

QuackyNews

Winter 2002



Above: Mark's photograph of wild vicunas, detained in the biannual chaccu in Peru. Below: Not the Tibetan Panel Coat appearing at a Star Trek premiere, but a nice one.



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On Photos, Paintings, Pots, Noble Fibers & Rock n' Roll.

It's been over 6 months since we last spoke. We've been doing a lot of things, some of which have yet to make their public debut. Of course, that's why we send you these newsletters from time to time.

Vicki's Tibetan Panel Coat Goes To Hollywood

Elger Bay Elementary school teacher Linda Bollend is one proud Camano Island parent. Her son, Tom Bollend, is a creative director at Paramount Studios, and was involved in the production of the latest big-screen Star Trek saga - *Nemesis*, starring Patrick Stewart. Tom invited his mom to attend the opening, so Linda was looking for something special to wear, and thought immediately of Vicki's Tibetan panel coats. So, Linda will be attending the gala opening wearing an elegant wearable art creation entitled "Royal Silkworm Meets Noble Alpaca." For Captain Jean-Luc Picard, we're happy to *make it sa*.

Gallery opening: "Tetched by an Angel"

Join us at the Stanwood House Gallery and Art Center for a festive art opening and lighting of the seventh candle of Chanuka on Thursday, December 5 from 7 to 9 pm. The show features angel-themed works by a number of artists, including Peter Max, Jeanine Borree, Bezalel-Levy, and Vicki Dodge, who will show her modified wearable art installation piece entitled *Instant Messenger*. The show continues every Tuesday through Sunday, 12-6 pm until February 5, 2002. 9915-270th St. NW, Stanwood, WA. See www.stanwoodhouse.com for more information.

Mark Hangs Out His Photographer's Shingle

For the past 15 years or so, Mark has been slowly adding carefully-selected images to his portfolio of nature and travel photographs. Thanks to the magic of high-resolution computer scanning and archival giclée printing technology, Mark has begun publishing his images for sale, debuting at the AAUW Art Show.

The *digital darkroom* allows photographers who should avoid chemicals (asthmatics like Mark) to regain the same control over the printing process as was once enjoyed in the chemical darkroom.

Using traditional techniques to enhance and fine-tune exposure and color balance helps bring images to life. Ansel Adams, famous for radically manipulating images in the darkroom, would have loved Photoshop. See Mark's pix at the Stanwood-Camano Holiday Gift Shop.

Come to the opening at the Stanwood House Dec. 5, 7-9pm

Giant Vegetables Invade LaConner

Vicki likes to paint 'em big. So when Patty from the Ginger Grater in LaConner visited Quacky Studios on the last Camano Arts Association Mother's Day Art Studio Tour, she just had to get 'em. They are giant oil paintings of vegetables, specifically one of tomatoes, entitled "*Ripe*," (shown below) and a massive artichoke, entitled "*Art-I-Choke*." Each painting is 30"x48," and joins two others of the same proportions, one of which is of a colossal cabbage (sold). The other painting is still in the works, featuring gigantic asparagus spears. Check these monsters out at the Ginger Grater, 604 S. 1st Street, LaConner. 360-466-4161.



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Visit us at the Stanwood-Camano Holiday Gift Shop.

Vicki and Mark Display Their Wares for the Holidays



Above: Vicki Dodge of Quacky Studios and Jeff Erickson of Camano Island Coffee Roasters. Below: Vicki's display, one of over 40 artisans at the Holiday Gift Shop.



November 7 through December 24, Camano Island Coffee Roasters presents a house chock full of artisans from the Stanwood-Camano area displaying their finest under-\$100 creations for the holiday season. Each weekend there will be random and mysterious ongoing holiday events, coffee tasting, gift-basket making, and more. Vicki has a display of her latest ceramics,

including goblets, her unique seasonal fresh-pressed ceramic maple leaves, and some of her felted alpaca hats. Mark is showing his photographic giclée prints, Quacky Greetings photo cards, and original CDs by Big Quack Records recording artists.

The holiday shop was hatched by Jeff Erickson, owner of Camano Island Coffee Roasters. Last year Jeff did land-office business selling custom holiday gift baskets featuring his coffees and coffee-related items. But his garage was getting smaller by the minute, so this season Jeff rented a newly remodeled house right on the main road in

Stanwood for his gift basket operation, and offered the remaining space to local artisans. The result is an eclectic mix of art and craft items ranging from original watercolors, ceramics, and photography, to cookbooks, candles, and CDs.

Stop by for a sneak peek at Jeff's plans for the upcoming Camano Commons at Terry's Corner.

The Stanwood-Camano Holiday Shop is open 10am-7pm, Thursdays thru Sundays only, located on State Route 532, Across from Twin City Foods in Stanwood.

Vicki's Fresh-Pressed Ceramic Leaves

A new item in Vicki's repertoire that began for her own use in



the garden, these "fresh-pressed" ceramic leaves have become a hit. They're a seasonal item, like apple cider - when fresh leaves are no longer available, it's over for the year. Each leaf is created using an actual fallen maple leaf from the tree behind the studio. "Cast from life" and each one unique, use them indoors or out. We even put one in our pond for fish to hide under! Some have holes for wall-mounting. \$10-25.

*Hours are
10am-7pm
Thurs-Sun
through Dec. 24*

WHAT IS GICLEE PRINTING?

The word giclée literally means "a spraying of ink," also known as inkjet printing. But you can't create true giclée prints with a regular inkjet printer. Giclée printing involves a careful combination of acid-free paper and special pigment-based inks using a high-resolution inkjet printer (common inkjets use dye-based inks). Giclée has advantages over traditional photo printing, including precise control over the entire process, the availability of a wide range of beautiful



archival art papers, and ergonomically speaking, not having to work with hazardous darkroom chemicals. Depending on paper, framing, and environment, properly produced giclée prints should last from 40 to 80 years before visible fading occurs. (Some dare to claim up to a 200 year lifespan, be we prefer a more conservative estimate!) As with any fine "flat" art, keep giclée prints under glass and away from direct sun and fluorescent light. (Photo: Yellow Spider, by Mark Dodge)

Two CD Releases in 2002 from a tiny little Camano Island recording studio.

Mark has been working on recording and producing these CDs for the past two years.

Catch GIZA at the Stanwood Hotel Dec. 21

It's the Christmas Party at the fabulously funky Stanwood Hotel, featuring Camano Island's GIZA starting at 10:15pm, followed by the Manatees. Special holiday stuff *will* be done.



Kudos for Time Heals

Mark rolled into town (ok, Camano is actually an Island without a town) three years ago and, uncharacteristically, answered an musician wanted ad in the local newspaper. Mark took the gig. Giza was born.

In the spring of 2000, they began recording the songs that would become Time Heals. The recording process continued over the next two years, culminating with the pressing of Time Heals in April of 2002.

Here's what *What's Up!* magazine of Bellingham, WA had to say:

"Time Heals is one exquisitely produced album. These Camano Island gentlemen have all been making music for decades, and it shows. They've crafted a mellow, great-sounding CD, full of jangling guitars, snaky leads, and well-considered percussive effects. The level of musicianship is top-notch, and the singing is heartfelt."

Thanks, *What's Up!* from Roger Ludwick, Mark Dodge, Kevin Miller, and Jimmy Stone.

Bob Christensen Looks Back.

Bob and Mark played together way back in the mid-to-late 70s, and actually began their professional music careers together, first as a duo, then as a four-piece touring the Northwest and Hawaii, playing traditional country and country-rock music, five nights a week.

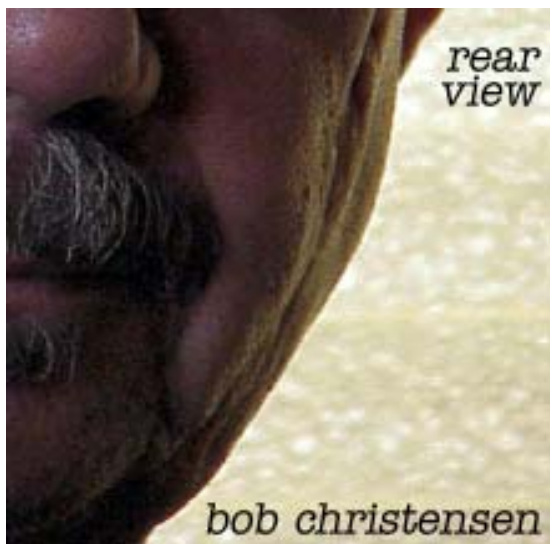
Bob's new CD contains original songs written by Bob and Mark, as well as a number of songs Bob has collected over the years that were written by others. There are sad and all-too familiar stories; an album full of lessons learned about life, love, and relationships. It's not really country, and not really folk, but it's a lot of both. Call it 99%

twang-free country-folk music with a slight rock edge and an *introspective perspective*. Good songs, well sung.

"Time Heals is one exquisitely produced album."



The cover art for Time Heals was originally an illustration for a patent-medicine advertisement. Dr. Wolcott's Instant Pain Annhialator was said to vanquish the "demons of Catarh, Neuralgia, Headache, Weak Nerves, and Toothache." The "after" picture is shown below.



Where to Find Big Quack Records

The best place to buy records by Giza and Bob Christensen is at the Big Quack Records secure online store. Go to www.bigquack.com and use your credit card with confidence. Both records are also available on Amazon.com and CDBaby.com (but more money goes to the artists when you buy direct from Big Quack). Locally, you can find both records at the Stanwood-Camano Holiday Gift Shop (see the article in this newsletter). Time Heals is also available at Souvenirs of the Soul gallery in Stanwood, at the Stanwood Hotel Tavern, at Anderson Appliance in Mount Vernon, and at the Rexville Grocery in Mount Vernon. See bigquack.com for details.

In Other News ...

The American Association of University Women Invitational Art Show and Sale was held Oct.17-18 in a new home at St. Celesia's in Stanwood. Vicki sold goblets, leaves, and fiber arts; Mark sold photographs and photo cards. Art sales contribute to the AAUW scholarship fund. **The Camano Arts Association**

elected Vicki to its board of directors (They put on the Camano Island Mother's Day Art Studio Tour). **The Stanwood-Camano Music Festival** happened September 6-8. Mark helped organize the event and performed at the block party with Bob Christensen, backed up by Roger Ludwick and Kevin Miller. **Vicki's Tibetan Panel Coats** are on their way to a show in Santa Fe, NM. ■



Vicki's one-of-a-kind goblets have been a hot seller this year.

Calendar d' Quacky

■ **November 7 - December 24, 2002** (10am-7pm, Thursdays thru Sundays only) - Stanwood-Camano Holiday Shop - on State Route 532, Across from Twin City Foods in Stanwood.

■ **December 5, 2002** 7-9pm - Gallery Opening: "Tetched by an Angel" - Stanwood House Gallery and Art Center 9915-270th St. NW, Stanwood.

■ **December 7, 2002 - February 5, 2003** - "Tetched by an Angel" continues at the Stanwood House Gallery and Art Center 9915-270th St. NW, Stanwood.

■ **December 21, 2002** - GIZA rocks the Christmas Party at the fabulous Stanwood Hotel Tavern. Giza starts at 10:15pm, followed by The Manatees. Special holiday surprises.

■ **January 2003** (date TBA) - MoNA Style - the annual wearable art show at the Museum of Northwest Art in LaConner, WA.

■ **May 9-11, 2003** - The Camano Arts Association Mother's Day Art Studio Tour. ■

Gallery opening: "Tetched by an Angel"

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