Last month I mentioned that the board was going to take a two day retreat at Paige Lambert’s place at Arch Cape. We did just that; over the weekend of the 7 and 8th of January and we did indeed pretty much have solid meetings from 10:00 AM Saturday until 5:00 PM on Sunday. Was it brutal? Yes. Was it fun? Yes. Was it productive? Yes, very.

Under Phil’s facilitating, we first looked at the questionnaire results, queried ourselves, and determined that the most important thing our members want and get from Pacific NW Sculptors is interaction with our peers. We share information on techniques, tools, and selling. We network and brainstorm, and it’s just plain nice to have someone to talk 3-d with. Secondly, we want to make a living sculpting. Galleries and shows can be tough to get into, competition is fierce, and juries fickle. The task, then, was to set up a structure such that PNS could better address these issues. That we did with charts, graphs, coffee, soap bubbles, torrential rain and Phil keeping us on topic (frequently). We rewrote the mission statement, determined categories of attack, established a hierarchical structure of committees and subcommittees within those categories, and set long and short term goals. Finally we assigned ourselves tasks. In short, we have a plan. It is ambitious, but doable.

Last week, I had the opportunity to attend an ISI Sister Cities luncheon. I had not given a lot of thought to the Sister Cities aspect of the ISI, but came away from that luncheon highly impressed with the people involved in those organizations. This part of the ISI has the potential to achieve something beyond sales and even education. These Sister City organizations are about fostering communication between cultures. Here is a chance, then, to find common ground between peoples through sculpture, and that fosters understanding, which lessens fear, and you can see where I’m going with this. Not only that, but the Portland Sister City organizations are independent of one another, and all those represented at the table were excited over the possibility of establishing a working relationship through involvement with the ISI. Represented were two cities in China, one each in Japan, Israel, and Zimbabwe Rhodesia. Fascinating. Good stuff.

I missed the members’ meeting last Sunday, preferring to be laid up with the flu or cold or whatever this. Suffice to say, I was contagious. Thanks again, Marty, for offering your space; I did hate to miss that one.

Thanks to all,
George Heath

On page 4 is an outline of the structure we established, (please note the vacant positions), and below that, a list of our three and one year goals. Note also the mention of a points system. There will be much more about that in the future. continued on page 4
PNS has arrived at an exciting turning point! We have a newly focused mission and goals in place to make Pacific Northwest Sculptors the premier art organization in the northwest! Our membership is growing and the International Sculpture Invitational promises to bring lots of attention to Portland and our artists. Now is the time to get on board! Be involved! Volunteer your time and talent to make it your PNS. Enclosed in this newsletter is a list of important leadership positions we need to fill, or you can volunteer to be a committee member, if you prefer. Talk to your sculptor friends and, maybe, join a committee together. In the next newsletter, there will be more detailed information about the point system we are creating to reward volunteers with better options at our PNS shows and activities. After you have signed up, return the sheet to 4110 SE Hawthorne Blvd. #302 Portland, OR 97214 or give it to any board member by February 24th.
Our Vision is: To establish and maintain an annual, world class sculpture event on the West Coast, through the participation of significant national and international sculptors.

Our Goals are:
- To present sculpture in all media (bronze, steel/metal, wood, stone, glass, ceramic, and mixed media) which will be for special display, awards, and purchase.

- To expand the community’s understanding of art through example, educational programs, discussions, and lectures.

- To collaborate with the Sister City International program to bring international sculptors into the Northwest region.

- To build a community-based art event that gives back to the community through an annual gift of a sculpture piece to the City of Portland and region.

- An installation of a monumental sculpture piece, in September 2006 will celebrate the ISI introduction to the community.

The January meeting of the Seattle Chapter was held at the studio/foundry of Jim Harlan Bronze. About 20 members and interested others showed up for a tour and excellent discussion about foundry techniques. Kim Graham updated us on plans for a float for the Fremont Solstice Parade, and the group nominated Brandis Svenson to represent the Seattle Chapter’s interests on the PNS board. Next month will be the 1 year anniversary of the first meeting of the Seattle Chapter. With over 15 active members, the group is growing strong.

The February meeting of the Seattle Chapter will be held at the studio of Eben Grabe. Members and invitees are reminded to bring food and/or drink.

Feb Meeting - Seattle Chapter
Wednesday, February 22, 7 pm
9111 183rd Ct. NE
Redmond, WA 98052
425-881-3079
eben@gramer.us
Committees

Operations:
Organizational Flow Sheet: George Heath
Membership Committee: George Heath
   Directory: Jackie Woodward
Calendar Committee: Maria Wickwire
Finance Committee: Julian Voss-Andreae
   Budget: Julian Voss-Andreae
Fundraising: Paige Lambert
Volunteer Coordination Committee: POSITION OPEN
   Create and manage Points System: Maria Wickwire and Ann Fleming

Establishing PNS as a Premier Member-based Art Organization:
Marketing Committee: Phil Seder
   Newsletter Committee: Maria Wickwire
      Keep members informed about PNS and programs
      Introduce potential new members to PNS
      Introduce PNS to other art-related organizations
Publicity: POSITION OPEN
   Create marketing materials/Graphics committee: Rick Gregg
   Contact media about our events, press releases: Jennifer Corio
Website: George Heath
   Maintain web presence:
      Gallery and web page calendar

Education:
   Education Committee: POSITION OPEN
      Educational Outreach: George Heath and Rick Gregg
      Create at least one class with paid instructor.
      Educational Members’ Meetings: Patrick Gracewood
         Schedule 5 informational meetings per year for members & public.

Shows:
Show Committee:
   PNS Show: POSITION OPEN
      Create framework and infrastructure for PNS show
   Outside Shows: Jackie Woodward
      Lakewood Outreach Committee: Linley Schetky and Paige Lambert
      Art in the Pearl Committee: Tim Tanner

WE NEED MEMBERS TO FILL THESE IMPORTANT POSITIONS:
   Volunteer coordinator
   Publicity chair
   Show committee chair
   PNS show chair

GOALS
Three Year Goal: Shows
Within three years, we will participate in three shows (in addition to Art in the Pearl) that are profitable in fun, public exposure, and/or sales potential.

Three Year Goal: Education
Within three years, we will maintain our current bimonthly member education meetings and establish one additional ongoing educational program.

continued on page 6
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS!

Oregon Coast Sculptor (& member of Northwest Sculptors!), M.J. Anderson, has received the 2006 Individual Artist Fellowship Grant from the Oregon Arts Commission. The Commission’s fellowships recognize outstanding Oregon artists, and the $3,000 grants are awarded both on the basis of past achievement and future promise in the arts.

Julian Voss-Andreae is showing his work in a sculpture exhibition at the beautiful, new Alexander Gallery at Clackamas Community College. It is called "Iron and Steel" and will exhibit work by eight sculptors. Much of Julian’s work is related to science, but he recently started a new series of sculptures which have absolutely nothing to do with science. They are abstractions from the human shape. One of these will be in the exhibition. The exhibition runs from January 17 until February 23.

A GREAT NEW GADGET (continued from page 8)

I mixed up about a pound and a half or 7090 grams of thixotropic silicone rubber and dumped it into the clear container. I closed the lid, attached the vacuum line and pressed the power button followed by the “MariVac” button. The vacuum motor ran for two minutes and then automatically shut off. The rubber had expanded to about twice its original volume. I then restarted the vacuum pump and rocked the chamber back forth for the next two minute cycle, which exposed the bubbles to the surface and caused the rubber to return to its original volume. To complete the de-airing process, I twisted the knob on the top of the lid, sealing in the vacuum (or more properly, preventing air from coming into the container), disconnected the hose, placed the sealed chamber on the rollers, and pressed the third button which caused the rubber to flow into an alginate mold of a hand and plastic cup. After allowing the rubber to set up, I demolded both samples. The “Reveo” had de-aired the rubber perfectly. Not only were there no visible bubbles on the surface of the samples, but also slicking into the rubber in the cup showed it to be a bubble free throughout.

The fact that the “Reveo” is an excellent tool for de-airing rubber is reason enough to buy one. However, it can be used with other materials as well. I have used it with Forton MG plaster and alginate and found that it is as effective as my much more expensive “Whip Mixer.” While the vacuum chamber is not large, about 7 inches in diameter and eight inches tall, it can accommodate about a quart of material. In fact, the “Reveo” can de-air much larger amounts of material than can the “Whip Mixer.”

One of the more useful features of the “Reveo” is that the vacuum vessel can be lifted and rocked back and forth to help the air to escape. This can be important to speed up the de-airing with fast setting materials. Also, if the material has a high viscosity such as thixotropic rubbers, reducing the air pressure will cause the air to come out of solution and the bubbles to expand but the bubbles may not be able to rise to the surface and escape on their own. High altitudes, such as in Denver where I live and work, exacerbates the problem. The turning over and over of the container on the rollers helps to get rid of the air.

As with any container, cleaning up after mixing rubber is a snap. Just let the rubber set up and pull it out. But because the vacuum vessel is not flexible, aerals that harden such as plaster, Forton MG, etc. should be washed out immediately after mixing and not allowed to harden, even though these materials don’t seem to stick to the container. If you were concerned that a particular material might permanently stick to the vessel, damaging it, you could put a smaller container into the vacuum chamber and not turn it on its side and use the rollers. Complete vacuum chambers including lids are only $22.00 each, plus shipping. I would suggest that an extra one be ordered with the “Reveo” to keep as a spare. I ordered two, just in case, but so far have had no problems.

The lid simply fits on snugly and draws down tightly as the vacuum forms. While I have been able to remove the lid after air is allowed back into it, the easiest way to do so is to blow compressed air in through the hole where the vacuum line attaches which causes the lid to pop off.

Using a vacuum gauge, I found that the built-in vacuum pump pulls just over 20 inches of mercury. While I can get several more inches with my home made vacuum chamber, which I described in one of the articles mentioned previously in the third paragraph in this article, 20 inches seems to be adequate. I suspect at sea level one would get about 5 more inches of mercury.

I am so impressed with my “Reveo” that I urge anyone who doesn’t already have the capability of de-airing materials to acquire one. One my next flight, I plan on taking a closer look at some of the other gadgets in the catalog. I’ll bet there is a use around my studio for a solar powered nose hair trimmer; I just haven’t figured it out yet.

The “Reveo” is manufactured by:
Eastman Outdoors
P.O. Box 380
Flushing, Michigan 48433
877-738-3648
www.eastmanoutdoors.com
Three Year Goal: Establish PNS as a recognized premier, member-based art organization
Within three years, we will establish ongoing standing committees and job descriptions.
Within three years, we will develop awareness of PNS among local art organizations including RACC and POVA. (possibly Oregon Art Beat, Portland Monthly Magazine).
Within three years, we will establish stable funding and year-to-year membership growth.
Within three years, we will develop marketing materials, including website, press kit, brochures, and business cards.
Within three years, we will establish and maintain clear, ongoing communication and cooperation with our Seattle Chapter.

One Year Goal: Education
Within one year, we will maintain our current bimonthly member education meetings.
Within one year, we will establish a procedure for offering one PNS-sponsored sculpture-related class, available to the public and our membership, in which the instructor is paid. Our long-term goal would be to make this an ongoing project.

One Year Goal: Shows
Within one year, we will put our energy into establishing a strong presence at the Lakewood Art Center Show in Lake Oswego for 2007.
Within one year, we will establish the framework and infrastructure to launch a successful membership show by establishing a show committee.

One Year Goal: Establish PNS as a recognized premier, member-based art organization
Within one year, we will establish ongoing standing committees to support our chosen projects
Within one year, we will create complete task descriptions for each standing committee and job descriptions for the chair of each committee, as well as complete job descriptions for all board positions.
Within one year, we will develop an organizational chart, explaining the relationships between the different jobs.
Within one year, we will develop marketing materials including website, press kit, brochures, and business cards that can be used to develop membership and community support and awareness.

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President’s Message continued from page 4

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— blipman
CALLS FOR ARTISTS

CONTEMPORARY CRAFTS MUSEUM
AND GALLERY
Deadline: Ongoing
Reviewing applications for solo shows for 2005; send letter stating interest in solo show; 10-20 slides, resume, statement and SASE. For more information go to www.ContemporaryCrafts.org, call 503.223.2654

TAZO TEA welcomes submissions for its juried Waste Not recycled art competition, which will culminate with an exhibition and auction celebration benefiting SCRAP and Disjecta. Entries must consist of at least 75% reused, recycled or found objects. Cash prizes will be awarded. For complete details, including instructions on how to submit work, visit www.wastenotart.com or contact Amy Bourne at 503.736.9005 x2248.

Deadline: 2/13/06.

KILN PROCESSES USING RECYCLED GLASS, a juried competition and exhibition with four cash prizes. Entries to include three-dimensional fine arts, crafts, sculpture, and industrial products. Work must be created by kiln processes (such as fused, sintered, kiln cast, slumped glass, glazed and unglazed ceramics). No blown or hot cast glass. See prospectus and entry forms at http://www.ceedweb.org/glass/awards.html. All entrants must submit official Entry Forms and digital or photo images only. No actual art pieces will be accepted for jurying. Exhibition to be held at the Cal-EPA building in Sacramento, Spring 2006. Presented by the Center for Environmental Economic Development, in cooperation with the California Department of Conservation.

Deadline: 2/15/06.

WALK OF THE HEROINES, RACC is seeking artists/teams residing in the United States for three public art opportunities for Portland State University’s Walk of the Heroines. The total art budget is $155,000. The three opportunities for public art are: a Stage Wall ($65K), Water Course Sculpture ($75K), 5 small wall niches ($15K). The artwork should reflect the themes of inspiration, education, discovery, artistic expression, diversity and community which have been woven throughout the project since its inception. Artists/teams may apply for one or all of the opportunities. While it is not required, the committee encourages teams of artists to apply for the entire site and supports the inclusion of emerging artists on those teams.

Deadline: 3/24/06.

WESCOTT BAY SCULPTURE PARK, SAN JUAN ISLAND
Regional Artists are invited to submit sculpture proposals for the 2006 Invitational Exhibition
All work submitted must be appropriate for outdoor exhibition, able to withstand wind and weather and be appropriate for family viewing. The criteria for selecting the art include: quality, durability, appropriateness for the park & setting, and aesthetic appeal. Site-specific proposals and conceptual art proposals are also acceptable. Interactive works are encouraged. Artists may submit up to three entries for consideration. An entry may be a single object or set. Artists may include a single page resume and a 25 word or less narrative for each entry submitted. Entries may be made by email, photos, or slides.

(This listing continued on page 8)
CALLS FOR ARTISTS

continued from page 7

Exhibition Time Line
Work will be exhibited from: May 1, 2006 thru March 20, 2007. Overnight accommodations will be provided at Roche Harbor Resort while the artist is installing.

Submit entries to: Westcott Bay Institute, PO BOX 339, Friday Harbor, WA 98250  OR kay@wbay.org

The Westcott Bay Institute, a nonprofit organization, was formed to provide educational experiences in art & nature.
Questions: call (360) 370-5050 or e-mail us at kay@wbay.org. Visit our website: wbay.org
Deadline: on or before 5 PM March 1, 2006.

A GREAT NEW GADGET

by David Parvin
This article was first published in its entirety in Sculpture Journal, www.sculpturejournal.com

There I was at 37,000 feet in an airliner headed to Ottawa, Canada with a stop in Philadelphia. I was getting pretty bored. There was no free lunch any more. The person next to me had fallen asleep in spite of my stimulating conversation. I had just finished the only book I had brought along and I had elected not to pay $5.00 to watch the obligatory “G” rated chick flick about girl gets boy after some difficulty. I had even walked back to the rear of the plane and checked the magazine rack and found only a copy of one of the racy “women’s magazines” whose major article was about the 27 things any modern woman should know to do in bed besides sleep. It occurred to me that if the heroine in the in-flight movie had read that article, she could have gotten the guy a whole lot faster and had time for a couple of good motorcycle chases and I might have sprung for the $5.00 movie.

After returning to my seat, I went for my last resort, the seat pocket which offered three choices: a barf bag, the airline’s self-promoting in-flight magazine, and the catalog of clever but expensive gadgets. I picked the most interesting of the three, but there isn’t much to read on a barf bag. The gadget catalog was next. Somewhere between the solar powered nose hair clippers and the life size, radio controlled, self-destructing model of the zeppelin Hindenburg, I hit pay dirt. I was so intrigued by what I discovered that as soon as we landed in Philadelphia and the flight attendant said, “You are free to use your cell phones.” I was calling Manila, Bombay, or wherever and placing an order.

So why did I get so excited? It appeared to me that the gadget in the advertisement might be very useful for eliminating bubbles, which is one of the constant challenges in any kind of casting. In 2003, I wrote four articles for Sculpture Journal on this subject. The first discussed the origins of bubbles and how to eliminate them. The second and third explained how to construct economical yet very functional vacuum and pressure chambers. Their usefulness in eliminating bubbles was covered in the fourth articles. (See: “Using Vacuums and Pressure in Casting,” “Making a Vacuum Chamber,” “Making a Pressure Chamber,” and “Putting Vacuum and Pressure Chambers to practical Use,” Sculpture Journal, August, September, October and November, 2003.) My new discovery, while developed for a completely different use, might just function as a ready made, inexpensive vacuum chamber. It’s called a “Revo” and it is the newest thing for marinating meat. What was shown and described were an airtight clear container and a base that functions both as a vacuum pump and motorized rollers. The idea is to put some meat into the container, which is large enough to hold al chicken plus with some marinade. Once attached to the base with a rubber tube, the vacuum pump removes the air from the container drawing the marinade into the meat. Then the second step is to disconnect the tube and place the container on its side and allow the rollers to tumble the meat, keeping it coated in marinade. Supposedly, 24 hours of marinating can be accomplished in about 10 minutes.

The price is $200.00 plus shipping and handling and is about the same as building your own vacuum chamber but in this case you don’t have to build anything.

When my “Revo” arrived about a week after I placed the order, I just took it out of the box and after playing with it for a few minutes, was ready to give it a try. (See photograph.)

(continued on page 5)
FEBRUARY 24th, ANNUAL MEETING
Selection of New Board Members

Candidates Up for Reelection:
Maria Wickwire
Rick Gregg
Jackie Woodward

Candidates Up for Election:
Julian Voss-Andreae
Ann Fleming
Diane Ahrendt
Brandis Svenson

Julian Voss-Andreae is currently PNS’s acting treasurer.
Diane Ahrendt is currently the acting treasurer for ISI.
Ann Fleming is also a member of OPA and a cofounder of Art in the Pearl.
Brandis Svenson was nominated by the Seattle Chapter to represent them.

CLACKAMAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

This information can be found on the Clackamas Community College website.

Check out Julian Voss-Andreae’s work at the CCC Alexander Gallery. The show runs from January 17 until February 23.
Membership Application/Renewal

Pacific Northwest Sculptors invite you to become or continue as a colleague of the society. As a colleague, you have access to all exhibitions sponsored by Pacific Northwest Sculptors, receive monthly notifications of meetings & calls for artists, and a one year subscription to the newsletter.

Access to all exhibitions sponsored by Pacific Northwest Sculptors, receive monthly notifications of meetings & calls for artists.

New member? ☐ Renewing Member? ☐

Name: __________________________
Date: __________________________
Street: __________________________
City: ____________________________
State: __________________________
Zip: ____________________________

Phone(s): _______________________
E-mail Address: __________________
Website: ________________________

Annual dues are due in September. New members are prorated.

Colleague (sculptor) dues: $55/yr, Student dues: $30/yr, Allied (industry) members: $100/yr.

Do you wish your information to be shared with members in the PNS Directory?

PACIFIC NORTHWEST SCULPTORS
4110 SE Hawthorne Blvd. #302
Portland, OR 97214
www.pnwsculptors.org