

JKß – JOY KROEGER BECKNER – JKß

classical realism, from hounds to humans & more!

News & Journeys of Joy! :: Vol. Eighteen, Number Four :: June 2023

May 11, 2023

Sweet Rain, we need you badly...;-)))

Thanks for surprising us, even with a little rain!

My Cancer saga continues...

May 8, 2023: I meet with two oncologists to learn how to hopefully prevent cancer from returning.

Dr. Imran Zoberi, my radiation oncologist, recommends five consecutive weekdays of radiation, beginning May 17, for an hour a day. Good. Simple.

Dr. Nusayba Bagegni, my medical oncologist, discusses pills (drugs) and we agree on a drug starting after radiation for a month, and then, if it is agreeing with me, 90 days supply. No Chemo! Somehow the prescription is for 270 days supply.

May 9, 2023, 9am: OMG! Shannon, the Mercy Occupational Therapist, is absolutely wonderful! Not only is she massaging my scars to soften them, she lives in south city where my long gone cousins lived and our good vet is located. It is a good time talking.



"A Good Life" Wire

1:6 Scale, 4 3/4"L x 1 3/8"H x 2 1/2"D
Bronze, Edition 50 & 5 Artist's Proofs (c)2011

Thank you, Jo, for ordering number 11/50, and for your payment.

*"A Good Life" Wire,
1:6 Scale.*

OOPS! I'm back in A-Fib...

May 11, 2023, 4:15pm: Dr. Andrew Krainik, my good arrhythmia doctor, tells me I am back in A-Fib. We schedule another Cardio

Version (shock) on May 30. This is out patient and we both hope it works longer this time than it did in December. Otherwise, I will have to have another ablation and an overnight at a hospital.



May 13, 2023: Brian removes the lights and more from the front of his FJ Cruiser in an attempt to fix it to his liking.



Happy Mother's Day, mom!

This picture was taken well before I was born.
I remember this blouse.

Good morning!



May 15, 2023: A wild turkey visits for the first time in the 39 years we have lived here! Pretty cool! By the time I got this shot he had walked next door to our neighbor's driveway. Our pond is below.



*Happy Brian!
His 4Runner's front is nearly customized.*

Celebrating
95
years



Brenda Bechtel
Windchimes

Oil on Linen
15 x 20 x 2 Inches

NFS



Joy Beckner
"Dream Chaser"
Wire

Bronze Sculpture -
Red or Black & Tan
patina.
2.25 x 6.5 x 2
Inches

"Dream Chaser"
Wire is an animated
study of the
movement of a
proud wire-coated
dachshund. He is
trotting as if he is in
a show ring chasing
the dream of being
Best of Variety. Or
he could be on the
lookout for
squirrels! Robert
Cole's drawings of
the dachshund trot
were primary
references for my
interpretation of the
three-dimensional
standard of a
dachshund in
motion.

\$1,500.00

The American Artists Professional League
Inc.

"*Dream Chaser*" Wire, above, is shown through June 26, 2023, in the 2023 Spring Members Online show of the American Artists Professional League. See it here: <https://aaplinc.org/spring-2023>

good luck is everything!

May 16, 2023: Oh, did we luck out! I thought I was getting hot flashes from being off hormones, but yesterday we learned our AC and furnace units have 95% died. Good news! The new one will be installed Thursday - and - the hottest it is predicted to be until then is 82. It is in the low 60s today. ;-))

My occupational therapist Shannon, nearly puts me to sleep again. Quest draws blood prior to my May 30, Cardio Version. Let's hope this shock gets and keeps my heart back in rhythm longer.

May 17, 2023: RE: Radiation. Today, I am measured and my arms are molded for Radiation which will start May 31. My Cardio Version (Shock) is rescheduled for June 9.

May 18, 2023, 7:39am: Fresh Air arrives to start replacing the AC & furnace. It is 63 degrees. ;-))

Today my good preventive medicine doctor of 23 years moves to Florida. I miss her already. There, she will care for her 84-year-old mom, Bakula.



Varsha Rathod,
MD, IFMCP



May 19, What year?

We girl cousins meet in Aviston, IL, for an annual get together.
L to R: Opal, Mary, Janice, Nancy, Joy, Hazel & Nancy Jo.
Sadly, Opal & Nancy Jo are no longer with us.



May 20, 2023, 8:16am: Irises bloom in our front yard pond.



May 26, 2023:

Metropolitan Forestry plants a new Native Eastern Red Bud tree to replace the one with an 8-9" diameter trunk that the other folks took out by mistake. It pays to hire the best even if they are more expensive.



"Merry Sunshine"

Half Life-size,
Approx. 21"W x 14"D x 10"H, Ed. 9 & 1 AP

May 21, 2023: *"Merry Sunshine"* half life-size, is off to the Salmagundi Club New York, for its 42nd Annual Painting Sculpture & Graphics Exhibition, May 29 - June 23, 2023. See it in the Skylight Gallery at SCNY, 47 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY.

Geez, Time Flies. This show is nearly over...



Our friend Angie, who lives in San Miguel de Allende, sends this picture of her colorful Bee-loving umbrella. We ALL need to do what we can to Save the Bees!



TINA TURNER

1939 — 2023

May 24, 2023: Tina Turner dies at age 83.

Radiation

Today is my first appointment of five for radiation. It is not painful, it is just rather boring lying there listening to the sounds of the machine for 45 minutes.



May 26, 2023: Cammy Bryan, our former neighbor from probably 30 years ago, passed this morning. I remember she was a sweetheart. Her daughter Alethea posted it on FaceBook.

Cammy battled cancer for many years. Her husband, Charlie Bryan, has Parkinson's Disease.

It is fun to call our other neighbors, Mike & Kim Jones, to let them know about Cammy. We all had fun together back then.

growing old is NOT for sissies.



*Two
Humans
and
a
Dog*

May 29, 2023: Coltz continually encourages Brian as he replaces the insides of our 1985 first low flow toilet. I simply hold the ball when he asks so it will not touch the inside of the tank.

*Yay, Brian!
It works perfectly!*



May 29, 2023: My project this Memorial Day is to take all my houseplants outside. I definitely have weight lifting exercise.

June 7, 2023: Today was my final (I hope) radiation treatment for my double breast cancer.

June 9, 2023: Sophie's Breeder, Marilou Callison joins Tim over the Rainbow Bridge. They were both sweethearts. I call Rita Toombs, Edgar's breeder to let her know and have a nice chat.

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June 10, 2023: Robert Reich writes:

"Yesterday, Donald Trump was indicted on 37 counts of willful retention of national defense information charges, conspiracy to obstruct justice, corruptly concealing a document or record, and other assorted crimes."

May Justice Prevail!!!

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A-Fib Correction, again.

June 12, 2023: I am scheduled for my second Cardio Version (Shock) in six months. I think my cancer caused me to go back into A-Fib.



June 13, 2023: Meet my WONDERFUL Occupational Therapist, Shannon Stecher. She is at Mercy, Clarkson and Clayton Roads. Today is my last day to enjoy her caring benefits to help prevent Lymphedema, swelling that may happen after breast surgery. She also helped to soften the scarring after the cancer surgery.

Shannon is VERY GOOD!

Thank you Dr. Varsha Rathod for prescribing her!

WOW! A bunch of shows have been entered. I will let you know what gets in and where. ;-))

OOPS! I forgot. Please step back to...

April 18, 2023: This evening I meet Gloria, one of my very first collectors, and she drives me to The Missouri Athletic Club, West County, for a show of local artists and their work. Gloria and I met in 2000 at the original Missouri Athletic Club, in Downtown St. Louis. She introduces me to Kara Kelpé, Membership Development Executive, in hopes of her inviting me to show downtown again. My health issues have kept me from contacting Kara, but I emailed her today after I called Gloria.

June 17, 2023: Yay! “*Her Life’s a Ball!*” and “*A Good Life*” are in metal! When WILL the metal be finished? Production is SOOOO SLOW these days...

Happy Doggie Daddy’s Day, Brian!!!



June 18, 2023: Coltz and his daddy, Brian. ;-))



Daddy, today you would be 120 years old. ;-)) This photo is from 1940, four years before I was born.

Happy Father's Day!!!



Kindergarten - Washington Elementary School

Vicki Lynn, the dark haired girl with a bow smack dab in the middle of this photo, sweetly shared our Kindergarten photo on a pillow she made and gave me at our 50th Normandy High School reunion. Another Kindergarten classmate, Ronnie Dudeck, contacts me on Facebook, which reminds me to show him this photo and ask which boy he is. I recognize Sherri Holtzclaw, Laura Greenberg, and my very best friend, Shirley Allison.



Blue Giant Hyssop

This beautiful, pollinator friendly plant, enjoys our brief rain.

June 19, 2023: Brian fixes our broken deck faucet.

The temperature is pleasant, in the 80s. I glue a bit of wood back on my window frame where Brian broke it tending to the roof.



"Lord of the Couch" MW

June 20, 2023: The Straz Center, Tampa, FL, extends the display of *"Lord of the Couch" MW*, for one more year.



I am honored. Thank you!

I mail the contract for an exhibition at The Aiken Center for the Arts Gallery, Aiken, SC. The show will run from March 21 - April 30, 2024. aikencenterforthearts.org

Thank you, Jeff Birchill, for inviting me to be in the show!

A lone daylily
escaped a hungry
deer as did these
pretty purple
flowers.





June 21, 2023: The light on our deck is beautiful tonight.

Our air quality has improved tremendously over the last week or two when Canadian wildfires spewed smoke and dust especially over the east coast. We just had very gray skies and warnings to stay inside.



"Merry Sunshine"
Half life-size

June 23, 2023: Happiness! The Hudson Valley Art Association awarded the Agop Agopoff Memorial Award & \$500 to "*Merry Sunshine*" Half Life-size! The award pays for the entry fee, and shipping, with some left over! Yay! Many thanks to the Judge!

*Red Air Quality today in Downtown St. Louis!
One cannot see the Arch from the KSDK sky cam!
Orange Air Quality in Chesterfield. Not good*

June 28, 2023: Life is not easy for anyone with well over 100

wildfires burning in Canada. We are predicted to have 100+ degree temps for the next two days.



Bottle Brush Buckeye

Our Bottle Brush Buckeyes always delight me! Thanks, Doug Zick, nurseryman/friend, for this recommendation many years ago. Enjoy!

Good news!

Our new kitchen faucet and garbage disposal have been installed. I need to re-install the pull out drawers under the sink and put everything back in order.



Brian finished installing his new black wheels on his FJ Cruiser. Everything he wanted black is now Black, with his personally painted bumpers!

June 28, 2023, 2:24pm: Mercy Occupational Therapy calls and we set up the next 8 treatments to hopefully prevent my getting Lymphedema due to the cancer. My right underarm is especially grateful, and I am grateful to my dear Dr. Varsha Rathod for giving the order for me to see Mercy OT again. Hugs to Varsha and to Shannon, OT!

Please Be Well...

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

Studio time will come soon 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 Summer!*

*Sincerely,
Joy*

314-378-7032
info@joybeckner.com