

JKß – JOY KROEGER BECKNER – JKß

classical realism, from hounds to humans & more!

News & Journeys of Joy! :: Vol. Eighteen, Number Five :: August 2023



“So Good to See You, Too” SS

July 7, 2023: Allied Artists of America 110th Annual Exhibition awarded The Mary Kay and Paul Jeynes Memorial Award for an Animal Bronze Sculpture to my *“So Good to See You, Too” SS!*

Thank you, juror, Karli Wurzelbacher!

“So Good to See You, Too” SS is invited to the live invitational exhibition at the Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH!



The virtual exhibition is Sept. 1, 2023 - Sept. 1, 2024. See the show at alliedartistsofamerica.org.

The live Invitational Butler Institute of American Art Exhibition is Sept. 10 - October 8th, 2023.



"Merry Sunshine"
Half Life-size

The Hudson Valley Art Association presents me the Agop Agopoff Memorial Award + \$500 for "*Merry Sunshine*."

See the Hudson Valley 90th Annual National Juried Exhibition at the Lyme Art Assn., Old Lyme, CT, through August 10, 2023.



July 6, 2023: A Bumble Bee very happily visits this giant thistle at Longview Park, Town & Country, MO. Thank you, Cathy McClelland for inviting the Wildwood Garden Club to visit.

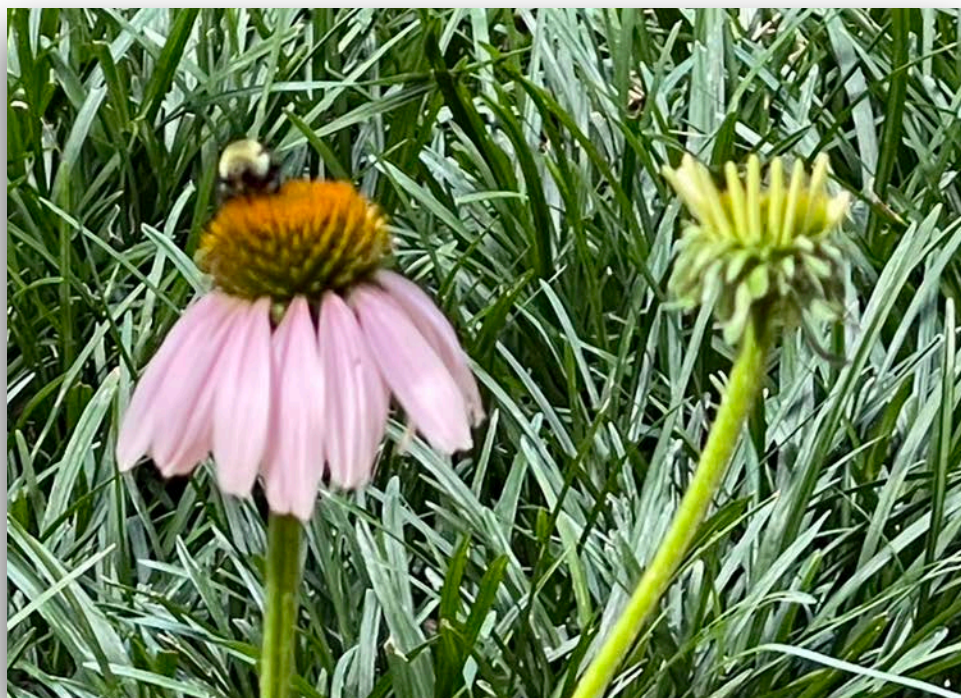
Thanks, too, to Beth Birthwistle for making lunch for everyone!



July 9, 2023: Years ago, Brian's mom Jeane gave me a start of this Hoya carnosa wax plant. This is the first time it has bloomed so beautifully. Thank you, Hoya!

July 11, 2023:

A bee enjoys my
blooming
Echinacea.

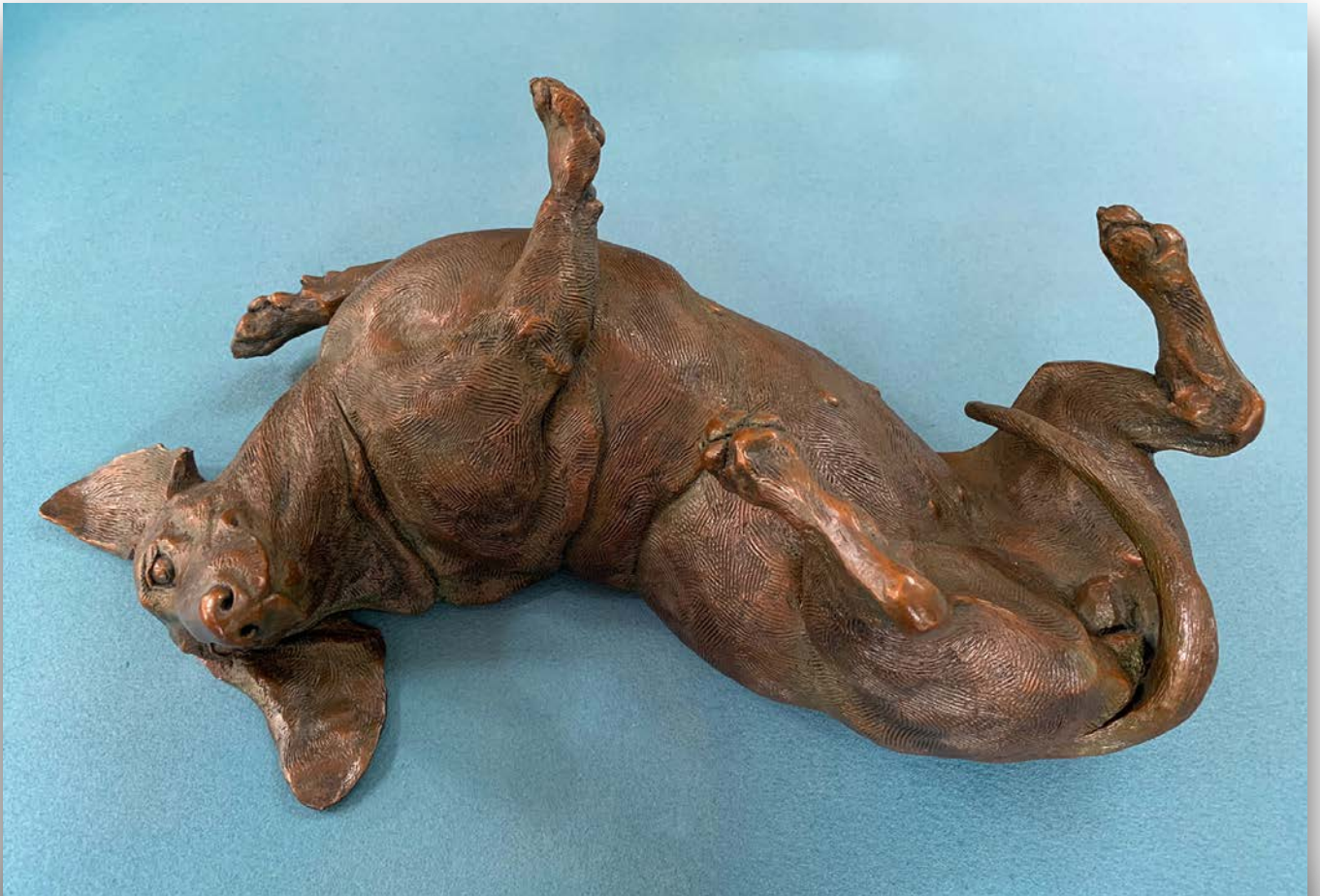


July 12, 2023:

Dear Deer, at
home in our back
yard.







"A Good Life" SS

July 13, 2023: Oh my! The page for "*A Good Life*" SS went missing from my site! I must have hit something by mistake.

Number 6/20 is the only "*A Good Life*" SS that is available! She is in perfect condition!

July 18, 2023: After several days of back & forth with my web master, "*A Good Life*" SS is back up and showing!



July 20, 2023: My Echinacea, above, keeps producing flowers! It has ten, including buds! I want native purple coneflowers, echinacea. I thought I'd bought native. Do buy NATIVE for bees.



July 21, 2023: Butterfly milkweed.

A Monarch Butterfly!!

Yay! A Monarch fluttered about my front yard for at least 15 minutes. I so wish my Swamp Milkweed had survived! Monarchs lay their eggs on only Swamp Milkweed. We need to save our Monarchs. I will get some more Swamp Milkweed!!! Please, add native plants, especially swamp milkweed, to your garden!



Hot, Hot, Hot!

July 27, 2023: WOW! Smithsonian writes: Beachgoers in South Florida can forget taking a dip to cool down: Water temperatures in the Florida Keys hit 101.1 degrees Fahrenheit on Monday evening.

WOW! A-Fib again???

July 28, 2023: Dr. Krainik and I agree to have him perform an ablation August 16.

My 2015 ablation lasted 7 years! I want that again, please. ;-))



"Sunnyside up" is a star!!!

July 30, 2023: Yay! A dear collector ordered the life-size standard for her husband for Christmas, and, the little one is for her son who will get it next Spring. Thank you, Anna!



"Sweet Dreams II"

2 7/8"L x 1"H x 2"D, Bronze, Ed. 50 & 5APs. (c) 2017

July 31, 2023: Two of these handheld miniature bronzes are now reserved for a new collector. Thank you, Rena!

With my suppliers' production issues several pieces must be available for delivery next Spring. But, PLEASE ASK!

NOW is the time to order for the holidays!

August 3, 2023: Happily, I see Shannon for therapy to prevent lymphodema. She reports that my arms measure basically the same as when I last saw her a month ago. Good!

Shannon recommends compression arm sleeves and hand gauntlets for any travel over 4 hours. These are to prevent swelling. For \$226 total, they better really work!

Let's hope it is not 110 degrees while driving across Kansas!



August 6, 2023: Brian and I get up before the crack of dawn to drive 2 1/2 hours to Marion, IL, for the Crab Orchard Kennel Club show where he shows Coltz for the first time at 8:30am.

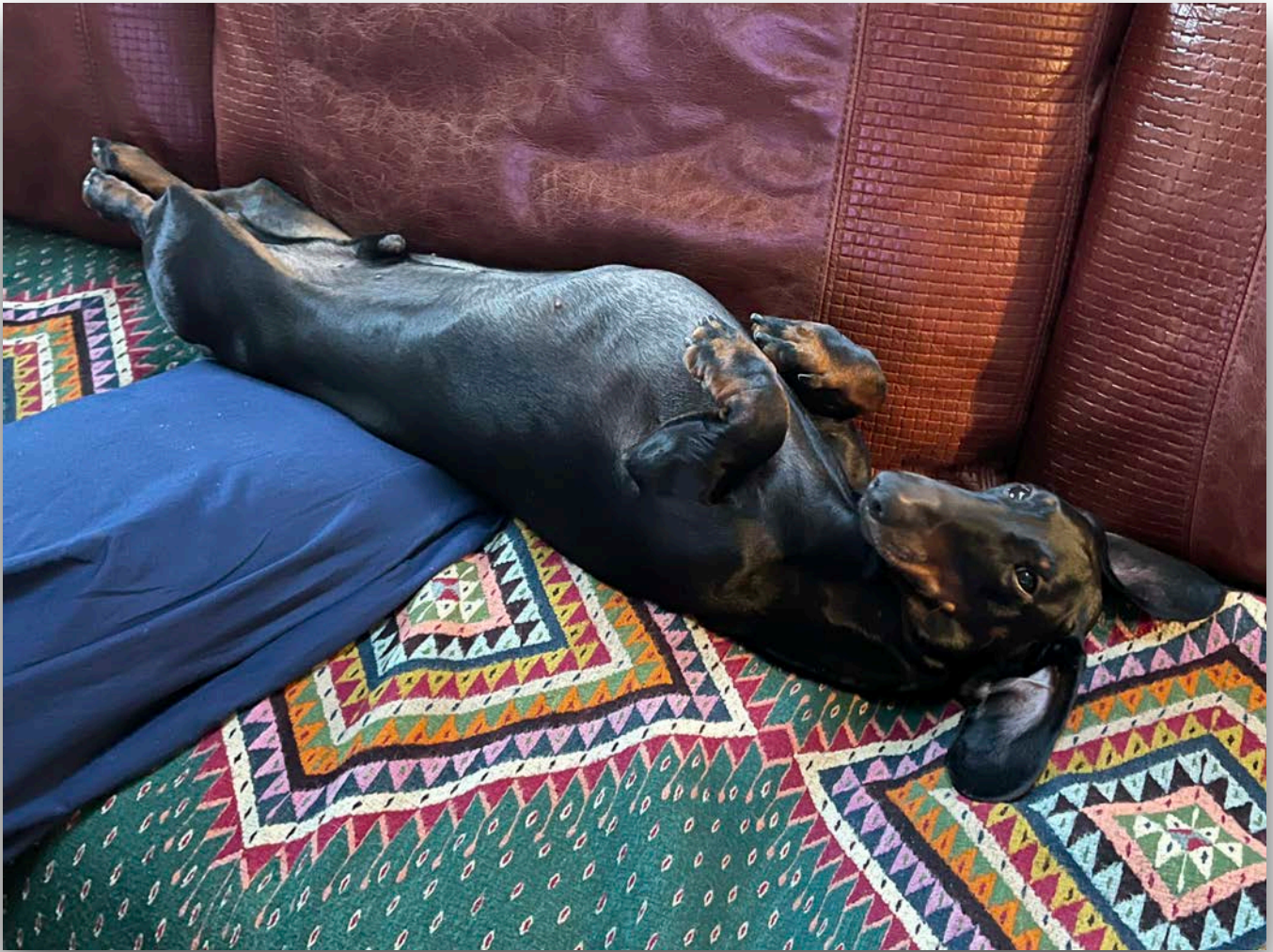




This Best of Variety class is just four dachshunds. Coltz takes “Select,” second place, and earns points and a ribbon!

Coltz’ breeder, Randy, is thrilled that he earns points. Coltz was a Bronze Grand Champion when we picked him up at the June 2022 show at Westminster Kennel Club, New York.

We take the scenic way home and chill...



We loosely measure Coltz who is roughly 34" long all stretched out. He is roughly 10-11 inches tall at the top of his shoulders. Coltz is 30 pounds of big sweetheart!

August 10, 2023: Today is the first day we have reasonably cool temperatures. It tops out around 85 with low humidity. I work in our garden. Should I prune my topiary of Edgar into a normal hedge or keep it with a head that deer have decimated? I opt for Edgar and hope a new nose will grow. ;-))

Brian surprises me with dinner at Tucker's Place. The temperature is beautiful on their patio, around 78 degrees with low humidity.



One has to take advantage of good weather when we have it. ;-))

Maui

It is so sad to see Maui burn. May survivors remain safe.

*Heartland Art Guild 18th Annual International
Miniature Paintings and Sculpture Show*

Today, my catalog and \$100 Honorable Mention check arrive!



“Life’s a Ball”
Joy Beckner
Honorable Mention

Above is the catalog photo of “*Life’s a Ball!*” Long.

Interestingly, the Heartland catalog does not share the medium of each artist’s works. I am the only sculptor to earn an award out of 237 works entered by 77 artists from the United States, Wales, Australia and Belgium. That’s pretty impressive for a show at the Miami County Historical Museum in Paola, Kansas! Thank you!

Ablation Recovery

August 18, 2023: Today I finally figure out how to set up my new Kardia app and Kardia Mobile device. This allows me to find out if I am in A-Fib. I am. My arrhythmia doctor, Dr. Andrew Krainik, performed an ablation on my heart Wednesday. When I awakened he indicated I may still be in A-Fib. Today I learned from his nurse that it may take a while for regular rhythm to return. Dr. Krainik fixed my A-Fib in 2015 with an ablation and I hope this one eventually works as well.

My health has been a long road this year, starting in December with a CardioVersion, again this Spring with another Cardio Version, a double partial mastectomy, and now this.

Regarding sculpture orders, thank you for your patience, Barbara, Bill, Tyler & Joe. My metal chaser still has not been able to complete your works. Therefore, Brian and I will not soon drive the 900+ miles to Loveland, CO, to check your metals.

Before the ablation, our weather was comfy. I managed to put out 5 bags of mulch and transplanted several small starts.

Yes, now that the ablation is behind me, I WILL get to my studio to chase waxes so I can safely drive them to my Colorado foundry when the metals are ready. Trust me, if a high quality foundry was closer, I would use it. Meanwhile, I use my dear independent contractors whom I have used for at least 15-20 years. I trust them!

Please Be Well...

I sincerely hope you are getting along well and look forward to hearing from you.

Studio time will come soon, maybe tomorrow, when I will chase waxes, and maybe make something new and small, very soon.

Thank you for being in my life!

Please stay cool and healthy.

Happy August & early Fall!

Oh! Please think about ordering holiday gifts, and, bronzes to be picked up at DCA 2024!

<https://joybeckner.com>

Sincerely,

Joy

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