JKB – JOY KROEGER BECKNER – JKB

classical Realism, from hounds to humans & and more!

News & Journeys of Joy! :: Vol. Fourteen, Number Six :: September 2018

The Saga of my 2012 Suburban

July 21, 2018: My 2012 Suburban's engine stops while driving! It starts again as quickly as it stopped, enough to jolt me at 20mph! I get to the gym okay, and it starts after class. After shopping at Whole Foods, the key does not turn ... at all! AAA comes to my rescue. The nice man tests the battery, the alternator and the starter; all test perfectly! He suggests I take it to be checked right away, and after checking to see if he had any other emergencies to attend to, he follows me to the dealer. Then, he drives me home. Yay! AAA!!!

JULY 23-25, 2018, MONDAY-WEDNESDAY: My dealer has a guy drive and check my vehicle that would NOT misbehave in three days! \$159 later, I am sent home.

Next, the Mailbox!

July 24, 2018, Tuesday: After being with us for about thirty-five years, the mailbox welds fail. They held our mailbox to the pedestal that is secured to concrete in the ground. Our mailbox literally falls into Brian's arms as he gets the mail. You may remember I spent a week or two painting it last year.





<u>July 27, 2018, Friday</u>: My long time favorite welder, Contractors Welding, sends a guy to weld our cast aluminum mailbox in place. It's nice to just touch up and not strip and paint the whole thing again.

Don Toone, Rest in Peace. Don was the husband of a longtime high school art teacher acquaintance, Brenda Toone, whose dad founded Barney's BBQ where we get a delicious slab of ribs many weekends each summer. Brenda and Don had recently moved into a long-term care facility. I saw them the weekend before, and Don was completely lost in his Alzheimer's. Brenda was better. May Brenda live well and long.



July 30, 2018, Monday: Miss Anna, as "Dreaming of Tomatoes" SS, 5/20, has a new home! It is great to see her beautifully displayed among "A Good Life" SS and "So Good to See You" SS. Thank you, Gloria!

crazy Suburban!

After my class at Wellbridge, I drive home, but wait! As I turn into our subdivision, my <u>Suburban stops in the middle of the intersection</u>! I am soooo glad no traffic comes from any direction, and, that I am strong enough to turn the wheel and direct it into our subdivision.

July 31, 2018, Tuesday: First thing today, I shop for a new Chevy.

Adíos, wellbridge.

Today is sad; it is the last day of class at Wellbridge Athletic Club of which I have been a member for exactly 20 years! It is said they lost their lease, but who really knows? I will miss the familiar faces and great teachers. My goal now is to pursue good health in a new venue or two.

August 1, 2018: I pick up my new Chevy Tahoe. The color is Pepperdust and, is one of two in stock that have the right specs. The color changes from sort of middle tone gray metallic to taupe metallic.



August 2, 2018: I NEED these Magic Lilies today! The last few days have been too weird!

August 4, 2018: William F. (Zelli) Fuschetti, Rest in Peace. My dear, departed friend Jaye Gregory's husband, Zelli Fuschetti's funeral is at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. It's my first time to attend a funeral in this respectful, serene place. It is a sad day.



August 8, 2018: A Bouvier lover emails for information about my sterling Bouvier des Flanders jewelry. The jeweler who casts it is on vacation this week, so I will have to find pricing next week. However, I learn the American Bouvier des Flanders Club National Specialty is at Purina Farms in early October. Booth space is very reasonable - \$25 for a 10 x 10 space - but, with only one pendant to show, I take an ad in the catalog and will visit the show with pendant and photos in hand. The two-page spread is below.





August 10, 2018: "So Good to See You" ML earns the Crane West Art Award in the 17th Annual International Juried Art Exhibition at the Red River Valley Museum, in Vernon, Texas! Thank you!!!!

Chiggers!!!



August 12, 2018, Sunday: I clear earthen mounds that moles excavated next to my 20-foot long stepping stone path that leads from the driveway to the front door.

Little did I realize how well I had previously prepared myself to work in my garden: Invisible CHIGGERS are everywhere I want to be! And, they attack me with a vengeance! Whew! The path looks good, but oh, do I itch! I count 54 bites just from my left knee to my toes!

Next time I will wear my usual: long sleeves, long pants and socks along with LOTS of anti-bug lotion. Why did I think I was impervious today???

August 15, 2018: I call collector/friend Larry Terricone, who left a house phone message for me on August 17, who knows what year? He nearly died a month ago! The emergency room docs told him they didn't think he would make it. His advice: "Listen to your body: Do NOT put off what is ailing you. LISTEN TO YOUR BODY! You are NOT seventeen anymore!!!" He feels energetic!



<u>August 16, 2018</u>: "Life's a Ball!" MS is on its way to the 33rd Annual Bosque Art Classic, Bosque Arts Center, Clifton, TX. Last week I sent a "Life's a Ball" MS to my New York City agent to deliver to the Allied Artists 104th Annual Exhibition at the Salmagundi Club, NYC.

"Thank you!" to my friends, Michele and Margo for finding two close, clean exercise locations while Brian and I were exploring the Lewis & Clark Trail, Canada and Alaska. They are working out well. On Saturdays, I'll try to do my own mat Pilates class at home.



<u>August 18, 2018</u>: My high school friend who commissioned "A Squirrel's Dream" emails saying he is going to put a Time Capsule inside his mounted acorn! I hope more people do this with their outdoor bronzes.

Benadryl Gel is amazing stuff. The chigger bites rarely itch. Thank you, Dr. Varsha Rathod!!!!

A week of detailing wax

August 19, 2018, Sunday, 6:08am: Brian, Beau and I set out for the long haul, 900+- miles, to Loveland, Colorado so I can detail (chase) waxes this week. The plan was to do this on our return trip from Alaska, but plans changed. More about that later...

It is 69 degrees, highly humid and foggy. Sun vaguely shines through foggy/smoky/hazy overcast skies. Chigger bites are still colorful but itch less.

I connect my phone to TahoeWifi. (free for a month) and order Grub Away Nematodes from Gardens Alive, my favorite garden supply company. My hope is that moles will stop excavating with no tasty grubs in my garden.

Between us, we learn about this new vehicle: how to make the steering more controllable, how to use the SiriusXM radio. I should say Brian plays with the radio and learns about it. Beatles, Elvis and many, many more are listed. West of Topeka we opt for the peace of raindrops.

August 20, 2018, Loveland, CO: Smoke is in the air. The Rockies are invisible from our hotel window.

We pick up waxes from my friend Eva Stanley who kindly retrieved and stored 4 good-sized waxes (2 Big Heart, 2 A Good Life, MW) and, the original clay of A Good Life, MW, from my new mold maker/wax pourer Dan Ochs. Thank you, Eva!

Our next stop is my metal chaser, Nancy Palm, where I drop off Life's a Ball! 1:6 scale, #19. She will inscribe /99 after the 19 so it reads 19/99. She then will bead blast off the old patina and blue pad it to make it ready for the patina its adoptive parent prefers. This is the only smooth coat Life's a Ball! 1:6 scale, that is available. Do you prefer the Red or Black & Tan patina? Please order now for delivery in early November!

At Sculpture Depot I purchase a three-quarter inch wax spru bar. I will wax weld this between narrow spots underneath A Good Life, MW, to prevent the bottom edge from rolling under. This will help with leveling the piece in bronze. Okay, it's time to go to work!

Around 10:30am I start on a A Good Life, MW. Part way through the chase I realize I need another spru bar to weld under the ears to hold them level. The one ear wants to fold under and tries to break. Brian gets another spru bar and picks up a delicious sandwich to share. Thank you! At 6 pm, I finish chasing the first



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In Fort Collins we pick up eleven "Cozy" waxes from Ben Cordser wonderful! We stop at a good pet store for some Nature's Miracle

II:15AM: I start the other A Good Life, MW wax and finish at 7 pm. Yikes! This piece averages 7½ hours to wax chase including a short break for lunch. Mind you, it is much easier to repair a wax than a bronze; my time is well spent.

August 22, 2018: Mountains are barely visible. Six wildfires are burning across Colorado.

The production manager at Southwest Art Magazine sends me an empty folder in Dropbox and teaches me how to place photos of "Life's a Ball" MS and "All in the Family" in the folder for my October ad.





Joy Kroeger Beckner

Joy Kroeger Beckner is inspired by sensuous shapes of skin, bone and muscle. She is thrilled to make something move in-the-round bringing smiles, giggles or tears to the eyes to those who see and touch her work. Her award-winning canine bronzes include Dachshunds, Golden Retrievers, a Gordon Setter and a Bouvier. 15268 Kingsman Circle, Chesterfield, MO 63017. ◀ All in the Family, bronze, 1:6 scale miniatures. ▶ Life's a Ball!, bronze, 25.25 x 11.75 x 8.

9:09 AM: I start chasing the first "Big Heart" wax. Oh, what a job this is. With an in-room, short lunch break I finish at 4:30pm. Wow! This, too, is taking seven hours! The sky is beautiful. YAY!

August 23, 2018, Thursday, 8:45AM: Today I start the second "Big Heart" wax. I finish at 2:55 pm. Six hours is a huge improvement!



Life's a Ball! Smooth, 1:6 scale, 19/99 is ready for your choice of patina!

3:25PM: Brian retrieves "Life's a Ball!" 1:6 scale, 19/99, from my metal chaser, Nancy Palm, who blasted the old patina so it will be ready for the patina that the forthcoming collector may select. Which patina do you see on it, in your collection? This IS the only one available! Please order now for November delivery!



Most of my four days of work!

6:30PM: I finish chasing four "Cozy" waxes and gladly pack everything. Brian promises a celebratory dinner at the 4th Street Chop House. Tomorrow morning we will pack the Tahoe, drive the eight chased waxes to Dragon Castings in Eaton, CO, and head for home. Whew! What a long six days of detailing and driving!!!

August 24, 2018, Friday, 7:35AM: Brian slathers my back with Benadryl Gel. Next he creatively packs the Tahoe with our things, and, the well protected waxes. He drives back roads to Eaton, CO, and Dragon Castings. At 8:24AM now, it will take an hour to get there. Pretty drive. We see cornrows, backlit cows, and long conveyer belts for sand over the roadway. I love all the wild sunflowers beside the roadways.



10:24AM: A large field of hemp is to the east of southbound CO-71. We wish we could find a place to pull off, and walk across the newly paved road to see it up close.



Look carefully to find the lone cow on the horizon. $\,$



I:34PM: We gas up for only \$2.579 a gallon for regular in Goodland, KS. Regular was \$2.85 in Loveland. Our average mileage for the past 400 miles is 22.8mpg, definitely better than the Suburban. We personally gas up at Steak 'n Shake.

4:5IPM CDT: Windmills stand still as there is no wind in Kansas. Skies are mostly blue. It is 95 degrees.

7:24PM: Three wild turkeys feed next to I-70 just east of the tollbooth. We are $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours from home. ;-))



Beautiful cirrocumulous clouds Sky over Kansas City, MO



9:17PM: Moon over the Missouri in Boonville, MO

IO:26PM: 74 DEGREES: We are about 38 miles from home. Beau is in my lap. All but about three chigger bites no longer itch. What an ordeal the bites have been!

August 29, 2018: My "Cozy" waxes are all chased and packed except for the one that I chased this morning. The DesolveIt that I use to pull the surfaces together needs to cure until tomorrow morning, so it will not pick up the markings of the bubble in which I will wrap it tomorrow.

I:30PM: Brian calls from the garage, "Look what I found in the garage!" "What?" "A Monarch!!!" Fly safely,

little friend! Fly Free!!!

August 30, 2018, Thursday, 2:51PM: I am ecstatic to learn that Sharon Winter is back working at Dragon Castings! She always takes really good care of my waxes as she sprus them. We discuss shipping today versus shipping Tuesday, Sept. 4, and decide to ship on Tuesday using Overnight Air Saver UPS because it is predicted to be cool in Eaton, CO, on Wednesday, Sept. 5. That will save \$75! What a relief to have Sharon back! NO! She may NOT retire yet.

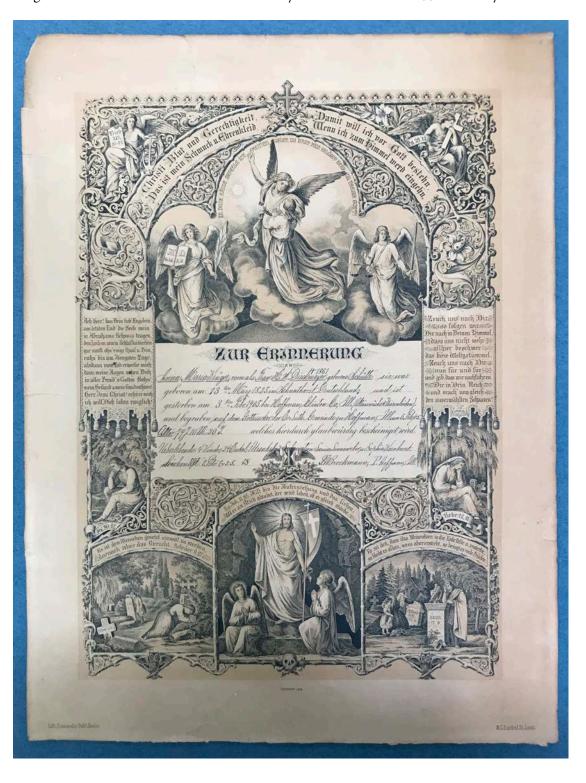


Memories ...

August 31, 2018: Aretha Franklin. Rest in Peace.

As I go through my mother's leather (I think it's elephant hide) Hartman suitcase, I find all sorts of mementos that my mom had saved.

Two Confirmation Certificates in German: my maternal great grandmother's dated 1883; great granddad's is dated 1884. Also, a Death Certificate is for my great, great grandmother who was born in 1825 in Schnathorst, Germany, and died in 1905 in Hoffman, Illinois. I am grateful to my cousin Janice's granddaughter Michelle who has taken over the family tree that I started in 1996. Thank you!!!



A 1974 Trinity Lutheran Church, Hoffman, IL, booklet shows members including my aunts and uncles:







Mom's brother, my Uncle, Charlie & Aunt Helen Dad's sisters Aunt Hilda Kroeger Lippert, and Aunt Frida Kroeger Kampman.

More from the suitcase: fragile St. Louis Post Dispatch newspaper pages from Dec. 17 and Dec. 21, 1931. I'm afraid to open them for they are so fragile. I hope our history museum wants these papers.



Oct. 26, 1965: I worked in the Famous-Barr fashion office in Downtown St. Louis at the time. Thieves could have stolen everything they could carry on the first eight floors. It seems every Famous-Barr employee was outside watching the key being placed in the top of the arch. I was one of those watching. Below is the list of the <a href="historic collection of fifteen prominent front pages of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch newspaper dating from 1878 through January 1973 at the end of the Vietnam War. These pages must have been presented to subscribers as a gift. An overview of history is in the headlines:

DEC. 12, 1878:

St. Louis Post and Dispatch. The front page is all about shopping for Christmas, except in small print:
50,000 Russians to Remain in Bulgaria
No New Treaty to be Effected Between England and Turkey
King Humbert Looking Around for a New Italian Ministry
Fenecian Prisoners to be Released --- Bank of England

Feb. 16, 1898: Over 250 Lives Lost on the Battleship Maine

APRIL 30, 1904: Auspicious Opening of World's Fair (St. Louis)

THE ATTENDANCE ESTIMATED AT 237,000

April 16, 1906: San Francisco Burning Up!

April 16, 1912: Titanic Sinking; Passengers Saved

Nov. II, 1918: President Announces Terms of Armistice.

CONDITIONS MAKE GERMANY'S SURRENDER COMPLETE.

May 27, 1927: Capt. Lindbergh Lands Safely on Paris Flying Field

SEPT. 30, 1927: 86 KILLED. 500 HURT IN TORNADO; \$10,000,000 Loss;

SIX SQUARE MILES LIE IN RUINS. [St. Louis, MO]

Oct. 29, 1929: Stocks Rally After Drop of \$10 to \$70.

Sales of 16,410,000 A New Record.

Last Prices are Down; Hundreds go to New Lows.

Dec. 8, 1941: Congress Declares War on Japan. 1500 Killed in Attack on Hawaii.

Aug. 14, 1945: Japs Accept Surrender Terms. U. S. Gives Cease Fire Orders.

Announcement Made by Truman.

END OF WORLD WAR II IN SIGHT WITH NOTE FROM DEFEATED FOE.

Feb. 20, 1962: Glenn Safe after 3 Orbits. Capsule Recovered off Bahamas in 18 Minutes.

Oct. 26, 1965: Keystone of Arch Fitted After Thousands See Topping-Out

CEREMONIES. SECTION RAISED IN 13 MINUTES, THEN SLIPPED INTO POSITION.

JAN. 28, 1973: VIETNAM CEASE-FIRE GOES INTO EFFECT. REDS GIVE U. S. PRISONER LISTS.

SEPT. 1, 2018, SATURDAY: A letter arrives from Allied Artists of America. I'm thrilled to announce I'm the first recipient of Allied Artist of America's prestigious award, "The Mary Kay and Paul Jeynes Memorial Award for an Animal Bronze Sculpture" for my sculpture, "Life's a Ball! MS. I am indeed honored. Thank you!

In addition to sculpting wild and endangered animals, Paul Jeynes was committed to improving the art world for artists and collectors - and one of



his many accomplishments was defining and restricting the term "limited editions" of sculpture that qualified as original works of art. (Before 1991 there was no legal limit for the number of castings a sculptor could make and sell as originals.)

To achieve this in New York State, Paul used criteria from the 1959 U.S. Custom Law that accepted up to 10 bronze castings as "original art" for duty-free import. The legislature finally passed a law in 1991 that helped sculptors avoid copyright infringement and gave art collectors written validation of sculptures they were buying.

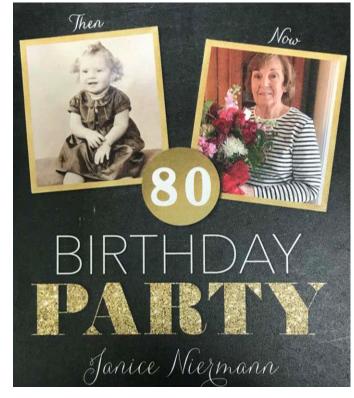
To find out more about Paul's many accomplishments, go to Allied Artists' website: https://mailchi.mp/d6a3aec9c292/july-2018-newsletter?e=88255cc6e5 and scroll down to "New Award In Honor of Paul Jeynes."

Thank you, Mary Kay Jeynes, for helping me provide an accurate statement about Paul's accomplishments. I am delighted to know he was active in Society of Animal Artists as well as Allied Artists. I have great respect for him. Thank you!

SEPT. 1, 2018, SATURDAY: Senator John McCain, Rest in Peace. The operatic voice of Renee Fleming singing "Oh, Danny Boy" at the end of his services brings me to tears.

SEPT. 2, 2018: My cousin Janice Boeker Nierman's 80th Birthday Party is today! It's great to also see my cousins, Nancy, Opal, Edna and Donny, and Hazel and Orville. Oh, how many children and grandchildren there are! Thrive on, everyone! I hope cousins Floyd and Wayne can join us next year for the Boeker reunion.

On the way home I leave a note at the home of Judy Lippert Johnson, the grandaughter of my Aunt Hilda Lippert and daughter of my cousin Vernon Lippert. Sept. 3, Judy calls and we have a good talk.





SEPT. 5, 2018: Rudy Torrini, Rest in Peace. An acquaintance from long ago sends a message that Rudy died at age 95. He was one of my professors at Fontbonne College (now University) for one or two semesters in the early 90s. I am sad that two of my late life teachers are gone, dear Jaye Gregory and now Rudy. Thank you for telling me, Jeff Kramer. I MUST call painter/teacher/friend Tito Gay to arrange a time to get together with her and Bob Walker, who is 95. Bob was the art director at John Burroughs School, and I took one semester of sculpture with him at night school in the early 90s.

SEPT. 6, 2018: Burt Reynolds, Rest in Peace.

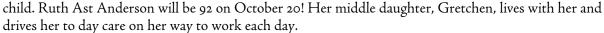
Good news!

SEPT. 8, 2018: I finish 50 minutes of fabulous Pilates reformer training with Monika Nobs, who, with her husband Michael, owns Performance Pilates. It's where two friends and I have a Wednesday Pilates reformer class with Diana Vaughan, who taught at Wellbridge. The combination of this Saturday group class and the Wednesday trio class is going to be perfect! Add yoga at Anytime Fitness and I feel almost back to normal. Yay!

SEPT. 9, 2018: Good Sunday Morning! CBS airs an exhilarating sequence of Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals! Among the shows featured is the 1965 "The Sound of Music" with Julie Andrews. Brian asks, "Is that the dress you wore?" "No, this is Julie Andrews' dress I wore." At the time I worked in the display department at downtown Famous-Barr, a May Co. department store. Famous' Special Events office arranged a Supercalifragilistic expealidocious (sp)

Christmas for which they brought in several of Julie Andrews' original costumes from the show. Of course, all the windows were dressed in "The Sound of Music". What fun it was! Here I am, complete with painted red hair and bangs, in one of Julie's dresses from the show. The photo was in my mom's suitcase.

I call Fritzi, the eldest daughter of my art teacher who lived five houses down the street from us when I was a







Ruth sits with Fritzi's husband Dave at the piano. I look forward to seeing Ruth in a couple of weeks when Fritzi is in town.

SEPT. 10, 2018: Bill Cannon, Rest in Peace. The 88-year old, multiple Gold Medal winning Senior Olympian husband of my friend Peggy Cannon died today.

SEPT. II, 2018: Rest in Peace. Those died in the attacks 17 years ago.



Life's a Ball! MS earns the "Silver Medal Sculpture: award at the Bosque Art Classic in Clifton, TX. Thank you, Rowland and Janet Jackson, for sponsoring this award!

upcoming Events:

THRU SEPT. 16, 2018: Allied Artists of America, Inc., 104th Annual Exhibition, Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY Hours: Monday – Friday 1-6 PM; Saturday & Sunday 1-5 PM.

THRU SEPT. 22, 2018: Bosque Arts Center Arts Council, 33rd Annual Bosque Art Classic, 215 College Hill Drive, Clifton, TX. 76634. Phone: 254.675.3724

THRU SEPT. 30, 2018: "Fr-enemies" – Come NOW! See this, the final exhibition at the AKC Museum in St. Louis. 1721 South Mason Road, Saint Louis MO 63131.

Thru Sept. 30, 2018: National Sculpture Society - Fellows Online Invitational Exhibition. www.nationalsculpture.org

Oct. 6-12, 2018: American Bouvier des Flandres Club National Specialty, Purina Farms, MO.

Nov. 2 – Jan. 4, 2019: The Council for the Arts of Chambersburg, PA, 34th Annual Miniature Art 2018, 81 North Main Street, Chambersburg, PA. Phone: 717.264.6883

Nov. 18, 2018 – Jan. 6, 2019: The Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington D.C. (MPSGS) <u>85th Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature</u>, The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD 20852. Phone: 301-530-0540

MAY 23-25, 2019: Dachshund Club of America National Specialty, Purina Farms, MO.

THRU 2020: Carmel Clay Public Library, Carmel, IN - Sculptureworks, Inc.

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

Please click below to learn about the process of taking Clay to Bronze

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

Listen to your body and take good care of yourself.

Thank you for being in my life.

Síncerely, Joy

WWW.JOYBECKNER.COM

314-378-7032

JKB

"-Without art, the crudeness of reality would make the world unbearable."

George Bernard Shaw