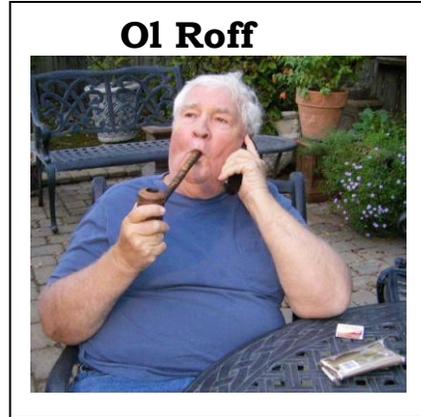


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Happy New Year!

First, thank you **Richard Wehe**, Attorney at Law, for being the judge of our December question regarding Margaret Garner slaying her little daughter to prevent her from returning to a life of slavery. We received several entries---first prize winner was **Carol Dimond** from Indiana. Here is her answer, "I believe that the Mother, though well-intentioned, was wrong. I hesitate to call it "murder," but I think bad behavior by any other name is still bad behavior. No one can predict the future, and who knows what the future might have held for that little girl. The Mother took away the ability of this child to make her own mistakes and decisions. Good or bad, a life lived is still a life lived and no one has the right to take that away from someone else, no matter how much you love---or hate them."

Last month we introduced you to two people who are going to help us write this newsletter. One is **Mrs. Diane Maupin** from the high country of Northeast California. The 2nd is my grandson, **Alexander Graves-Yu, age 14**, from Lodi, California. We heard from both in December.

This month I will be introducing you to **Hannah Sabbagh, Age 13** of Oregon. And yes, she is my Great-Niece.

Both of these sharp young teenagers excel in just about everything they try (much better than me) But what makes these two very interesting is that both are of mixed race—**Alex** is 1/2 Caucasian and 1/2 Taiwanese. **Hannah** is 1/2 Caucasian and 1/2 Lebanese. I have talked with them and they are open to just about any questions you can ask. For example, wouldn't it be interesting to know what life is like in their world? Send a question. I will ask **Hannah** or **Alex** to answer.

Let us hear from **Hannah**—"I'm a Caucasian/Lebanese 5'2 7th grader living in the "oh so sunny" Oregon, with a passion for writing, art, and music! Nothing holds me back from surpassing the limit of words in a normal 13 year Old's vocabulary! Anything that stands in my way I will demolish... By having them join me on the quest for awesomeness!"----**Hannah** is fantastic!

As I live without the gallery I find myself lost in exactly what to do. I go crazy spending money on things I don't need but want at the time. I can't walk well and I have very little balance, yet when I go to the nursery I buy plants and trees I have no space for nor ability to plant. I sometimes smoke a pipe (now, haven't for years) so I buy many pipes—heck I can't get but 4 in my mouth at any one time! I love antique bottles and I have many. **Frankly, I am just lost so I must get back into this world of art that I love so dearly!**

I almost give up on the newsletter then something happens to give me a boost to write again. It saddens me to see people try and try again for the prizes. Some of us are just not lucky at winning yet I have people who have won 4 or 5 times. Once in a while I am going to give something to a non-ever winner just to feel good about it!

Most of you know that my favorite artist of all time was the beloved **Clementine Hunter**. She has passed on. I have some living artists that I represented as a gallery owner and I keep in touch with. The one I have been very close with is **Steven Chandler, Georgia Red Mud Artist**. Another one is **Louis Vuittonet**. I respect these two and hope to maintain a lifelong friendship with them. I value the work of **Selva Salazar Prieto** of Mexico City. She is an outstanding Retablo/ExVoto Artist—(none better). One of these days I will give one of her paintings as a prize!



While we are talking about artists, here is one I have been following and I just love her work. She is **Cynthia Scin Chapman Manuszak**. She is on Facebook and you can find her under **Scin Chapman Manuszak**. Please check out her work. She oftimes bears her inner soul and you can feel her pain or joy in her paintings. I am hoping that she will write about her deep background, perhaps in the next newsletter. (I will also be showing you another painting I love in the next newsletter.) This one is one of my favorites **“Mother and Child”**.

Again, please watch for more about **Cynthia** in the next newsletter!

Here is an artist I just discovered and My oh My does she have talent! I want to represent her but it is too late for me so people please check her out! You can find her on Facebook under **Pam Santi**. Here is what she wrote to be about herself: oPP. I am from Thailand and have 2 sons..good sons..i am had a bad eye side.. i do not see com.. much..still love to paint not give up yet... not see much what i am doing...been so sick 2012 and from that point it get harder..but god is with me.. i just take one day at the time..Thank you so much for like my work... i much say it not me it God"s gift i was a cleaning lady for 10 year take care cy sons.. but this is a gift and i share with everyone..in my community i do not know what i am doing but i keep doing because i love my community.. i lost my job and now i do art full time not sale mu because i do not know how to do come much now people sale on line.. but i pray will happen ..

Here is something Pam wrote on Facebook “Morning sky ! When I was young every summer time in the county go fishing sleep under the tree look up the sky. I do missed to be in the county love of my grandparent just the morning sky I am in the good place to start my day! How about you?”

I have no idea of her prices but I have a feeling they are still very affordable. I actually like her people paintings more than her abstracts.



I no longer am a gallery owner but I am an art lover just like you. If you want me to assist you in contacting these artists. I absolutely charge nothing for my services nor for this newsletter. If I have the work of an artist on our website, that work is NOT for sale but I will help you to contact the artist so that you may buy directly from him/her.

I grew up on the Mojave Desert and I roamed freely, always looking for old bottles, particularly those turned purple by the sun. I kind of use the internet to do my searching now. I will buy when I see something I think would be of interest to both you and me. I may offer it for a prize---I found this Warner's Safe kidney and Liver Cure bottle with partial paper label and full embossing. Warner started these cures around 1870. You can learn much from the internet. Here is a little: "Pure blood can be obtained by the use of Warners Safe Cure"

Warner's Safe Cure bottles contained a preparation that was marketed as a cure for all diseases and problems relating to the kidneys and the liver. H H Warner seemed to have no problem tracing all types of disease back to problems with these two organs- even malaria! This was quite a clever idea, for the kidneys and liver do indeed function to remove wastes and toxins from the bloodstream, and in theory, keeping them in good condition had to be a good idea. However, Mr Warner went ever so slightly over the top with the wild claims!—Read more on the internet.

And the wonderful prize going to this month's winner is a professionally museum framed personally signed print by one of my very favorite artists, Steven Chandler, Georgia Red Mud Artist. I would place a value on this of \$200. This is a really nice gift!



I am making many mistakes but that is Ok. I can't see well and my ability to type is hindered (could never type anyway so that is no excuse) so please forgive the errors and hopefully enjoy the newsletter—you may win a really good prize if you are the closest to a number Arlene is picking right now---OK she chose a number between 250 and 500 (exclude 375). First prize is the Chandler piece---2nd prize is the Warner bottle! **DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS MARCH 1, 2014**

And before I forget, please, someone send a question to either **Alex or Hannah** for them to answer. I want to see these two bright kids answering and becoming accustomed to writing!

Lastly, please don't forget the forthcoming auction Saturday, Feb 8, 2014 at 11:00am-----
<http://www.sterlingsold.com/dynamic/oa>

Until next time, May God keep his Loving Arms Around You and Hold You Close!

olRoff