

MEMBERSHIP - Donna Williams

d.jwilliams@verizon.net 972-492-1315

Don't forget -----when submitting membership dues for 2010, please use the form in the newsletter and don't forget to enclose a copy of your 2010 SDP membership card.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Susan Hearst who recently lost her mother-in-law.

Barbara Ehrmantraut who is battling cancer.

Joan Ferris, who has a brain tumor. Joan and her sister, Karen, received good news during Joan's doctor appointment this past week --Karen wrote:

"Hello" Everyone,

After getting another MRI this week, yesterday we went for a consultation w/Joanie's neuro-oncologist. In contrast to our late April visit when Dr. Fink said Joanie's tumor was very aggressive and hadn't responded to radiation and chemo pills but had grown despite everything, this time the doc said the tumor had receded. In fact on the "slices" from the brain scan that Dr. Fink selected for us to view, she said there was a 90% recession in the tumor's growth. Dr. Fink thinks that this is due to the IV drug infusions along with the chemo pills that Joanie is taking 7-days-on/7-days-off. That was much better news than we dared hoped for.

The tumor is still there and is still in areas that are messing with Joan's sense of time, place, and memory. The doc also said it's not going to shrink to the point where they will be able to operate on it to remove it -- as it's located deeply and in such delicate & crucial areas. The physical weaknesses and tremors that Joan had been experiencing are mostly gone. Her legs are still shaky in the morning and her right hand in particular shakes a bit. The darn torn muscles in her shoulder are still causing her pain on an everyday basis---but her physical therapist has helped with this.

Back in late April when Joan started the IV-infusion drug, Avastin was still considered experimental in treatments of brain tumors but in May it was approved by the FDA for brain tumor treatment. Although this is waaayyy simplified, as I understand things, the Avastin disallows formation of new blood vessels in the tumor area thereby cutting off the blood supply to the tumor cells. Joanie will continue to get an infusion every 3 weeks as long as her body continues to tolerate it. The chemo pills may have to go down in dosage a bit as the doc says her white blood cells are close each week to their limit of what's acceptable for continuing on the chemo pills. But for now she'll continue on a higher amt.

Joan has done well during these weeks w/combating nausea. Not throwing up most of the week she's on the pills is a huge relief. Last night she tossed dinner completely, but that's becoming a rarity. Her appetite has changed so I can never quite figure out what she'll eat. She's lost on an average of 10 pounds a month since this all began ---200 days ago!!! But I continue trying to feed her well -- with occasional chocolate transgressions---and more frequent ice cream treats.

Remembering the word to man songs continues to be a confidence booster for my sister. When she can't remember many other things, it pleases her a great deal that lyrics stay in her mind. She said recently.."no brain tumor will take Camelot away from me." (We saw that show on Broadway when Joanie was only 9 or 10 and she still has those songs down pat). Singing along w/the music on DCs make all our many car trips to Dallas for appointment much more fun.

Thanks for all your good wishes, love and concerns. We're hoping for many more 5-star days, we decided yesterday was.

Love,
Karen

I just talked to Joan a bit ago and she wanted to say she appreciated "how nice people have been in calling and sending notes". Joan would love to hear from.....a card a call or a visit.

Joan Ferris
595 East Jernigan Road
Copper Canyon, Texas 75077
972-762-8533 (Karen's cell)

Hi Robin...from Convention ..just want all our members to know about the wonderful new EZine from AAO gals...first of its kind!

Report from SDP Convention!!!!

ENJOY WONDERFUL NEW ART E-ZINE Go to this link:

www.artapprenticeonline.com/magazine.html and register(even if you already have an AAO login) for the first issue of a new form of painting magazine! It is terrific! 173 pages of living color and includes links within the magazine for short videos/how tos etc. I believe the first two issues are FREE..it is quarterly. A subscription if you like the first two will include access to a copyright-Free Photo Reference Library to paint from.

I had a great time rooming with Carol Lee Cisco and our additional roommate we found through the traditionsartist yahoo group by announcing we had space for another roomie. Joyce Miller from Ohio joined us! I also met several Canadians (my husband is from there) one who has a son in Arlington and will be coming down possibly to see him and ride up to Wichita convention with us in my Van next year! What better place to meet new friends than fellow artists at the SDP! Several folks from England and Argentina are making plans for next year and some may stay over at my house (easier to fly in to DFW internationally) and drive up since it will be so close to us! Start now saving your coins and go with us to a short ride to Wichita SDP next May!!!! I couldn't tell numbers were up or down as I had so much fun and still had a few lines to stand in. Convention felt very personal to me this year.

NEW DECOART EDUCATION PROGRAM unveiled contains something for all. It is online 24/7 as of August/September so watch for beginning dates! The Traditions Teacher original program has expanded and if you are a Traditions Teacher who took the courses there will be great information coming to you within the next month about the preview we had and the free support you will be getting to use the program and continue learning! For those wanting to learn that have no access to a teacher it will expand horizons and open doors. The SDP will grow as a result of many new people discovering art. Decoart is backing it 100% and it already has almost 80 faculty members and will add more as it evolves.

Lots of Free wonderful demos almost hourly even if you didn't want to take classes. I got every class I wanted and then some! Overdid it a bit! Lots of new patterns, wood and other surfaces to paint on(never have enough of those of course). Most important though....NEW FRIENDS. After all, that is what SDP is all about! Get ready to go now and take a friend!

doris woodruff(roving reporter)

--

Doris Woodruff

art@texadian.net

Robin, Please send out a request to see if anyone is going to Toile country – what days – to paint or just up to shop floor – as I would like to go but maybe just to shop or go on Friday and stay Friday night – maybe take a class. Please email at rorylm@earthlink.net
thanks,

Sincerely,

Rory Morgan

Sr Allocator

Schoolage Boys 8-20 Tops

Sub 422

972-431-3139 (phone)