

“One kind word can warm three winter months.” *Japanese Proverb*

Days are cooler and shorter in the Northern Hemisphere, and the holidays are here! Hope all had a great Thanksgiving in the US. and are staying healthy and safe. Our fur folks are warm company right now in our challenging times. I am offering a very great contest...prize details below. Be kind and warm to each other!

EVENTS AND MY NEWS FLASHES

Fun Announcement!

My Critter Art Etsy shop opened on Thanksgiving day. I am offering some “small heart smile” original acrylic painting art for putting in (or gifting) all those small spaces that look for BIG HEART expressions. For paintings and cards this is my FUN “hug” art! Thanks for looking!

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/AnimalCritterArt>

Check out Fur Shui's 2nd release: Larger format and Kindle.

To purchase: [Fur Shui](#)

PET ESSENCE PORTRAIT CONTEST

Inviting you to win a 5x7” matted essence portrait worth \$210!) **DEADLINE IS DEC. 7.**

Great to gift to yourself or to a friend. Makes a loving gift, a remembrance for a pet here with you now, or for one who has passed.

1. Sign up and join Fur Folk Soul Stories group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/576338039691377>

Just click on the “join” button under the top art, answer my 3 questions, I will accept your request.

2. Invite a friend to join the group...Give them the link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/576338039691377>

3. Post a NEW post in the Fur Folk Soul Stories group... photo (jpg) of ONE of your pets and person you invited listed in the post.

4. If you are already in Fur Folk Soul Stories, GREAT! For this contest I am asking that you invite a friend to join the group...give them the link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/576338039691377>

5. When I see your post in Fur Folk Stories, I add your name to my contest folks!

ON TUES. DEC. 8 in a special Facebook live session at 6PM Pacific time, I will draw out of a hat the winner. You need not be present to win, yet it would be great FUN if you join in the Facebook live session.

See you in Fur Folk Soul Stories Group!



Essence Pet Portrait of Quinn, Deborah's VERY smart dog!

WHERE?

I have been busy painting during this pre-holiday time. Both for fine art as well as my Critter Art. AND, right now 3 of my very small plein air paintings are featured in the Carpinteria Arts Center Holiday Show “Gift It!” You can purchase online or come in on now Fri, Sat, Sun, noon to 4PM if you are in the area. Here's the link to the show. All art is “reasonably” priced for gifting. Here's the link to one of my 3 paintings up for sale: <https://carpinteriaartscenter.org/items/2020GI060>



Just off the easel my oil painting from my poppy series: “Tutti Poppy” of white Matillija poppies. Size: 24 x 16 ...looking for a home!

GREAT Art gift idea bonus!

My good friend Lois Stokes from Hawaii creates beautiful fabric Labyrinths! “11 circuit Chartres style labyrinth needle felted (16 inch diameter), adorned with glass and crocheted with specialty yarns that are used in making the Hawaiian lei. \$225.00 plus tax & shipping. Labyrinths come in a variety of styles and prices.” Contact Lois Stokes at: stokes@java.net www.stringfigure.com



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A couple of examples of Critter Art! “Big Bear Hug” and “Always Carry a Big Stick!”

WHO, HOW, AND WHAT?

Make this holiday season happy, safe, and filled with love!

Want to give you some great links for having a safe and lovely holiday.

PET SAFETY:

Keep holiday plants (especially holly, mistletoe and lilies) out of reach of pets.

The AVMA article tips:

“7 Ways to Make the Holidays Safer for Pets”

<https://www.avma.org/resources/pet-owners/petcare/7-ways-make-holidays-safer-pets>

From the ASPCA: Here's some general info for pet safety during holiday fun:

<https://www.aspc.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/holiday-safety-tips>

Veterinarians say pets can easily die from electrocution, internal injuries, or intestinal blockage after enjoying a decorative snack. Dogtime.com gives you: “6 Helpful Christmas Safety Tips For Pet Owners”: <https://dogtime.com/how-to/pet-safety/16897-pet-safety-tips-for-christmas>

CATS AND CHRISTMAS TREES:

STEER YOUR KITTY AWAY! Most cats hate foil and citrus scents, so wrap your tree trunk in foil, and place a few lemon or orange peels around the base. You can also place pine cones around the base. Here's what preventivevet.com says: “How to keep your cat out of the Christmas Tree.”: <https://www.preventivevet.com/cats/how-to-keep-your-cat-out-of-the-christmas-tree>

From popsugar.com: “I Couldn't Keep My Cats Out of My Christmas Tree, So I Got Advice From 3 Vets” One tip: “Apple cider vinegar, citronella oil spray, and orange juice can all be applied around your tree to repel your cat. Dr. Burch suggested spraying pine cones with citronella oil and placing them below or hanging on your tree or placing orange peels around your tree.”

Go to: <https://www.popsugar.com/pets/how-to-stop-cat-from-climbing-christmas-tree-47739732>

And, To keep the dog and cats out of drinking from the tree base water, take a plastic lid, such as a margarine or ice cream pail lid. Cut a slit to the middle, and then cut out a circle in the middle the size of the tree trunk. Slip this around the tree trunk and lower it so it covers the water container. You may have to tape it down to keep the pets out.

For this info and other articles go to: <http://granvillevet.com/my-pet-drank-christmas-tree-water-is-that-harmful/>

DON'T GO HOLIDAY BATTY, THEY TEND TO “ARGUE”!

“Egyptian fruit bats, it turns out, aren't just making high pitched squeals when they gather together in their roosts. They're communicating specific problems, reports Bob Yirka at *Phys.org*.”

Holidays can find you rushing to the “Bat Cave”...esp. this year. Keep calm and steady...looks like “bat talk” researchers have found they are quite “argumentative”.

Here's the straight talk on bats: https://get-pocket.com/explore/item/researchers-translate-bat-talk-turns-out-they-argue-a-lot?utm_source=pocket-newtab



Chriss' dog Myles admiring his Pet Essence Portrait, “Hey, that's me!”

Tell me about you and your fur folk's “story”! Join my Fur Folk Soul Stories Facebook group. This is the spot for the Portrait Contest.

Please join the talk, and love for all things “nature”...what's your “story”?

Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/576338039691377/>

Have a safe Holiday season, good health to all!