

Sculpting through the eyes of the blind

Pam Mummy featured in viral YouTube video

A YouTube video of Edmonds, Wash., sculptor and PNWS member Pam Mummy at work was released by its creator in November and has since “gone viral” with 1,650,644 views as of Dec. 26.

What makes the video so interesting is that the three head-and-shoulder sculptures Mummy created for the project were based solely on verbal descriptions of each subject by a loved one who happened to be blind.

The video, created last summer, is the project of Cut.com, a Seattle-based video production company who found Mummy through PNWS.

“The crew came to my studio and set up lighting and lots of cameras for the film,” said Mummy. “Three blind people were chosen for the project, and each had lost their vision in about the past 15 years.”

Mummy said she would start with a



JEFF, WHO IS BLIND, his wife Libby, center and PNWS member and sculptor Pam Mummy compare a just-completed sculpture of Libby with the actual Libby. Mummy created the sculpture from a verbal description of Libby who was not present during the sculpting.

scull shape and begin the sculpture as each person started to describe their loved one.

One of the blind persons taking part was a woman who described her son and had not touched his face for years until the day before she sat down with Mummy.

“She felt it didn’t matter how people looked and her son did not particularly like to be touched,” said Mummy.

The second person was a woman who described her assistant, whose face she had never touched until the week before the sculpting session. The

[See YOUTUBE, page 4](#)

Help lead PNWS and save yourself some money

Join our board of directors and skip your annual dues

That’s right. PNWS board members don’t pay membership dues.

Because board members volunteer their time and leadership skills throughout the years to help keep PNWS moving forward in its mission to provide exhibition and educational opportunities to all its membership and increase public awareness of the

Northwest’s community of sculptors, their annual dues are forgiven for their time in office.

The next board elections are scheduled for the PNWS annual meeting in February. There is still time for nominees to be named.

Of course, there are more and even better reasons to step up and volunteer for board membership than not having to pay annual dues. Board membership pays dividends to those who serve in terms of what they learn from assuming leadership responsi-

bility, the professional contacts they make throughout the arts community, the confidence they develop in their evolving leadership abilities and the pride they can take in having helped to make a difference.

Any PNWS member in good standing may be nominated to serve on the board. Non-members may also be nominated; this enables the board to enlist board members with skills that may be helpful to the group, such as fund-raising and marketing, for example.

[See BOARD, page 4](#)

Pacific Northwest SCULPTORS

4110 SE Hawthorne Blvd. #302
Portland, OR 97214 (mail only, no office)
www.pnwsculptors.org

The Pacific Northwest Sculptors Newsletter is published monthly by Pacific Northwest Sculptors, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to serving the public through educational programs and sculpture exhibitions. We are a dynamic, inclusive community of artists who inspire and support each other's growth with ideas, skills and knowledge.

PNWS Board of Directors

George Heath, President
Paul Haist, Vice President
Diana Rogero, Treasurer
Isabelle Johnston-Haist, Secretary
Dave Gonzalez
Sam Hingston
Julian Voss-Andreae

Newsletter

Paul Haist, Editor, Design & Layout
503-780-3379, newsletter@paulhaist.com

Membership Committee

Diana Rogero, 503-347-3623
dimikero@gmail.com

Website

George Heath, 503-777-2769
gheath6006@msn.com

Meetings/Educational Coordinator

Jacque Shayne, 503-522-2790

Shows

Dave Gonzalez, 503-270-9394
gonzoz@gonzoironinsanity.com

Materials and Equipment

Sam Hingston, Chair

Publicity: Vacant

Volunteer Coordinator (Interim)

Carole Murphy, 503 235 7233,
sculptor@carolemurphy.com

Call for Artists Coordinator

Isabelle Johnston-Haist, 503-780-5257
isa@isabellejohnston.com

PNWS Email Notices

Isabelle Johnston-Haist, 503-780-5257
isa@isabellejohnston.com

Facebook Coordinator

Diana Rogero
dimikero@gmail.com

EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS:

Send to: newsletter@paulhaist.com
Submissions deadline for the
February 2017 edition is Monday,
January 23, 2017.

Contents © 2017
by Pacific Northwest Sculptors



Scan with
smartphone for
our website:
<http://www.pnwsculptors.org>

Looking forward to 2017's events, and we still need more volunteers

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and has returned home from New Year's Eve intact and not too much the worse for wear. Some wear of course but not too much.

I'll launch right into what we hope to accomplish in the coming year and what we'll need to do so.

The most immediate thing is the Sculpture Day event. We have a location, a few speakers lined up, and some possibilities that may involve up to three venues all within a short, (half block), distance of each other. All of them sound exciting but it is not for me to reveal the details. Again, Alisa Looney, Julian Voss-Andreae and Jennifer Corio are the driving force. More to come.

You all may know by now that we've discussed some sort of memorial weld-

ing class in memory of Rick Gregg. This would be granted once a year to some outstanding student of welding or perhaps some sculptor whose work would benefit by the addition of that skill. To that end, we are seeking funds to enable such a grant to be made once a year. This or some sort of scholarship was Rick's dying wish.

We also need a treasurer to replace Diana Rogero who has offered to take on something much more involved.

The position of treasurer requires perhaps 10 hours per month and involves occasional trips to our mail-box service

in East Portland, recording keeping and attending—by Skype or in person—monthly board meetings. Training will be provided. It is not a hard job and as a board member your yearly PNWS dues are waved.

So, if you like handling money, are deeply moved by the majesty of a perfect spreadsheet, find credit union interior design satisfying and home-like and also want to save on your PNWS membership dues, we've got the job for you.

In all seriousness, I can tell you from my experience serving on this board for several years that taking an active role is very satisfying.

We are also in need of some more persons on the show committee.

These are the sorts of things we discuss at the board meetings. Many of you have attended or even have been on the board, so you know they are not particularly stuffy affairs. I sold my powdered wig years ago and have encouraged other board members to do likewise. Please join us by Skype or in person. It is rather fun to talk about what we can do that will benefit sculptor members and—by definition—ourselves. Give your voice some muscle and join in.

Thanks to all for being a part of PNWS.

— George Heath

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



GEORGE HEATH

THE STEEL YARD

Ready to Serve
Your Needs

**Hours: 8-5 Monday-Friday
8-12 Saturday**

**Retail and Wholesale Distributors
of a Wide Variety of Industrial Products**

- ANGLES • CHANNELS • FLATS
- STRIPS • ROUNDS • SQUARES
- REBAR • EXPANDED • GRATING
- SHEETS • PLATES • BEAMS

• SQUARE, ROUND & RECTANGULAR TUBING
• PIPE • MORE!

- BUY • SELL • BARTER • TRADE
- CONSIGNMENTS TOO!

1745 NE Columbia Blvd.
Portland, OR 97211

Phone (503) 282-9273

P.O. Box 4828
Portland, OR 97208-4828
FAX (503) 282-7490

Learn about digital sculpting at January meeting

The upcoming January PNWS meeting for members and guests has generated a lot of talk among those interested in learning more about 3-D scanning and printing.

Rob Arps, founder of Portland's Form 3D Foundry, will host the demonstration event at his facility on Jan. 19 beginning at 7 p.m.

Form 3D Foundry provides a wide variety of services for sculptors encompassing traditional techniques and the

latest cutting-edge technology. The latter involves digital scanning, life scanning, 3-D digital sculpting, 3-D printing and much more.

Arp was among the featured speakers at last spring's observance of International Sculpture Day in Portland where his remarks and slide presentation generated many questions from a rapt audience.

On his website (form3Dfoundry.com), Arps summarizes his commit-

ment to technology and art: "One constant through-out all is the . . . insistence to explore, embrace and utilize technology in order to propel art and sculpture forward."

Those attending the free potluck event will have the opportunity also to see works in progress, including some by PNWS members.

See details about the event location in the meetings box near the bottom of this page.

Volunteers grow their skills while helping group

BY ISABELLE JOHNSTON-HAIST

Some years ago, I received an unexpected phone call from Rick Gregg. I was surprised because I didn't know Rick personally in those days. It was about helping Marlena Nielsen send announcements to PNWS members.

Because I live in Astoria, playing an active role in the group is somewhat inconvenient; it's a four-hour round trip to and from Portland. However, I said "yes" because I thought it would be

good to get to know my fellow PNWS sculptors better.

The job implied learning the ropes of the PNWS email system, but I soon sent out my first announcement and felt proud and happy to be of some use to the group. Later, the then secretary of the board had to step back for personal reasons, and Marlena asked me to come up to Portland for a board meeting to take the minutes. I had never taken minutes and had to look it up on the Internet. I got some templates,

bought a notebook on my way to Portland, and started hesitantly to jot down the deliberations of the board.

It wasn't easy at first. English is not my mother tongue, and I often had to ask people to repeat a sentence or a name that I had missed. It is now three years later and I am in my second term as a board member and PNWS's secretary. During this time, I also started sending out the "calls to artists" and

[See VOLUNTEERS, page 4](#)

Upcoming Meetings

January Board Meeting

Friday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m.

Dave Gonzo Residence

3354 SE 19th, Portland (red barn out back), 503-270-9394

Members may attend in person or via Skype. Contact George Heath (gheath6006@msn.com) if you wish to Skype. Skype limits online participation to 25.

January Member's Meeting

Thursday Jan. 19, 7 p.m.

Form 3D Foundry
Demo: Digital Enlarging/3D Printing
Potluck: bring a dish/beverage
Hosted by Rob Arps
2808 SE 9th Ave., Portland
503 618-3330
www.form3dfoundry.com

Member Discounts

ADX

www.adxportland.com

Courtney Frisse, Photographer

courtneyfrisse@gmail.com

Fiberlay Co., Inc.

9353 SE Alanza Dr.,
Clackamas, Ore.
503-228-1222

Firebird Bronze

11251 SE 232nd Ave.,
Damascus, Ore.
503-912-0400
www.firebirdbronze.com

FunkerMarket Websites,

Online Portfolios

www.FunkerMarket.com
gheath6006@msn.com

Georgie's Ceramic and Clay

756 NE Lombard St., Portland, Ore.
503-283-1383

International Sculpture Center

isc@sculpture.org
www.sculpture.org

LASH Quality Molds and Sculpture Supplies

4702 NE 102nd Ave.,

Portland, Ore.

503-251-6959

Pearl Packing

1230 NW Hoyt Street
Portland., Ore.
503-227-6655, 503-962-9919
Email info@pearlpacking.com

Southern Ore. Soapstone Co., LLC

541-479-4862
SouthernOregonSoupstone@mail.com

Stan Brown Art and Crafts

13435 NE Whitaker Way, Portland, Ore.
503-257-0059

YOUTUBE: Comment—Next time, blindfold the sculptor

Continued from page 1

woman had never asked to touch the other's face "because she had felt she knew just how she looked," according to Mummy. "She was correct. She was very aware of every detail of her face."

The third participant was a man who touched his wife's face often and, said Mummy, he "was very good at describing how she looked. His approach was very mathematical and (he) had used his hand to measure the distances of her face. He had been an engineer." Mummy said it took two full days to record the video and that "it was fascinating to be involved in the production."

The husband and wife pair asked to keep their sculpture; the other two were destroyed.



CLOSE-UP—Alana and her sculpture.

Mummy said it was "like sculpting in the sand; they weren't meant to survive."

Besides being viewed widely on YouTube, a story about the video also appeared in the Daily Mail of London.

One YouTube viewer of the video suggested in a comment that next time



CLOSE-UP—Nathan and his sculpture.

the video-maker "should blindfold a sculptor and make them feel a model's face and sculpt it."

View the video online at <https://youtu.be/xkVaSXAU5vY>. Learn more about Pam Mummy online at <http://pmummy.com>.

BOARD: Members encouraged to volunteer as PNWS leaders

Continued from page 1

Persons may be nominated to serve as a director by the PNWS president, a nominating committee established by the board, any two directors or any three members in attendance at any meeting at which directors are to be elected.

Members are also free to volunteer for nomination and are encouraged to do so now.

Board members serve for two years and their terms are staggered such that no more than half of the board positions are up for election each year.

Board officers include the president, vice president, treasurer and

Treasurer urgently needed

The PNWS board is urgently in need of new treasurer.

Current Treasurer Diana Rogero has taken on other responsibilities that are more time-consuming than the treasurer's post and needs to make more time available for those responsibilities.

The treasurer's job is not espe-

cially time-consuming. The only required skill is basic familiarity with Microsoft Excel, a spreadsheet program.

The treasurer is a member of the board and attends the monthly board meeting, rarely more than two hours. Most board members attend from their home via Skype.

secretary. Board members select their officers from among themselves. Persons interested in serving on the

board should contact PNWS president George Heath. His email address is gheath6006@msn.com.

VOLUNTEERS: Many opportunities available now

Continued from page 3

for a short while, functioned as membership chair. All these activities take time, but are rewarding and enable me to interact with all sorts of people and to learn new skills. I now have two people helping me with the calls, but still need more help.

We are also looking for a new treasurer as our current treasurer, Diana Rogero, is now the membership chair which requires a significant time

commitment. We also need help with our social media, Facebook posting, and someone to organize the members' meetings. These meetings are fun and educational, and organizing them doesn't require much work but will connect whoever does it to many people.

You may be reluctant to step forward, but all these activities are the core of our organization. We want to offer our members interesting opportunities, shows, news, meetings, insights into new skills, and so on.

However, we need you to help make this happen. This is your organization, and it will work only if we all help.

We may think we lack the time or even the skill. But I assure you that if I, recently imported from Europe, living miles from Portland, and a shy French speaker who didn't know a soul apart from my husband in this part of the world can do it, so can you.

The more volunteers we get, the lighter the load for everyone and the more rewarding what we do together.