



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

July 8, 2003

Summer greetings!

I hope you are all enjoying a wonderful summer. At this writing, I begin a long awaited trip to Sweden with my mother, her cousin, my sisters and my daughter. We will be seeing as much as we can in just shy of two weeks, including finding the farm where my grandmother was born and the church where she was christened nearly a century ago. At

least part of what draws me to rosemaling and to Swedish painting is the deep love and feeling of connection to the past that comes with knowing more about our families and what their lives might have been like. Blest be the tie that binds. So, here I am writing a quick message to you...having procrastinated to the last possible moment!! Uffda.

Our meeting on May 4th was well attended and the program was great. We saw the wonderful new video featuring **Ethel Kvalheim** and were treated to a presentation by **Florence Buck** (one of our organization's founding members). She shared her wealth of knowledge as she showed us many of the rosemaled pieces in the collection at the Scandinavian Cultural Center at PLU. It was a delightful and inspiring afternoon. We owe **Florence** and all of the founding members a great deal of thanks for getting this all started. Let us continue their good work.

You will find the Western Rosemalers survey in this issue. Please take a few minutes to complete it and return to us. Let us know what you are thinking and once we compile all of the response information, it will truly be a help in planning for the future. I am excited about the enthusiasm I felt at the May meeting. The future is bright and planning ahead allows us to maximize opportunities.

There has been a wonderful response to the Fall workshop. So there will be many happy painters enjoying that class in late September. Additionally, we have another great opportunity in Spring of 2004. Pam Ruckinski will be coming west to teach a group in Petersburg, Alaska, and we are trying to coordinate some classes in our area at that time. Probably late April or early May...those details will be a little more firmed up in a month or two. Pam is a

(Continued on page 2)

2003 WRA Officers

Patricia Smaaladen, President
pismaaladen@comcast.com
(425) 641-3598

LaNeen Rhodes, Vice President
BKELLER@harbomet.com
(360) 871-7983

Kay McKenzie, Secretary
kaymckenzie@earthlink.net
(253) 265-3788

Carol Volgt, Treasurer
carolv47@foxinternet.net
(253) 566-0405

Marlene Echaniz, Financial Secretary
(360) 427-3873

Barb Smith, Membership Secretary,
Vine Editor, Printing & Mailing
barbsptg@cvc.net
(541) 882-4756

Gro Marit Kleitsch, Past President
gottalupe@yahoo.com
(360) 871-0418

Gudrun Berg and Nina Kurrle,
Mini Workshop Co-Chairman
Gudrun: (425) 438-9720
Nina: (360) 387-4157
nordicnina@hotmail.com

Regional Chairmen:

Nina Kurrle, Island/Snohomish County
nordicnina@hotmail.com
(360) 387-4157

Lois Clauson, Kitsap County
Litennisse@aol.com
(360) 377-3518

Dede May, King County
ac_may@msn.com
(206) 933-3003

Julie Ann Hebert, Pierce County
Julhebert@aol.com
(253) 841-3392

The **Acanthus Vine** is published 4 times a year approximately two weeks prior to the coming meeting. News items that any member deems interesting or beneficial to our members is welcome. If you have e-mail, send as **Word Doc** attached to e-mail to **Barb Smith** (address above-left); or surface mail to return address on this Vine.