

# JKß – JOY KROEGER BECKNER – JKß

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

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News & Journeys of Joy! :: Vol. Eighteen, Number One :: Feb. 2022

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*Happy 2022!*



Thank you, Dr. Randy, for ordering “*Sweet Roll*” and “*Sunnyside Up*”  
*1:6 Scale Smoothies*, to be delivered at DCA in May 2022.  
You save shipping and sales tax!



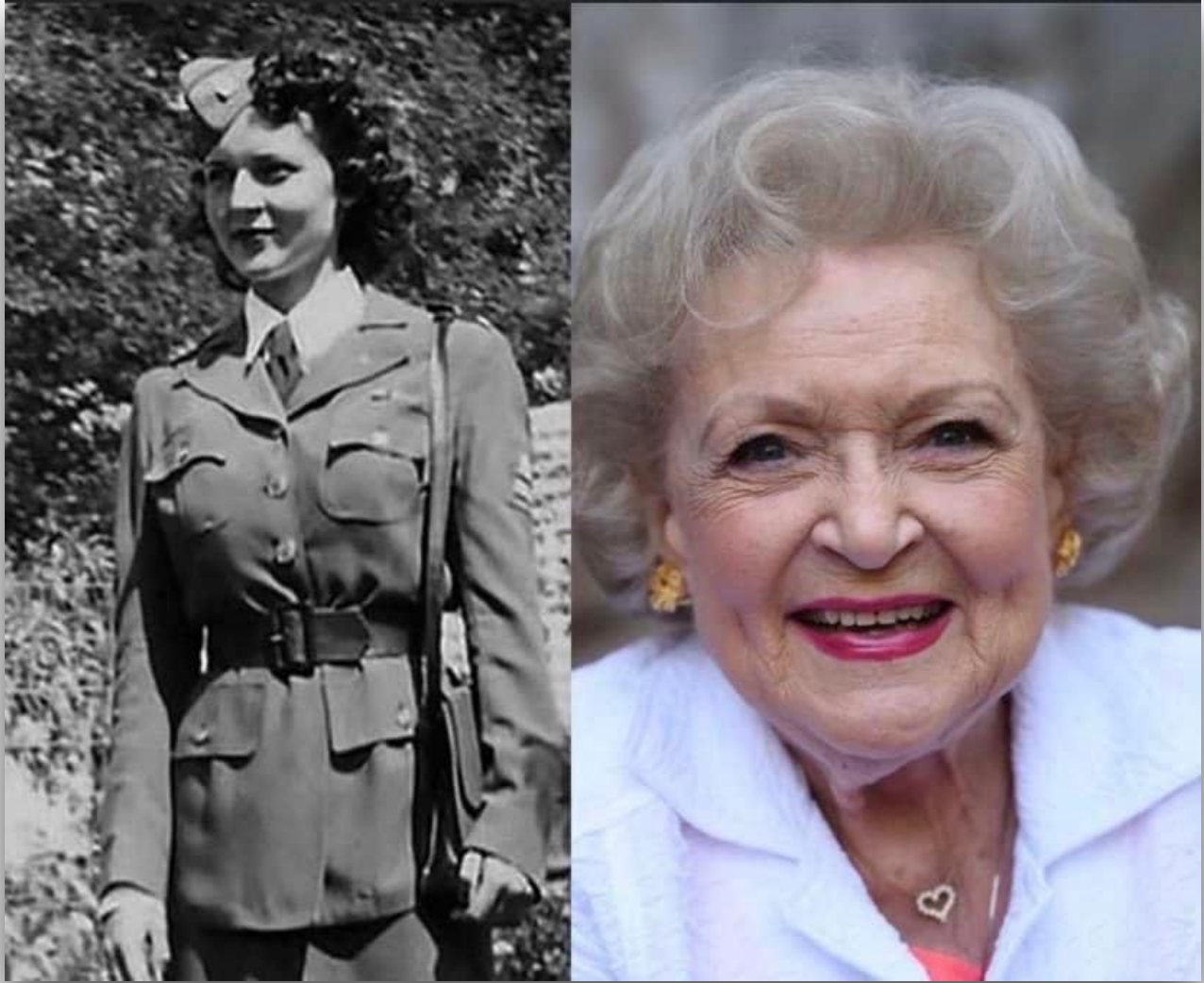
Thank you, Janet, for sharing your *“Three Faces of Guinevere.”*

### *UPS ... A Good Decision*

Dec. 29, 2021: I am happy. Over 30 years ago I chose to use UPS to ship to my clients. Why? The UPS site was easier to navigate and they are reliable. Sunday FedEx emailed saying packages (to be signed for) would be delivered a certain day. Nothing. Delivery “pending.” Today, FedEx finally delivers packages that needed to have a signature. Guess what? The driver says he doesn’t need a signature because he knows I received the packages. I’m glad I am not the sender.

### *sadness in colorado*

Dec. 30, 2021: Superior, CO succumbs to hurricane force winds of 105 mph and wildfires. Over 500 homes burn to the ground. Hospitals and schools are fortunately spared. Sad...



Dec. 31, 2021: Legendary actress Betty White dies just 18 days before her 100th birthday. She was with us on TV for over 60 years. Everyone who saw Betty, no doubt, remembers her fondly.

In addition, I learn that Brad, a kind young man who worked at our Whole Foods, died Dec. 18. He was a drummer who often twiddled his drumsticks.

Today, over 1500 flights are cancelled as Covid cases in the US are higher than ever. The temperature here today in Chesterfield Missouri was nearly 70 degrees. Sigh... Mother Nature is taking back her planet. I'm glad I was born when I was born. At 10:18pm it is 57 degrees on New Years Eve.



## Happy New Year!

Jan. 2, 2022, 3.23pm: Yay! The temperature is 21.9 degrees Fahrenheit, up from around 12 this morning. I do not like cold, but I really do not like global warming.



Jan. 3, 2022: Happy birthday, Dr. Randy! I dearly appreciate your sweet smile with your “Cozy” Smooth and “Deli’s Open” Smooth. Dr. Randy is a breeder of fine standard smooth dachshunds. Our sweet Beau was bred by her. ;-)

Jan. 4, 2022: Yay! Day Two of sunshine! I work with Nonnie, my Mac guru. Somehow my contacts multiplied. She shows me how to consolidate a group of two or three identical contacts into one. IF, you get two of this newsletter, please let me know so I can hopefully fix that.



*Welcome to our Great Room*

Jan. 5, 2022: Brian's speaker stands are finished! Notice he even made a part to hide the wires going into the speakers, Nice job, Honey!!! May your thumb heal quickly and completely!

Jan. 6, 2022: Today is the anniversary of a very sad day that I wish I didn't remember. Please, live on, American democracy!



*"Sweet Dreams II"*

Thank you, Ed, for ordering "*Sweet Dreams II*" Smooth, 1:6 Scale to surprise your wife. I am honored to have it as a memorial for your dear, recently departed four-legged friend.

Jan. 7, 2022: Yikes! It is 7 degrees! I can only imagine how my maternal grandparents, who lived in their little wooden farmhouse in middle western Illinois, handled going to the outhouse in this kind of weather, and then pumping water at the sink. WE ARE SOOOOOO LUCKY to have indoor plumbing with hot and cold running water, and CENTRAL HEAT!!!

Jan. 10, 2022: Breeder and collector Anne Carson and I met at the 1999 Dachshund Club of America National Specialty. Anne is a





breeder of standard longhaired dachshunds that are as sweet as she. I just learned that after an extended illness Anne's husband Jim passed unexpectedly on October 31, 2021, and, that she has two types of cancer. Please hold Anne in your healing thoughts and, do your very best to stay healthy!

Doesn't she look amazingly good in this photo that was taken right after Jim's funeral?

*Be well, Anne!*

**Jan. 15, 2022:** Wow! "Miss Me" MS, graces the cover of the Oct. 29, 2021 Hays Post, Hays, Kansas, where it was displayed with 4 more of my works in The Sternberg Museum at Fort Hays University. I learn of this recognition from the curator of the ANIMAL GROUPS show, Dr. David J. Wagner.

## 'Animal Groups' art exhibit opens at Sternberg Museum

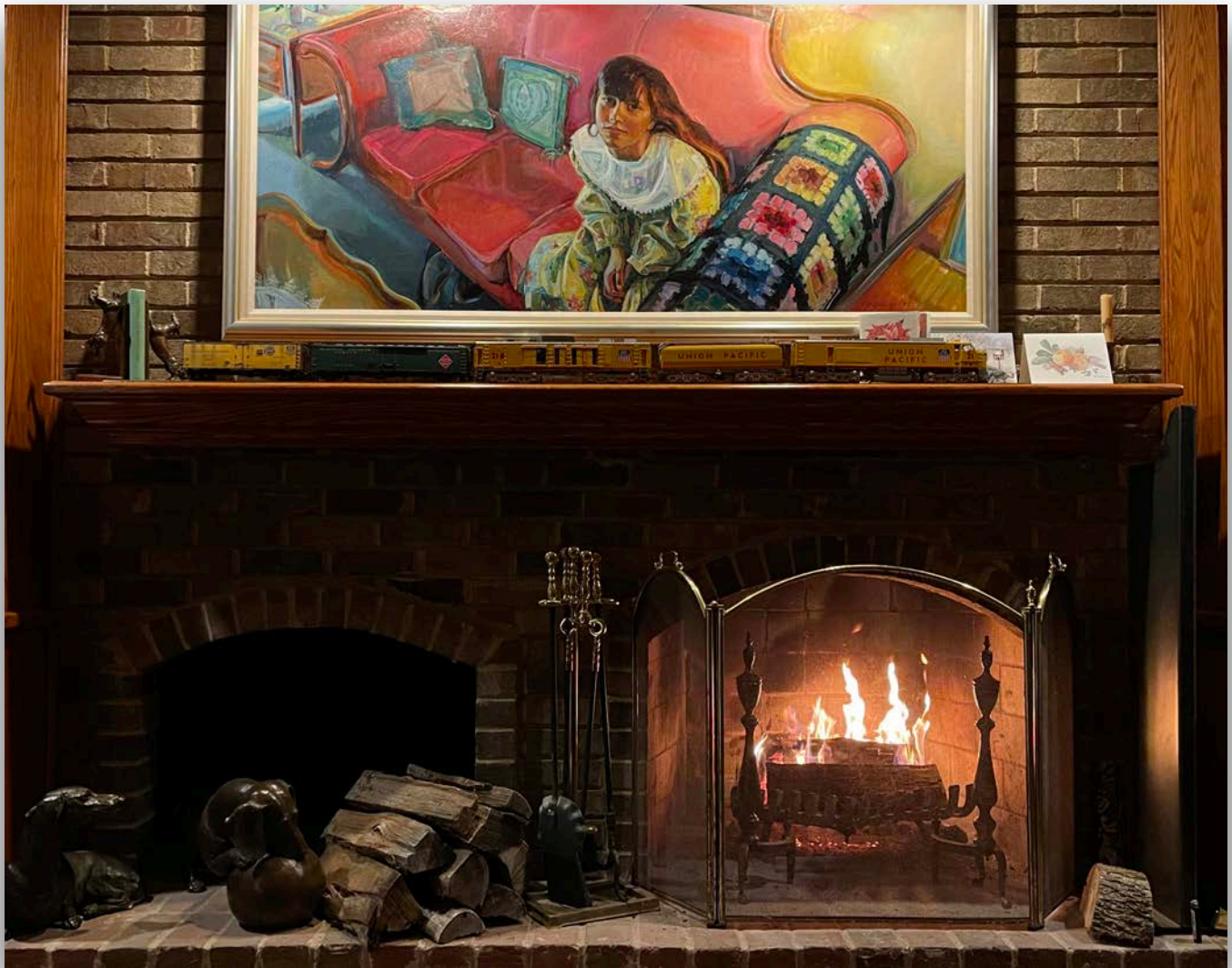
Posted Oct 29, 2021 5:15 AM



"Miss Me" by Joy Beckner Courtesy image

Submitted

The exhibition "Animal Groups" will be displayed from now through Jan. 15 at the Sternberg Museum.



Jan. 16, 2022: Brian treats us to a fire this evening. *“Life’s a Ball! MS* and *“So Good to See You” ML* guard the wood pile, and *“Squirrel Season” Smooth*, along with an O-Gauge model train and cards from a painter friend, grace the mantel. Another painter friend painted the seated girl.

### *Remembering Dr. King*

Jan. 17, 2022: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a day to reflect on what we’ve done, right and wrong, especially regarding race. We are all created equal.





*Betty White's 100th Birthday!*

January 17, 2022





Jan.18, 2022: Brian and I go for a drive in the country. Oh, how we need to get out of the house!





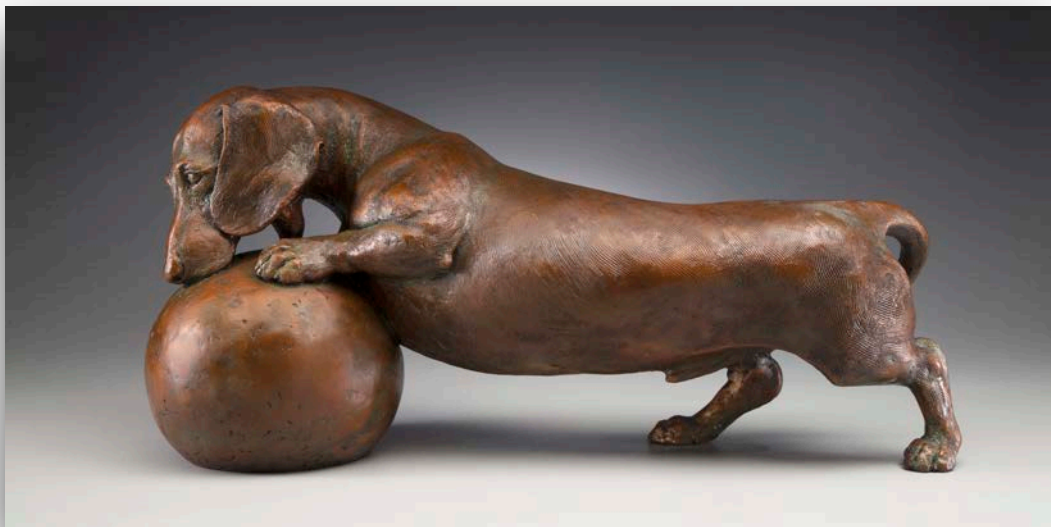


### *My Topiaries...*

Talk about a brown bunny head! This spring I will plant another yew to make into a new head or... maybe I should just make this into a bee ??? I miss my whole green bunny.

In October a deer attacked my 30 foot long topiary of Edgar. In the top two photos, you can see he no longer has a nose. :-((





Jan. 20, 2022: All five of the ANIMAL GROUPS bronzes are home and available for adoption. Thank you, curator David J. Wagner for inviting me to show my canines in ANIMAL GROUPS at the Hansen and Sternberg Museums, in Kansas.



*"Scott Joplin"*

5 1/4"H x 2 5/8"W x 2 3/8"D, Bronze Ed. 20 & 2 Artists Proofs (c)1992

**Jan. 21, 2022:** Claudio Lanz, a highly talented, young German pianist, orders my "*Scott Joplin*" AP2/2 bronze bust! I modeled "*Scott Joplin*" directly in wax as a final project in Rudi Torrini's 1992 sculpture class at Fontbonne University thirty years ago! Then it was known as Fontbonne College. If you want a "*Scott Joplin*," I have the mold and the original, if it needs to be remolded. ;-))

Thank you, Claudio!





Imagine opening your car door at Walgreens and hearing loud twitters of many black birds in sycamore trees. Wonderful!



*"Her Life's a Ball!"*

1:6 Scale, 4 3/4"L x 2 1/4"H x 1 1/2"D Bronze Ed. 50 & 5 Artists's Proofs (c)2017



Jan. 22, 2022: *"Her Life's a Ball!"* is home. She earned an Honorable Mention in the 88th Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature at the Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, D.C. This group was founded in 1931.



*"A Deer and a Nut"*

Jan. 24, 2022, 10:04am: My high school friend who commissioned the 4 foot long acorn, *"A Squirrel's Dream,"* sends its photo with a deer.

*Thanks, John!*

*I cut the cord!*

Jan. 25, 2022: I finally cut the cord to our house phone. It's been on our minds for quite a while. Please call me at 314-378-7032. Call Brian at 636-448-3936. Thank you!



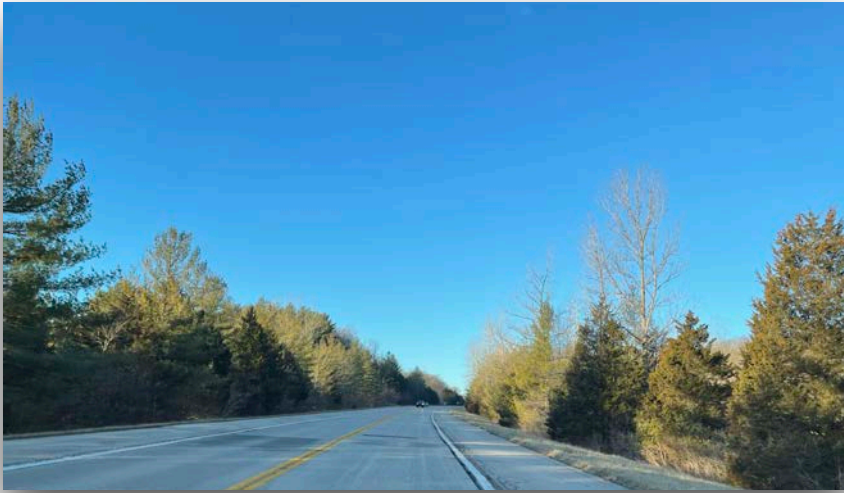
Jan. 28, 2022: “ ‘*Scott*’ just arrived! :-) He is simply perfect! I put him temporarily on the piano in my parents’ living room, next to the pale gentlemen ;-)”

Thank you, Claudio, for adding my bronze “*Scott Joplin*” to your collection, and, to the list of great composers!

Claudio is an amazing pianist. Simply search “Claudio Lanz” and you will find many opportunities to hear him play.

*Come. Journey with us to San Miguel de Allende.*



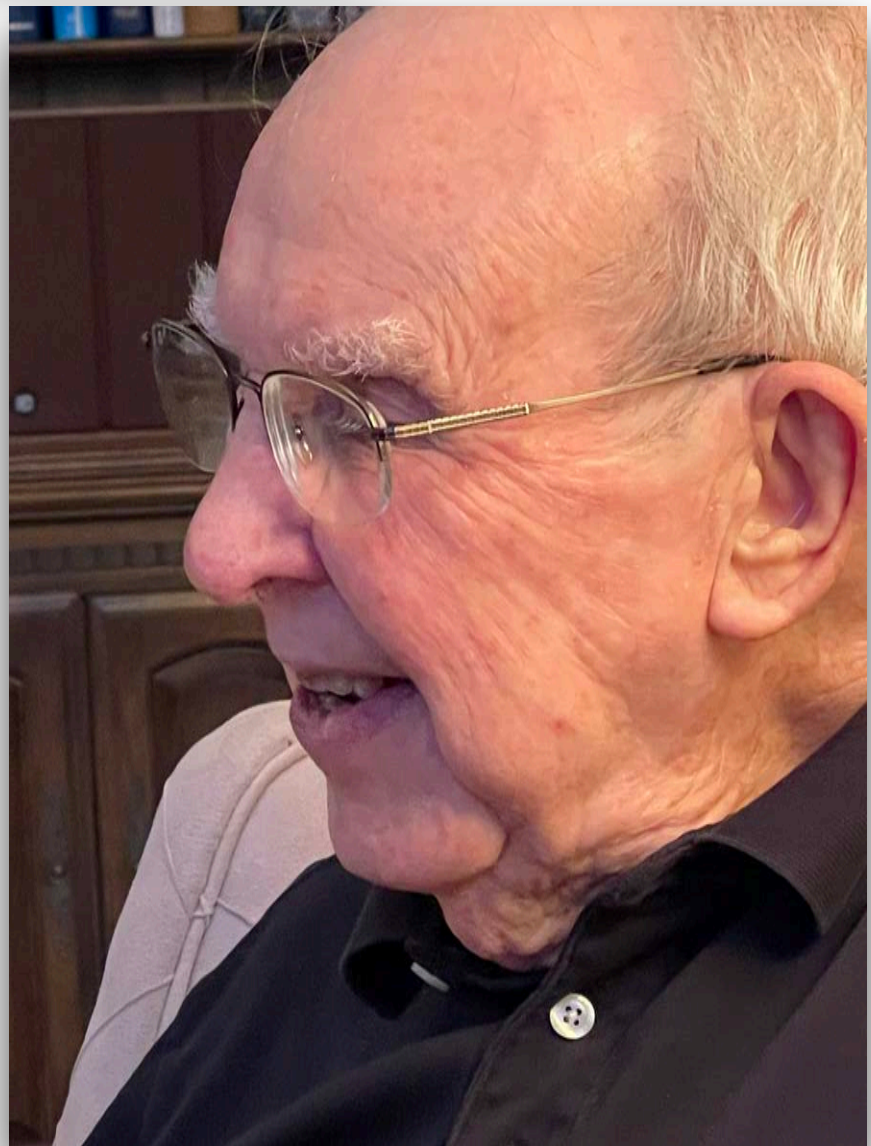


Jan. 30, 2022, Sunday,  
7:30am: Sunlight  
greet us as we head  
west on MO 100, Old  
Hwy 66, on the first  
day of our journey  
toward San Miguel.

Today's goal is  
Stillwater, OK, where  
we will visit Brian's 96  
year old former boss,  
Charles Lowery, and  
his differently abled  
son, John. Charlie  
invited us to spend the  
night since he now has  
someone clean once a  
week. Charlie is  
indeed a pleasure!!!

**Clean Energy = A  
New Interstate  
Highway?**

A July 2019 WSJ  
article by Russell Gold  
compares Michael  
Skelly's clean energy  
grid to Eisenhower's  
Interstate Highway system. Look it up; it is very insightful.





11:58am, 62 degrees: We pass through beautiful little Baxter Springs, Kansas, home of water jetting metal!



We see many wild horses along the two lane road to Stillwater. Brian believes our government pays ranchers to keep them safe. He thinks the Drummonds get a million dollars a year for wild horse and donkey conservation. Yes! Let's save wild horses and donkeys!





2:32pm, Pawhuska, OK: The above storefronts are part of the set of “Killers of the Flower Moon” starring Robert DeNiro and Leonardo DeCaprio. Last summer, when Brian rode through Pawhuska after visiting Charlie, the streets were covered in dirt for the film.

The Ben Johnson museum is here, too. Ben was in movies with John Wayne and the Bottoms boys, Timothy and Joseph.

Boots galore are in a store in Pawhuska.





Just before Pawnee, OK, Brian spots this tree growing out of a truck. On US 64 we pass Pawnee Bill's Historical Museum, his home. He competed with Buffalo Bill. Each had wild west shows.

3:59pm:

Brian drives through his alma mater, Oklahoma State

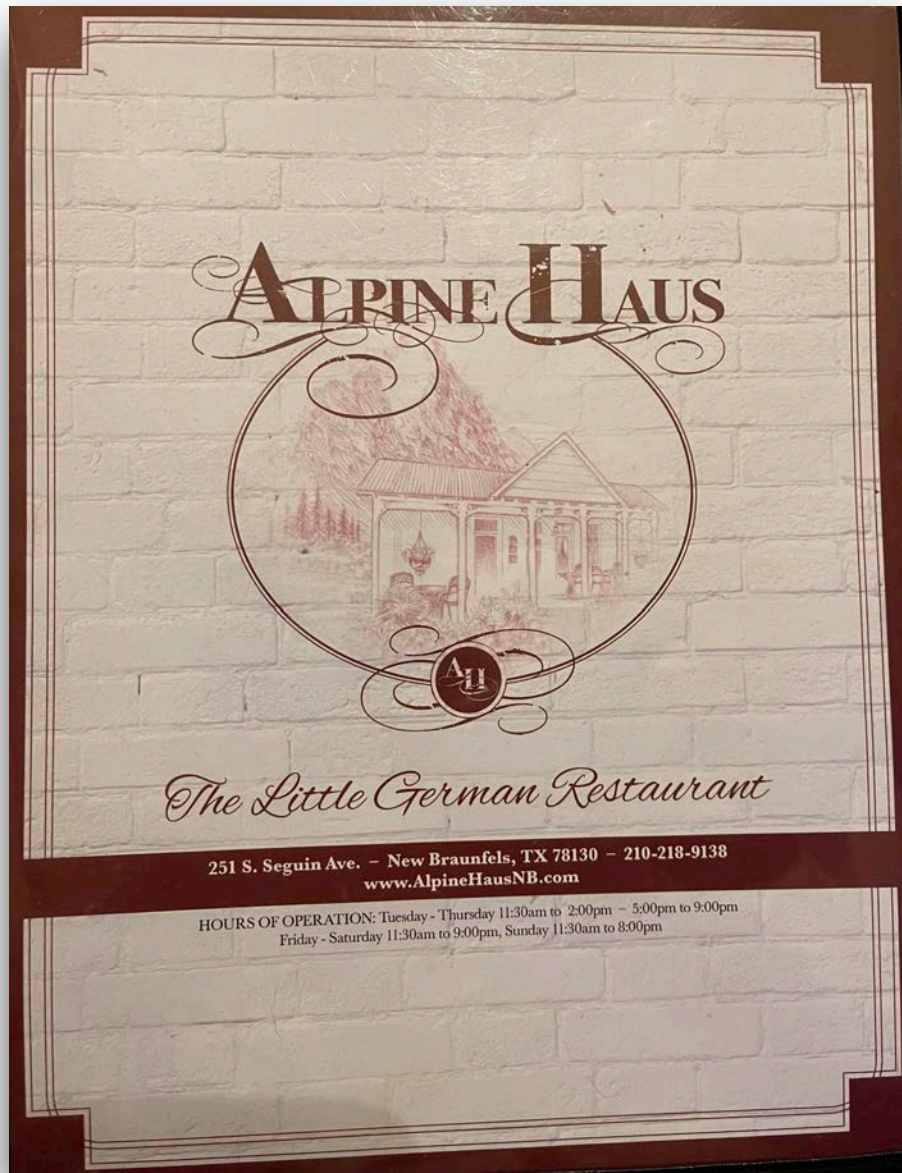
University. The beautiful campus covers about 2000 square miles according to our dear friend, Charlie Lowery.

Charlie is an absolute sweetheart. I hope, if I make it to 96, I will be in as good condition as he is.





Jan. 31, 2022, Monday, 7am, 24 degrees: Today's goal is New Braunfels, TX. The subtle colors and textures of the rolling hills are beautiful south of Stillwater. I love watching the western sky change from blue to pink to lavender as the sun comes up.



In New Braunfels we particularly enjoy the creme of mushroom soup at the Alpine Haus. Our bellies cannot afford to dine on this deliciously rich food often. I should have ordered a salad, too.



*Happy Lunar New Year & Year of the Tiger!*



Perfect light outside of Pearsall, Texas

Feb. 1, 2022, Tuesday, 11:17, 57 degrees, Eagle Pass, TX: Brian gets an oil change for his vehicle at Walmart and I call my credit card company to have them not accept a phishing charge of \$1379.99 from Medna Web Foundation LLC through PayPal. Earlier today, we drove from New Braunfels, TX, through San Antonio to get here. Eagle Pass is definitely in civilization because a Starbucks is not far from Walmart.

It's so nice to be back in the land of mesquite on our way to cross the border at Eagle Pass, TX to Piedras Negras AKA Black Rocks, Mexico. Crossing at Eagle Pass is safer than Laredo these days.

1:10pm: We are through Immigration, where everyone is wearing a mask. We pay our vehicle permit and are on our way to Matehuala. 200 miles down, 400 miles to go.

Around the corner from the hand washing sign are the banos, bathrooms. These are just after the toll booth on the Mexican version of our



interstates. We are on Hwy. 57. About 60 miles from Piedras Negras the highway is almost as smooth as our interstates.

3:24, 86 degrees: Transmission towers and 5G towers are abundant. I need to activate cellular data to watch St. Louis local weather. Brian's good nose smells hops as we pass a huge Corona beer factory, rail yards and an abandoned entertainment park. Next we



pass a huge mining plant, with 4 tall smoke stacks spewing acid rain. Next to them are many towers with transmission lines. West of the highway/road are cactus, yucca and mesquite. Occasionally topes, (toe-pays) speed bumps, are marked.

The sun is shining. It's 76 degrees and the sky is blue. Life is good.



We are in Monclova which is known for the mordita, the bite, by policia, Brian drives extra carefully. There is a Sam's Club, a huge Liverpool, Honda, Suzuki, Volkswagen, Toyota, Kia, Mazda, Nissan, Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep dealers. Home Depot & Starbucks, Conoco & Casa del Whopper Office Depot, Gulf, & KFC. Busy place. Pretty Holiday Inn! DHL, Bridgestone Tires and AutoZone are here, too. These stores intermingle with local establishments especially on both ends of town. Pharmacia Benevides is here; was it named after the family of our friend Francisco?

Brian gives Snickers to various grateful street vendors.



*Mountains & Spanish Dagger Yuccas*



5:46pm, 64 degrees: We are at nearly 7000 feet and stop for gas and el bano. A tiny old man is thrilled when I give him 10 pesos for giving me toilet paper before I enter. We were running on fumes; Brian's Toyota FJ Cruiser takes about \$75 worth of premium.

Las Palmas Midway Inn is our stop for the night. This place has a wonderful restaurant. Palm trees and blooming buganbillias greet us as we check in.

Feb. 2, Wednesday, 8:26am, 50 degrees with sunshine:  
Today: Matehuala to San Miguel de Allende, GTO, Mexico!

9:00am: We cross the Tropic of Cancer.



Judging from the number of semi trucks one would never know there is a supply chain shortage.

9:48am: A truck's unhappy engine has everyone backed up seemingly for miles. You can only go as fast as the fastest truck. Mexico Highway 57 is in great shape here.

12:12pm, 72 degrees: We turn from Hwy 57 toward San Miguel.

OOPS! Geological fault: 50 meters. We do not remember this roller coaster ride. CAREFUL! It's right after the giant aluminum milk can that is behind a tall barn on the right side of the road.



Los Rodriguez, on the way to San Miguel





### 12:25pm: Los Rodriguez street life

We are very tired when we arrive at our rental house and by the time we unpack and get a bit settled it is time to walk to dinner. This new place is a challenge, as there are 60 steps to get up and down from the street. Plus, the street is up hill, and, the house is three stories. That said, the house is very tastefully designed and beautifully furnished. The owner is very helpful and nice.

My heart is always challenged when we first get to San Miguel due to the 6500 feet altitude. I rest often.

Feb. 3, 2022, Thursday: Brian and I walk nearly across town. Brian treats the parking lot attendant where he parks his Toyota FJ Cruiser to a bottle of Tequila and a bag of Snickers. He is Happy!

I shop at Mercado Sano where the foods are organic. It has changed to become more of a mini grocery store. Many of the individual vendors are no longer there. I particularly miss the little gal who used to sell spanikopitas. The gal who has fresh quiche is still there. Good! We taxi home for 60 pesos - about \$2.90.



6:49pm: The Parroquia is as beautiful as ever!

I am grateful to be where it is relatively warm, and not home in the 2022 Snow Storm in St. Louis. We drove just ahead of the storm.





*"Deli's Open" Smooth*

1:6 Scale, 3 1/8"L x 2 3/8"D x 1 3/4"H, Bronze, Ed. 99 & 9 Artist's Proofs (c)2011

*Attention, DCA Members!*

Thank you, Eline, for ordering *"Deli's Open" Smooth*, for delivery at the Dachshund Club of America (DCA) National Specialty, in May, 2022! You save shipping costs and sales tax!

*Please see, touch and be touched by my works in these shows...*

May 15-20, 2022: Dachshund Club of America National Specialty, Purina Event Center, 300 Checkerboard Dr., Gray Summit, MO 63039

Thru August 1, 2022: **Allied Artists of America**, 107th Annual Exhibition. **Online**: See the award winners works here: <https://cdn.flipsnack.com/widget/v2/widget.html?hash=1pioas8hp8&bgcolor=EEEEEE&t=1540204623&play=1>

Thru June 2023: **Performance in Sculpture**, David A. Straz Center for the Performing Arts, Tampa, FL.

*Into Perpetuity -*

2020: **National Sculpture Society**: Fellows Invitational Exhibition. Online: [www.nationalsculpture.org](http://www.nationalsculpture.org)

2021: **The 15th ARC Salon Finalists**, images and awards are posted on their site here: <https://www.artrenewal.org/Salon/Finalists>

*Thank you for being in my life.*

My web guru and I worked diligently for the past year to make my site more user friendly. If you find something odd, PLEASE let me know. I welcome your comments and help.

*Please, stay strong & healthy.*

*Happy valentine's Day! Joy*

**Please note my new homepage address:**

**<https://joybeckner.com>**

314.378.7032 ... [info@joybeckner.com](mailto:info@joybeckner.com)