

# JKß – JOY KROEGER BECKNER – JKß

*classical realism, from hounds to humans & more!*

News & Journeys of Joy! :: Vol. Eighteen, Number Six :: Dec. 2022

*Happy Holidays!!*

**November 17, 2022:** “Cozy” Wire, 2/10, arrives home from the Council for the Arts Exhibition in Chambersburg, PA, complete with its photo on the catalog cover and a Blue Ribbon!



And, the American Artists Professional League catalog arrives along with my Best Sculpture Award for “*Dreaming of Tomatoes, Too*” and the award check for \$500. I am grateful. This will help to pay to cut down a dead tree close to our neighbor’s property.



*Here I am ... ;-))*

## **S.O.S.: Slower, Older and Smarter**

**Dedicated to all my senior friends ~ it's time to slow down and enjoy the rest of the trip.**

**Many thanks to my Slower, Older and Smarter dog guru friend, Charlotte Peltz. ;-))**

Read Charlotte's articles on my site here:  
<https://joybeckner.com/living-with-your-dog/>

*George is remembered with sadness.*

**Nov. 19, 2022:** Jim Myrick, a friend from 50 years ago, calls to let me know that my first husband George Zaboji, has passed. George, Jim and I became friends when they were pilots for Ozark Airlines. George suffered from cancer in recent years and surely was ready for his final flight. I am glad I called George in August to wish him a happy 84th birthday. He was always friendly and cheerful.

*Rest in Peace, old friend.*



## *Brighter Notes...*

Our Peruvian friend, Francisco, sends his picture of his 101 year old mother, her children, and some of her grandchildren and great grand children on her birthday! She is a marvelous reason for Frank to fly home to Lima, Peru to be with her on this special day!

Nov. 23, 2022: I call Charlie Lowery, Brian's 97 year old former boss, and learn he is doing well. Bob, our 91 year old St. Joseph, MO, friend we met in San Miguel sounds good. My 85-86 year old loner cousin Herm is also doing well, yet wants to be alone on Thanksgiving. Our 80 year old former neighbor Don and his wife Jan are doing well. This is all Good News!

# Dog Friendly Thanksgiving

Pet Poison  
Helpline:

• 1-855-764-7661

Dogs CAN have	Dogs CANT have
Carrots	Ham
Celery	Chocolate
Corn (no cob)	Garlic
Sweet Potatoes	Leeks
Green Beans	Onions
Apples (no core/seeds)	Grapes
Pumpkin	Raisins
Rice	Raw Potatoes
Quinoa	Mashed Potatoes
A little cheese	Raw Dough
Turkey (no skin, fat or bones)	Canned Cranberry
	Pre-made Desserts
	Pie Filling
	Stuffing

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

Nov. 24, 2022: I learn the men who commissioned “*Life’s a Ball!*” *MW*, life-size miniature wire hair, now want it to be a girl! Perfect timing! Except, I do not have a girl to look at for her important private parts. I write Coltz’ breeder for help. Yes, on Thanksgiving Day! Please answer tomorrow...



*Coltz is peacefully handsome.*

He's tired from chasing his ball.

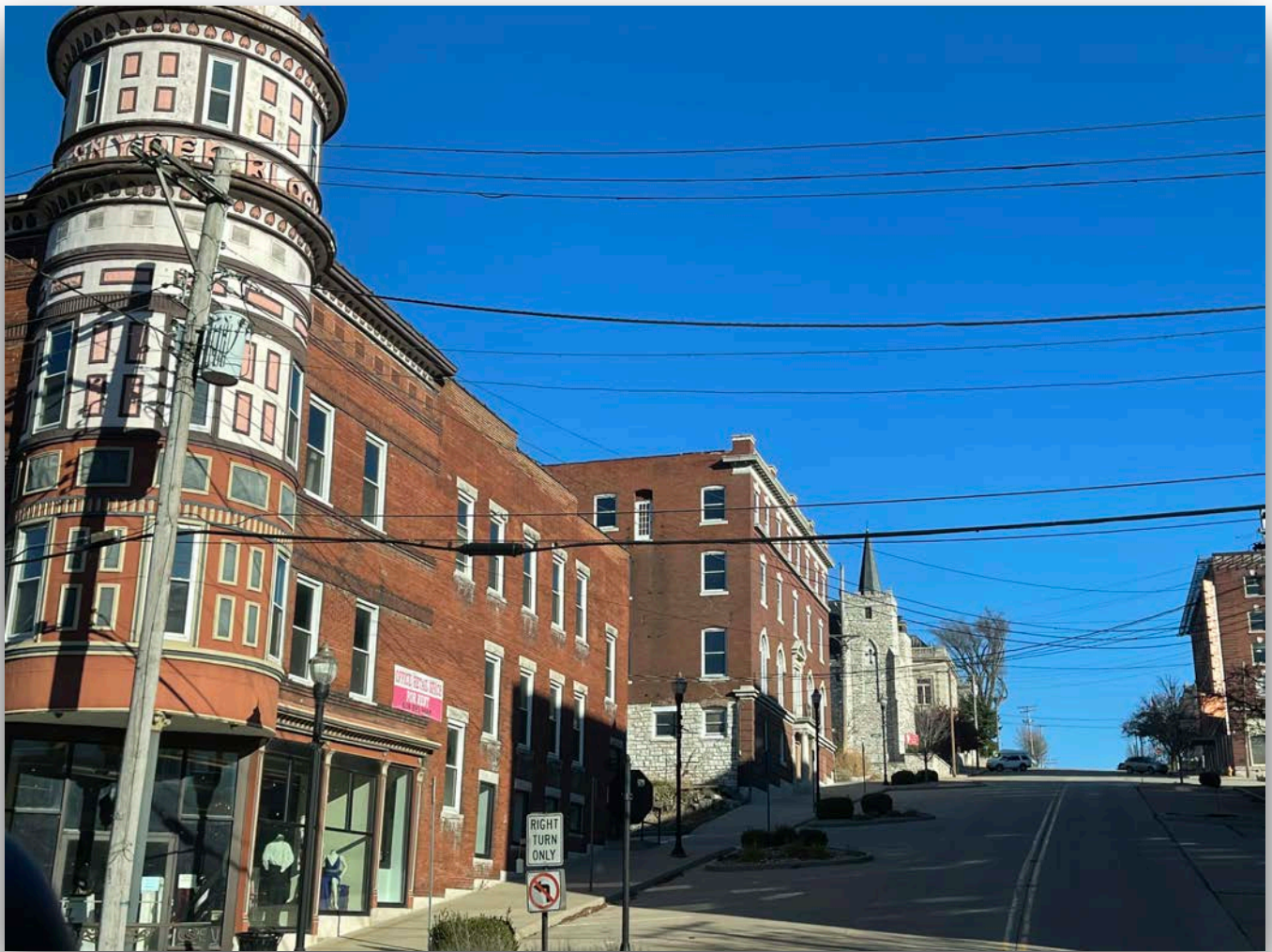
Nov. 25, 2022: Brian surprises me with his suggestion that we go for a ride. Where? To Alton, Illinois! Coltz is ready!



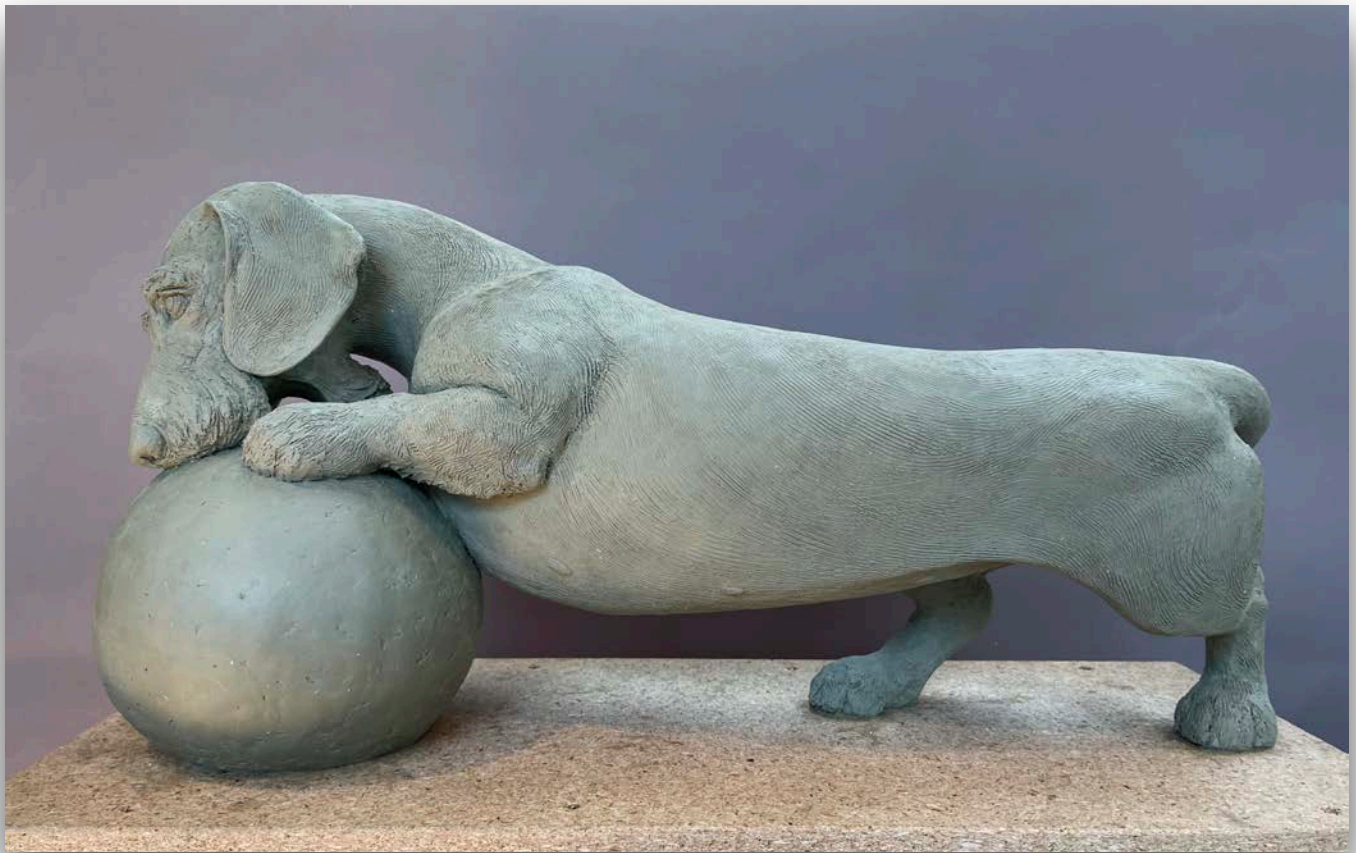


We take two ferries across the Missouri and the Illinois Rivers and also visit Elsah, Illinois, home of this peaceful old church.





I love the old architecture and... the Phenomenal Fudge Brian finds in downtown Alton.



*"Her Life's a Ball!" MW*

Approx. 25"L x 12"H x 8"D

Nov. 24, 2022: Thanksgiving Day: The gentlemen who commissioned "Life's a Ball!" MW decide they want a female. This is my first transgender dachshund!

This is now a girl, in big part thanks to Coltz' breeder, Dr. Randy Eltringham, who sent excellent photos of the female parts of her winning smooth girls.

Thank you, Brian for helping to drive 12 hours to have it molded!

Nov. 29, 2022, 6:14am: We cross the Missouri River west of home.

9:20am: It's sunny and 61 degrees in KC! Wow! 10 oz of good beef jerky costs \$17.99 at one of the travel stops.

10:36am: It is cloudy and 40 degrees in the Flint Hills.

10:55. 35 degrees, and drizzly: Time to turn on the wipers. Brian has seen 5 highway patrol cars since we left Topeka.

2:16pm: 30 degrees: We pass Grainfield, KS, where my original SUV, a 1999 Suburban stopped running on my way to teach a class in Loveland, CO. Sunshine is peeking through the clouds and snow flurries have stopped for now.

It must be National Highway Patrolmen Day. We see them stopped in the median every 30-40 miles in every county.

3:45pm, 22 degrees and sunny: We head north on CO-71 toward Brush, then west on I-76 to Loveland, the final leg of this journey.

5:57pm: 5 degrees with freezing fog!

We drop off "*Squirrel Season*" Smooth, 36/50, for repatina. Next we drop off the new "Her Life's a Ball" MW to be molded and we pick up two waxes of "*A Good Life*" MW for me to chase.

9:21pm, MDT: Whew! Finally, we are all three in bed at the LaQuinta, Loveland, CO. What a long day... zzz

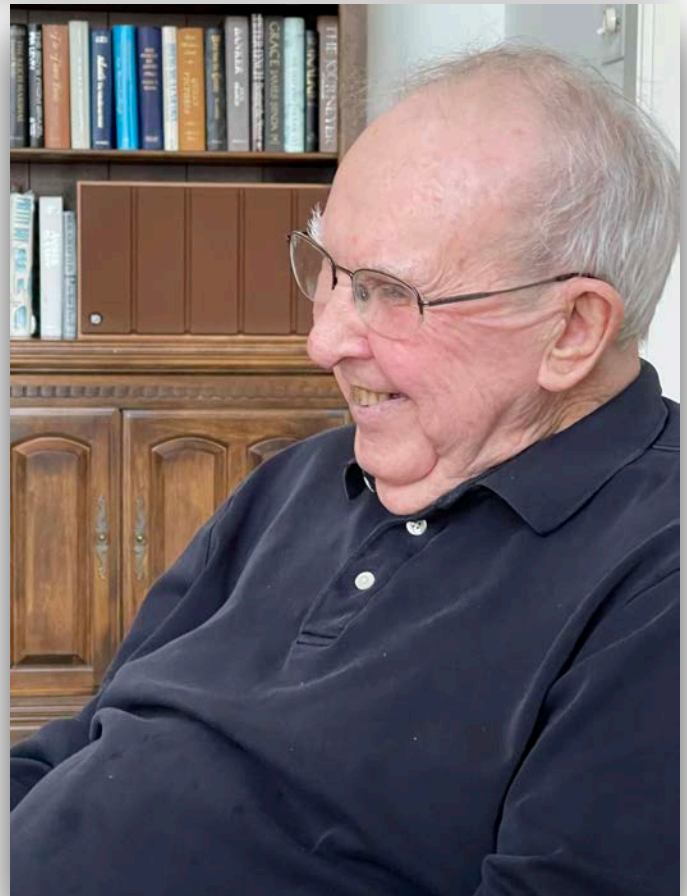
Nov. 30, 2022: Odds and ends of stuff need to be done before I start wax chasing around 3:30-4pm.



*"A Good Life" MW - wax for bronze*

December 2, 2022, 12:35pm, 43 degrees, Eaton, CO: Tumble weeds blow across two lane CO-74. We drop off two waxes of *"A Good Life" MW*, at my small foundry, Dragon Castings.

A brisk north wind is blowing dry earth horizontally across the highway. Wind socks are horizontal! Good news: the sun is shining in this Dust Storm!



December 3, 2022: We head south from Hays, KS, toward Stillwater, OK, to visit our 97 year old friend, Charlie, and his son John.



David J. Wagner



1h · 👥

A few artworks from PAWS AND REFLECT - ART OF CANINES. (Artists: Abbett, Beckner, Berner, Davis, Hardie)



December 5, 2022: Curator David J. Wagner posts this image of "Life is Sweet" with additional works from the show, PAWS AND REFLECT - ART OF CANINES. Thank you, Dave!



**Joy Kroeger Beckner**

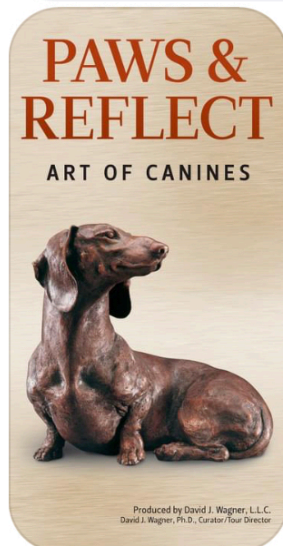
Thank you for posting my "Life is Sweet."

1d Like Reply



**David J. Wagner**

[Joy Kroeger Beckner](#) Thank you for participating in the exhibit. You produce wonderful work, and that's why I featured it on the cover of the brochure.



1d Like Reply



**Joy Kroeger Beckner**

[David J. Wagner](#), thank you!

December 7, 2022: More about "PAWS & REFLECT"



December 9, 2022: Several years ago, the Wildwood Garden Society invited me to become a member. Today is their annual Christmas party. I like the fun napkins from the Humane Society. Look closely to find the three dachshunds.

This noon time party is a nice break!



December 10, 2022: Brian enjoys lunch with his long time riding buddies. Left to right: Brian, our eye doctor Dr. Byron Santos, my best skin doctor Dr. Frank Simo, buddy Frank Benevides, architect Dennis Bolazina, Dr. Horacio Marafioti, Damian and Mariano.



December 13, 2022: My collector sends this picture of her newly repatinaed “Squirrel Season” Smooth and her “Sunnyside Up.”

*Thank you, happy Jody!*



December 14, 2022: I take Coltz to visit our good vet, and he is given a clean bill of health! Thank you, Dr. Eric of St. Louis Hills Veterinary Clinic. You are worth the drive!

*Oops! A-fib again...*

Dec. 16, 2022: This past two weeks have been a blur. After 7 years with a perfectly beating heart, I learn I have A-fib again. My doctor was correct; it was started by an infection. My arrhythmia doc thinks so too. I am now back on Eliquis and Metropolol to keep the A-fib in check.

Dec. 17, 2022: Today, my 78th birthday, we once again drive the 900 miles to Loveland, CO, to pick up the clay we dropped off two weeks ago, and, two waxes which I will hopefully finish chasing in two days. With my a-fib, Brian agrees to make more relaxed 2 day drives to and from Colorado.



*"Her Life's a Ball!" MW - wax for bronze*

December 19, 2022: While chasing waxes of *"Her Life's a Ball!" MW*, Verna, the wife of Don Stuerke, a kind, sweet guy who was in George and my lives calls to tell me he passed at age 86 in March of 2021. I had left messages about George's passing on his phone. Oh yes; we are all getting older.

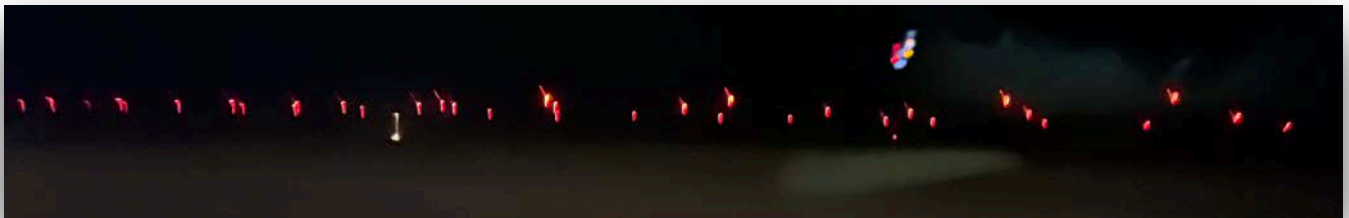
December 20, 2022: I finish chasing the two waxes of *"Her Life's a Ball! MW*, and we hurriedly head toward Eaton to deliver them to my foundry before the BIG STORM!!! I have an ear and a tail to finish at home and to ship. The main parts are finished! Yay!



December 20, 2022, 3:48pm: This Colorado sky is gorgeous.



December 21, 2022, 8:52am: Cattle seem oblivious to the cold...



Wind mills are lit red at night!

December 22, 2022: We arrive home around 1pm after an overnight in Hays, KS. Phew! The storm and frigid temperatures are due to arrive tomorrow. These low temperatures with incredibly high wind chills have not happened here since 1989!





*Thank you!*

Thank you, Anne, for ordering my "Inspiration" Smooth, Wire & Long medals! Big THANK YOU!!! Choose Red or Blue Ribbon!

*Thank you!*

Thank you, too, to all of you who sent birthday cards and Christmas letters! Each one brought smiles to my face. ;-))

Oh! I must share that my contacts list got messed up and some went away by themselves. I did not deliberately delete any. If you read this on Facebook please let me know if you would like to be back on my newsletter list.

Happy Birthday



The card above is used with permission from the Audubon Society.

*Happy Holidays & Happy New Year!*

I wish you each very Happy Holidays and a Happy and WARM 2023! Please stay healthy.

*Thank you for being in our lives!*

*we are grateful for each of you.*

*Joy, Brian and Coltz*

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