

# JKß – JOY KROEGER BECKNER – JKß

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

News & Journeys of Joy! :: Vol. Eighteen, Number Four :: July 2022

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*Happy July! Please, step back to May...*



*"Dreaming of Tomatoes, Too" MS*

14.5"W x 5"H x 9.25"D, Bronze, Edition 9 & 1 AP, (c)2021

**May 2, 2022:** Thank you, Hudson Valley Art Association, for awarding the Hudson Valley Board of Director's Award to "*Dreaming of Tomatoes, Too*" MS. The award includes a check for \$250! The HVAA 89th Juried Exhibition is live at The Lyme Art Association, Old Lyme, CT, through June 2!



*"Sunnyside Up" Smooth, 1:6 Scale*

Wax for Silver

This afternoon I chase a wax of *"Sunnyside Up" Smooth, 1:6 Scale*, for the first sterling silver cast, #1/9. It will be an edition of 9 and 1 Artist's Proof. This one is in honor of Alejandro's "Pumpkin." You, too, may have your dog's name inscribed on the dog.

May 3, 2022: "Sunnyside Up" in wax, is now in the hands of my jeweler!

Jump forward to May 11: "Pumpkin" has been upgraded to 100% PURE Fine Silver. Sterling is 92.5% silver, plus some copper. ;-))

## *My new site is personal*

My new site remains very personal. There is no self check out because I work with you and personally answer your questions.



*Enjoy!*

### *A quick memory of San Miguel...*

This kind young man, Hans, and his mother Cristina are pictured in front of the magnificently hand carved door of the Canal House in San Miguel ed Allende.

Hans recently came from California to live with and care for his mother.

They are sweethearts!



## *Happy Mothers Day!*

May 8, 2022: I miss my mom. It's hard to believe she's been gone since 1979; 43 years. She died at only 75 years of age.



May 12, 2022: These Peonies are from my garden. The lilies and Baby's Breath are from the bouquet Brian gave me for Mothers' Day. I LOVE these fragrant flowers and you!!! Thank you, Brian!



*"So Good to See You, Too" SL*

May 13, 2022: This week has been a challenge. I love selling internationally, but oh, my! Creating customs forms for international shipments is far from my favorite thing to do. Thank you for your patience, Alan in Canada and Jane in the United Kingdom. It's time to prepare for DCA next week!

*Dachshund Club of America National Specialty*

*DCA 2022! May 15 - 20, 2022*



*"Cozy" Smooth 1:6 scale*



*"Sweet Dreams II" 1:6 scale*





*"Dream Chaser" Smooth 1:6 scale*



*"Siesta" MS Life-size Miniature Smooth*



*"Dear to my Heart" Smooth, sterling silver*



*"Sunnyside up" Wire 1:6 Scale*





*"Inspiration" Wire*



*"A Good Life" MW Life-size Miniature Wire*

May 19, 2022, 11:14am: **WOW!** Lights are out at DCA in the Purina Events Center! A severe storm caused a power outage and we are to evacuate in 15 minutes before the generator quits sending a bit of electricity to a very few lights. DCA states: "Judging today is cancelled and will resume tomorrow at 8am."

4:55pm: A tornado warning is issued for home. It is DARK and raining! EIGHT tornados hover across the St. Louis area. All is well; NO TORNADOS touch ground!



*"Squirrel season" Wire 1:6 Scale*



*"Siesta" Long 1:6 Scale*



*"Life's a Ball!" Wire 1:6 Scale*





*"Dream Chaser" Wire 1:6 Scale*

*WOW! All of the above bronzes sold at DCA!*

*Thank you, Everyone!*

May 24, 2022: I open an account with FedEx. Twenty five years +/- ago, I found the UPS site easier to navigate and the store was more convenient. UPS is still my choice for domestic shipments, but international shipments are a different story. FedEx is better.



*"So Good to See You, Too" SL*

*Life-size Standard Long*

I ship *"So Good to See You, Too" SL*, Standard Long, to Alan, my new collector in Ontario, Canada.

Soon, I will have professional photos taken of *"So Good to See You, Too" SL*, Standard Long, life-sized bronze. Clay is shown above.



*“Life’s a Ball!” MS*

Imagine me as ...

*“Life’s a Ball!” MW, Life-size Miniature Wire*

**May 26, 2022:** A deposit arrives for *“Life’s a Ball!” MW!* What an unexpected surprise to have an order to create this piece with a wire coat. Thank you for this challenge, Bill!

**May 27, 2022:** My Canadian Collector, Alan, writes, “‘Diego’ arrived safe and sound yesterday. My youngest cried when she saw your beautiful work. We are still deciding where ‘Diego’ should live. As soon as he’s installed, I’ll send photos. Many thanks for the gift of your genius.” ‘Diego’ is *“So Good to See You, Too” SL*, Standard Long, shown in clay above. Below ‘Diego’ is at home in Ontario.







*"A Good Life" Long*

*1:6 Scale. Shown is the original wax.*

**May 28, 2022:** Happiness! "*A Good Life*" Long, 1:6 Scale" earns 'Best Sculpture' in the Seaside Art Gallery's 31st International Miniature Art. Juror Lynn Pronto Peterson writes, "The beautiful detail in this frisky pooch is only outdone by its whimsy. This is a fun and beautifully created piece that holds more personality than many full size bronzes."



*The Boeker  
Family  
Reunion*

June 5, 2022: Today at the Hoyleton, IL Community Center, it is great fun to see cousins after two+ years with no reunions due to Covid.

Photos from various family albums include this couple that started our Boeker family in America, Anna & Charles Boeker.







Top photo: Mom, Dad and me. Next, Cousins Opal, Floyd and me. Next reunion, we must have a picture of all of our generation of cousins!

*Surprise!*  
*Surprise!*

Cousin Edna brought a pencil portrait of herself that I drew and signed 9/26/61. I had forgotten all about it!



**June 6, 2022:** I consult with Dr. George Hruza who will do Mohs surgery on the cancerous spot on my forehead on July 11. He came highly recommended, and ... I like him! The wait begins.



## Three local Chesterfield artists share why 'home is where the art is!'

By SHEILA FRAYNE RHOADES

### Joy Beckner

Joy Beckner and her husband, Brian, live in an art-filled home filled with colorful paintings, sculptures, and some rather whimsical collections. Joy is an award-winning sculptor, renowned for her sculptures of hounds, especially dachshunds.

Realistic-looking canines repose throughout their home – on chairs, mantels and shelves alongside some other unexpected treasures.

A rather huge painting of the Grand Canyon fills one living room wall. Displayed beneath it is Brian's red 2002 Ducati motorcycle, one of four in his collection. Bronze sculptures sit on stereo speakers – a Remington copy and a Rodin-like nude sculpted by Joy back in her art student days.

A colorful collection of Native American rugs and blankets accent the modern art.

Whimsical touches, including a nostalgic rocking horse carved by Brian's father, model trains and a large strutting rooster feel right at home in the family room. So do two of Joy's life-size bronze dachshunds, resting on a couch.

The key to creating an environment in which art and life blend beautifully is the integration of light – both natural and man-made.

"We display motorcycles, paintings and sculptures where they get the best possible natural light," explained Joy. "Each piece is also enhanced with recessed ceiling lights to give the art an extra pop!"

In addition to larger sculptures, Joy also creates canine miniatures, animal design jewelry and human portraits. She works at home in her lower-level studio. It's an artist's dream – abundant in both space and natural light.

"When I became a sculptor in the early '90s, we added my studio and great room to the rear of our home. I use my studio to create sculptures of everything from life-sized or handheld canines to a four-foot-long white oak acorn. They are sculpted in clay or wax and then cast in bronze in Colorado."

In the yard, Joy has used her gardening and sculpting talents to create a woodland retreat that encircles the house. She loves plants and flowers of all kinds. Over the years, she has modeled numerous shrubs, ornamental grasses and flowering plants into beautiful borders along winding paths.

"I removed the original landscaping and installed many perennials. Using a garden hose, I managed to create curved bed lines for hostas under the native trees. Fortunately, our property backs onto a wooded

common ground with a small storm stream," Joy said.

Unfortunately, that common ground attracts deer who also love her hostas.

"Since the local deer have reclaimed their territory, I am slowly changing out my original plantings with pollinator-friendly native plants," Joy said.

Perhaps the best intersection of art and life in Joy's yard is her 35-foot-long dachshund topiary.

"It represents our beloved dachshund Edgar," Joy explained.

### Linda Green-Metzler

"My home is my personal art gallery!" exclaims award-winning watercolor artist Linda Green-Metzler, whose Chesterfield home also serves as her work and display place.

Paintings from different phases of Linda's career hang on every available wall space.

"Since watercolors tend to be small and intimate, clusters are a good way to display them," she shared. "I prefer to mix small pieces with the larger oils from earlier stages of my artistic journey. If it feels right, just about any arrangement works."

"No corner is too small or too humble to place artwork. For me, displaying artwork offers inspiration and study ... as well as the pure enjoyment of reliving a moment."

Likewise, the subject matter does not need to be grand to be a wonderful work of art.

"I especially like to hang works in gathering places like the kitchen," Linda said. "My subjects here include favorite everyday objects, food and art that celebrates cooking. I paint beloved objects, people, places, events and landscapes."

She noted that the portable nature of watercolor lets her work anywhere she finds inspiration.

Because daylight floods the main floor of her home, Linda said any and every room can be used for creating art and displaying it. And, thanks to the power of the internet, she can easily bring inspiration into her home via a computer screen. But that's only part of the magic.

Linda's watercolors are the blending of her imagination and observation.

"My first love of subject matter is the natural world," she noted.

Good weather draws her outside into her yard's garden and sequestered pool area, which is a source of year-round natural inspiration. During the pandemic, when travel was limited to our own backyards, Linda began creating fun paintings of children's playsets.



This wall in Linda Green-Metzler's home showcases how to mix and match favorite pieces to create a "gallery wall." (Source: Provided)

One special piece features the front-yard tree swing of her next-door neighbors. The swing, she said, is "the social gathering center for the kids on our cul-de-sac."

Linda made prints of her pandemic backyard paintings and gave them to the families who owned the playsets.

"They preserved a fond memory for them of that time (when everyone was stuck at home and playing in their yards)," she said. "Art that connects is the most satisfying, for both the artist and the viewer. That's why the neighborhood pieces are so meaningful."

Linda's paintings of local sites will be on view at the Chesterfield Community Center, now located at Chesterfield Mall later in June.

### Don Wiegand

Don Wiegand's sculptures are visible all around St. Louis – from Gussie Busch's portrait at Busch Stadium to works on display at the Missouri Botanical Garden – and all around the world. His sculptures appear in 500 private collections throughout the U.S. and Europe, including in the White House, Boston's J.F. Kennedy Library and the Vatican. But his home and studio are in Chesterfield Valley.

As a teenager, Don dreamt of creating an art studio out of his family's old slaughterhouse. In 1965, he began restoring the main structure. In 1967, he began adding to his work area and gallery space, pouring concrete for floors and erecting wooden ceiling beams. He considers his studio/home to be his largest piece of artwork.

"The building is an abstract sculpture in itself, interesting from every angle," Don said.

In 2013, he copyrighted the structure by burning his signature with a branding iron onto the building itself. Today the multifunctional building contains 4,500 square feet, which includes a lower gallery, a large work/sculpting room and an atrium con-

taining exotic plants. Completed masterpieces line the walls, blending with other works in progress.

Climbing the stairs to the upper floor is like taking a step back in time. The medieval-themed great room was designed to inspire creativity. Strategically placed antique furniture and collectibles fill the high-ceilinged room. Each item is exhibited with a purpose, inviting visitors to investigate every corner.

"It's a place to gather for conversation, inspiration and live music. I like to say it's for the three F's – friends, family and fundraising!"

With its 3 acres of parkland, the studio is surrounded by nature and home to over 50 varieties of trees making it an idyllic place to wander. Don began artistically planting those trees in the 1960s.

"Even when the Great Flood of '93 caused the loss of 150 trees, the remaining trees managed to evolve and survive!" he exclaimed.

The studio itself is designed as an abstract-shaped art piece. Concrete walkways and a large patio surround it. Visible only from the air, they appear as a portrait with encircling arms – embracing the studio. Also visible from the air is Don's Aviation Garden.

"The garden's outline is shaped like airplane wings – formed into a landing pattern, and can be seen by aircraft heading into Spirit of St. Louis Airport. It symbolically links the property with Spirit," he said. "I planted Aviation in honor of my parents Claire and Frank, and Anne Morrow Lindbergh."

Don's studio at One Wiegand Drive is more than just a labor of art and love. It is a local landmark that was placed on Chesterfield's Historic Register in 2008 and declared as a Registered Landmark by St. Louis County in 2020. It is open to the public by appointment. For more information, visit [wiegandfoundation.org](http://wiegandfoundation.org).

**June 8, 2022:** Sheila Rhodes' article about three Chesterfield artists is in the West News Magazine, page 39. Thank you, Sheila! Read it here: <https://www.westnewsmagazine.com/edition/> Enjoy!







June 13, 2022,10a: I visit the Transportation Museum with the Wildwood Garden Society. I haven't been to a meeting since the Christmas party. The Transportation Museum has transformed some grassy areas of the property into Pollinator Heaven!



I want to learn more, but oh my! It is HOT today. It is 99 degrees Fahrenheit with HIGH HUMIDITY! My back is dripping! We are due for three more days of 99+ degree temperatures. Saturday I pulled grass and mulched where the water company planted grass seed in my pollinator beds after they upgraded our water meter. When it is cooler, I will finish the job.





A mulched part of my pollinator bed. More grass to pull!

June 16, 2022: Sadly, at least 2000 cattle died in southwestern Kansas from the 99-100 degree heatwave with high humidity and little wind or cooling at night.

*"Coltz" will soon be our New Dog!!!*

June 17, 2022: Beau's breeder, Dr. Randy Eltringham, mentioned to me at DCA that if we ever want another dog, I should call her. Well, this weekend, we will drive to The Lyndhurst Estate north of New York City to view Coltz in the Westminster Kennel Club dog show and take him home from there. We will leave Saturday and drive as long as we can, then meet Randy at her hotel for dinner Sunday. We look forward to meeting Coltz on Monday!





*Coltz at DCA 2021*

*Coltz*

American Kennel Club Registration Title:  
Bronze Grand Champion Turning First & Goal He Scores

Birthday: September 17, 2019

Bred by Dr. Randy Eltringham. Handled by Tyler Mills.



June 18, 2022, 5:13pm, ET: 79 degrees, Dublin, OH: My! After four days of 99-100 degrees, 79 feels divine!

Brian is driving us to Tarrytown, NY for the Westminster Kennel Club dog show where we will pick up our new dog after he is shown Monday. He is a standard smooth black and tan dachshund, call name, Coltz. Brian thinks we should call him Sweet Pea and that's fine with me.

Coltz is from Beau's breeder, Dr. Randy Eltringham, kennel name, Turning Point. Randy provided the photos of Coltz at DCA 2021.

*Happy Fathers' Day!*

I wish I could say hello and give my dad a big squeeze.

*We are off to Westminster!*

June 19, 2022, 7:14am, CT, 58 sunny degrees: We are off to Westminster in NY. An overpass is decorated with many US flags. It's amazing! Sorry; I had no time to take a picture.

5:54pm, ET: We will soon meet breeder Randy and her friend Nancy Prouty for dinner.



Coltz is casually  
on lead at  
Westminster 2022.  
Randy's photo.





June 20, 2022, 1:48ET: Coltz is on my lap as we leave for home.

4:10pm: Traffic has been oh-so-slow. We cross the Delaware River on I-80, pay \$3 toll and my goodness, there is more road work ahead. We have 200 more miles to get to Clarion, PA, for the night.

Coltz is a very peaceful boy. After driving three hours, we finally reach a rest stop on I-80.

8:17pm: Once again, We sit in traffic on I-80. We think one lane must be closed ahead. It's just 21 miles to tonight's hotel. Stripes still need to be painted on the road, but at least it is really nice and smooth. 13 more miles.



June 21, 2022, 5:40am, 61 degrees: Clouds are the main event this morning; they are beautiful! We are on the road again. Home is 10 hours and 3 minutes away. We'll probably be home by 4:30 or 5.

It is soooooo nice to see native plants blooming in the median and along the sides of I-80. Thank you, Highway Department, for not mowing! We NEED our pollinators to survive. Oops! Ohio hasn't figured out to leave native plants for pollinators.

1:47pm ET, 94 degrees: Coltz naps on my lap.

2:38pm, ET, 99 degrees: Trucks, trucks and more trucks are oh so familiar. We limp along in traffic at 4-11 mph.

1:54pm CT: Suddenly, we are in Illinois and traffic flows again! It's a mystery.

4:23pm CT: 104 degrees on I-64 at the Forest Park Zoo!

“Love the ‘aging’ that your jeweler did! Will be wearing it to my next dog show. Thanks again for your lovely work.”

Thank YOU, Sandy!







Thank you, John Contoupe, for sharing.



*Happy Boys*



June 27, 2022: YAY! The high today is 82! I indulge in 2+ hours of yard work this morning.

To Randy, Coltz' breeder's surprise, Coltz not only knows how to pee and poop on a lead, he knows how to carry a steer ear while walking on lead to pee next door! He's a Multi-tasker!

*Coltz is a dear,  
sweet little Multi-  
tasker!*

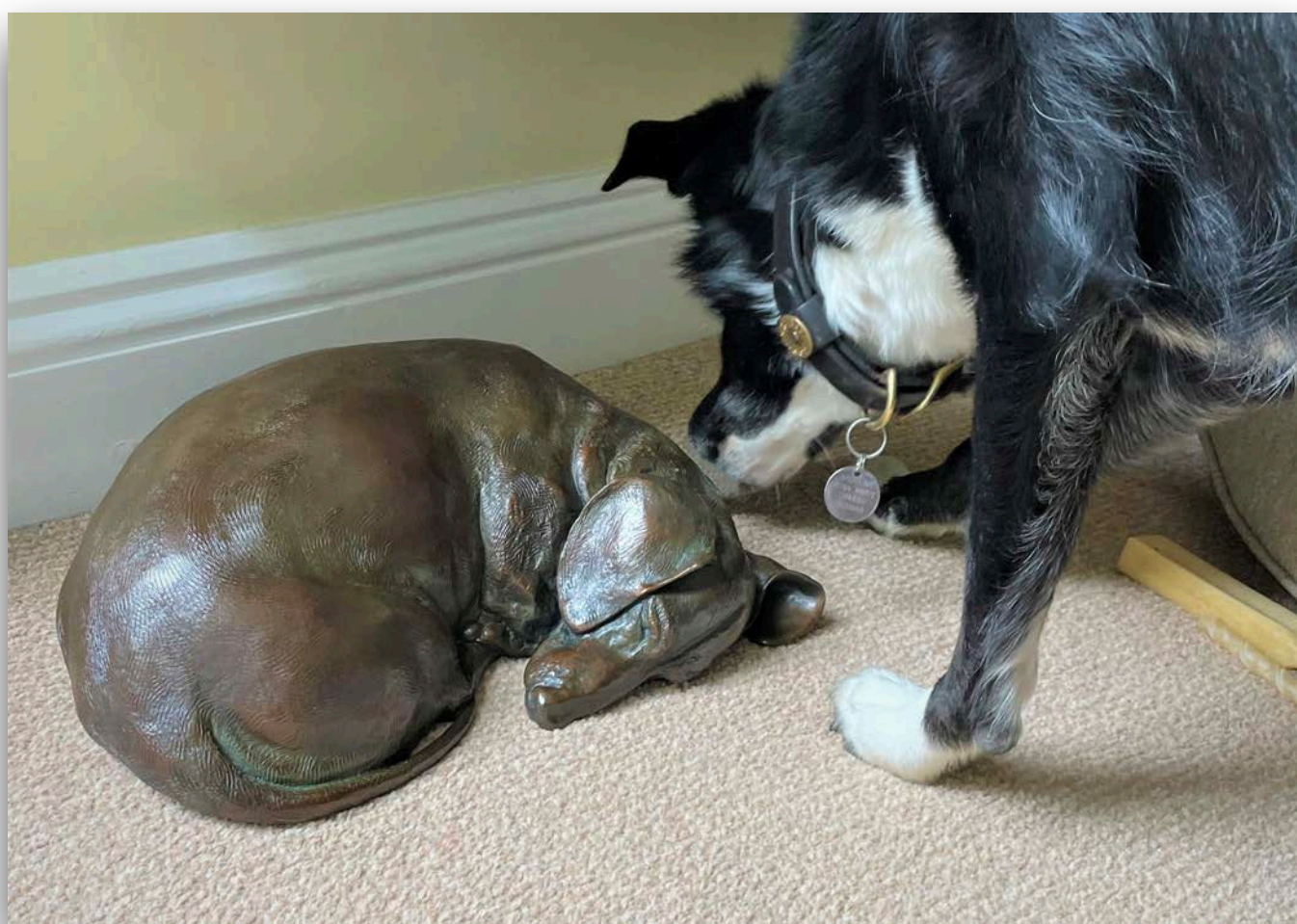


July 3, 2022: Wow! It is cool enough to work in the garden again. I remove more liriopé, reset square concretes and spread two bags of mulch. I finally feel the front entrance is more inviting.

*July 4th, 2022*



This “Happy Independence Day” is interrupted by violence near Chicago. Seven persons are dead and many wounded thanks to an idiot. What a sad day, plus it is nearly 100 degrees! Tomorrow we are predicted to have 102 degrees and 100 for Wednesday and Thursday. I’m glad I was born when I was, as this earth is not happy with so many humans. May we enjoy more happy, cooler Independence Days. Take good care of yourself and Mother Earth. Please plant native for our pollinators and ... VOTE!



*“She’s here!”*

Jane’s note and photo MAKE my July 4th! Thank you, thank you!

“Hi Joy!

‘Happy Fourth of July to you, Brian and Coltz!

‘Great news, Dottie (her working title, which might stick) has arrived safe, sound and gorgeous! We absolutely adore her and for me she is a dream come true 🥰

‘We are so happy and thrilled with our little girl. Alfie was a bit unsure at first but after a good sniff he’s thrilled too.

‘Thank you so much for allowing us to adopt her, she will be very much cared for and cherished for ever.

Very best wishes 🐾❤️”  
Jane, United Kingdom



*“Siesta” Smooth, 1:6 Scale*



July 5, 2022: Happiness! My new collector receives her “Siesta.” *Smooth, 1:6 Scale*, and writes, “Dick was thrilled with the sculpture. His smile said it all!” Thank you, Karen, for this good news!

Brian makes an emergency run to his doctor after feeling dizzy. He assured me he could drive himself. Indeed the doctor found wide variances in his blood pressure between sitting and standing, and, he changed Brian’s meds. I am SOOOOOO glad Brian went!

Three more days that are predicted to be 100+ degrees have me thinking as soon as this News is posted, I must go to my cool basement studio and on work “Life’s a Ball!” MW, Miniature Wire.

4:49pm: It is 103.1 degrees, down from 103.8 degrees a bit earlier.

*Stay cool & healthy my friends.*

*May we enjoy happier and more comfortable  
Independence Days in the future.*

*Thank you for being in my life!*

*Strength for the Journey...*

*Joy*

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