Silent Auction Item #1

"Foal on Co Rd 408"

Artist: Rio Schmidt, Woodcut Printmaker

This woodcut print in black, white, and brown measures 44 x 30 inches and is framed and ready to hang.

Here are some words from the artist.
In my work, I seek to highlight the importance of agriculture — especially cattle — by combining my ranching heritage dating back to 1900 with a personalized artistic aesthetic.
I fell deeply in love with the process of printmaking and what it represents. I spend hours and hours carving away at a block of wood. When the carving is finally complete, I coat it in ink, place a sheet of paper, apply pressure, reveal a print, and set the block aside. The print is the final product, and no one will ever see the block.
It is eerily similar to what most of us experience in this life. We work diligently in the shadows for people to only ever see our trophies, leaving behind the carved blocks of toil.
The geometric blocks found in many of my prints are reminiscent of building blocks. Just as building blocks come together to form a strong foundation, agriculture plays a fundamental role in our society. I hope my art can shine a light on the livestock that contribute so much to our lives. I believe in the importance of art to reveal beauty. Not all art is "beautiful," but an artist succeeds when they create something that brings joy to the viewer. Those moments make art worth pursuing.

I hope to do so by sharing the lifestyle I was raised in and have come to love. Cheers to chasing after those beautiful, joyful moments.

Silent Auction Item #2

"Sho-We-Tit"

Artist: Pamela Winfield

This portrait drawing measures 10 x 13 inches framed and is ready to hang.

More about the artist:

When Pamela Winfield first settled in Madras, India (1996), the move seemed to trigger an exploration into more abstract images, a departure from her previous primarily naturalistic work. In some way she has now come full circle.

Since 2007 she has been learning the very structured discipline of the Flemish Renaissance "technique mixte" from fellow artist Kathleen Scarboro, using oil paints in a traditional way for the first time. (Scarboro, a keeper of the "derriere garde", is one of very few painters who has mastered and employs this technique today, one which could easily be lost, as it does not reflect the modern mouse-click, fast-paced Zeitgeist, due to the sheer amount of time required to paint this way!)

Because this method is best applied to realistic images, especially in the rendering of skin tones, we see a return in Winfield's work to her first love, figurative realism. One can even detect a Pre-Raphaelite tinge in some of her recent paintings, a school for which she confesses a kind of guilty pleasure fondness.

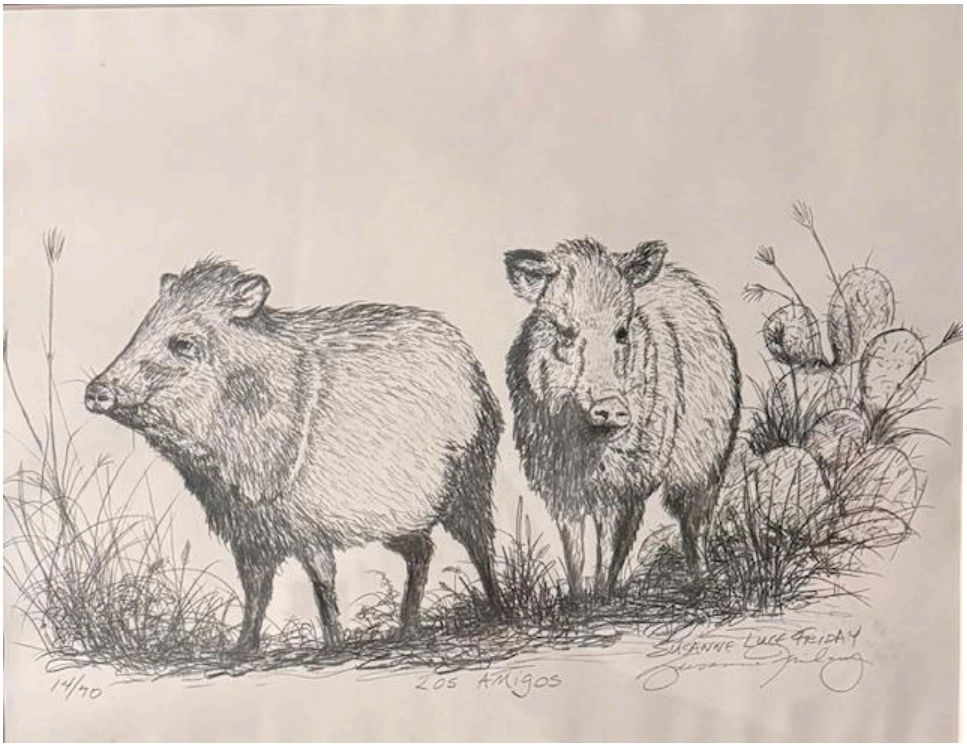
Her sensibilities, however, have also been tempered by her abstract explorations (which are no means at an end, but serve as a kind of counterpoint to the more arduous realism). This is seen for example in her use of negative space and in her general compositional approach. "I prefer to keep what is said about any visual art actually to a minimum. Let the pictures resonate with the viewer simply on their own!" After roaming the world most of her life, returning to her artistic roots is synchronous with a move in 2008 to Camp Wood, a small town (only a few hours' drive from her Austin birthplace) in the Texas Hill Country.

Silent Auction Item #3

"Los Amigos"

Artist: Susanne Friday

This drawing measures 18 x 22 inches and is framed and ready to hang.



Friday began her art career early in life trying to mimic her artistic mother, Imogene Swint Luce. Her art developed later as needed for school activities and later for home projects.

She became more focused on various art media as she completed her education with a degree in All Level Art from Sul Ross State University. There she did numerous pencil drawings and learned to see the detail in even a mundane object. She continued with pencil, but added oils to her media and then switched from oils to acrylic and again because once she starts something, she wants to keep moving on it. She settled on painting with acrylics which allows that option.

Her subject interest varies as life moved on and a photo or some event can inspire her to replicate that moment in time.

Wildlife and ranching are what she has the most feel for and desire to paint, but it would be hard to pass up a sunset!

Life moves by so quickly that capturing an event can preserve it so it can be savored by not only yourself, but others can enjoy.

Her art has taken a backseat to ranching needs, but her packsaddle is filling up with inspiration and she has stocked her art supplies, so somewhere on the near horizon is a painting!

Silent Auction Item #4
"Sleeping Baby"
Artist: Crystal Weaver

This drawing measures 11 x 14 inches framed and ready to hang.

Crystal Weaver is a Camp Wood artist who has been creating art since she was 5 or 6 years old. Her subject of choice is life, specifically animals or fantasy creatures.

She started out tracing characters from comic books to create new ones and then went on to draw original works. She prefers charcoal, colored pencils, and dry media.

Silent Auction Item #5

“Montell School House"

Artist: Janet Vernor

This oil painting measures 19 x 17 inches framed and is ready to hang.

Janet Vernor, a cherished homemaker in Camp Wood, has pursued painting as a beloved hobby since her high school days when she began drawing charcoal portraits of people who lived in Nueces Canyon. Then, her Aunt Ruby gifted her first set of oil paints, sparking a creative journey that spanned more than 65 years.

Drawing inspiration from the timeless beauty of the Texas Hill Country, Janet's works capture serene landscapes, historic buildings, native wildlife, and evocative rustic scenes. Many of these heartfelt pieces have been shared as treasured gifts with special people in her life.

Collections of her art have been displayed at the El Progresso Memorial Library in Uvalde and the Camp Wood Public Library. At the heart of Janet's philosophy is a simple joy: always enjoy yourself along the way.

Silent Auction Item #6

"Pastel Meadow"

Artist: Eileen Osterby

This painting measures 24 x 18 inches unframed.

More about the artist:

Eileen Osterby moved to the Texas Hill Country in '2023' after retiring as a Vice President/Trust Officer for a New Your banking institution. As a member of an artistic family, she began painting when she was 16 years of age and has evolved

into an abstract artist using acrylic and watercolor as her mediums.

Her style was established by experimenting with bold colors, the use of textured, broad-brush strokes, and layers of paint applied with palette knife. Her work consists of pieces both neutral and bold in color depending upon her inspiration.

A number of Eileen's paintings were sold at auction to benefit Orange County charitable organizations where she served as a Board Member.

Silent Auction Item #7

“Cal de Mare"

Artist: Vivian Mayes

This acrylic painting measures 19 x 23 inches framed and is ready to hang.

More about the artist: Vivian Mayes has won several highly competitive and prestigious awards. One of the most significant of these is the Visual Arts Scholastic Event of 2022, where she earned the Gold Seal; the highest rank a Texas high school student can receive.

Her art has toured several major cities in Texas, and she hopes to continue to share her work across the globe.

Silent Auction Item #8

“One Authentic Mohair Coat, His or Hers"

Artist/Designer: Dolores Vernor.

One-of-a-kind mohair (angora goat) coat or jacket. This heirloom quality coat or something similar can be chosen by the winner.

"Known as the 'Diamond Fiber,' Texas mohair is world-renowned for its incredible luster, durability, and ability to hold the rich, vibrant dyes that make our Western heritage so colorful."--Texas Department of Agriculture

A native of Mexico, Vernor honed her sewing skills from a young age but began her professional life as an accountant. Her pivot to fashion ignited after encountering mohair through a mentor in Comfort, Texas, who specialized in mohair coats. Having worked with countless fabrics—crafting wedding and party dresses—Vernor declares mohair unmatched: "There's just no better fabric." She champions its versatility, noting how it adapts to body heat—insulating in the cold and cooling in warmth—"You don't even feel the weather when you're wearing it."

Contrary to misconceptions of itchiness, she delights in surprising

skeptics with its lightweight, luxurious feel. Vernor's designs have graced icons, including Miss Universe, former Texas Gov. Ann Richards and U.S. Sens. Kay Bailey Hutchison in her elegant creations. "I always want to promote mohair, she says. "It's the perfect fabric. I can see a design in my mind, draw it, and turn it into mohair."

Vernor's men's and women's coats range from $150 to $650, offering accessible luxury rooted in Texas mohair heritage.

Through her passion and innovation, she has elevated this diamond fiber into timeless, stylish essentials.

Silent Auction Item #9

“Handmade Leather Purse"

Artist/Designer: Tom Taylor.

This exquisite leather bag measures 10 x 10.5 x 4 with a 14 inch adjustable strap.

Tom Taylor

Taylor Made Saddles & Gifts

"Saddles Built for Cowboys by a Cowboy"

Tom is the son of Lucille and Clifford Taylor of Douglas, Cochise County Arizona, where he grew up on a ranch 45 miles from town on the Mexico line. Tom started tooling in grade school guided in the basics by his Mom. He sold belts for spending money. In high school Tom decided to try to build saddles, but no one would teach him so he bought 2 sides of leather (what it should take to build a saddle) and a tree and gave it a try, but after buying several more sides with many starting overs he finally completed his first saddle. Tom's Dad used to laugh saying he had it put up for later blackmail purposes!

Taylor Made Saddles officially started on the front porch in Campbellton, Texas where Tom worked cowboying for the &$ Ranch when Tom and Peggy Jo (Cox) Taylor married for extra money. But in 1996 when Tom got his back broke in a "Cow Wreck" things changed. After Tom healed pretty good, he went to saddling full time. Taylor Made Saddles bought out the old Slades in Uvalde and was there for a short while, then returned to Campbellton. After a few years of saddling and driving a truck because of the oil field decline, Tom took a job helping revamp saddle styles in a saddle factory in Muscle Shoales, Alabama for "Running P Saddlery". It was great fun, but he really didn't like working for someone else, so back to Arizonia Taylor Made Saddles went. Here is where the Trophy Saddle business blossomed. Tom built saddles for celebrity ropings, as well as many high school and college state finals. Tom was also able to build saddles for a few movies and the TV series "Young Riders". But because of the traveling to deliver and bid the decision was made to move back to the Nueces Canyon for the kids. Joe and Charlene Cox, Peggy Jo's parents were here to help the kids get to school if Tom and Peggy had to be gone. The decision was made, and the move took place in 3 days. Taylor Made Saddles move into the old lumber yard building in Camp Wood, Texas where it was for many years and a lot of saddles. Then the building was put up for sale and Taylor Made Saddles moved to where it is today in Barksdale, Texas. Tom, with the help of Peggy Jo and Robbie Casey built 5 saddles per week for years, until NAFTA happened then the orders dropped to 5 per month. Tom started building western cedar furniture and gifts for a few years. While Peggy Jo along with daughter Jamie built hand tooled cowboy potty seats for "Stateline Tack" Even had TNT Trash in Barksdale for a few years. But with 2 kids in college, Tom went back to trucking (Tom Taylor Trucking). He trucked long haul for a couple of years with his wife (Yes, he is a tough man!). Then Peggy Jo and her dad, Joe Cox started Texas Classic Stirrups and opened the saddle shop back up. Tom started trucking Texas hauling cotton and steel, with saddle repairs on the weekends. With over 30 years of trucking Tom developed hip problems and is now back full-time in Taylor Made Saddles again.

Tom builds saddles, purses, portfolios, belts, suspenders, chaps, or as Tom says, if it is out of leather I can build it. So if you need or want something special made out of leather give him a call or drop by and watch him tool.

Silent Auction Item #10

"Saddle Up"

Artist: Janet Vernor

This oil painting measures 29 x 26 inches framed and is ready to hang.

More about the artist: Janet Vernor, a cherished homemaker in Camp Wood, has pursued painting as a beloved hobby since her high school days when she began drawing charcoal portraits of people who lived in Nueces Canyon. Then, her Aunt Ruby gifted her first set of oil paints, sparking a creative journey that spanned more than 65 years.

Drawing inspiration from the timeless beauty of the Texas Hill Country, Janet's works capture serene landscapes, historic buildings, native wildlife, and evocative rustic scenes. Many of these heartfelt pieces have been shared as treasured gifts with special people in her life.

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At the heart of Janet's philosophy is a simple joy: always enjoy yourself along the way.

Silent Auction Item #11

"View With Clouds"

Artist: Pamela Winfield

This painting measures 11 x 14 inches framed and is ready to hang.

More about the artist: When Pamela Winfield first settled in Madras, India (1996), the move seemed to trigger an exploration into more abstract images, a departure from her previous primarily naturalistic work. In some way she has now come full circle.

Since 2007 she has been learning the very structured discipline of the Flemish Renaissance "technique mixte" from fellow artist Kathleen Scarboro, using oil paints in a traditional way for the first time. (Scarboro, a keeper of the "derriere garde", is one of very few painters who has mastered and employs this technique today, one which could easily be lost, as it does not reflect the modern mouse-click, fast-paced Zeitgeist, due to the sheer amount of time required to paint this way!)

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Silent Auction Item #12

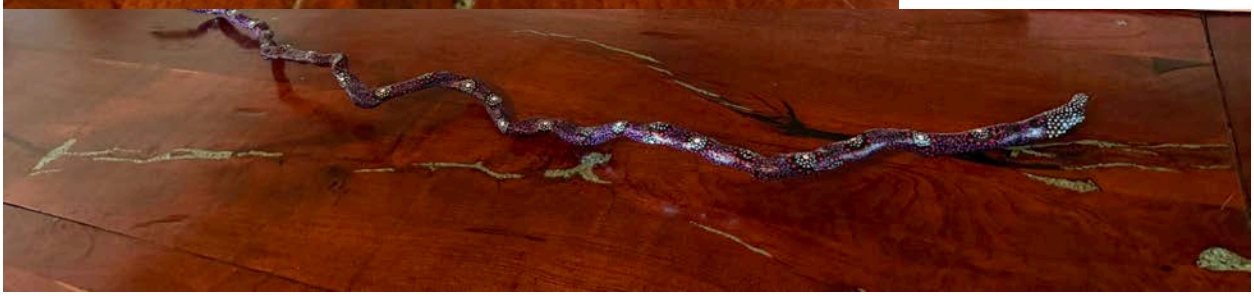
"Snake"

Artist: Christa Edwards

This colorful painted wood piece measures about 49 inches long.

More about the artist: Christa has been a resident of Nueces Canyon since 2019. She enjoys being out in nature as this is where she finds peace, endless beauty, and in awe of the life teeming around her.

Bringing the outdoors in, whether by photography or found objects lying around, is where Christa finds herself to be most creative.



Silent Auction Item #13

"Old Red, Rust in Peace,"

Taken at Circle B Ranch, South of Vance, Texas

Photographer: Patrick McKimmey

This beautiful photo measures about 16x22 framed and is ready to hang.

More about the artist: Patrick McKimmey is a fifth-generation native Texan, born in Fort Worth, and currently holds a full-time position as manufacturing engineer at Moog Avionics in Mineral Wells since 2019. His hobby has been scenic landscape photography for 37 years.

As a youngster he enjoyed traveling with his family from his home in Fort Worth to see his grandparents Allan and Nellie Stovall in Barksdale. Inspired by the beauty of the Nueces, Frio, and Sabinal Canyons, he started taking scenic photographs.

Patrick met his future wife Karla Coffman at Arkansas Tech University in 1994 while attending college. He and Karla were married in 2001 and moved to San Marcos where he attended Southwest Texas State University. A couple years after graduation, Patrick and Karla moved to Washington State in 2006 where he was a manufacturing engineer at Boeing in Everett, WA.

While living in western Washington, he enjoyed taking pictures there, as well as Oregon, Idaho, and British Columbia.

Silent Auction Item(s) #14

1. Three Prints of original art by Peggy Hickman.

2. Beaded Bracelet.

Designer/Artist: Peggy Hickman

These prints measure about 5 x 7 and are suitable for framing.

The bracelet is made with turquoise and silver.

More about the artist:
Peggy's art career started when she was about nine years old. She said her dad was a railroad man and often had to sleep during the day. That's where it all began, "I copied ads from the San Antonio newspaper, cartoons and shoe ads from the department stores."

Peggy went on to attend San Antonio College where she studied Life Drawing and Basic Design, the Hunter School of Art, and the San Antonio Art Institute. She has also studied Metalsmithing at the Southwest Craft Center and the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center where Peggy won the Hecho A Mano/Made by Hand Award for a beautiful piece of jewelry she crafted.

Peggy has also shown her art in the National Invitational Annual Western Art Show (by invitation only) for the past three years.

Silent Auction Item #15

“Spring Waters at Head of Hackberry Creek,"

Photographer: Patrick McKimmey

This beautiful photo measures about 18 x 22 framed and is ready to hang.

More about the artist: Patrick McKimmey is a fifth-generation native Texan, born in Fort Worth, and currently holds a full-time position as manufacturing engineer at Moog Avionics in Mineral Wells since 2019. His hobby has been scenic landscape photography for 37 years.

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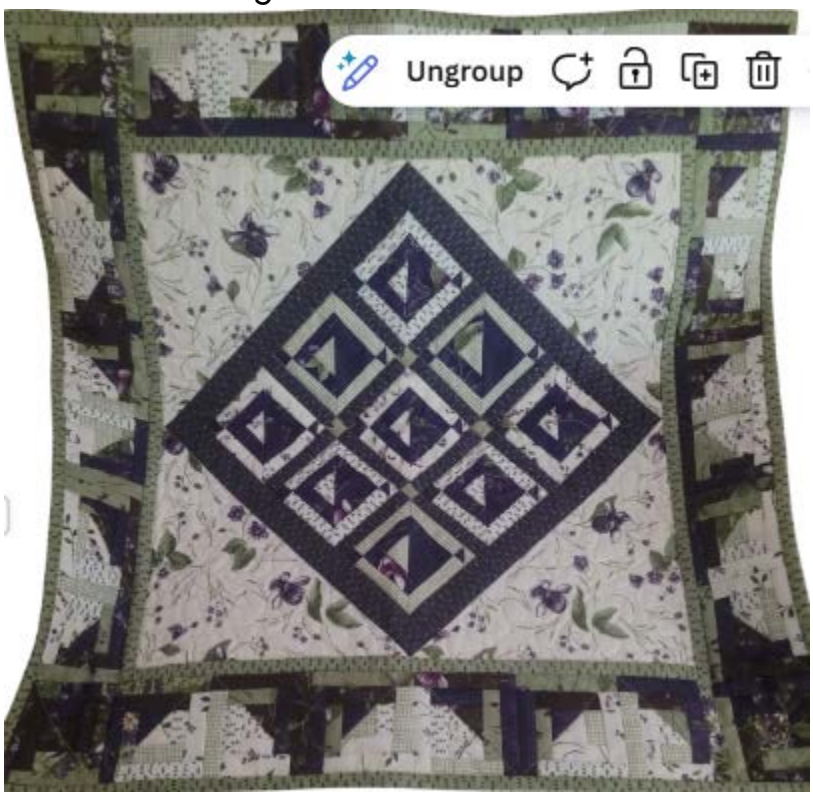
Silent Auction Item #16

"Handmade Quilt in Sage Green and Purple" 24 x 24

Designer: Marianne Meixell



More about the artist: In the early 1980s the Meixell family was living in Holland. An English woman living in Delft offered a class in quilting. Marianne learned how to make several traditional quilt patterns using only needle and thread. She enjoyed it very much and made a quilt for her first-born son.

The family stopped in London on their return trip to the USA, and bought some cotton fabric—the first of many visits to a fabric shop!

Life took the Meixells to New Jersey, Alberta, Canada and ultimately Houston as their family grew to four boys. They were introduced to the Nueces Canyon in 1997, where their boys learned to hunt.

As the Meixells were planning retirement, Marianne learned that Suzi-Q's quilt shop was just down the road in Camp Wood, which seemed a perfect match for her passion for quilting. The Meixells moved to Camp Wood in 2019, and they can't imagine living anywhere else!

Silent Auction Item #17
"Handmade Quilt in Prints of Blue" 29 x 29
Designer: Marianne Meixell

More about the artist: In the early 1980s the Meixell family was living in Holland. An English woman living in Delft offered a class in quilting. Marianne learned how to make several traditional quilt patterns using only needle and thread. She enjoyed it very much and made a quilt for her first-born son.

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Silent Auction Item #18

"Sunflowers"

Artist: Patty Caldwell-Turner

This beautiful mixed-media acrylic painting measures 14 x 14 inches and is ready to hang.

Silent Auction Item #19
"Mountain Storm"
Artist: Aaron Smith

This striking painting measures 12 x 9 inches unframed.

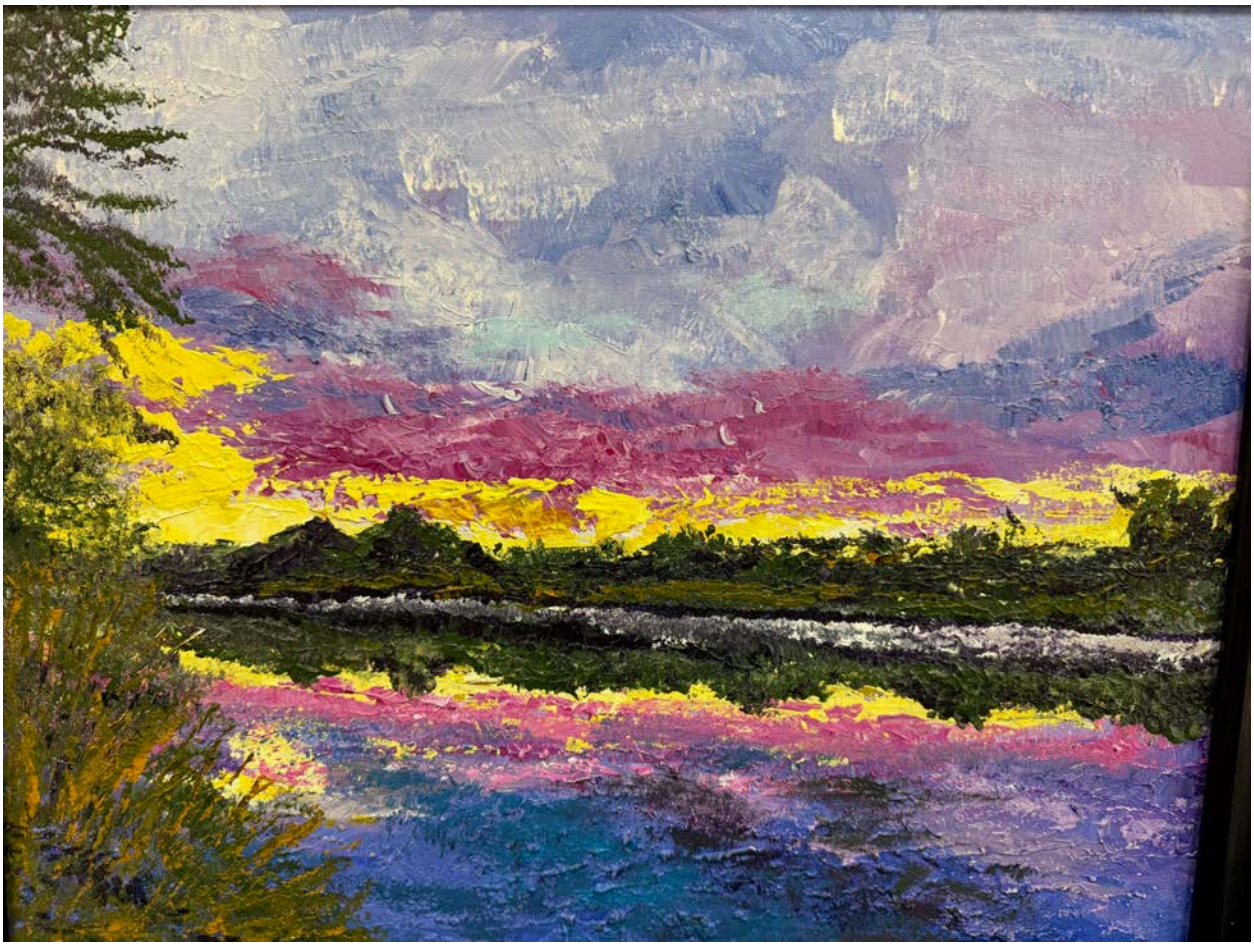
Some words from the artist: While growing up, I moved around a lot and continued doing that into adulthood. Probably explains my love for travel and love of nature. Nature has always been my inspiration for doing artwork. This particular piece was from a photo I took, on one of my crazy adventures, in Colorado.

Silent Auction Item #20

“Nueces Sunset”

Artist: Lee Adami

This colorful painting measures 24 x 20 inches framed and is ready to hang.



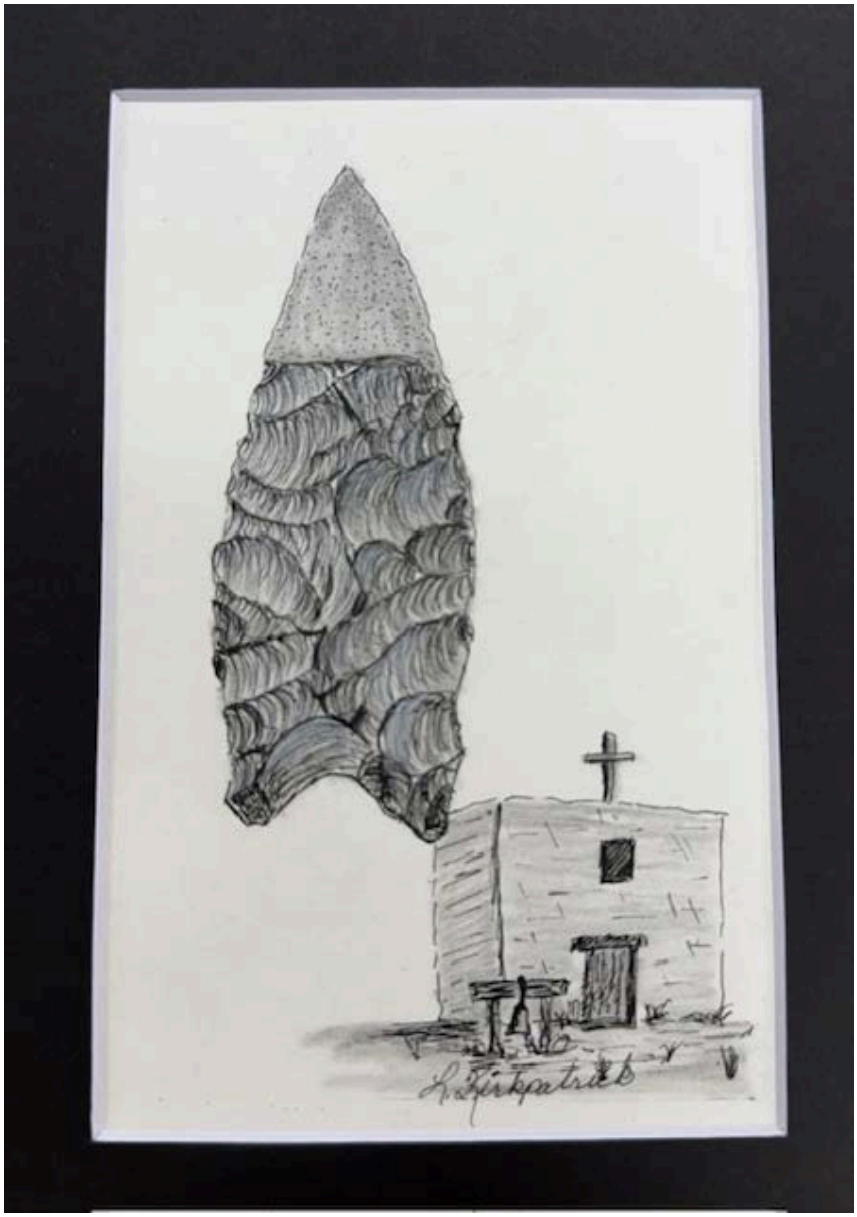
More about the artist: Local impressionistic artist, Lee Adami, who lives on the Frio, takes his inspiration primarily from our beautiful canyon countryside, magnificent views, and of course the Frio and Nueces River.

Working in both watercolor and acrylic, he brings the viewer into a vivid moment in the Texas Hill Country trying to capture the beauty, spirit, and tranquility of the Canyons.

Silent Auction Item #21

“Mission San Lorenzo de la Cruz and Arrowhead”
Artist: Linda Kirkpatrick

This detailed drawing in ink measures 5 x 8 inches framed.



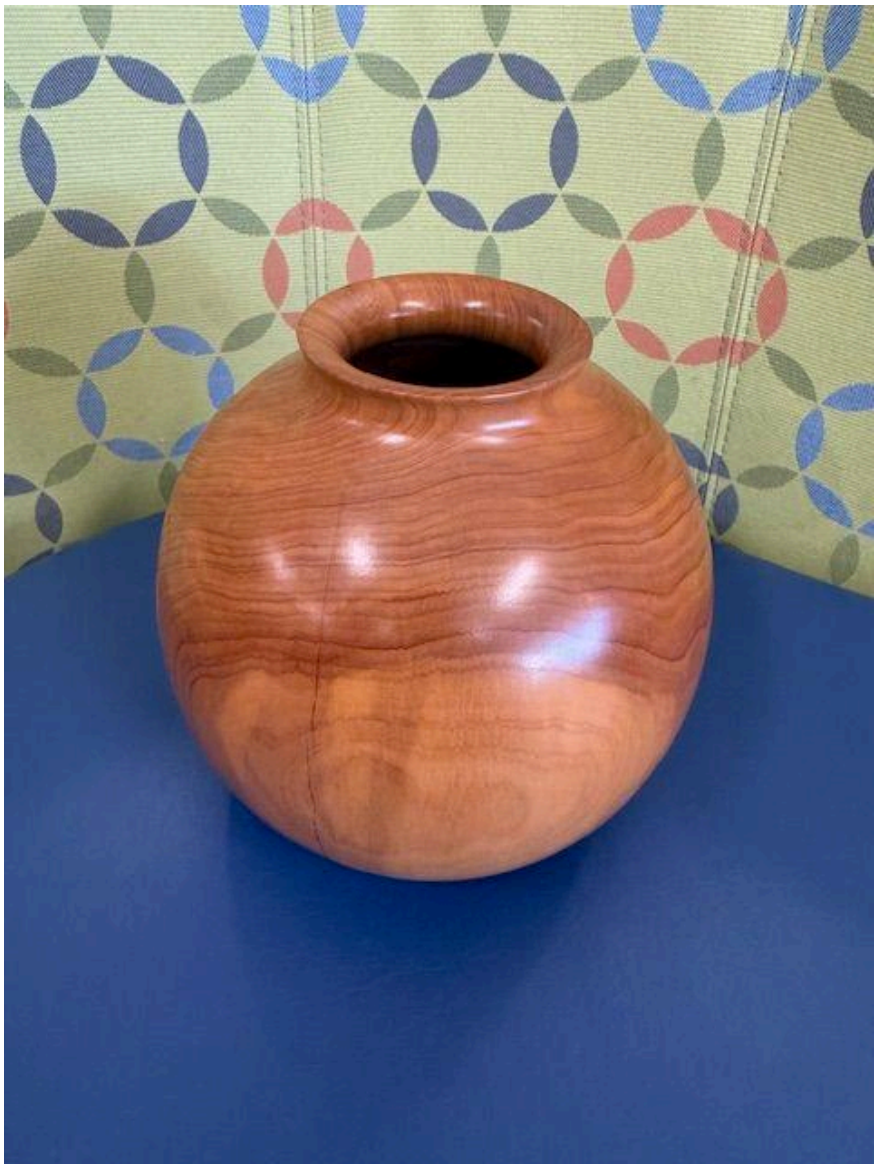
"The point was found at the mission site. So, the drawing is a real one-of-a-kind keepsake. I borrowed the point to draw it and has been returned. The top of the point was long ago broken off, so I "imagined" what it would have been and dippeled and shaded it in."

More about the artist: Linda Kirkpatrick grew up on a ranch in the Frio Canyon, an experience that gave her the knowledge to follow cowboy and ranch themes in her work. She has published two books (*Somewhere in the West and Tales of the Frio Canyon*), three chapbooks, numerous articles and cowboy poems.

Tales of the Frio Canyon won a Gold Will Rogers Medallion award for Best Non-fiction Western and a Gold Will Rogers Medallion award for Best Layout and Design.She has been an invited performer at the Texas Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Alpine, Texas for 20 plus years. Her hobbies include writing, chuck wagon cooking and genealogy.

Silent Auction Item #22

“Alligator Juniper Vessel”
Artist: Dave Wright

This handturned wooden vessel measures 7 x 6 inches and is signed by the artist.

David “Dave” Wright is a retired craftsman and outdoorsman with deep roots in the Texas Hill Country. Though he spent 18 memorable years living among the mountains of Colorado, he ultimately returned home to be closer to family. Dave has a natural talent for woodworking, creating beautiful vessels and art from wood on his lathe—a skill first sparked by his father when he learned to turn his very first pen. He finds joy in life’s simple pleasures: time with family, music, playing guitar, fly fishing, and exploring the outdoors. His appreciation for Native American culture and connection to nature are reflected in both his art and the way he lives his life.