

*"Family of Love"
Thirteenth Members' Only Print*

The First Henning Year

1999

Since the Society was incorporated and wrote by-laws, the voting Board of Directors consisted of seven people (the president, four elected by the membership, one appointed dealer representative, and one appointed Portfolio representative). In 1999, the Board changed those by-laws to add two voting members. The vice president, Art Smith, became a voting member, and Hannes Meyers Jr. from Holland, Michigan, was appointed to a one-year term. Eleni Geishauser from Wyomissing, Pennsylvania, was elected to a two-year term by the membership, and Sally Ann Gobrecht of Hanover, Pennsylvania, was appointed as secretary.

The year was a turbulent one in the

Society office. Not one employee who began the year was still working there at year's end. The problems began with difficulties in filling the accountant position, which had been vacant since October 1998. Temporary workers filled in for a time, and one person was hired for about three months before leaving. In addition, the membership clerk who dealt primarily with shipping the renewal brooches left in April. Both positions were filled by June when the receptionist moved to the accounting position and two new employees were hired.

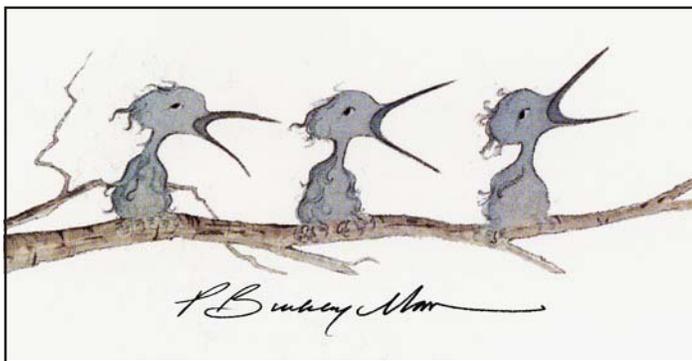
With the departure of Carter Hopkins, the Executive Director, in late July, Marlyn De Waard moved temporarily to Waynesboro to oversee the office and the

hiring of a new office administrator. What began as a four to six week stay became one of over four months as a result of two additional employees resigning. The office stabilized with the hiring of Susan Ciotti as the administrator and Lance Allen as the accountant. In the interim, Mary Lou McMillin, a former Society secretary, and Tim Finn of the Moss Gallery in St. Petersburg also assisted in the office by supervising the Charity Print Collection.

BOARD PROJECTS

Both minor and major projects came into being throughout the year.

- With many people complaining about breakage of the plastic storage boxes for the renewal brooches, the Board voted to return to the sturdier cardboard boxes previously used.



1999 membership card featuring "Babies Three"

- The *Sentinel* underwent a facelift with some new design elements and the addition of spot color.
- A phrase was added to the Society's mission statement — "to promote the use of the arts in special education."
- A separate dealer voucher program when dealers sign up new members was implemented.

- Plaques using previous renewal brooches were made available for dealers to use to promote the Society.

- The excess brooches for those years which were not covered by the brooch replacement policy were destroyed so as not to continue paying inventory tax on them.

- Providing mailing labels which depict Pat's art began as a means to raise funds to benefit the P. Buckley Moss Foundation for Children's Education.

- The Board developed a policy which enabled members to reinstate their lapsed memberships. For a fee of \$25, such members would not receive a membership binder, a new members' pin, or the renewal brooch. However, they would be eligible for the members' only print at the end of their reinstatement year, and their original membership number would be reassigned to them. The office sent letters to over 7,400 lapsed members explaining the program. However, this became a challenging project for two reasons — records no longer existed for a couple of the early years of the Society, and many people had address changes which necessitated additional labor and postage costs. Since 1999, a number of members have taken advantage of this policy.

- Ariel Mann of Buffalo Grove, Illinois, was the second recipient of the P. Buckley Moss Society—Anne and Matt Harbison Award. She attended the University of Arizona, where she majored in Social Sciences, including an emphasis in International Business Management and Culture. She minored in Sign Language/Deaf Studies and in General Business. Mary

Steepleton received a renewal of her 1998 Award to study Horse Production and Management at Ohio State University.

- The first recipient of the Judith Cary Scholarship was Karla Mettert of Churubusco, Indiana. She holds a B.S. degree in Elementary Education and used the scholarship funds to complete a mild disabilities minor in order to become a fully licensed special education teacher.

COMMEMORATIVE WALKWAY

In November 1997 the Board began discussing a Memorial Garden Proposal on the grounds of the P. Buckley Moss Museum in Waynesboro. President Noreen Newman Johnson recommended such a project for three reasons:

- To satisfy a desire among Society members to establish a lasting link with Pat;
- To provide an avenue whereby chapters could memorialize a chapter member or recognize their own chapter at a location where collectors of Pat's art would appreciate what others have accomplished on her behalf;
- To give the Society a presence at a location which attracts a large number of visitors each year, thereby providing exposure for the Society to a segment which may not be aware of its existence.

Initial discussion included thoughts about a Memorial Pathway, a Memorial Garden, or a Meditation Wall. Eventually, the decision was made to create a Commemorative Walkway. People could purchase bricks for \$25 each; these pavers could contain two lines of letters, no more than 14 letters and spaces in each line.

The Society agreed to assume the initial cost of landscaping and worked with Museum personnel to design an attractive area. Any profits above the cost of the inscribed bricks would be used for charitable purposes. The first stage of 104 bricks was dedicated on July 16 during the Chapter Training weekend. Over 100 people attended, including one couple who drove from Michigan specifically to



The Commemorative Walkway was dedicated on July 16.

be there. Typically, additional bricks have been placed twice a year, and the walkway was extended in 2001. The office has sent acknowledgement letters to all who purchased bricks and to those who were being honored by the purchases. Beginning in 2002, it also sends pictures of the bricks.

Further discussion ensued about purchasing dedicated benches to be placed in the area. The Walkway Committee recommended that the Society not honor individual Society members but purchase three wooden benches next year — one would honor Pat and Malcolm; one would honor all Society members, past, present, and future; and one would honor

the Society Board of Directors, past, present, and future. In 2002, a fourth bench was purchased in honor of Pat's mother, Gran Liz.

JUNIOR PROGRAM

The other major project, which began September 1, 1999, was a program aimed at junior members age 12 and under. The charter year continued through December 31, 2000. Children who were already members could transfer until then to the junior program and retain their original numbers. In 2001, the age limit was changed to 17 and under. This program carries all of the benefits of a full membership but at a lesser price of \$25, allowing parents, grandparents, or aunts and uncles to introduce children to the Society.

Since Pat is noted for painting those baby birds, "The Fledgling" etching was the inspiration for the junior logo. Members receive a certificate of membership, a blue notebook with the logo, and a news-



*"The Fledgling"
First-year junior pin*

letter designed three times a year just for them. Junior members also have the opportunity to purchase a members' only print created just for them. First year members received a special junior membership card, but since 2001 the card has been the same as that for regular members.

Originally, the new member junior pin was to be a pewter one. The first plan was

to use a single goose pin similar to the regular members' first-year pin. The next plan was to use the baby bird based upon that etching. However, it proved to be difficult to create a substantial small pewter pin which would fulfill Pat's specifications. Instead, a special oval porcelain pin depicting the bird will always be the first year junior pin. The first year renewal pin was the same as for the regular members. In 2001, the junior members began receiving their own renewal pins, the first being based on "Cinders" and the second on "Oh Gentle Friend."

PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION

Friday's optional tour with Pat to begin the Moss Collectors' Convention on May 21-23 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, focused solely on the Amish. The morning destination of the four buses was Ephrata Cloister, an 18th century religious communal society featuring 12 restored buildings which interpret the austere lifestyle of the group. The delicious lunch was again at the barn of Jonathan and Lydia Lantz. Following a film at Mill Bridge Village about the Amish, the tourists visited three national historic landmarks — the Herr double span covered bridge, an 1812 historical home decorated in Amish decor, and a 1738 grist mill.

This convention was the first to open at 2 p.m. on Friday afternoon instead of at 5 p.m. Most of the convention activities and programs remained similar to those in previous years. One highlight was the return of the Hanover Children's Ballet as the major entertainment in the morning. However, no volunteers could be found

to participate in either the Moss Choir or the Costume Parade.

The raffle, auction of rare prints, auction of framing competition pieces, and sale of Moss Walk t-shirts raised \$6,091 to benefit the Foundation.

MICHIGAN CONVENTION

Both the Moss Choir and the Costume Parade returned to the Regional Convention, held at Frankenmuth, Michigan, on October 22-24. Another group of dancers, the Children's Ballet Theater of Lansing, entertained the crowd. The various fundraising activities raised \$4,478 for the Foundation. Certainly the most interesting items auctioned were a unique cow chair donated by Floyd Boothe and two birdhouses created and donated by Patricia Hughes.

The dinner dance featured disk jockey Ruthie Van Gilder and her pet parrot named Flip 'Em. They have provided the music at several of the subsequent dinner dances. Ray and Ruth Donn won the prize for being the longest wed couple in



Members of the First Michi-Ganders Chapter from Shelby Township, Michigan, portrayed "Little Stone School" in the Costume Parade at Frankenmuth.

attendance. The hula hoop contest provided the most heated competition in a long time. Howard ("Swivel Hips") Gustafson of Saginaw spun his hoop longer than any male competitor ever had.

Despite the dreary and cold weather, Friday's tour included a visit to the Thumb Octagon Barn, which was featured in both convention prints. It was built in 1923-24 and stands approximately four stories tall. A second stop was at a three-generation family dairy farm called Laurieacres. Over 500 cows are presently milked at this mechanized and computerized farm.

TRI-STATE CHAPTER MEETING

Members from all chapters in Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio were invited to attend the Tri-State Chapter meeting on July 9 and 10. Unfortunately, it became a Bi-State meeting when all 45 attendees representing five chapters came from only Michigan and Ohio.

Hosted by Trees of Life Chapter of Defiance, Ohio, the group gathered Friday evening at Sauder Heritage Inn in Archbold for fun and games to get acquainted. Lots of laughter erupted when people tried to walk the length of a room holding a golf ball between knees, keeping a quarter or half dollar in one eye socket, and balancing a book on the head. Other official photographs of the event show people lying on the floor in circles or wearing underwear as outerwear. The hilarity does not translate well into words!

Things became much more serious the next day when the sharing began. Follow-

ing a theme of “Shoot for the Stars,” chapters shared their “sparkling ideas.” Also, Tim Finn of the Moss Gallery in St. Petersburg, Carter Hopkins from the Society office, and Fred McMillin shared what was new regarding upcoming Moss products, Society news, and the Foundation’s recent Creative Mind Conference respectively.

Additional presentations dealt with chapter meeting ideas, small project ideas, newsletters, planning a raffle, the ACT program, and equestrian therapy. Teams then participated in a contest creating a chapter family tree. Randy and Ginny Myers presented a slide program on places within the tri-state area which Pat has painted.

After concluding the raffle of the gifts each chapter brought, which helped defray the meeting expenses plus supported the Foundation, the group went to The Barn for the farewell dinner. No, not Pat’s Barn in Waynesboro, but the Barn Restaurant located at the Inn.

CHAPTER TRAINING

Largely because of the Tri-State Chapter Meeting held the week before, attendance at the annual Chapter Training weekend was significantly lower. Sixty-six members from 23 chapters located in seven states participated on July 16-18. This was the third and last time it was held at Bridgewater College.

Highlights again were the sharing sessions, the reception and studio talk at the Museum, dinner at The Barn with the raffle of items brought by each chapter as well as a competition to see who could

wear the most purple, plus attending the dedication of the Commemorative Walkway.

The theme of the conference was Leadership is FUNdamental. The keynote speaker was Wayne Heatwole of the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center in Fishersville, Virginia. He focused on how to set goals, why conflicts exist, and ways to cope with those conflicts. Carter Hopkins then gave a presentation on team-building techniques. Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, attendees worked in teams to develop team cheers and songs to present to the entire group at a Team Rally.

Participants could choose from five small-group discussions. Other presenters included Pat Moss herself and Brian Carroll, CEO of the Foundation. Everyone was pleased that various weekend activities — raffle, auctions, sale of Moss Walk t-shirts — raised \$1,215 for the Foundation.

Seventeen people spent the two days prior to the workshops traveling leisurely through the Shenandoah Valley visiting places which Pat has painted. Stops included the Dayton Farmers’ Market, Meems Bottom Bridge, Mimslyn Inn for lunch, Luray Caverns, Chimney Rocks, and Humpback Bridge, where they had a gourmet picnic lunch. Friday morning at the Skyland Lodge on the side of a moun-



*“Anniversary Song”
renewal brooch*

tain, some of the group were excited to see deer breakfasting just outside their balconies.

SOCIETY TRIP — SCOTLAND, WALES

Glorious weather again blessed 40 Moss travelers, this time on a trek to Scotland June 7-14. Organized by Ermisch Travel of Battle Creek, Michigan, in conjunction with British Heritage Tours, the trip began in Edinburgh on Tuesday with a visit to the royal kiltmakers. After touring the city and shopping the next day, the group journeyed on Thursday to the “Braveheart” area of Stirling. Several people climbed all 246 steps to the top of the Wallace Monument for a beautiful view of the area. Some enjoyed a “wee dram” in the afternoon at Glenturret, Scotland’s oldest distillery. Glenturret was also the home of Touser, the cat who holds the Guinness record for catching mice — over 22,000!

Friday’s drive to Oban by way of Glencoe in the Highlands, where the McDonald clan was cruelly massacred by the Campbells, saw a substitute in the schedule. When one planned sightseeing stop was closed for repairs, the group had fun at the Scottish Woollen Mill learning about various breeds of sheep.

The next day’s ferry rides to the Isle of Mull and the island of Iona were memorable for a couple reasons. Pat later sketched the Iona Abbey and gave copies to everybody in the group as a memento. Also, she was inspired there by the Celtic crosses, prompting her to release porcelain crosses for three years. Finally, one member lost track of time and missed the

ferry leaving Iona, resulting in much good-natured teasing later.

At the farewell dinner Sunday night at Gleddoch House, once the home of a Glasgow shipping baron located on the banks of the River Clyde, Pat’s original sketch of the Abbey was auctioned on behalf of the Foundation. As the bidding rose, additional incentives were announced — Ginger Cloonan offered to frame the original, Malcolm added five more copies of the sketch for the winner, and Ginger offered to frame one of the sketches. The final bid was \$860! Valerie Williams, the tour guide, was astonished and jokingly said, “Well, we should also auction off my poem” (which she had previously read to the group). Ginger suggested that Malcolm do just that. As the bidding became more spirited, Pat announced that she would transcribe the poem into her calligraphy, and Ginger agreed to frame that piece too. A thrilled bidder spent \$500 for the poem.



Betty Donahoe, Marlyn De Waard, George Johnson, and Ginger Cloonan hurry to eat their fish and chips before the seagulls come begging.

Twenty-six of the group extended their trip for five days into northern England and Wales. In Stoke-on-Trent they visited the china factories of Wedgwood and Royal Doulton and marveled at the talent of the craftspeople. They compared the features of the beautiful and unique Welsh castles — Beaumaris, Conwy, and Caernarfon. They strolled through the beautiful Bodnant Gardens. They visited Portmeirion, an Italianate architectural fantasy village with various shops and gardens overlooking a river. They rode on one of North Wales' "Great Little Trains" through spectacular hills and mountain scenes. They concluded their time together with a farewell dinner at the hotel, complete with a harpist, a men's choir, and another poem from Valerie.

It was a pleasure traveling with guide Valerie and bus driver Brian, two of the friendliest, funniest, and most accommodating people. P. Buckley Moss group members continued their tradition of having fun and being the greatest travel companions in the world.

FOUNDATION

In addition to holding its second successful annual conference in June, the P. Buckley Moss Foundation for Children's Education again sponsored the National Educator Award. The 1999 first place award of \$5,000 was shared by Marta Gilliam of the Children's Medical Center at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, and Mitzi Prince of The Briarwood School in Houston Texas. Three second place awards of \$500 were also presented — Adrienne Hunter of Pittsburgh, Janice M. Corsino of Honolulu, and Beverly Rankin of Westerville, Ohio. All of the recipients' schools received corresponding amounts.

In September Brian Carroll, the CEO of the Foundation, submitted his resignation. For the remainder of the year, his assistant, Dell Philpott, ably handled the affairs of the office, with the once-a-week help of Peter Rippe, the Foundation president. The Board of Directors of both the Foundation and the Society held a valuable joint meeting in November.

