Friday, Sept. 8, was a big day in Newport for members of Pacific Northwest Sculptors.

That afternoon, the Newport Visual Arts Center, overlooking the Pacific Ocean, welcomed the public to “Variety of Visions: Work from the Pacific Northwest Sculptors.”

Sculptures in a wide range of media by 27 PNWS members were on display at the NVAC, a project of the Oregon Coast Council for the Arts.

PNWS President George Heath, whose schedule kept him from attending the opening, said of the show, “It looks amazing and very professional. We can be proud.”

He volunteered high praise for PNWS Shows Coordinator Dave Gonzo. “What I did witness was what it took for Dave and his crew just to make the arrangements. The negotiations were challenging and there were some last minute issues that seemed impossible to overcome, but Dave just took it head-on and made it happen,” said Heath. "It was a marvel to see.”

Gonzo praised those who helped him make the show a reality.

"With much hard work from all of the show committee members along with other members, it couldn’t have been done without them,” he said.

"I would like to thank the show committee for stepping up in making the exhibition a reality, Chas Martin for the show title and taking submis-

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A show to remember and lots to do

When I last wrote, the Newport show was in crisis. That was resolved just in time to make that announcement in the newsletter.

Now, the show is up and it looks amazing. What a relief. Dave Gonzo, who co-coordinated on our end had some difficult decisions to make.

I’ll just say he had to show a lot of resolve to get the thing done. We look really good in Newport right now. We owe Dave and his crew big time. There is more on it elsewhere in this newsletter and I’m in the process of posting some pictures on the website.

Another issue then confronting us was Paul and Isabelle leaving Astoria for France. Between the two of them, we have our secretary, newsletter editor, reporter, and layout person, call to artists coordinator, and the email messages sender. Paul was also the vice president.

I’m happy to say that we have found someone, Zali Zalkind, who has some experience with newsletter editing and has agreed to take it on. That is some relief as that is a big job, but we still have the other needs. I’ll just list them so it will be clear.

Newsletter reporter

Paul as professional reporter and editor spoiled us by writing a good deal of the newsletter himself as well as seeking out content. We, as a group, will now have to take on that responsibility and do much better at getting content to the editor. To that end, we will need a reporter who can write about the events we host. In addition, we have between us enough tips and tricks to fill several books. If we could get into the habit of sharing such things, we could provide more than enough content to keep the newsletter interesting.

Calls to Artists

This is a challenging one to fill and probably best served by small committee and chair. Finding opportunities for sculptors is one challenge. Another is presenting those results in a readable online format. We have online services we use to send these and other notices.

Email Announcements

Occasionally, email announcements are sent to our members and the public. The online newsletter is sent this way, as well as meeting announcements and the like. It would make sense for the same person who sends the calls to do these tasks. We use Mail Chimp and Wild Apricot, (our membership service) to send online material to members and the public. Wild Apricot notices to members and Mail Chimp for anyone on our mailing list, member or not.

Board Members

We are also losing two board members. Those are positions that also need to be filled. As always, I would encourage any member to attend board meetings. They can also be inspiring, which is a very good thing for an artist.

Secretary

This is the person who takes the minutes at the board meetings and is the official record keeper. She or he also types up the minutes and sends them to the rest of the board members prior to the next meeting. It is a board position.

Vice President

Gerald Ford comes to mind. Theoretically, the VP is an understudy for the president’s job and will assume such duties when the president cannot. Also, a board position.

Thanks, Sam

Finally I want thank Sam for hosting the September meeting. It was very smoky that day. The sun was dim enough to look like a red and yellow planet. Ash was falling. The meeting was lightly attended but really a nice one just the same. I’d been wanting to see Sam’s workshop for a long time and was not disappointed. Sam and his wife Chandra have backyard worthy of envy. Very pleasant evening indeed. Thank you Sam and Chandra.

And thanks to all!

George
Portland woman attending an estate auction came home with much more than she bargained for recently when she bought a small and very distinctive sculpture.

Past PNWS President Carole Murphy was contacted by the woman who purchased a 12-inch sculpture that turned out to be the work of the late PNWS member and board member Rick Gregg.

The piece, called "Bringer," depicts a horse and rider. Executed in steel and concrete, it is instantly recognizable as Gregg's work.

The woman who purchased it didn’t know what she was buying nor, apparently, did the auctioneer, but she found Gregg’s name on the bottom of the piece.

She looked him up online where she also found Murphy's contact information and got in touch.

Murphy said the woman was "absolutely thrilled" to learn of the work's provenance and that she loved the piece and would not dream of selling it.

Murphy said the piece sold for more than just a bargain, more like a windfall. Her winning bid was a mere $35.

Murphy said a piece such as "Bringer," part of a series of related works, normally commands upwards of $2,400 or $2,500.

Gregg, who passed away in 2016, was widely revered as a sculptor and leader in the local community of sculptors. His colleagues greatly admired his skill and welding techniques, which he gladly shared with others.
NEWPORT: A festive opening

THE NEWPORT Visual Arts Center gallery housing the PNWS show was packed with sculptures and people on opening night.

NEWPORT VISUAL ARTS CENTER Director Tom Webb shared the stage with PNWS member Julian Voss Andreae’s bronze nude as he welcomed guests and artists to the festive opening night affair Sept. 8.

DAVE GONZO, shares a light-hearted moment with PNWS member Jill Townsend at the PNWS show in Newport. Gonzo is a member of the PNWS board and the coordinator of the group’s shows programing.

Many contributed to show’s success

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A GUEST at the PNWS opening in Newport takes a close look at Julian Voss Andreae's striking bronze statue.

PNWS ARTIST CHAYO WILSON, center, discusses a work she produced in collaboration with fellow PNWS member Bill Leigh.

Dave Gonzo also thanked Craig Dorety and Andy Kennedy for their logistic support. Kennedy also wrote promotional copy, and Jill Townsend found hotel rooms at a discount for PNWS members.

Gonzo expressed special appreciation for the contributions from Newport Visual Arts Center Director Tom Webb.

"Working with Tom was a pleasure, and I learned much about putting on big exhibitions. With communication, understanding, and patience, we pulled off a great show."