

THE ART OF FAITH™

by

Max Greiner Jr.



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ART NEWSLETTER #2

Volume II
April 28, 2009



Studio Notes:

by

Max Greiner, Jr.



TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN'!

In the months since our last **ART OF FAITH** Newsletter (11/26/09), there have been a lot of changes in this world. It appears the timetable for the return of Christ is fast approaching! Come Lord Jesus, come! Now is the time for the great, "last days" harvest of souls. Now is the time for real Christians to stand up for Jesus, and the Judeo-Christian principles that founded this country, which made it great.

Friends take heart, as the world grows darker, the "**Light of the World**" becomes brighter! This makes the choice clearer for those who don't yet know Jesus Christ. Be prepared to introduce Him, when the Holy Spirit gives you the opportunity. He is the one thing that doesn't change! His love and forgiveness are forever!

LIMITED TIME PRICE REDUCTIONS!!! Sherry and I have decided to make a (temporary) major change in our marketing strategy, after 31 years in the art business. Art is a luxury! Even though good art enriches the lives of those who own it, and it is passed down through the generations, no one has to have it to live!

Therefore, Sherry and I have just dramatically reduced our prices, across our entire artwork line, from the smallest lapel pin to the largest monumental bronze sculpture. This “once in our lifetime” special offer is good until July 4, 2009. If you ever wanted a piece of Greiner art, now is the time to get it!

You can go to our website (www.maxgreinerart.com) now to see the incredible price reductions across the board! For example our gift boxed “*Christian Butterfly*”® Key Ring was \$7, it is now \$5. My life-size, 18’ tall, 5,000 lbs. bronze sculpture, “*The Coming King*”® was \$300,000. It is now \$200,000!

Sherry and I decided, for the first time since we started our art business in 1978, to sell my artwork to our clients, at or below, the Wholesale prices paid by galleries, stores and ministries. However, these special reduced prices will only be guaranteed until July the fourth.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS? There are several reasons. First we want to thank all our art collectors and employees who have helped us make a living from my art for the last 31 years. It has been wonderful to live the life of an artist, using my God-given gifts, and getting paid to do what I would do for free!

Many of you know I haven’t had a “real” job since 1978, thanks to your support and the grace of God! My art is now collected in all 50 states and over two dozen countries. It is in the collections of Popes, Presidents and Governors; movie, music and sports stars; and business leaders of major national and international companies. However, my art has also evolved over the years, from a focus on the “creation” to the “Creator.”

Originally, my wildlife/nature drawings, paintings and sculptures brought beauty and joy into the lives of people. However, today my artwork has a higher mission. It carries an eternal, spiritual message and our testimony for Jesus Christ. The message is more important than the medium. God is using me as a “**Eye-gate**” Evangelist! My God-inspired art compositions capture the eye, so the Holy Spirit can capture the heart!

Another reason we have reduced our prices at the time is to help our employees, suppliers and foundries. We employ a small number of people at my art studio/office/shop here in Kerrville. However, literally hundreds of other craftsmen across the nation and world, in a dozen companies, now help us make my artwork. Many of these people are Christians.

I heard on the national news recently about employees at some companies who were taking pay cuts, so fellow employees could keep their jobs. That sounds like something Jesus would do! Therefore, Sherry and I decided we too would dramatically reduce our normal (standard) profit margin at this time to sell more art, tell more people about Jesus, and keep more people employed!

WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED! For more than 31 years, God has richly blessed us with wonderful employees and suppliers, many of whom are friends and Prayer Intercessors. We want all these people to keep their jobs and financially prosper during this challenging time. Remember, the Bible says God takes care of His kids, who are kind to others and obey Him. Over the years, God has been very patient with me, and very good to our family.

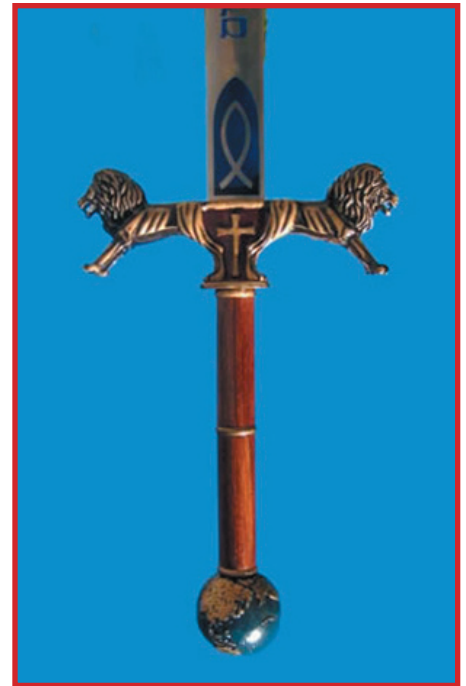
Finally, there are several personal reasons why we are having this “historic” price reduction promotion. First, I don’t want to get a “real” job! I haven’t had one since I was 26, by the grace of God! Second, we haven’t picked up a “road kill” in years, and I don’t want to start now! Third, Sherry and I are bowhunters, who have in the past taken deer, elk, bear, lion, caribou, antelope, sheep, boar and wild turkey with our arrows, which provided meat for our table. However, Sherry has now has just about “tamed and named” all the animals on our ranch, here in the **Texas Hill Country!** A lot of potential targets are now off limits!

So, we hope you will take advantage of this rare opportunity to own, or give some Greiner artwork! Thanks again for your past and future support! We pray my art is a blessing to you and others!

GALLERY



“Sword of the Spirit”™
 Life-size w/ magnet
 Signed & Numbered
 3” x 11.5” x 57” (10 lbs)
 #03713 \$600



“Sword of the Spirit”™
 Collector’s Edition
 Life-size w/ magnet
 Signed & Numbered
 3” x 11.5” x 57” (10 lbs)
 #03926 \$900

Includes:

- #01427 - Sculpture, Resin
- #03630 - Letter Opener, (Large)
- #03780 - Letter Opener, (Small)
- #02512 - Coin, 24K & Brass
- #16424 - Note Cards, Silhouette
- #16289 - Note Cards, Drawing
- #02741 - Lapel Pin, 24K & Brass

- #23552 - Print, 16” x 20”
- #23625 - Print, 11” x 14”
- #23629 - Print, 8” x 10”
- #01818 - Buckle, Bronze
- #22319 - Key Ring, Bronze
- #02490 - Medallion, Bronze
- #02555 - Medallion, Pewter



“Sword of the Spirit”™ Letter Opener
 Large (8.5”) #03640 \$20
 Small (6”) #03780 \$12

“The Empty Cross”™ Jewelry (1/8” x 7/8” x 1 1/4”)



14K Gold



Sterling Silver



24K Gold
 Plated Brass

Charm #21622 - Call
 Lapel Pin #21762 - Call

Charm #21762 \$40
 Lapel Pin #21835 \$40
 Key Ring #21908 \$40

Charm #22041 \$28
 Lapel Pin #22114 \$28
 Key Ring #22181 \$28



Back At The Ranch

by
Sherry Greiner



SPRING BRINGS CHANGE!!!

Greetings from the **Greiner Ranch** and the beautiful **Texas Hill Country!** Spring has arrived with wild flowers and baby animals everywhere! It is a new season for us too!

“THE EMPTY CROSS”™ IS FINISHED!!! The giant 77’7” Cor-tin steel cross sculpture is finally finished, after two years of construction by **Eagle Bronze** of Lander, Wyoming! The massive, seven story, “Resurrection” cross is now lying in Wyoming waiting to be delivered to **The Coming King Sculpture Prayer Garden** here in Kerrville! This unique, symbolic cross sculpture is part of the evangelistic “vision” given to Max by the Holy Spirit seven years ago. **Eagle Bronze** owners, Monte and Beverly Paddleford are creating this beautiful “open” cross at their actual cost, for the glory of God. Christians across the USA have joined us in generously donating their money, to build this symbolic cross and Garden, so that Jesus might be lifted up on **Interstate 10**.

However, it has been a battle! For those who don’t know, in early December of 2008, **The Coming King Foundation** was sued to stop the 77’7” cross sculpture from ever going up on its \$100,000 concrete foundation at the top of the hill, which is owned by **TCKF**. This magnificent, multi-million dollar cross was weeks away from being erected when some neighbors living nearby sued to stop the cross.



The massive cross is ready to be delivered to Kerrville from Wyoming.

This is just the latest effort to prevent the cross and the soul-winning Garden from coming into existence. Since 2005, atheists and a few other people have done legal, illegal, unethical and even immoral things, in an unsuccessful effort to discredit Max and stop the cross. Please know that **The Coming King Foundation** has done nothing wrong - legally, morally or ethically, and it is trying to resolve the matter in a Christ-like manner.

Please pray that God wins this **“Battle at the cross”** since it is the focal point of the entire evangelical Garden. **TCKF Trustees** are at peace because we know that we are in the confirmed will of God. We also know that ever since Jesus Christ died on the cross two thousand years ago, the cross has been offensive to people. If we were raising a 77’ statue of a cowboy, or an abstract sculpture, it is doubtful anyone would have objected. The cross makes people consider eternity.

We also believe that God is using this lawsuit as part of His publicity plan. Dozens and dozens of stories about the Kerrville Garden and the “77-foot cross” are now appearing in newspapers, magazines, on TV, radio and the internet. The unique evangelical project is receiving state and national exposure that the non-profit foundation

could never have afforded! What the devil meant for evil, God is using for good! Millions of people have now heard about the Kerrville cross, God's Garden and Jesus!

KINGDOM BUILDING OPPORTUNITY!!! Would you please pray for us and **The Coming King Sculpture Prayer Garden**? The entire Garden is being built on faith, without debt, through the generous donations of Christians across America. Max and I are totally committed to this project and have donated our time, financial resources and all of Max's monumental Christian sculptures so others might know the love of Jesus. Would you help us? For more information on the Garden, please visit **TCKF** website: www.thecomingkingfoundation.org

HISTORIC PRICE REDUCTIONS!!! Max and I felt that it is a good time to try something we have never done before, in the 31 year history of our art business. We have just dramatically reduced our prices on everything, until July 4, 2009! Our regular prices have been dropped in an effort to support our suppliers and to bless our art collectors!

Since this is a challenging time for all of us, we want to help in some small way, especially because we know God uses Max's art to bless, inspire and encourage millions of people. Most people don't realize that literally hundreds of people now help Max produce his artwork. We want to do everything we can to help our foundries and suppliers prosper during this time, so they can stay in business!

NEW ARTWORK!!! Two new art creations are being introduced in this newsletter, at "**Special Introductory Prices**":

"The Empty Cross"™ has been available in a variety of forms since 2002. However, it is finally now available as fine jewelry! This past fall, Max secretly carved a 1 ¼" cross out of jeweler's wax, and made a beautiful 14K Gold **Charm** for me, as a Christmas surprise. **"The Empty Cross"**™ speaks eloquently about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The small version of this Holy Spirit inspired design is now available as a **Charm** and **Lapel Pin/Tie Tack**. The **Sterling Silver** and **24k Gold Plated Brass** versions are also available as a **Key Ring**. The **14k Gold** crosses will be cast and priced as needed.

NEW FACE!!! Recently, a new face has joined our team! Nicole Huff is now helping us part-time by maintaining the websites for our art company and **The Coming King Foundation**. She is very talented and will be working with Max to improve the sites. Nicole also is a very strong Christian and mother, who pastors **Christian Community Church** here in Kerrville, with her husband, Ryan. We thank God for Nicole and the gifts He has given her. She will be a great help to us and our Kerrville employees, Jose Mendoza, Justin and Diana Shay Evans.

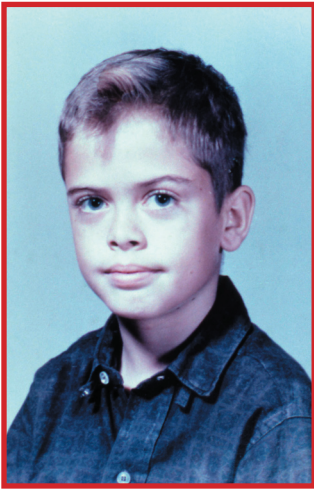
OLD ANIMALS!!! My three whitetail deer, **"Buttercup"**, **"Buddy"** and **"Beauty"** still come to the door everyday and let me hug and feed them! **"Chico"** my raccoon is now full grown and lives outside. Even though he has been neutered and has his rabies shots, he is still a rambunctious raccoon! **"Chico"** plays with us at night, until we are all too tired to play!

Finally, another old porcupine has figured out there is an **"All You Can Eat"** buffet at our house! Like other porcupines before him, this one knocks on the sliding glass door and then eats corn out of our hands! We can pet him under his neck, which he loves. Max says skunks and porcupines don't have many friends!

Thank you again for your prayers and for buying Max's artwork!



In April of 2009, Nicole Huff joined the Greiner team to help improve the Greiner and TCKF website.



Back Tracking

by

Max GREINER JR.

This column provides a historical look back -
Years: 1957-1961 (Ages 6-10)



Max's favorite toys allowed him to design and build things.

The years of my life from age 6 to 10 are remembered fondly by me. This was the time I found a personal relationship with God and the artistic gifts He gave me. Looking back 50 years, I can see that the course of my life was set at that formative time.



Max's first permanent sculpture was a ceramic eagle made from clay.

Thankfully, I had Godly parents and grandparents who trained and encouraged me. I realize now how truly blessed I was.

Because generations of my family, on both sides, were followers of Jesus Christ, we were all able to live under the "blessing", instead of the "curse." Looking back, our family had challenges like all families, but since our foundation was on the "Rock", we withstood and prospered through all the storms. God has been very good to the Greiner family!



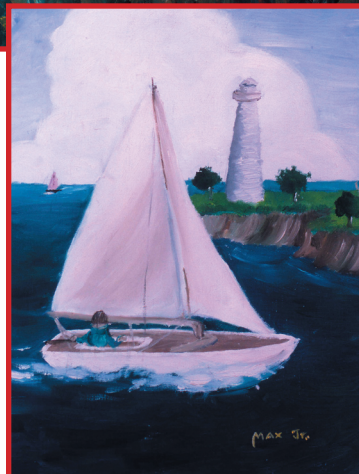
Max created numerous oil paintings during art lessons after school.

At age 7, I made a public profession of my faith in Jesus Christ during Bible School at **Calder Baptist Church** in Beaumont, TX. I was later baptized in water on September 6, 1959. I didn't have a lot of sin to confess back then, but I do remember making a promise to God that I would pray once a day!



Art teacher, Rita Allen taught Max how to use professional art materials when he was 8 and 9 years of age.

It was at this same time that I became clearly aware of my God-given artistic gifts and my natural interests. My love for the outdoors, hunting and fishing began at this time, which was encouraged by my dad, who had been an **Eagle Scout**, a honor I too would one day achieve. I remember making my first bow and arrow out of a sapling, when I was in the first grade, I think. My love for archery and bowhunting would last my entire life.



It was during my early elementary school years that I realized one day that God had made me an artist. There was no “mid-life discovery” for me. This epiphany occurred when our first grade teacher asked all the students to draw something, a horse maybe. When all the drawings of the children were compared, I discovered my horse looked more like a horse than all the other drawings! From then on I was recognized by my peers and teachers as the “artist”!

My mother, dad and grandmother Greiner especially encouraged my artistic interests. Mother always said I was never board playing by myself. My favorite toys were paint sets, “**Lincoln Logs**”®, “**Erector Sets**”®, the “**Etch-a-sketch**”® and my “**Lionel Trains**”®. I was always making (designing) something from wooden “nail boats”, to clay objects and forts made from trees, which I should not have cut down with my handy hatchet!

I made my first “fine art” during the third grade in Port Arthur, TX. My mother wanted me to take piano lessons with my younger sister, Carol. However, I eloquently explained that God had made me an “artist!” I agreed to take art lessons, not piano lessons! Thankfully, my parents had the wisdom to encourage all four of their children to pursue their God-given talents and natural interests. (I don’t think I ever figured out what to do with a football, even though my dad had been a famous football star at **Texas A&M University**!) So, while most children were catching baseballs, I was catching turtles and making art!

My mother located a “real” artist named Rita Allen of Groves, TX, who taught me how to use professional artist mediums like charcoal, pastels, watercolors and oils. I took 90 minute classes from Mrs. Allen, once a week for about 16 months. I learned the basics of drawing, painting and the fundamentals of design and perspective. At age 9 and 10, I was actually creating oil paintings on canvas while other children my age were still using crayons! My first sculptures were made of “**Ivory Soap**”®, wood and clay. The soap is long gone, but my first permanent sculpture of an eagle, which was “fired”, is still in my collection today. It is interesting to note from the very beginning, my favorite subject matter was wildlife and nature.

Fortunately, my mother (who saved everything) kept all of my early works of art. These included my first watercolors and oil paintings, that were created at age 8 and 9. I grew up making both two and three dimensional art, never realizing until years later at college, that mastering both disciplines was very rare!

As I write this column, I am 57 years old. By the grace of God, the support of my parents, my wife and thousands of people who have bought my artwork since 1978, I have been able to live the wonderful life of an artist! I am truly grateful and blessed! Thank you for helping me live my dream!

Now, some advice that is worth at least what you paid. It is never too late to encourage the “artist” in you, or others! God is the one who gives creativity and talent. He never leaves out anyone. However, it is up to you to discover and use your gifts. God won’t force you. The gifts may be in art, music, writing or drama. They could be in athletics, mathematics, science or thousands of other areas of endeavor. Hidden inside every child is a God-given destiny. Our job as parents, grandparents, teachers, pastors and friends is to encourage this special aptitude to be revealed and lived out.

Please take the time to encourage others around you, especially the young. Help them realize how special they are, and that they are the most precious “artwork of God”. Help them strive for excellence, while realizing that mistakes and failures are part of the process. Use your time and words to love others and lift them up. Help them find and live their destiny. The shortest path to discovering your own destiny is to ask Jesus to show you what it is! You may also find your destiny by helping others find theirs!



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