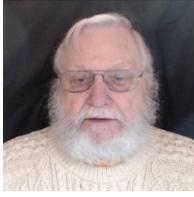


News

We're pleased and proud to welcome the newest members of our Advisory Board! Each of these fine people brings a wealth of experience & perspective to the team, and we are very lucky to have them. Thanks to all of you!



Al Novak served in the U.S. Army from 1957-1960, and moved to Washington State from Wisconsin in 1975. He worked in the construction trades until his retirement in 2004, and has three years of experience managing transitional release housing properties.



Norma Rivera is an accomplished photographer, poet, and mother of a Captive Artist™, with a tremendous passion for the arts and for capturing the world through her camera lens.



Doug Crandall is a graduate of West Point and the Stanford Graduate School of Business, has consulted for Walmart and Amazon, and taught leadership at West Point, (winning an Excellence in Teaching Award). He also taught business and leadership courses in the Associate of Arts Degree program at Coyote Ridge Correction Center in Washington State, has co-authored four books, and published multiple articles & case studies on leadership.

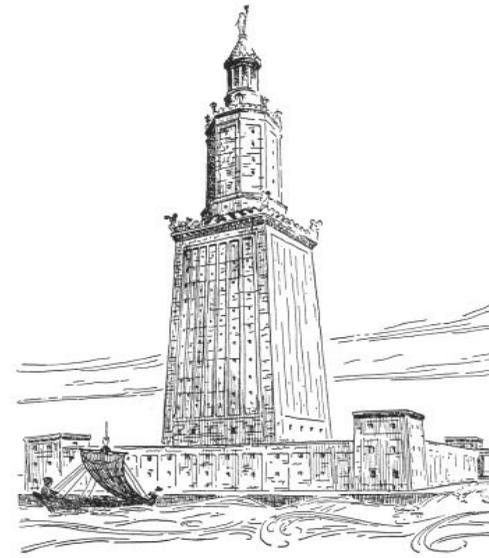


A Touch of Light.org
300 Lenora Street #311
Seattle, WA 98121
www.ATouchofLight.org

For fifteen hundred years, the Lighthouse of Alexandria (named Pharos, after the island it was built on), guided travelers safely to port. Borrowed from the Egyptian Coptic 'phareh' (guardian), in Greek, the word 'pharos' means lighthouse.

Whether this publication lasts for five years or fifteen hundred, it is our aim to keep watch over the Captive Arts™, and to be a guarding and guiding light for all those artistic sailors who currently sail on stormy seas.

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THE PHAROS, Alexandria, Egypt.

The Pharos Gazette

Volume I, Issue I November 24, 2019

"Art is Life"

by Reve de Papillon, Contributing Artist

The essence of art is life itself and therein lies the magic. Once an artist grasps this fundamental truth, the world becomes his canvas and his medium is restricted only by the bounds of his imagination. A bar of soap turns to marble and coffee sludge becomes modeling clay in the hands of the sculptor. Dyes distilled from juice packets blend into the fibers of a bright and vibrant tapestry. I've seen jewelry made from candy wrappers, intricate ship models from cardboard scraps, and amazingly detailed etchings on coffee-stained tag board.

But art is not confined to conventional pieces any more than by the medium used to create

them. There is artistry in a garden plot, on a dinner plate, or with the careful handwriting folded into a letter for a loved one far away.



"Semper Fi" by Reve de Papillon

This publication will explore all these topics and more in a series of rotating monthly features:

- ◆ TIPS & TRICKS will share creative ways to enhance art projects when supplies are prohibited or hard to find. We'll talk about everything from alternative fixatives to safe shipping of fragile projects.
- ◆ CAPTIVE CUISINE will explore ways to elevate meals behind bars. We'll share recipes, ingredient substitutions, and alternative cooking techniques.
- ◆ BOOK REVIEWS will discuss authors and artists, art books and magazines we have found particularly helpful and provide insight on specific artistic challenges.
- ◆ GARDENING GOLD will discuss companion gardening, natural pest control, and how to create beautiful garden spaces year round.
- ◆ HANDY HACKS is where we'll share homemade gadgets that might not seem artistic as much as practical, but allow those in captivity to enjoy creature comforts in a world without shopping malls or Amazon.com.

(Continued on page 2)

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Interwoven throughout all our features are the contributions of Captive Artists from around the world. The power of A Touch of Light.org is that it vanquishes isolation. **You are not alone.**

We are not alone. As you read our articles, you will undoubtedly think of personal examples that have brightened your own life. Please share them with us, so we can share them with the world. Art in captivity is a light in the darkness, hope in the midst of despair, and gratitude from grief. A Touch of Light.org leverages the power of art, in all forms, to bring us all a little closer.

So, welcome to The Pharos Gazette, and please, join us — Only a life shared is truly worth living and, after all, life is the very essence of art.

"Life loves those who love life."



"Finding a Medium"

by Sandor, Contributing Artist

Sitting in the back right corner of the facility's unit dayroom of Housing Block 4, my earbuds connected to my music player block out the surrounding noise. I'm listening to NF, a talented hip hop artist that expresses his life struggles. On the table in front of me, my tools. Pencils, pens, erasers and paper. I look around at my surroundings and watch the people moving about — some are playing cards, some are reading, others are walking laps around the dayroom. It's mid-November and Christmas is not far away. Holidays tend to be depressing here. However, a Christmas card to share outside of this confinement will raise someone's spirit, even if it isn't my own. The idea strikes — a candy cane!

Now with an idea I form the image, red and white; however, to enhance the image I change white into a shade of silver and grey, laying

down the outline of what I have imagined. Color and techniques — I wonder how can the image be brought to life? How can I make a candy cane look as if it is laying on the paper? Shading. I focus on shading to bring depth. Most times I practice my technique on scratch paper — this gives me the best outcome on a final composition.

One thing to keep in mind — I've been drawing for no more than three years. I am still learning and discovering my techniques, and to me, Art is a medium between real life and the imagination. Where two worlds meet and everything else goes away. There is no right or wrong, mistakes can be corrected and if it can't, I start over. Sometimes a drawing is destroyed by accident, and it can be an emotional moment. However, I can always start over. A life lesson I've learned just in doing what I enjoy.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

"Art is a medium between real life and the imagination."

Sandor



Veteran Art 2019 at Seattle Center



The opening reception of our Veteran Art 2019 exhibition was a fantastic success! Veterans and community groups from around the state participated, with live music, food, and even dancing!

The exhibit features art created by incarcerated Veterans from around the U.S., and will be on exhibit until November 30th. At A Touch of Light.org, we're committed to helping create restorative & rehabilitative opportunities through the Arts for military Veterans who have faced incarceration after serving their country. This year we were honored to have representatives from the American Legion Band, Brigadoon Service Dogs, Adonai Counseling & Employment, Veteran Rites, and Trevani Truffles contribute to the show; huge thanks to all of you!



We're also very grateful to our hosts at the Seattle Center, to 4Culture & DuShea's Coffee for sponsoring the show, and to the wonderful folks at KBTC and VFW Post 3063 for their help in promoting the show. THANK YOU!

We're excited to be growing the impact of DuShea's Coffee! As we move into 2020, our focus will grow to include supporting the amazing work of Brigadoon Service Dogs, an organization that trains animals to help disabled children and wounded veterans. Every bag of Brigadoon-branded DuShea's Coffee will help sponsor a service dog. Check out DuSheas.com/Brigadoon and order your Socially Good Brew today!



DuSheas.com/Brigadoon

