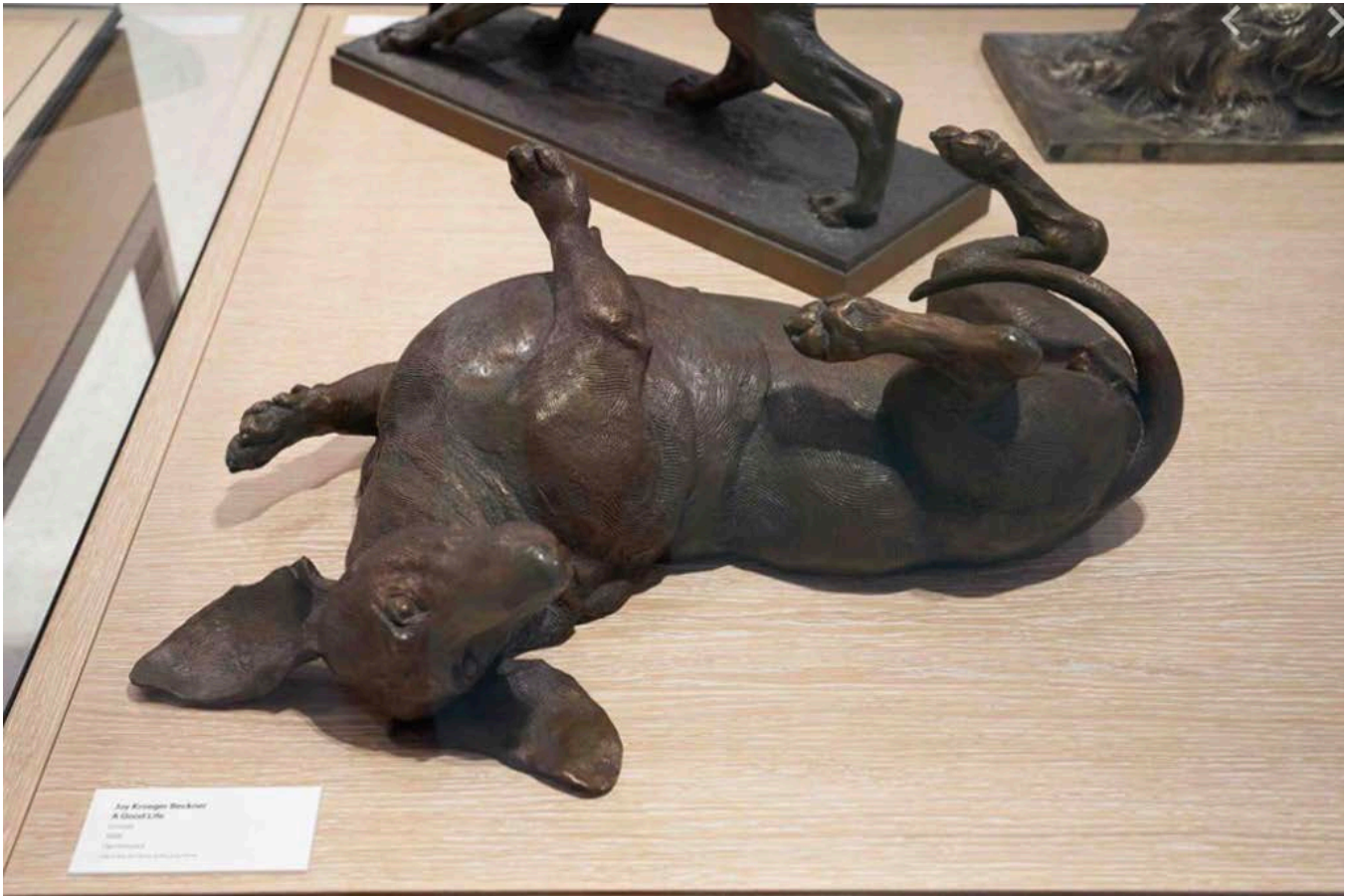


"A Good Life" is the title of this bronze of a dachshund at the American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog in New York City. (David Woo/American Kennel Club)

*Now, YOU may acquire this
award-winning, museum-exhibited bronze!*



"A Good Life" SS, 6/20, above, is available for adoption!



Here she is at the AKC Museum of the Dog in NYC. Photo by David Woo.

Come, step back to February & Super Bowl weekend!

FEB. 1, 2020: This visit marks the 19th anniversary of our first visit to San Miguel. Most memorable is our first day, New Year's Eve 2000, when Edgar escaped. Brian ran after him, asking locals about a pequito perro. (small dog) They direct him to an area near an open sewer. There a kind person cornered Edgar in their outhouse. Brian carried him home as a street dog had tried to castrate him. (He had already been neutered.) Wading through the Yellow Pages, "Something>Medico>Veterinario" I locate a Godsend for Edgar, Dr. Hector Garcia Valenzuela. Luckily he answers his phone and treats Edgar's injured thigh. He was our vet for several years until he retired and we met Dr. Ricardo Lopez. We are all very fortunate.



FEB. 2, 2020, 4:02: While walking home from a friend's tamale party, we pass this mural framed with carefully pruned bugambilia. Three blossoms repeat the color of her lips.

Later, the Kansas City Chiefs win the Super Bowl for the first time in 50 years! Go Missouri!!!

FEB. 4, 2020: Several years ago I purchased two Phillips Sonicare Electric toothbrushes with diamond clean heads. Mine died about a year or two ago, after which I purchased a less expensive replacement. Brian's original kept on going. My second Sonicare died last week. Today, Brian's original died. We taxi to three places to try to find the exact Sonicare that we'd grown to like and that work with out existing heads. I will brush the old fashioned way and Brian will use his emergency brush. No luck. Taxis cost just \$9.65US.

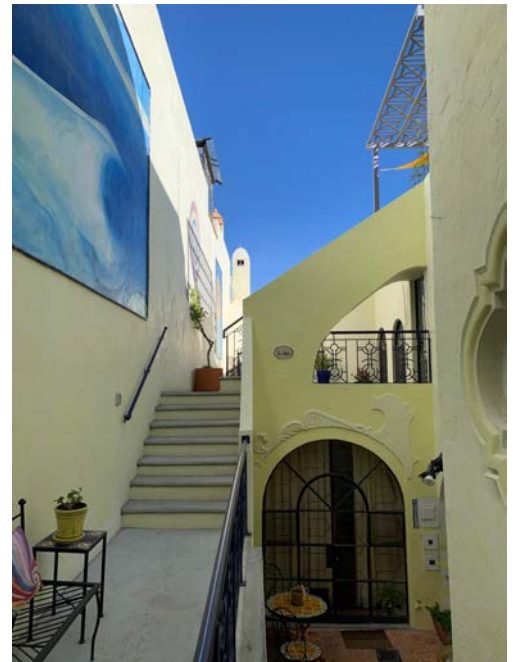
Missouri American Water calls to let me know they checked our meter and it was indeed running! I called the kind man, Todd, who suggested he could turn off our water while we are gone. Yes, please. Our extra high bill in January was over \$300! Yikes! Something is askew...

Missouri American Water calls to let me know they checked our meter and it was indeed running!

I set up my wax station and start my new little piece.

FEB. 5, 2020, 2:00PM: Yay! Lawrence cuts my hair! I am a renewed woman! This morning when it rained, I worked on my new piece and was ready for a break by the time I had to see Lawrence. Along the walk home I discover a donkey eating carrot tops and bits of carrot from a wheel barrel in front of a tiny new restaurant. I enjoy scratching its head. ;-))

FEB. 6, 2020, 9:26AM: This is the beautiful sunny view coming into our little apartment area after I walk Beau. It is REALLY nice to see sunshine after three cold, damp and drizzly days! And, my eyelid is healed!



FEB. 6, 2020, 11:08AM: Meet our good friends Bill Gantz and his other half, Judy Hannan at the MASF show. "A Good Life" Wire, not only earned Second Place Sculpture in the Miniature Art Society of Florida show, but it is SOLD! Yay! Sun and Sold! Thank you, Bill!

FEB. 7, 2020: "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" nearly brings tears to our eyes. Brian and I had no idea what to expect, but it brings many introspective thoughts. I definitely recommend this movie.

As a child growing up in St. Louis, I watched my neighbor, Harry Gibbs, as Texas Bruce and his Wranglers Club on KSD TV. Learn a little here on You Tube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CfoNjSqkK9U>



FEB. 8, 2020, 1:43PM: These handsome horses and their handsome keepers greet me as I walk to get mail.

Wow! Computer issues...

In early May 2019, my 2010 MacBook Pro's fan was running loudly. I broke down and bought a new 2018 MacBook Pro and a new, larger iPhone to avoid forthcoming tariffs.

FEB. 9, 2020, SUNDAY: I walk home late in the afternoon to find my young computer dead! I call Derek Burrows, one of my two Mac Gurus here in San Miguel. After eight minutes we agree I should call Apple.

FEB. 10, 2020, 9:08PM: After three tries, each over an hour long, over the last day, my Mac OS has finally been restored from my back up hard drive! The three Apple persons were very helpful and patient. It made me feel better to learn my husband's PC crashed last year. It can happen to anyone. This was the first time for any of my Apple computers to crash in the 25+ years I have been using these computers. Now, to get Microsoft Excel to work so I can check inventory! It will be Derek to the rescue, hopefully tomorrow.

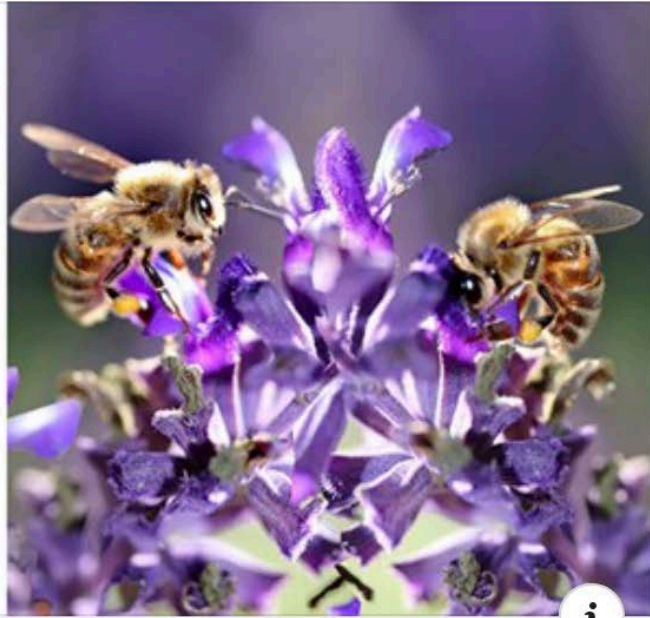
FEB. 11, 2020: It feels like Sunday. Late today I walk to our friend Angie's and watch a movie with her: "Searching for Sugarman". Set in Dayton, OH and Capetown, South Africa, it is an autobiography about singer/musician, "Rodriguez". Very interesting.



Thank you, Sandy, for posting your photo from the AKC Museum!!!

FEB. 12, 2020, 12:02PM: Thanks to phone help from Mac guru Derek Burrows all Microsoft updates are complete, and, Excel works again! Yay!

Please, help the bees; shrink your lawn with native plants!



UNDERSTANDINGCOMPASSION.COM

Morgan Freeman Converted His 124-Acre Ranch Into A Giant Honeybee Sanctuary To Save The Bees

Happy Valentine's Day!

Brian walks across town to get our vehicle, then drives for a haircut at noon, gets the car washed and comes home to pick up Sharon, our friend/neighbor/land lady and me.

I walk to an 11:30 Pilates class across town, then walk for groceries, then taxi home to change clothes for Brian to pick us up at 2:30 to drive us to Nirvana, a wonderful restaurant in the country outside of San Miguel. The apple/tomatoes/cashew salad with Roquefort dressing and the minty lamb chops are delicious! We come home, feed Beau and taxi to a party back across town.

Sharon cares for Beau while we are at the party. After a great time we are appropriately pooped and get home around 8pm.

FEB. 17, 2020: My MacBook Pro that is under warranty is so dead again that Apple said to take it to an Apple store. I hope it can be repaired. I do not want to upgrade to the new Catalina operating system. My favorite font does not work with MS Office 2019, so I am using Office 2010 that likely will not work with Catalina.

FEB. 18, 2020, 2:29PM: My dear longtime San Miguel de Allende Mac guru/friend Nonnie and her husband Ed drove to see his doctor in Houston where they learned that tomorrow he must have a quadruple bypass. He will spend a



week in the hospital and they will spend another week or so in Houston while he recuperates. I am in tears and very grateful they caught this before he had a heart attack.

FEB. 20, 2020: I am thrilled to learn Ed is doing well! We will see them next year!

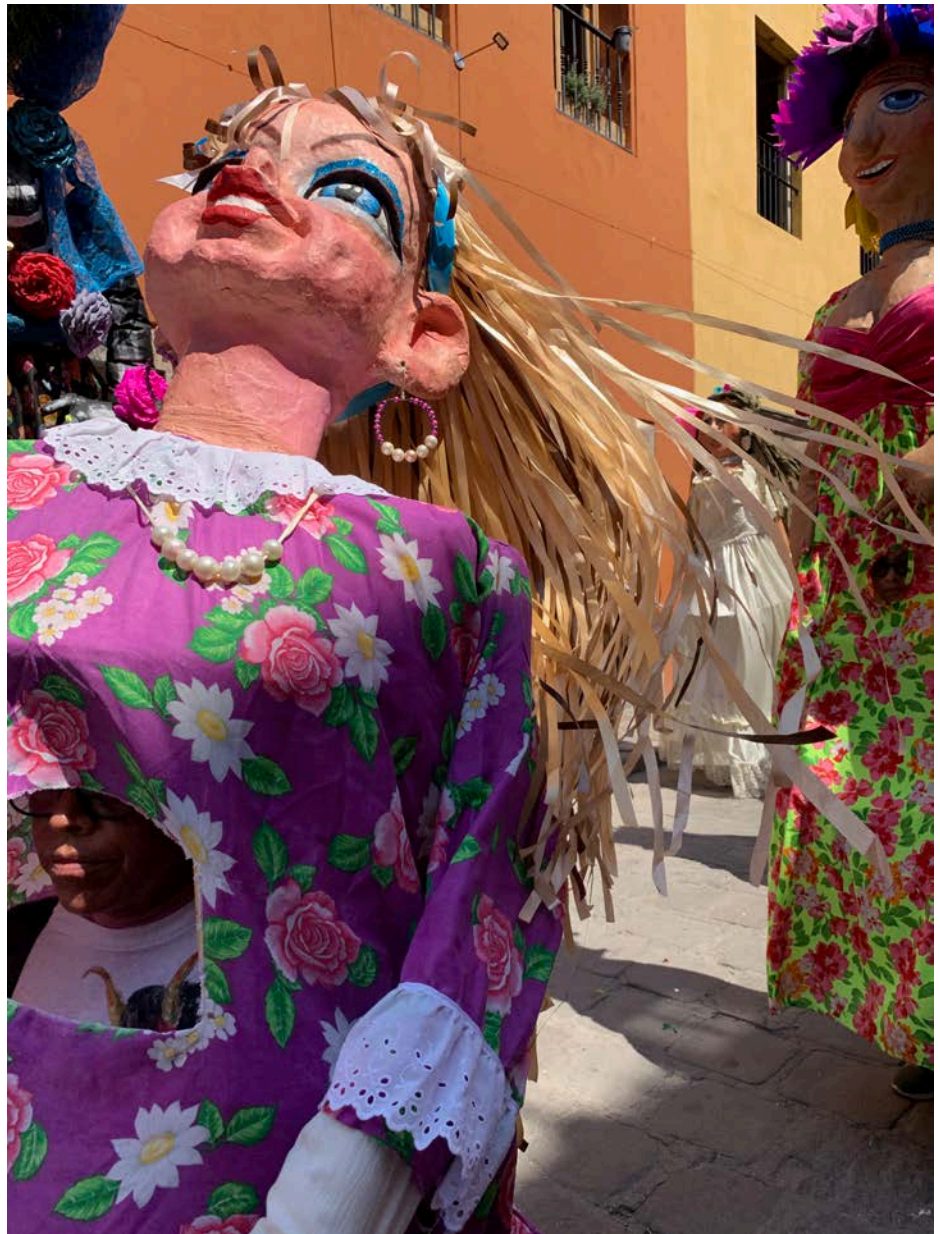


FEB. 23, 2020:

This day before Lent children and teenagers carry bags of colorful eggshells and smash them on each other. It's a tradition! Stilt walkers and Mohigangas parade around town.



Mojigangas
are
larger than life
Paper Mache
Puppets.
They provide
quite a
balancing
challenge
for those who
wear them.



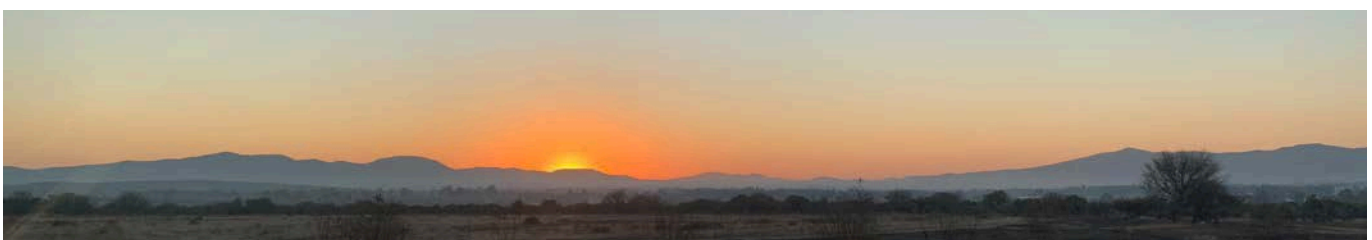
Human's Nose & Lips>>>

Do you see the cut out in the Mojiganga's dress, and the cut outs for the nose and lips of the person wearing this big puppet?

FEB. 26, 2020, 7:30PM: We meet friends Alberto and Ana at the Buenos Aires Bistro and learn they married last Friday! Yay! Handsome 46-year-old owner, Mariano Alvarez, Brian and Alberto have known each other many years. The food is exceptionally good and plentiful enough for another night's dinner. Our take home food is presented in paper boxes in recycled brown paper bags. Way to go, Mariano!

FEB. 27, 2020: The coronavirus outbreak is reaching epic proportions worldwide. The stock market has dropped three days in a row - 1900 points for the last two days.

FEB. 29, 2020, 6:59AM, 38 DEGREES: After Brian walks half an hour to get our vehicle, drives back, and after we finish loading everything, we are greeted by a beautiful sunrise at 7:08am as we head toward home.





8:21AM: We are on the road again after refueling at La Estacion. Tesla would be pleased; there are at least 5-7 charging stations! This is a gorgeous rest stop complete with warm water for hand washing and a whole wall of a mosaic in the restroom and toy cars for sale!

Roadways are much cleaner since plastic bags were banned as of Jan. 1! Now we pass a flat bed truck laden with tightly bundled, yet fluttering, plastic bags.



9:35AM, 54 DEGREES: We breeze through a checkpoint. No problemo!

Brian cleverly turns on his flashers behind slow moving vehicles and they move over! Pretty clever, eh?



Highway 57 is as clean of plastic as those we saw in Canada the summer of 2018. Only occasionally do we see the glitter of a water bottle or aluminum can. Wake up, USA! No more plastic bags!!!

10:13AM: Brian saw a checkerboard on the hood of an overturned truck. Is it a Purina truck? Wow! Mucho road construction! There is a one-foot drop off to the left lane as it is being rebuilt from the ground up.

10:45SM, 61 DEGREES: We pass under a sign stating, TROPIC OF CANCER!

Wow! A dog in Hong Kong has contracted a low-level corona virus from its owner and is now in quarantine.

Inspection is easy, "Fruta?" "No," we reply. We are waved on.

11:30AM, 64 SUNNY DEGREES: Nonnie writes that Ed is doing well after his quadruple bypass. They go for short walks in their temporary apartment complex in Houston. He tires easily and they are grateful they caught his condition before there was permanent damage to his heart.

12:34PM, 67 DEGREES: We are halfway to Cotulla, TX! We have another 330 miles to Cotulla.

1:20PM, 76 DEGREES! We pass a Bear Crossing sign, the third Brian has seen. Next we see no tractor signs. ;-)); Then, No Bicycle signs and of course Fasten Seat Belt signs

2:04PM: Closer to the US border, by the airport in Monterrey, sadly, plastic trash is more plentiful.

3:24PM: Brian is happy we have a new, level, concrete road: Highway 85!

oops! A Mordita!

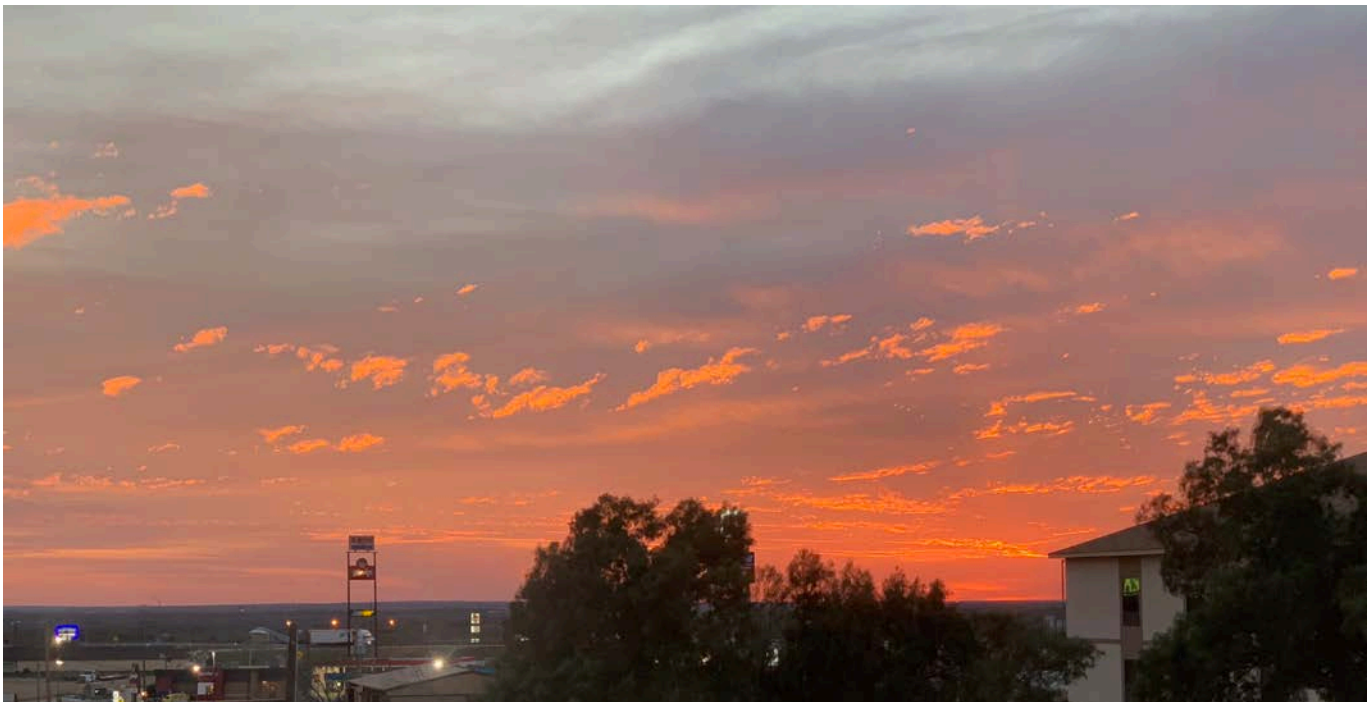
4:10PM: Oops! We are pulled over for supposedly speeding. We have only 10 more miles to get to the bridge at Columbia. Please let us pay here and not have to drive to Nuevo Laredo.

4:29 PM: That was s fast mordita: 2000 pesos (\$102.04). The other time we experienced a mordita was near Mexico City about 10-12 years ago. First they wanted 5000 pesos, then 3000. When Brian had 2000 pesos, the officer bit! Wow! All that expense for going just 12 kilometers per hour over the speed limit! That is the equivalent of 6 mph! Watch your speed. Oh, this is an old lumpy road! It's easy to drive more slowly.



5:05PM: We get through the line of two vehicles speedily. It's 5:09 and we are in the USA, via the bridge at Columbia! The four minutes in line beat waiting in line for an hour and a half in Laredo. It's only another hour of driving to Cotulla, TX.

Brian turns around in hopes a Mexican eagle is still pecking on trash. Darn! It flew off, but what a beautiful bird with white tipped wings, white tipped tail and white head.



6:07PM: We check in at the LaQuinta in Cotullo, TX. I enjoy the view from our window as Brian naps and Beau chews on his steer ear. We three are in bed by 8:19PM after a long day and dinner at El Chorro, an easy walk from the LaQuinta.

MARCH 1, 2020, 7:31AM, 61 DEGREES: On I-35, we head north, parallel to a very long train.

2:47PM: A forest of Bradford Pear trees bloom. While beautiful, Bradfords are not native to this area and are invasive. Please do not plant; our native wildlife does not recognize Bradford Pears as a good food source.

3:18PM: Eight miles into Arkansas, it is still 70 degrees. I think I see a Redbud tree blooming! More please!



3:32PM: Beau hopes he will be home soon while riding through Hope, Arkansas.

3:42PM: Serviceberry trees bloom white. I must have dreamed about seeing a redbud.

Bathrooms are cleaner in Mexico than at the Wendy's north of Perrytown, Arkansas!

6:29PM: Beau enjoys his steer ear after dinner at the LaQuinta in Searcy, AK.

The Strawberry, Mango & candied pecan salad and Salmon with bourbon sauce are excellent at The Colton Steak house & Grill in Searcy!

MARCH 2, 2020, 8:46AM, 59 COMFORTABLE DEGREES: We are on the road again, Highway 67. Brian's new route through Arkansas is much more beautiful than driving through the little towns in Oklahoma, and, although it is 12 miles farther, we save half a day of driving. Plus, the roads are smooth!



Arkansas is as flat as much of southern Illinois. Rice fields are flooded. Snow geese are at home.

We luck into nice weather all the way home, but oh has it ever rained a lot! Streams are full as are ditches and low spots. This is quite a contrast to San Miguel where it drizzled only once during two months.

9:54AM, 60 DEGREES AND PARTLY SUNNY: Wow! We just entered Missouri! The landscape is suddenly hilly; we are in the Ozarks.



MARCH 2, 2020, 12:52 PM: 51 DEGREES! We are HOME!!! Before we unload our vehicle, I call Missouri American Water. Their man arrives quickly to turn on our water. Now the fun begins!

8:35PM: YAY! My feet are finally up!

PREMIUM FORWARDING YES!

May I offer a word of advice? Please spring for Premium Forwarding of your US mail if you will be gone for more than the time the US Post Office will hold mail. Today I learn that plain forwarded mail goes to Knoxville and is forwarded from there. No wonder so much mail did not arrive in San Miguel!

...

MARCH 6, 2020: Friends and I visit the St. Louis Art Museum for "Art in Bloom" where floral arrangements compliment paintings!



Francisco de Zurbarán, Spanish, 1598-1664



This oil painting fascinates me. I love the simple painting of the hands and toes.



St. Francis Contemplating a Skull, c. 1635
oil on canvas



Peace, c. 1860, oil on canvas.

Adolphe-
William
Bouguereau,
French,
1825-1905



Judith
Garfinkel
has been a
docent at

the museum for
55 years!

"Art in Bloom" 2020



MARCH 10, 2020, 8:47AM: An email arrives from Apple stating my MacBook Pro is finally in their hands. It's been too long waiting to get it fixed. The first time it crashed was a month ago, Feb. 9th!



MARCH 10, 2020, NOON: Beau sees our vet to address the sore in front of his left armpit. Yikes! I realize I forgot Beau's birthday! He was 14 on March 7! And, I realize the bumper collar is on backwards! The Velcro goes to the back so he cannot lick in front.

Brian and I vote today.

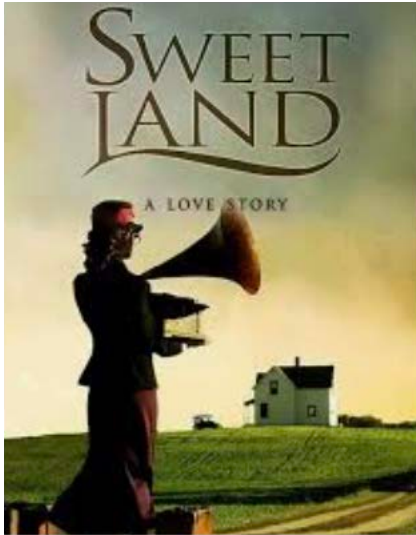
MARCH 11, 2020: Now we all have someone we love with the coronavirus, Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson, his wife, have both tested positive for the virus. (Fortunately, we learn later that they heal.)

COVID-19 prompts schools and universities to close and switch to online classes. The NBA suspends all games until further notice. Wow! If only humans would react so quickly to stop global warming!!!

MARCH 12, 2020: The PGA will allow no fans for the foreseeable future. The coronavirus is 10X more lethal than the flu.

MARCH 13, 2030, 1:52PM: My 2018 MacBook Pro is accepting data from my Lacie Gold external hard drive. At 44MB per second it will take about an hour and a half to complete the transfer. I am so ready to have my computer working again!!!

MARCH 18, 2020: Brian and I just watched a WONDERFUL movie, "Sweet Land" which was filmed in 2005 in Minnesota. It is about (what I believe are most likely Missouri Synod Lutheran) Norwegian farmers in the early 1900s. It reminds me of my uncles' farms and my grandparents' farm near Hoffman, Illinois.



The photography is remarkable along with images of a very old camera and an exquisite wooden horned Victrola.

"Sweet Land" is a visual masterpiece that you can find on Amazon Prime. The music is lovely, too.

MARCH 19, 2020: Welcome Spring!!! I finish feeding and watering my twenty-four houseplants. Brian's mountain bikes wheels and tires seem to be holding air.

MARCH 19, 2020: Sandi Myers of the Dallas Fort Worth Dachshund Club calls to tell me DCA is postponed until early October.

climate change hits New York



A letter from my friend Cheryl:

A LETTER FROM F. SCOTT FITZGERALD, QUARANTINED IN 1920 IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE DURING THE SPANISH INFLUENZA OUTBREAK.

Dearest Rosemary,

It was a limpid dreary day, hung as in a basket from a single dull star. I thank you for your letter. Outside, I perceive what may be a collection of fallen leaves tussling against a trashcan. It rings like jazz to my ears. The streets are that empty. It seems as though the bulk of the city has retreated to their quarters, rightfully so. At this time, it seems very poignant to avoid all public spaces. Even the bars, as I told Hemingway, but to that he punched me in the stomach, to which I asked if he had washed his hands. He hadn't. He is much the denier, that one. Why, he considers the virus to be just influenza. I'm curious of his sources.



The officials have alerted us to ensure we have a month's worth of necessities. Zelda and I have stocked up on red wine, whiskey, rum, vermouth, absinthe, white wine, sherry, gin, and lord, if we need it, brandy. Please pray for us.

You should see the square, oh, it is terrible. I weep for the damned eventualities this future brings. The long afternoons rolling forward slowly on the ever-slick bottomless highball. Z. says it's no excuse to drink, but I just can't seem to steady my hand. In the distance, from my brooding perch, the shoreline is cloaked in a dull haze where I can discern an unrelenting penance that has been heading this way for a long, long while. And yet, amongst the cracked cloudline of an evening's cast, I focus on a single strain of light, calling me forth to believe in a better morrow.

Faithfully yours,
F Scott Fitzgerald.

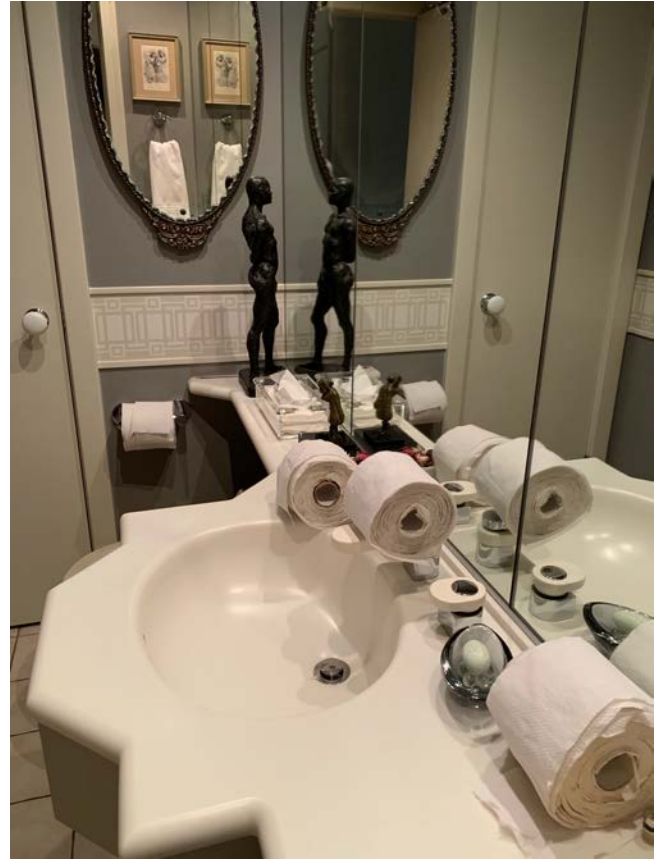
MARCH 23, 2020: An overview of life in today's world:

St. Louis City and County are locked down!

Days after we returned home, I look in the guest bathroom cabinet beneath the sink and find 10+- rolls of soaked toilet paper. Most were sopping wet! I dry them as best I can, placing them wherever they can be exposed to air on as many sides as possible.

The next step is to separate the sheets on the roll because the edges like to stick together. A metal nail file is helpful for separating the layers of paper on rolls. I roll out a bunch and let it dry. I finally have so much rolled out that there are billows of TP in the bathtub. Then, they need to be rerolled...

It's been an interesting month. Today's photo shows our half bath and its ever-changing drying decor. These four rolls need to be separated and unrolled. Ladies, I think you realize we are better at these tasks than our menfolk...



2:49PM: A UPS delivery confirmation arrives for a package of four wire-haired 1:6 scale miniature dachshund bronzes that I shipped to Florida to the sister of the owner of a new gallery in England. Thank you, Susannah Fellows of Fitch & Fellows Gallery in England, for wanting to show my work! And, thanks for paying for it up front! She bought these four wild boars.



Clockwise from the top:

"So Good to See You"

"Siesta"

"Dreaming of Tomatoes"

"Sunnyside Up"

All 1:6 Scale

*Thank you,
Susannah!*



MARCH 25, 2020: Today is sunny and in the mid-sixties, a perfect day to prune bushes in the front yard – and – to prune my forsythias in the back. Decades ago when I was trustee for our subdivision, the tree pruner I used recommended pruning forsythia way back after they bloom. Since they bloom on new growth, they will have many more blossoms the following year. I am finally testing this, and give neighbors forsythia blossoms as well.

MARCH 26, 2020: I finish pruning eight euonymous (burning) bushes I planted over 30 years ago! If I'd known then what I know now, I'd have planted native plants throughout our property.

Brian orders a new mulch blade, air filter, spark plugs, starter rope and hardware for our 35-year old Troy Bilt lawnmower! Wow! It cost only \$50 for a newly working lawnmower. Thank you, Brian, for your expertise in fixing things.

Kinda feeling like the
Earth just sent us all to
our rooms to think about
what we've done.

Beau has had a weird growth in front of his left armpit for several years. It was a scab that grew. We figured it was good that the scab fell off, but then it started oozing blood-like ooze. I took him to the vet who fitted

him with a life preserver collar, AKA bumper collar, AKA donut, so he could not lick the oozy spot. He did not recommend removal of the cyst, because of Beau's heart and liver issues. Beau was 14 years old March 7.

Brian carried him upstairs and then tripped on the collar and the next thing he knew, Beau was rolling down the stairs. NOT good! Beau started kicking back with both feet - mostly alternately, but enough that the heels of his rear feet started bleeding. His hips must be misaligned. :-(

MARCH 31, 2020: Beau visits Dr. Eric at St. Louis Hills Veterinary Clinic for acupuncture. At age 14, sweet Beau is getting to be an old man. The doc recommends socks and two pills of Chin Koo (Jin Gu Die Shang Wa) for 30 days. Beau wears socks to protect his rear feet from rubbing on concrete, but also on the kitchen floor. He has very tender feet. Three consecutive days of washing my robe, couch towels and kitchen rug about drive me nuts. Heal, please. NO MORE BLOOD, PLEASE! Poor baby boy...



APRIL 1, 2019: *The Art Society, based in London, voted my "A Good Life" bronze among the top five art pieces in the AKC Museum!*
Wow! I am honored!

APRIL 8, 2020: We have utility issues. Two days ago, the City of Chesterfield came to tear out the uneven sidewalk next door. I had fallen last fall, no pun intended, and they came to fix the walk. In so doing, the scoop on the city's big red backhoe tore up our ATT Internet line under the walk. AT&T was out yesterday to install a temporary fix. Then another guy was out and said he needed heavier tools to cut some tree roots in order to bury the cable deeply so concrete could not damage the ATT line. Today a guy was in front of the mess trying to figure out whom to bill for the ATT repair. DUH. No one talks to each other. So, I just got off the phone with ATT and have another case ID and hopefully the ATT guy tomorrow morning will have proper equipment to get the cable installed.

Other than that I prune for several days, and play catch up entering stuff into my 2018 MacBook Pro that was out of commission for a month! Thank God I got it back from Apple the day before they closed all of the Apple Stores!

Brian tries to fill air into the rear tire of his yet to be ridden, used mountain bike that he bought last year about this time. San Miguel buddies inspired his purchase. ;-))

Okay, so now you know! Oh my! I just spoke with my kindergarten girlfriend who called on Facebook messenger. I have no idea how to do that, but it was wonderful to see her almost in person!

APRIL 12, 2020: *Happy Easter! Happy Passover!*



Virginia Bluebells give way to a mass of native Mayapples in our side back yard.



Virginia Bluebells



Redbud tree blossoms up close!

APRIL 14, 2020: I did not know Glenna Goodacre but I have always respected her work. Below is an article from the April 14, 2020 Albuquerque Journal.

Santa Fe sculptor Glenna Goodacre dies

BY ADRIAN GOMEZ / JOURNAL ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Published: Tuesday, April 14th, 2020 at 10:16pm

Updated: Tuesday, April 14th, 2020 at 10:58pm



Artist Glenna Goodacre died on Monday at her Santa Fe home at the age of 80. She is seen in this 2008 photo with a 24" model of the Vietnam Women's Memorial she did now in Washington D.C. (Eddie Moore/Journal)

Copyright © 2020 Albuquerque Journal

Glenna Goodacre used her talent to create masterpieces such as the Vietnam Women's Memorial on the National Mall in Washington D.C., the Irish Memorial in Philadelphia and the Sacagawea dollar coin.

The Santa Fe resident died on Monday night of natural causes. She was 80.

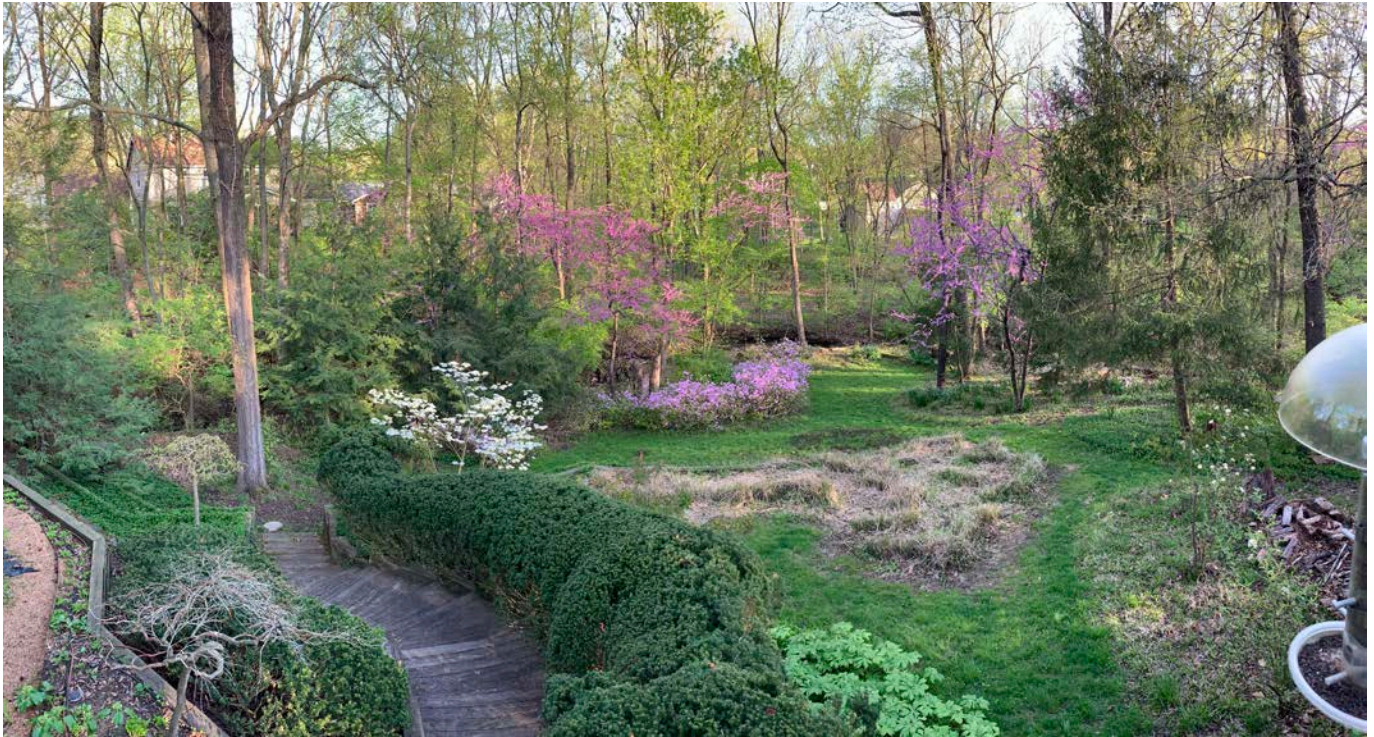
Our Water

APRIL 16, 2020: Brian and I are fixing things at home. I work on our water company to get our exorbitant water bill settled. It was \$306 for three months! Last year it was \$104 for the same period! We had only a tiny leak in one toilet. I sent Missouri American Water a timeline of what happened when and look forward to getting some satisfaction.

My Eyes

I saw my eye doc when we got home. He said I have haze around the corrective lenses he put in after my cataract surgery several years ago. The laser haze removal date was postponed until this virus thing is over. Haze? No wonder I could not see well while working on my little waxes in Mexico.

Other than that I mostly try to play catch up. I enter things on my computer that I could not do while it was out of service for a month. Brian's naps a lot.



APRIL 17, 2020: WOW! While we are still, our garden blooms.

9:28AM: I finally learn how to take a panoramic photo with my iPhone! This is the view out back with native Redbuds, native Dogwoods, native May Apples and Korean Azaleas blooming. Oh, how I wish I'd known to plant native plants when I put in the azaleas. But, they ARE pretty!

I feel so lucky to be able to look out the back and see this, and to open the front door and hear birds sing!

11:00 AM: Sue Lawrence, my San Miguel Pilates teacher, holds half hour basic mat Pilates classes on Zoom. I am grateful to drop in on Sue's classes. Other days, I take hour classes: Pilates from Diana Vaughn and Stretch from Diana Barrios and Sonya Hulsey. Thank goodness for Zoom and PayPal!

12:16PM: Beau's feet are finally healed, I hope! He has been resting a lot since he first had problems walking. His red nasty thingy in front of his left armpit looks much better and his skin tag is smaller.

YAY! Beau wags his tail!

He's happy again, still with the thingy in front of his left armpit, but he's happy! What a sweetheart he is!!!

Life is good!



Iris Love, Rest in Peace. Iris Love died today from heart issues made worse by Covid-19. Iris was an icon in the dachshund community for far longer than Brian and I have had dachshunds. In 1997, I met Iris when she judged the Dog Fanciers Art Show at Sardis in New York City. She awarded my life-sized standard "A Good Life" Best-in-Show, The Ellsworth Howell Art Award for Best Sculpture, at this, the 10th Contemporary American Dog Art Competition.

I am honored that she invited me to her annual party at Tavern on the Green. By profession, Iris was an archaeologist. Later she bred gorgeous standard smooth dachshunds that were the envy of many breeders. Her kennel name was LoveKnidos. May 8, 2019, I took this picture of Iris at the Dachshund Club of America National Specialty where she acquired a hand held "Sunnyside Up" to join her "Life's a Ball!" It is a sad day for everyone who knew Iris. You may learn more about Iris on line. Check her Obituary in the New York Times. She was an incredible person.

APRIL 20, 2020, 1:36PM: Brian fixes his garage door opener! Little things count!

APRIL 22, 2020: Today is the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day! The Weather Channel states the earth is 2.5 degrees warmer than in 1970.



"A Good Life" SS

BRONZE, 25"L x 13"D x 8.5"H

APRIL 22, 2020: "A Good Life" SS, is in the National Sculpture Society's online show, "Fellows Favorites" where each Fellow was invited to share with NSS one of their favorite works. Number is 6/20, above, is available for adoption!

Iris Love awarded "A Good Life" SS "Best in Show" in the 1997 Dog Fancier's Club show. Some day, I hope to find the image of her looking lovingly at "A Good Life."

??? COVID-19 ???

April 22-27: I remember little of these days except I vomited violently on Thursday. Friday my temperature was up to 103.4F. My eyesight was weird; I saw our kitchen down lights as if they were headlights at night; colors were strange. I ate a bowl of ginger carrot soup for dinner.

Saturday, I awoken at 4am in a cold sweat. My fever had broken! YAY! I was on the mend with my temperature down to 96.2F. My weight was down 4 pounds. Today I eat!

Brian evens the surface of our natural stone floor in our bathroom. Stomach acid WILL kill anything!

My doctor says to wait at least six weeks to have a test. By then the virus will hopefully be over and everyone will be safe. Yes Ma'm!



APRIL 27, 7:09PM: A neighborhood barred owl visits our Japanese maple tree. What a treat!

APRIL 28, 2020: What art have I been making?
This is one of many different designs I make Brian for brunch.

Layers of fruit vary: banana, pineapple, mango. Then, I add a layer of Greek yogurt. Next comes something pretty: strawberries, raspberries or mandarins. Lastly you see blueberries, nine almonds and, not shown, ground flaxseed meal.

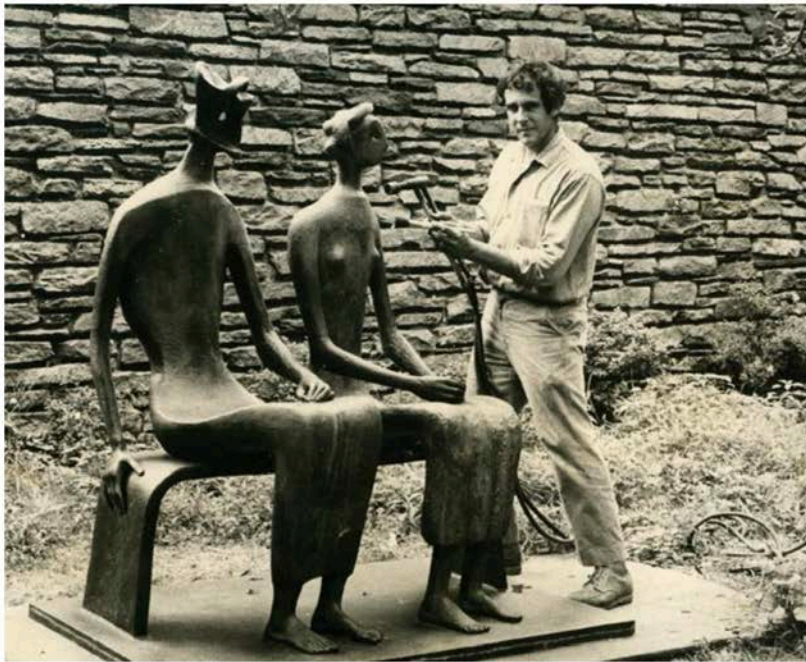


Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine posted this article.

Ronald Joseph Cavalier Jr. created the ceramic shell portion of the casting process that is used for fine art bronze casting today.

Rest in Peace Ronald Joseph Cavalier Sr.

May 5, 2020



Ronald Joseph Cavalier, the foundryman the Associated Press credited as being the first to use the ceramic shell technique to cast artwork into bronze, died of natural causes in Marietta, GA on April 28, 2020.

Cavalier began his 60-year foundry career at Scope Precision Castings in Norwalk, CT before starting The Renaissance Art Foundry in Norwalk, CT and later the Cavalier Renaissance Art Foundry in Bridgeport, CT where he used the innovative ceramic shell lost wax process to produce countless works.

Across the span of his career, Cavalier cast and restored bronze, steel, silver, aluminum, concrete, pewter, and brass pieces of small to mammoth proportions for some of the world's most renowned artists including Brancusi, Calder, Giacometti, Morre, Nakian, Remington, and Rodin as well as contemporary artists Tomm Otterness, Sandro Chia, Brian Hunt, and others. He restored and preserved the Hirshorn sculpture collection before it left Greenwich, CT for Washington, D.C. He also serviced many museums including the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum, Hirshorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, and the Smithsonian Institution.

Cavalier was born in Brooklyn, NY on May 10, 1933 to Alfred and Mae Cavalier. He was the youngest of four and his father was a math and music teacher, machinist, draftsman, bandleader, musician, and Masonic Lodge member. Growing up on Atlantic Avenue, Ron enjoyed neighborhood stickball, raising pigeons, and fishing on Coney Island. After high school, he studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Manhattan, and apprenticed in Maine summer stock theater appearing with Dinna Barrymore, Lionel Standish, and Kenneth Nelson in *South Pacific*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *Oklahoma*, *Death of a Salesman*, and *Hamlet*. He originated the role of Ghost of Christmas Past for the Music Theater of Connecticut's world premiere of *Ebenezer*, played Judge Taylor in *To Kill a Mockingbird* at the Polka Dot Playhouse, and was in numerous performances for the Darien Dinner Theater, Westport Community Theater, and Stamford Theater works.

See pictures of my work using Mr. Cavalier's process here:

<http://www.joybeckner.com/Canine-Animals/clay-to-collector-slideshow-joy-beckner.htm>



"Squirrel Season" Smooth

Mel Schockner Photography

APRIL 30, 2020: My collector writes of her new "Squirrel Season," "Have them on my coffee table right across from the couch. Also, the view from the couch is the park where said squirrel hunting takes place. Thank you so much for creating these timeless pieces of joy and memories."

Thank you, Miracle! Your timing is perfect!

Happy Birthday, Brian!

MAY 1, 2020: May we enjoy many more healthy birthdays together!!!

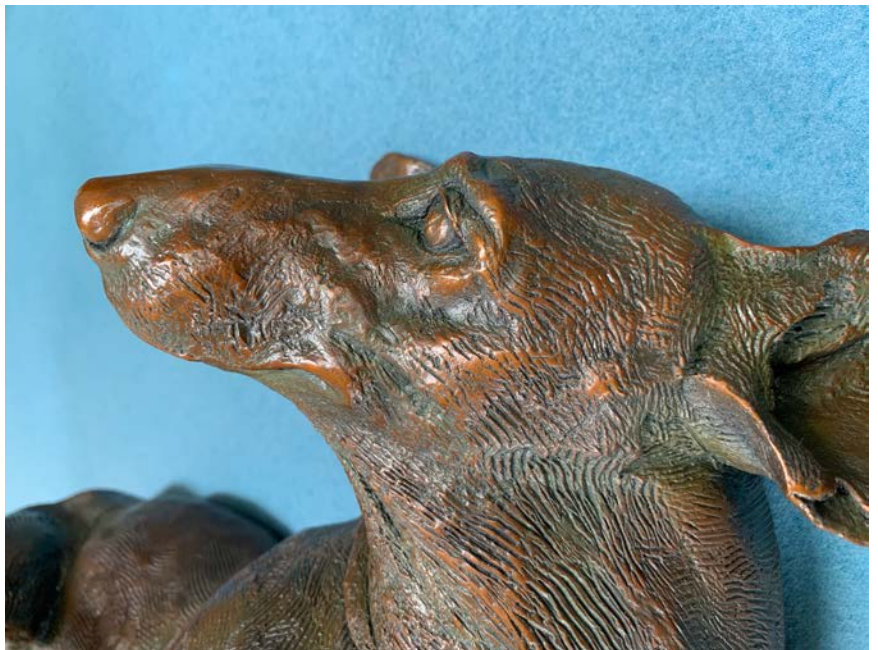
My laser eye surgery is postponed until June 1, 2020. I can hardly wait to see well to sculpt again.



MAY 2, 2020: "The Art of Racing in the Rain" is told through the eyes of Enzo, think Enzo Ferrari, a Golden Retriever. Kevin Kostner is the voice of Enzo. If you imagine life through the eyes of a dog, you will love this movie! If you or your other half loves racing, too, you will love this movie! It is definitely family fare on HBO. Enjoy!

MAY 5, 2020, 9:44AM: The Salmagundi Club calls to tell me "A Good Life" SS earned the Phillip Eisenberg Memorial Award in their Annual Members' Exhibition. Yay! This \$150 award is nice, especially now!

"A Good Life" SS, detail.





Gallery

[▶ BACK TO MAIN GALLERY](#)

2020 Annual Members' Exhibition Award Winners

Over the years, the Salmagundi Club has been well-known for providing its artist members with important exhibition opportunities. The "Annual Exhibition" showcases its club members' finest works of art in all media - oil, watercolor, pastel, graphics, sculpture, photography and mixed media. Our illustrious membership includes both nationally-recognized award winners as well as emerging talent.

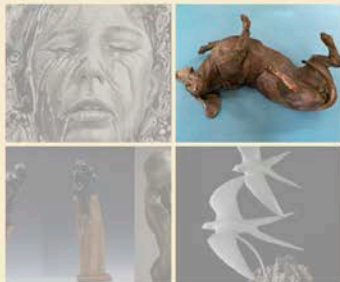
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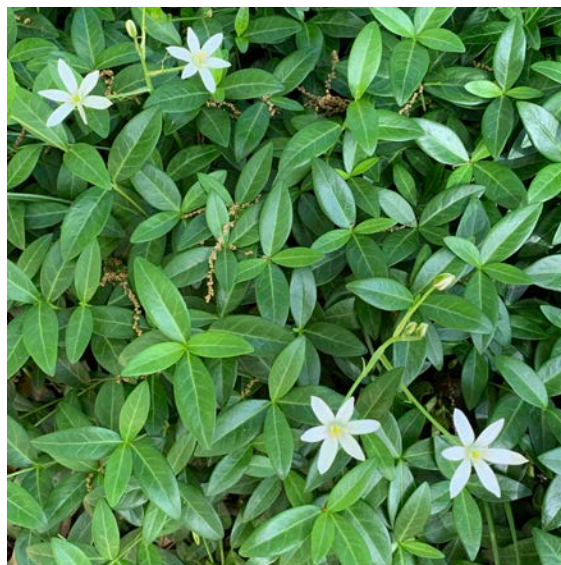
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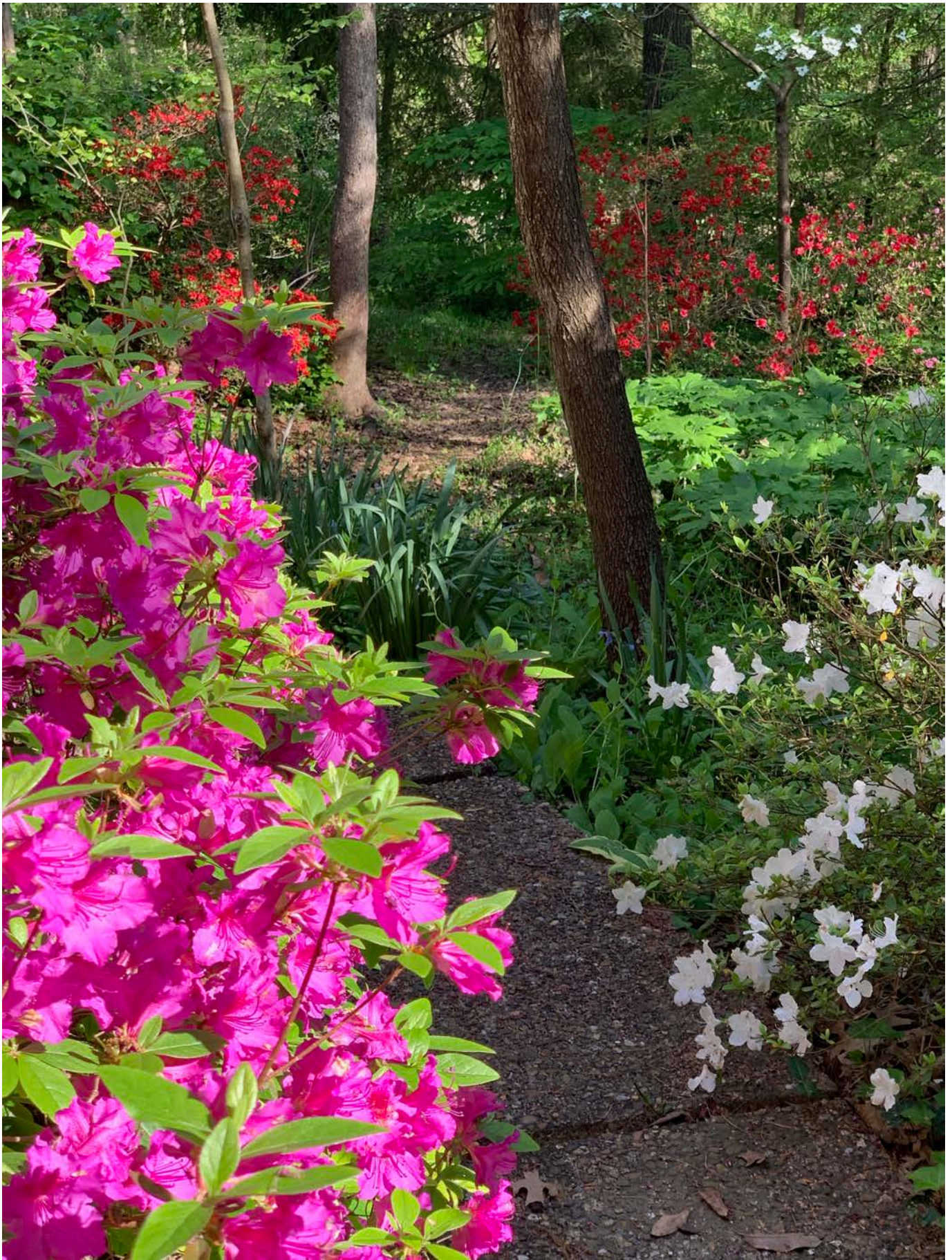
Philip Isenberg Memorial Award, \$150: Joy Beckner, "A Good Life"

Forty-Seven Fifth Avenue @ Twelfth Street | New York, NY 10003 | (212) 255-7740 | Email: info@salmagundi.org

"A Good Life" SS, 6/20, is available for adoption!



Vinca and Starflowers around our mailbox.



The walk along the east side of our house



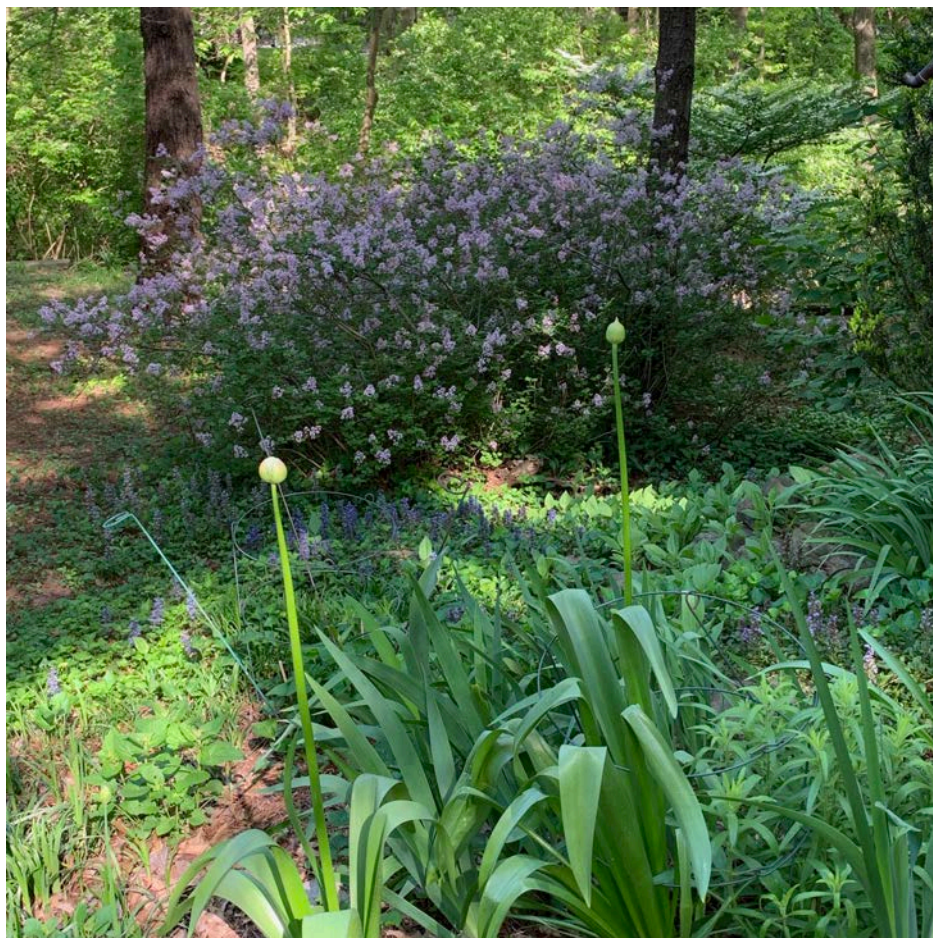
Lilies of the Valley



Iris



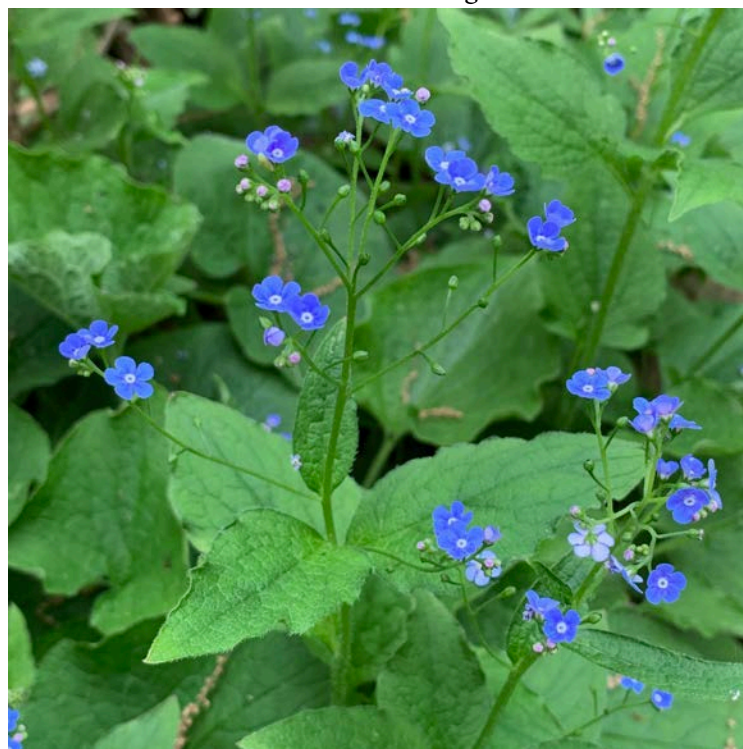
A goldenrod volunteer is perfectly placed in our circle.



Two alliums and lilacs greet us on the west side of our house.



Korean Lilacs nestle next to a blooming Viburnum Plicatum



Large Leaf Brunerra. I call it baby blue eyes. ;-))



Mayapple Blossoms bloom beneath its foliage.





Wild phlox has been blooming for at least two weeks beside our front door.



May 7, my Allium blooms for bees! See the little bee?



Bees love this purple Ajuga thriving under the Allium.



Lilac blossoms



A Peony opens.

*Recently a lady slowly bicycled by our house.
She commented about how soothing my pond and plantings are.
I hope you too have found them peaceful.*

*Health is the greatest gift,
contentment the greatest wealth,
faithfulness the best relationship.*

Buddha

See, possibly touch, and be touched by my work at these events.

THRU MAY 21, 2020: Salmagundi Art Club Annual Members' Exhibition and Sale! Online!
"A Good Life" earned the Phillip Eisenberg Memorial Award,

APRIL 22, 2020: National Sculpture Society: ONLINE Exhibition and Sale!

THRU JUNE 2020: Art on the Avenues, Wenatchee, WA.

THRU SPRING 2020: Sculptureworks, Inc., Heber Springs Public Library, Heber Springs, AR.

OCTOBER 6 – 8, 2020: Dachshund Club of America National Specialty, Mesquite Convention Center, 1700 Rodeo Drive, Mesquite, TX 75149.

THRU JUNE 2021: Performance in Sculpture, David A. Straz Center for the Performing Arts, Tampa, FL.

Happy Mother's Day!

Thank you for being in my life!

Strength for the journey...

stay healthy!

Joy

WWW.JOYBECKNER.COM

314-378-7032

Many thanks to Dee Thrash for "Strength for the Journey."



"The question is whether any civilization
can wage relentless war on life
without destroying itself,
and without losing the right
to be called civilized."

-Rachel Carson