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August 23, 2011



Newsletter Update for August 2011

I have received emails from some of you about not receiving a July letter. The main reason was that I just never sent one—my fault! Time got away from me!

The wedding we have all few years back, about eight, old granddaughter became Albert Alvarez. I may have newsletters as it was couldn't make up my mind love him or the exact opposite. conquers all. I learned to love of June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 this young beloved granddaughter, age most delightful little boy, age love story worth telling! A little more—this young complete high school and



looked forward to occurred. A my beautiful fourteen years pregnant by her boyfriend, written about it in my continually on my mind. I what to do with Albert, either Well I decided that love him like a grandson. Now, as man, now 23, married my 22. Attending them was the seven, named Jaden! A true mother, Angela went on to college. She now holds a B.A.

from Stanislaus State College and is a substitute teacher. The young man owns his own Landscape/Gardening business. Yes, love does conquer all!



Now for our world of folk art! The painting is worth your patience, waiting for it to be given as a prize. It is by one of the

greatest folk art artists of our time, Steven Chandler. I promised to write a little bit about him. I have worked with him at least five years. I have watched his art steadily increase in value. I have learned to appreciate him and his family, wife LeEllen and daughter Sienna as friends. He is 100% honest. As much as he is honest, he is somewhat eccentric—but then so am I! I have watched in horror as he tore a painting into pieces because it “wasn’t quite right”!

If you contact him and offer him much less than he is asking, OMG you will catch it! If he believes in his heart that you are copying him, OMG you will catch it! If you treat him with respect, you will be treated equally so! I have told him many times that I don’t care if his paintings sell. I want to own several when I die!

The photo that you see here was taken a few years ago Sitting on Steven’s head is his African Gray parrot, Scarlet.



Here is this month’s prize painting. It is by Steven Chandler and is titled “Man Riding A Pig Drunk”. Steven sold it to me for ½ of what I would normally pay him. It is his contribution to you, the winner. I was hoping to frame it but I just didn’t get around to it! Being 75 years old, I don’t need an excuse!

There are so many wonderful artists out there waiting for you to find them. I want to buy everything I see but finances Just won’t let me.



discovered him 10 years ago.

I search ebay, facebook, and websites for especially good art. A couple of months ago I discovered this absolutely wonderful, moving piece. I showed it to Albert and got his opinion. We both agreed that it was striking. It was way over my head price wise but I made an offer. My offer was accepted. This piece is by Pietro (Peter) Barbera. He is in his 80s, poor health, with poor memory. He lives in New Jersey. He is a wonderful self-taught artist. How I wish I had



Here is the piece that was chosen to be the cover piece for the press releases for the on coming opening at the Grand Theatre for The Arts in Tracy, California. How I wish you were here to see your wonderful piece, Pietro! Oh Pietro, our ages catch up to us but our wonderful works lives on from generation to generation! How I wish I would have known you—such deepness I have never seen! I have often said that good art must make you feel, you must laugh or cry or become angry (don't like this angry), but it must move you. I am telling you, this piece will move you. Was this a slave holding her dead child? No question, it is a grieving parent or grandparent holding the child! It is on canvas (I think) and is wire covered with duct tape and then painted. The back is covered with a pair of blue jeans instead of the usual paper—very very moving piece!

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Our beloved Bernice Sims is doing well for her age, 86. She is going to try to be at Kantuck in Tuscaloosa, Alabama this year. I have represented Bernice for sixteen years and love her as a person as well as an artist!



**Recently my grandson, Alex Graves—age 11 or 12—was being lectured by his mother, Cindy.**

**Alex looked at his mother and replied, “Mother, it is not my fault if I don’t feel guilt!” Wow!**

- **And a nice ending --[Melinda Moore Pepiton posted to Roff Graves](#)**

**How I learned to mind my own business:**

**I was walking past the mental hospital the other day and all the other patients were outside shouting "13...13...13..." The fence was too high to see over, but I saw a little gap in the planks and I looked through to see what was going on...**

**Somebody poked me in the eye with a stick!!!!**

**Then they all started shouting "14....14...14.....!"**

**And one more—From June Wilson Maxey**

**Two hillbillies are having lunch when a woman seated nearby begins to choke. Hillbilly asks her, "kin ya swallar?" The woman shakes her head no. Hillbilly asks her "kin ya breathe?" Woman shakes her head no. Hillbilly walks over, lifts up her dress, yanks down britches and licks her butt cheek. The woman has a violent spasm and spits out food. The hillbilly's buddy says "ya know, I heerd of that there hind lick maneuver but I aint niver seed nobody do it"...**

**And now good bye for now. May Good Bless and Keep you safe—And may peace be restored to us!**

**And oh yes, the one who FIRST guesses the number (or closest to it) between 1 and 500 on or before September 01, 2011, will win the painting by Steven Chandler. So email it in—one entry to a person. Family members may also guess—No one is disqualified.—The name of the winner will be posted on the website’s Red Banner!**

**OIRoff**

