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This monthly update is really late! I apologize.

I was a little discouraged from the July update. I received a not so nice letter, criticizing me and the content of the newsletter. I searched the Internet to find the right symbol to reply back. Actually, I didn't but I wanted to. Please just ask to be removed from the e-mail list if you do not want to receive further updates.

My newsletter, and it is solely mine, is to say hello and to provide info on artists, potters, and friends connected to this great world of art. Plus, every grandparent has stories to tell and certainly I fit that category at the age of 73!

Folk Fest was here and is gone. There are always comments following it. May I remind all that Steve and Amy Slotin are personal friends of mine. I believe they have done more for folk Art than anyone else in this beautiful country. I love the Slotins!

The absolutely great potter, Michel Bayne reported back that Folk Fest had been a success for him. He is returning back next year.

Steven Chandler was happy with his time at Folk Fest. I personally think he will go back next year and if he doesn't, it will be a loss for both! Steven is one of the best artists out there! Besides that he is very, very colorful. I just sold his largest painting to these great folks from Hollywood. So Steven, you are now truly in Hollywood, in a great home, among movie people! (Thank you to the Walcotts!) Folks this artist is here to stay!

Speaking of being colorful, and Steven is that, I am not part of it. He is on his own. I will NEVER be part of conflicts between different artists. I will say this! He is interesting, extremely colorful, and will be remembered forever!



And speaking of colorful, I just this minute received a phone call from the wonderful Juanita Leonard. She has been such an inspiration for me. I should probably credit the "Art in The Alley" wall idea to her. I know the Cross on the gallery's side door is due

to her devotion to God!

I am so bad at Word that I can't seem to get anything right this morning.



**Doctor Mark Bernhardt! What can I say. Truly, Dr Mark , nothing surprises me!
Here is an email from that amazing man.**

As some of you may know, for the past 20 years I have been honored to write a monthly editorial in the *Archives of Dermatology*, the world's oldest journal in my field. (Until I started Mark's Ark, it was my passion for this history of dermatology column that enraged my wife. Now she also has to contend with Mark's Ark! Tough!) My Editor-in-Chief is also a member of the Mark's Ark family (Hummingbird 2 and Incredible Being of Lightness) and when she saw the Creature of Habits she told me she wanted to find a way to show my art in her journal. I was flabbergasted and thrilled beyond words not only to be now so doubly honored but to have my passion be able to reach such a far-flung

audience of professional peers. I could not tell anyone about this because of strict pre-publication rules, but I have now been formally granted permission to TELL THE WHOLE WORLD about the inaugural installment of "The Other Half", which will be a semi-periodic display of art by doctors such as myself. The actual piece in the *Archives* is available free of charge to non-subscribers through the following link:

<http://archderm.ama-assn.org/cgi/reprint/145/8/962?ikey=Ajww6UcfH38tZFC&keytype=finite>

Check it out now because the Archives only allows 25 people to access this link! (After the link is broken, anyone who wants a copy can contact me directly.)

Humbly yours

I have found a website that I wish to share with you. Take a look-

--

<http://www.wmskrips.com/wmgallery.html>

I am going to add it as a link.

About thirty years ago, when I was married to my second wife I was on a case in Coalinga, California. I had a few minutes to spare so I looked in a small Mexican 2nd hand store. Underneath this jacket hanging on the wall was this odd looking painting. I had never seen one like it. It was painted on tin and had aged beautiful. The lady sold it to me for \$5.00. I came to learn that it was an early Spanish Retablo, worth a lot of money. I loved it but sadly, I lost it in the divorce action.

**I have decided to personally collect some more if I can find them.
I will probably not resell them.
I will show you some when I hopefully locate them.**

Sales have been very slow in the gallery. It has taken my retirement to keep it open. I am starting to place some items on ebay for a little cash flow. I hate to do that but must if I am going to stay in business.

My family members are accepting many of the antique items from the gallery. I am offering some of the items to you at a discounted price. Please don't hesitate to ask. I can easily say no. This does not apply to everything but I will not be offended if you ask.

My beloved grandson, Myles and his lovely wife (with child), Holly is visiting us prior to his leaving for Afghanistan. How much I love them!---can't talk about it!

A couple of things----folks, I love my God and my family and my country. I may write about them as if I was sitting talking with you. I have no intention of this being a commercial letter. I just mean to say hello to the folks I have learned to love while sharing my passion, folk Art.

Wow, I hope this letter makes sense.

God bless us all! And if you would like to have your name on my gallery or the cross I will add it or if you want to send a ribbon for some one I will place it on the wall of the building---Art In The Alley.

I love you all and Juanita Leonard, you are so darn special!

Ol Roff

