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THE COLUMBIAN
ARTIST GROUP

In This Issue *The Volland Store • Meeting Minutes • Calendar of Events
Member Announcements*

THE VOLLAND STORE THEN & NOW

THEN

The Volland Store today is not the general store it was in 1913 when it opened as Kratzer Brothers Mercantile. Filled with every kind of merchandise, the Store quickly became more than just a store. It became the social and cultural center of Volland and the surrounding community. On Thursday evenings couples came to shop and stayed to visit. Sunday afternoons families came to picnic on the west lawn under the trees. The teacher from the nearby one-room school stopped in almost every afternoon, and children walked to the Store for penny candy. The Volland Store was a centerpiece of the community until the early 1970s when it closed after the death of its storekeeper, Otto Kratzer. But the memories remain strong, and the building is still known as The Volland Store.

Although Otto's descendants attempted to maintain the building, they eventually moved away, and it was difficult to do so from a distance. Years passed, and finally a persistent leak caused the roof to cave in, collapsing the second and first



floors into the basement. Thirty years of rain, sleet, snow, hail, and wind ensued, but the brick walls never wavered. They stood strong, a testament to the fine craftsmanship of the original builders

and to the quality of design and materials chosen by the Kratzer brothers. The empty building continued to remind neighbors and relatives of the good times they experienced there.

At the turn of the present century, a new family came to Wabaunsee County and heard stories of the building that stood vacant and begged to come alive. Patty and Jerry Reece had bought and restored old buildings before, and this one caught their eye. It was too good to let just melt away. More than that, it held an important place in the heart of the community. That was clear from the way eyes lit up when old stories were told.

NOW

A decade or so later, Kratzer's granddaughter began to look for someone who would buy the Store and restore it. With the promise that the building wouldn't be torn down, an agreement was reached, and the property passed to new owners, the Reeces.

A first look inside revealed a mountain of debris reaching to the first floor. There was only one way in and out, down broken

steps through a door (that miraculously still opened) into the basement. A couple of strong guys with five-gallon buckets soon began clearing the rubble until there was enough room to bring in heavy equipment to finish the job.

As word spread that the building was being worked on, a combination of curiosity and disbelief fueled interest and, eventually, strong support for the undertaking.

An engineer, architect, designer, and builder, along with their larger teams, dedicated their considerable talents and energy over a couple of years to give The Volland Store a chance at a second century. It has been more than a building project for all involved. It has been a journey to return the building to its rightful place in the community.

The Store's many friends and visitors now have the job of determining exactly what shape the building's future will take.



WHERE

The Volland Store lies midway between Alma and Alta Vista, just a quarter-mile off Old K-10 Highway, 24098 Volland Road (*directions can be found at www.thevollandstore.com/contact/.*) It is listed as one of Kansas Historic Places and sits just off the Skyline-Mill Creek Scenic Drive, one of the prettiest routes through the Flint Hills. The neighbors along Mill Creek Valley are mostly ranchers, many of them descendants of homesteaders. They take pride in the history of this place and in their ancestors, who carved a living from these hills and valleys.

WHEN

The Volland Store hours of operation are:
Saturdays and Sundays noon - 5 pm
Open at other times by appointment.
Call Abby Amick at 620-271-2953





The renovation of The Volland Store has saved as much of the Kratzer brothers' original structure as possible, and present-day "storekeepers" hope that the Store can reclaim its role as a center of community life where news and ideas are exchanged, and a place where descendants of homesteaders and visitors from Anywhere, USA, can stage meetings, reunions, workshops, weddings, art exhibits and more.

THE GALLERY

The Gallery is an open space that rises to the roofline, revealing the original second-story windows. A professional lighting and hanging system make it ideal for art exhibitions while creating a comfortable atmosphere for dining, a reception, or a business presentation. A digital projector is capable of reproducing guests' imagery on the Gallery's BigWhiteWall, including content from a laptop computer, BluRay and DVD, as well as DirecTV. A catering

kitchen and two restrooms serve this level. ADA access is available. The Gallery can accommodate seated dining for 80, audience seating for 90, or a reception for 100.

THE LOFT



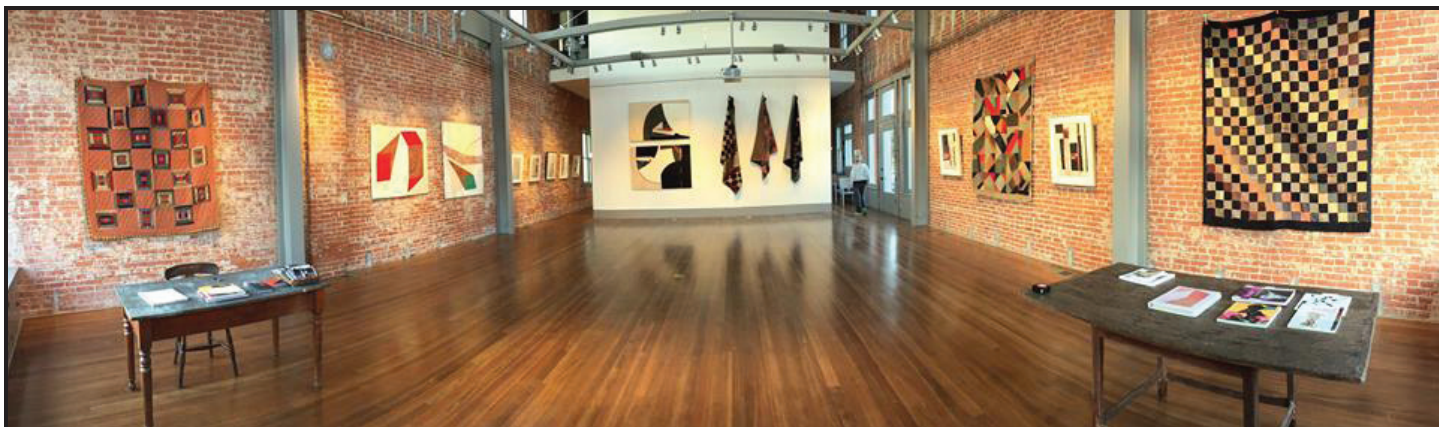
The Loft is a private guest room with its own bath, kitchen and temperature controls and is available nightly or for more extended visits. It is a great get-away and a good place from which to explore the Flint Hills.

THE LOWER LEVEL

The Lower Level retains the original stone walls and windows. It has plenty of open space for workshops, construction projects, art-making, a small business start-up, or anything else that requires well-lighted, mess-proof accommodations. Two restrooms with showers on this level suggest that this space could be used by youth, family, or hunting groups for informal sleeping arrangements with bring-your-own cots or inflatable beds.

OUTDOORS

The lawn will accommodate rental tents for large groups. The clearings in the woods south of the Ruin are places for dancing & merriment. There is also an ice house garden and blacksmith shop in addition to the wildflower trails that lead through the meadow to Mill Creek and more.



THE VOLLAND STORE IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE A SPECIAL COLLABORATIVE EVENT WITH HAW CONTEMPORARY AND ARTIST DEBRA SMITH.

Women's Work: Points of View

Contemporary textile artist Debra Smith
Vintage American quilts collected by
Elizabeth Wilson

Exhibition Dates: Now through Dec. 20

DEBRA SMITH

As the third generation in her family to work as a textile artist, Debra Smith's fascination with the medium of fabric was instilled at a young age. Though this history strongly influences her work, Smith pushes beyond stereotypes associated with textiles as craft and that of "women's work". Through meticulous construction incorporating both vintage and contemporary fabrics she infuses the work with air, movement and depth. Expressing an emotion or a moment in time, she finds the end result similar to painting, drawing and poetry. These new works for Smith continue to explore color and pattern on an even larger scale.

Pursuing her interest in fashion and textiles, Debra Smith studied at the Italian Academy of Fashion & Design; Lorenzo de Medici in Florence Italy before receiving her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Kansas City Art Institute with a major in Fiber in 1993 and an Associate Degree in Applied Science from the Fashion Institute of Technology in 2002. In 2012 Smith was honored as one of the Women to Watch 2012: Focus on Fiber & Textiles from The National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC.

Her work has been shown throughout the US and abroad for the past two decades, including solo & group exhibitions: Rijswijk Textile Biennial, Museum Rijswijk, Netherlands, DUSK Art Exchange, Look & Listen Gallery, Saint Chamas, France (2015), Shifting Territory, Haw Contemporary, Kansas City (2014), Spring Revival, Markel Fine Art, NYC (2013), Release of Time, Anderson Museum of Contemporary Art (2012), In-between Spaces/ New work, Roswell Museum & Art Center, Roswell, NM (2010), Looking to The Left, Julie Saul Gallery, NYC (2008), Sense of Presence, Davidson Gallery, Brisbane, Australia (2004), Celestial Navigation, Vancouver, BC (2002) Debra Smith is represented by Haw Contemporary, Kansas City, Missouri.

VINTAGE AMERICAN QUILTS COLLECTED BY ELIZABETH WILSON OF ASIATICA

Elizabeth Wilson opened a unique retail store in Kansas City more than three decades ago, creating one-of-a-kind garments from vintage Japanese kimono fabrics. Contemporary Japanese artisanal fabrics and other luxurious textiles complement her vintage fabric collection today. Elizabeth is attracted to bold, graphic patterns wherever they may appear, geographical boundaries aside (Japan, Peru, India). Some years ago she and her husband moved to the country near Weston, Missouri. Elizabeth began to look at quilts, collecting those that were graphically strong and striking in color. Part of her collection appears in this exhibit.

Although these quilts were collected solely for their beauty, an inherent history resides within each. It is no longer possible to know the names of the makers of these quilts, but their identities endure in the work they created. The design and color selection of each piece reveal the maker's creativity and inner self.

DINNER AT THE VOLLAND STORE

October 25, 2015
5:30 pm-Sunset

Join us for dinner at The Volland Store. We are excited to announce that Scott Benjamin of 4 Olives Restaurant and Wine Bar in Manhattan will join us as our first guest chef!

Cocktail hour will begin at 5:30. Red and white wines from St. Francis Winery will be offered as you enjoy the peaceful surroundings of the Flint Hills and browse Women's Work, the contemporary textiles of artist Debra Smith and vintage quilts from the collection of Elizabeth Wilson, Asiatica.

Dinner will be served at 6:30. The inventive menu features local foods paired with selections of great wines from St. Francis Winery.

Limited to 56 guests
\$115 per person

For menu and ticket information please visit: <http://thevollandstore.com/four-olives-chef-dinner/>

HOW TO MAKE YOUR ARTWORK WORTH MORE MONEY

BY ALAN BAMBERGER
ARTBUSINESS.COM

I bet you don't know you can take the finished artwork that's sitting around your studio and increase its value right now, do you? No, you don't have to change it. No, there's no trickery. These are 100% legit time-tested art market methods that experienced knowledgeable collectors (and art buyers in general) respond to and pay higher prices for, and I'm going to tell you exactly what they are and how to use them to enhance the value and desirability of your art. Ready to increase your net worth? Excellent.

Here's the basic idea. Take two identical artworks. One you know nothing about; the other you know a whole bunch about. Now they're both the same price, you like them both equally well, and you can buy either one or the other. Which one would you rather buy? Right. The one you know a whole bunch about. Why? Because the more you know about a work of art, the better and more in depth you understand and appreciate it, and the more meaning it holds for you on a variety of levels. With respect to the marketplace, the more information, history and context that accompanies a work of art, the more attractive it is to buyers. Why? Because it's easier to sell (or resell) art that you can say a whole bunch about than it is to sell art you can say little or nothing about.

In other words, you add value to artwork by informing, enhancing, and deepening

the experiences people have when they see it. Any artist including you can add value to any work of art almost instantly, thereby increasing its perceived significance in the eyes of serious collectors, and very possibly the price they'll be willing to pay for it as well. The following straightforward procedures work every time, all the time. So grab some artwork and let's get going...

First and foremost, **sign it**. Or if it is signed, but only people who know you can read the signature, sign or print your name legibly somewhere else like on the back, so people who don't know who you are can read it too (as astonishing as this may seem, not everyone will always know who you are-- so make sure that if they don't, they will once they read that signature). You can't do anything more important than sign your art legibly because without exception, the number one most common question people ask when they first see a work of art is, "Who's the artist?" And given two identical works of art, one signed and the other not, the signed one is worth more and will sell for a higher price than the unsigned one. Why? When an artist applies his or her name to a work of art, that essentially means it's done, ready to be shown in public and "officially approved" by the artist...

Read the complete article [here](#).



Alan Bamberger, is an art consultant, advisor, author, and independent appraiser specializing in research, appraisal, and all business and market aspects of original works of art, artist manuscript materials, art-related documents, and art reference books. He has been selling art since 1979 and rare and scholarly art reference books since 1982, and has been consulting and appraising for artists, galleries, businesses, organizations and collectors since 1985. Click to view [Alan's complete biography profile](#).



Tips from the Columbian Artists

Terry Mulhern: Tips from Terry: A bowl of dried rice is a great way to keep your brushes together but separate. Just plunge the bottom of the brush in at the angle you want it to stay. This is very helpful if you want to keep colorful ends separate while the paint is still on them.

COLUMBIAN ARTIST OF THE MONTH



DEB HANES-NELSON

After 35 years in the ministry, I have retired to pursue my second calling as a watercolor artist. This call was born out of a spiritual experience while taking my second watercolor class at Ghost Ranch in Northern New Mexico in 2005. That class was Journaling Through Watercolor. Upon arriving home I began painting as often as time would allow, and I sought out other artists as a support system. Over the past decade I have grown as an artist due to the influence of those colleagues. I also credit my roots and the communities I have served over the years as a pastor. My paintings have a rural flavor with a bit of nostalgia mixed in with more current trends of everyday life in the Great Plains and the Flint Hills of Kansas.

My studio is located in Centralia, Kansas, a town of a 398 wonderful small town folks. It is known as 315 Annex Studio and Gallery and is located on Hwy 9 known as John Riggins Avenue in town. I teach classes on Mondays to both children and adults. Among my students over the years have been area high school art teachers who needed "to brush up on watercolor skills."

EDUCATION

- Florence Memorial High School, Florence KS, 1971
- Flint Hills Area Vocational-Technical School, Emporia KS, CDA, 1972
- Washburn University of Topeka, Topeka KS, BSW, 1983
- Saint Paul School of Theology, Kansas City MO, M.Divinity, 1987
- Multiple workshops with some of the finest watercolor artists in the United States

SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS

- Manhattan Watercolor Studio Annual Group Show, Manhattan Arts Council, Manhattan KS, 2005-current
- Columbian Artists Group Shows and Exhibitions, Swogger Gallery, Columbian Theater, Wamego KS, 2010-current

- Lee Damm Center for the Arts, "Friends of Corner Retreat", This was a solo show in which I invited several friends to participate, Marshall County Arts Cooperative, Marysville KS, 2014

- Kansas Watercolor Society's 2013 National Exhibition, Wichita Center for the Arts, Wichita KS

- Gallery 101 of the Flint Hills, Marion KS, Featured Artist, 2011, and ongoing art on display

SPECIAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Nemaha County 4-H Fair, Ann Kramer Best of Show Award, Open Class, Seneca KS, 2007

MEMBERSHIPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Manhattan Watercolor Studio
- Columbian Artist Group
- Sustaining Member of American Watercolor Society



"John 1:5 on Ponytz", 8.5x11.5

continued next page

Recent news for Deb Hanes-Nelson: She has been included in Artsy Shark's featured group article called Painter's Showcase. We will shoot out an announcement as soon as we find out it has published. She is now showing at the Yeldarb Gallery in Topeka's NOTO District - Opened the first Friday of October and is set to be at the NexLynx Gallery for Arts, Topeka, KS - Opening set for the First Friday in January.

View Deb's online portfolio at:

<http://debhanesnelson.weebly.com/>



“The New Has Come - 2 Corinthians 5:17”,
16x20



Watercolors by Deb

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Pake McNally ~ Artist, Blacksmith, Welder
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*Landscape Photography
by Penny Hasenkamp*

penny's pics...

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E-mail: pennyone@bbwi.net

Web: Etsy.com ~ shop name:
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RODNEY L HOOVER

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MINUTES FROM THE TUESDAY, SEPT 15TH MEETING

TIME

6:30 p.m.

LOCATION

Swogger Gallery - Columbian Theatre,
Wamego, KS

Annual Potluck Dinner

ATTENDANCE

15 current members and 1 guest present

MEMBERS

Patti Adams, Linda Asbury, Margaret Buie, Curt Compagnone, Tara Dean, Kellie Dillinger, Rodney Hoover, Oscar Larmer, Deb Hanes-Nelson, Susan Rose, Alicia Stott, Gene Sievers, Christine Travino, Devi Wilbur and rejoining member Ann Carter.

GUEST

Friend of Gene Sievers

OLD BUSINESS

- Kellie Dillinger discussed the ease of use of the new hanging system. Patti Adams said that it helps with the forward tilt if you put a small screw hook or eye at the top center on the back of your frame to guide the wire thru. Kellie said if there is anyone in need of assistance to contact her or ask a fellow artist who has used the system before.

NEW BUSINESS

• THE NEXT COLUMBIAN ARTIST GROUP MEETING

Tuesday, October 20 - 6:30 p.m. at the
Manhattan Public Library, Manhattan.

There will be a guest speaker, Daryn Soldan, a consultant with the Kansas Small Business Development Center attending to talk about Fed and State Tax info. This is a great opportunity to get

your questions asked about KS sales tax and obtaining your Tax ID #'s.

- After a break from art to raise her two adopted children, member Ann Carter returns. We can't wait to see her encaustic style work.
- Kellie Dillinger announced the next Columbian Theatre Show opening event will be Friday the 16th of October. All should plan to attend and make this a success.
- There were questions and concerns raised about the involvement from the Columbian with the Swogger Gallery and the advertising that has yet to take place. All are welcome to call and discuss this with Clint prior to the next meeting.
- Penny shared that you can pay to "boost" your facebook postings and it has paid off for the Manhattan Farmers Market that she is involved with. We should discuss this at the next meeting.
- Manhattan Arts Center show (MAC)** is set for January. There is a 35% commission and it has been relayed that the deadlines are highly important and we will be made to adhere to them. More info to come as gathered.
- Now that the new walls have been done at the Manhattan Oncology office, we are allowed 9 pieces to hang. All hangers are pre-placed and cannot be moved. Please note we are still in need of someone to fill January & November 2016. Members that are interested please contact Kellie Dillinger.

2016 Lineup

Jan -
Feb - Devi Wilbur
Mar - Penny Hasenkamp

Apr - Linda Asbury

May - Ann Carter

June - Tara Dean

July - Hannah Merle

Aug - Alicia Stott

Sept - Susan Rose

Oct - Deb Nelson

Nov -

Dec - Rod Hoover

- Susan Rose shared that the Flint Hills Master Show is now open and group members Oscar Larmer, Susan Rose and Becky Drager will have works featured.



- It was brought up that there was still time to collaborate with member Christine Trevino about inclusion in a booth at the 2016 Equifest. If you have any questions please contact Christine.

ART AT THE WALL

- There was no art at the wall due to the September meeting being our annual potluck.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Member Linda Asbury -**

- ▶▶ Axtell Kansas Art & Craft Show, Sat., 9 - 4, Oct. 17 at the American Legion Building.

- **Member Tara L Dean -**

- ▶▶ Included in the "Artist To Watch 2016" show at Two Wolves Studio in the NOTO district of Topeka, KS thru Oct. 31.

- **Member Becky Drager -**

- ▶▶ "Flint Hills Masters" art show at the Flint Hills Discovery Center thru Jan. 17, 2016.
- ▶▶ "Visions of the Flint Hills" thru Nov. 27, Buttonwood Art Space, 3013 Main St. Kansas City, MO.
- ▶▶ The Topeka Art Guild "Kansas Artist Show" thru end of Nov. Fairlawn Plaza, Topeka, KS.
- ▶▶ "Prairie Structures - Natural or Man-made" thru Nov. 13 at the Deines Cultural Center in Russell, KS.

- **Member Devi Wilbur-**

- ▶▶ Showing at the Ottawa County Arts and Humanities Council's Art in the Park on Oct. 10 in Minneapolis, KS.
- ▶▶ Will be in the "Artist To Watch 2016" Show at Two Wolves Studio in the NOTO district Topeka, KS thru Oct. 31.
- ▶▶ Devi will also have art in the Topeka Art Guild's annual show thru the end of Oct.

- **Member Penny Hasenkamp -**

- ▶▶ Axtell Kansas Art & Craft Show, Saturday 9 - 4, Oct. 17 at the American Legion Building.

- **Member Rodney L. Hoover -**

- ▶▶ "Western & Rural Anamnesis" at the NexLynx Gallery for Arts the exhibit will be up thru the end of the month.
- ▶▶ Rod's work is now represented at Family Home Treasures in Home City, KS on a regular basis.

- **Member Oscar Larmer -**

- ▶▶ Featured in the "Flint Hills Masters" art show at the Flint Hills Discovery Center thru January 17, 2016.

- **Member Pake McNally -**

- ▶▶ "Artist To Watch 2016" show at Two Wolves Studio in the NOTO district of Topeka, KS thru Oct 31

- **Member Deborah Hanes-Nelson -**

- ▶▶ Deb will have work featured at the Yeldarb Gallery in the Topeka NOTO district thru the month of October.
- ▶▶ Deb will have a solo show at the NexLynx Gallery for Art, downtown Topeka, KS the entire month of Jan., Opening First Friday in Jan.
- ▶▶ Deb has been included in Artsy Shark's featured group article called Painter's Showcase. We will shoot out an announcement as soon as we find out it has published.

- **Member Susan Rose -**

- ▶▶ "Flint Hills Masters" art show at the Flint Hills Discovery Center thru Jan. 17, 2016. Member Susan Rose will be doing a program for them Nov. 7 "Nature through an artist's eyes."
- ▶▶ "Vision of the Flint Hills" juried show at the Buttonwood Art Space in Kansas City, MO thru Nov. 27
- ▶▶ "Sky Above, Earth Below" show at the Strecker-Nelson Gallery in Manhattan, KS thru Oct. 31.
- ▶▶ "Friends of the Southwind" show at Southwind Gallery in Topeka running thru Oct. 31.
- ▶▶ Susan's landscape pieces are now represented by Beauchamps Gallery in the Westboro district of Topeka, KS.
- ▶▶ Susan also announces her new CafePress space at: www.cafepress.com/susanrosefineart.

- ▶▶ Susan announces that her work "Bottom-land Rendezvous (Snow Geese)" is featured in an article in the Fine Art Connoisseur.

- Columbian Artist members showing work at the **Manhattan Oncology/Radiology Department** in the upcoming months are as follows:

October - Deb Hanes-Nelson

November - Jessica Sievers

December - Rodney Hoover

- **Note to members:** Please forward all your upcoming events so that they can get into the newsletter. It's great to share so that all know what our fellow members are up to.

- **THE NEXT COLUMBIAN ARTIST GROUP MEETING**

Tuesday, October 20 - 6:30 p.m. at the Manhattan Public Library, Manhattan.



Name the artist and title of this work. email me at columbian.artists@gmail.com and we will announce the winner in the next newsletter.