

JKß – JOY KROEGER BECKNER - JKß

classical realism, from hounds to humans

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NEWS OF JOY :: VOLUME FIVE, NUMBER TWO :: MAY 2009



Daffodils that I planted long ago. March 2009.

Greetings!

The Gordon Setter I diligently worked on in Mexico is closer than ever to being finished in clay! Truthfully, when we returned from Mexico in early March, my garden beckoned, and I've accomplished chores way before necessary, and also before it gets HOT. Still more gardening must wait until the Gordon is finished. I hope your early spring has been as productive and that you are healthy and weathering all storms. Good health makes life good.



March 29, heavy snow plopped into the pond like large dollops of sour cream, and then disappeared beneath the waves they created. It was magical!

April 19, Sunday, dazzling white dogwood blossoms bloom against deep green hemlocks. Behind our home is a high canopy forest where deciduous trees are just leafing out over the under story of native redbuds and billowing green honeysuckle. Native May Apples, an occasional trillium, as well as white bleeding hearts and Virginia bluebells peek up in the woods where honeysuckle has not taken grip. In this atmosphere of drizzle and light rain, the dogwood's whiteness is brilliant! Spring Peepers sing at the pond and thick stemmed lilies push through the soil signaling spring has settled in nicely. Again, life is good.

April 24, DOXIE DIGEST asked me to write an article for the Summer issue! Please watch for it.

May 6: Peonies and Giant Allium are blooming -- and -- Edgar discovered garlic! When I accidentally dropped a clove, he snatched it -- and -- asked for more. Anna was our only other dog to eat raw garlic.

May 10, 9:07 am. I confirmed what I thought last night -- I'd finally come up with a sculpturally beautiful texture for all that hair on the Gordon Setter. Does that feel good! Now, to make the rest look as good...

May 11, Brian spotted two great horned owls in a huge sycamore tree way behind our house. One had just caught a squirrel. and -- we each caught glimpses of a 3-inch hummingbird hovering over water lilies in our pond. I love the wildlife in our area!

May 17, **WOW!** I have been given the gift of seeing and feeling a good Gordon Setter in my studio! I am finally excited about this piece. There is **NOTHING** like working from life, and I think it will be finished within a week!

Missing in Action :: Please tell me if you have either of these two 1:6 Scale pieces with these numbers:



Dream Chaser Long 20/20



Life's a Ball, Smooth 66/99

Thank you!

NEW BRONZES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN LATE SEPTEMBER:

- *Gordon Setter - half-life sized, seated.
- *Life's a Ball, Wire 1:6 Scale
- *Sunnyside Up, Wire 1:6 Scale
- *Sunnyside Up, Long 1:6 Scale
- *Lord of the Couch, Smooth 1:6 Scale
- *Surprise bronze, Smooth 1:6 Scale

PEWTER: I plan to have a small piece in lead free, fine pewter no later than the holidays.



"Life's a Ball, Long" 1:6 Scale

Now is a great time to order for special occasions. Layaway is always welcome.

Many thanks to those of you who make payments on a regular basis.

"Sunnyside Up, Smooth" 1:6 Scale



"Gentle Cloud, Mountain Dog of Japan"
The Art of Conservation 2009



UNTIL THEN,

PLEASE, SEE, TOUCH AND BE TOUCHED BY MY WORK
AT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS & FINE GALLERIES:

- April 26 - June 14, 09 Paws & Reflect: Art of Canines, New Visions Gallery, Marshfield, WI.
- May 1 - June 1, 09 18th International Miniature Art Show, Seaside Art Gallery, Nags Head, NC.
- May 2-30, 09 Third Annual Miniature Fine Art Show, Artistic Designs Gallery, Brownsburg, IN.
- May 30 - July 5, 2009 Society of Animal Artists, 48th Annual Art and the Animal, Cultural Arts Council of Estes Park Fine Art Gallery, Estes Park, CO.
- June 13 - July 26, 2009 Art of the Animal Kingdom XIV, Bennington Center of the Arts, Bennington, VT.
- July 4 - Aug. 30, 2009 Paws & Reflect: Art of Canines, Elizabeth de C. Wilson Museum, Southern Vermont Arts Center, Manchester, VT. svac.org.
- July 28 - Sept. 9, 2009 Terry Lindsey Equidae Gallery, The Holiday Inn, 232 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.
- July 18 - Aug. 30, 2009 Society of Animal Artists, 48th Annual Art and the Animal, San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, San Angelo, TX.
- August 20, 2009 Bella Arte: Hounds and Horses, Joy Beckner and Katie Upton, a one sculptor and one painter exhibition. Experience an evening of fine dining at the Bella Vista Restaurant and fine art in La Salita at the Four Seasons Resort at The Biltmore. Presented by Bottoms Art Galleries. 5-10pm. Meet the artists! Santa Barbara, CA.
- Sept. 15 - Dec. 31, 2009 The Art of Conservation 2009: An International Exhibit of Nature in Art, The Hiram Blauveltdt Art Museum, Oradell, NJ.
- Oct. 9 - Nov. 8, 2009 American Women Artists Master Signature Members Exhibition and Competition, South Street Art Gallery, Easton, MD.
- October 20-24, 2009 DACHSHUND CLUB OF AMERICA National Specialty, Frederick, MD.

GALLERY NEWS

Bottoms Art Galleries, Santa Barbara, CA :: Joseph Bottoms is indeed a man of many lives. In the past two years he has survived cancer, the Teahouse fire last fall and this month his home escaped the Jesusita fire by less than 100 feet! He will rebuild a bridge, replace a generator and replace 2000+ feet length of waterline into the house. He and his family are safe! I feel so grateful that he is still with us. Joseph has represented me for seven years and, on May 15, offered me a show along with a painter, on August 20, at the Four Seasons Biltmore, where his gallery is located.

Chaparral Fine Art, Bozeman, MT :: Eleanor Roche called in early march to tell me she'd lost her lease! The landlord's teenaged daughter wants to open a resale shop in the space. Then, a gas main explosion three blocks away on Main Street killed another gallery's director. Eleanor is rightfully spooked about Main Street. Eleanor has represented me for 10 of the 15 years she's been in business. I miss her and look forward to the day when she resurrects Chaparral Fine Art.

Creative Art, St. Louis, MO :: "When one door closes another opens." In early April, a friend and painting teacher, Tito Gay, introduced me to the owner of 30 year old Creative owner, Mary Ellen Shortland. She is enthusiastic about my work and I look forward to working with her.



See my work in these galleries, too:
American Visions, St. Louis, MO.
Blackhawk Gallery, Saratoga, WY.
Cavalier Galleries, Greenwich, CT.
Cavalier Galleries, Nantucket, MA.
Dog & Horse Fine Art, Charleston, SC.
Funeria, Graton, CA.
Galleria Veronese, New Orleans, LA.
Sculpture Works, Inc., Fort Worth, TX.
The Chisholm Gallery, Pine Plains, NY.

Wanda Wainscott

The art community lost a dear friend when Wanda Wainscott, Director Emeritus of the Dunnegan Gallery in Bolivar, MO, passed away in March. Wanda was a sweet, dachshund-loving woman who was the first museum director to purchase my work for her eclectic gem of a museum that shows everything from Picasso to Joy Beckner. Wanda's niece, director Jo Roberts, is keeping the friendly atmosphere alive. Do visit!



IN HONOR OF MISS LIZZIE... 1989-2006

I am ready to share your endearing notes and poems of sympathy and celebration of Miss Lizzie. Find them here:

http://www.joybeckner.com/in_honor_of_miss_lizzie.html

May you find as much comfort in these messages as I have. Thank you.

TIMELY THOUGHTS...

A story from a friend, Diane E. Jones, Santa Barbara, CA.

"Back in February a friend died in a house fire. Her intact champion purebred dog was saved, and she had no immediate family and no current will. The dog had just been bred a few days earlier.

"Through the help of Kennel Club and dog friends, and with the helpfulness of the Animal Control Director, her dog was immediately able to go into Foster Care with someone who knew her after release from the Veterinarian [and] without going into the shelter. Her dog ended up being pregnant (the result of the long planned artificial insemination breeding the week before) and two healthy puppies were born almost three weeks ago. She is thriving in her foster home and many of us hope she will be able to stay there forever.

"This brings me to a couple requests for each of you.

1. "Please keep your smoke alarm tested with fresh batteries every year.
2. "Please, if you don't have local family, have a will, and a plan for your animals, with your friends.

Make sure your friends and family know where to find any necessary documents to show that they should have the animals at your request.

"This dog is still with the individual who has fostered her since February but is not co-owned with anyone and the only will they have found is 30 years old. There are many people who knew the owner and want the dog, but it will now be decided by the executor of her old will and distant family."

ON A PERSONAL NOTE, Medicine Shoppe International booked me for a nationwide TV commercial! Memorizing the copy for last year's videography was VERY hard, but doing this year's voiceover for the same image was FUN! I've been told Medicine Shoppe ads are also in the May issue of O Magazine, and in June Good Housekeeping. May 13, a friend informed me the commercial is on YouTube, here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HNb4v2k2tSU> Surprise, surprise!

By the time you read this, I will likely be on the road to Colorado to have the Gordon molded, or I may already be attending the National Sculpture Society "Weekend." I promise to reply to your notes and inquiries as promptly as possible!

That's all the news for now! I hope you are well and will write to let me know about *YOU and yours!*



Thank you for being in my life! Happy summer! Joy