Makers on Sixth  
_by Angie Lokotz_

Every day for the last 15 years I have passed Swiss Iron Works on my way up and down 6th Ave. I finally had the guts to stop in and voila! the theme for the September Newsletter was born. Nestled between Papa John’s Pizza and Puget Sound Dentures was an actual creator of decorative wrought iron works. How much other actual art/item creation was happening on and around 6th Ave? Quite a bit, actually.

In previous articles I have covered Zine creation at the Nearsighted Narwhal, and clothing creations of all kinds at Creatively Unique Gifts and Things. But, a quick walk up and down the Ave. had four businesses catch my eye: Constellation Art Gallery, Hippie House, Swiss Iron Works, and Tacoma Metal Arts. Each produces unique, beautifully crafted items, all within a short walk of each other. It must be the artsy vibe that 6th Avenue channels that attracts so many of these businesses.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

Fall is Festive, the Farmers Market Is In its 6th year, and Crescent Moon Reopens!

You know it’s not like there is anything happening on the Ave, but there is. I mean really! Lots of big moves from a number of businesses who have changed locations. Primo Grill has a new location as does A Plus Driving School, the House of Tattoo and Crescent Moon. Brand new members to SABD include Green Kross and Tiki Hut, with several other renewals.

Labor Day has come and gone, and now we look to the fall for abundance in the harvest of the season. The Sixth Ave Farmer’s Market will close on September 30, 2014, so come and celebrate its successful sixth season on Sixth Ave this month on Tuesdays from 4-7 PM.

Angela Wehnert of Crescent Moon has moved to a new location at 2502 6th Ave. She will have a soft opening this Saturday the 6th of September. You can get a sneak peak right away, but the real grand opening will be Saturday September 20th from 10 AM to 6 PM. In the works [continued on page 6]
Commencement Bay Animal Hospital

By Angie Lokotz

3511 6th Ave Tacoma, WA 98406
(253) 475-5301

Mon - Tue: 08:00 - 17:00; Wed: 08:00 - 18:00; Thu: 08:00 - 17:00; Fri: 08:00 - 12:00

Check their facebook page for monthly specials on various services.

Website: commencementbayah.com
Virtual Tour: http://goo.gl/maps/igez7

Dr. Karen Comer, DVM

To provide comfort for senior patients; give guidance for a healthy life; and care for sick or injured pets

Dr. Comer’s credentials are exemplary, but her genuine concern and care for animals is what stands out. The doctor and her staff provide excellent but gentle care for two distinct populations: clients that have been referred for cancer and other advanced medical concerns, and care and family practice for neighborhood dogs and cats.

The atmosphere at the veterinary hospital is calm and the emphasis is on a clinic environment that reduces patient stress. There are separate spaces for dogs and cats and care is taken to make sure that stressed animals are handled quickly and calmly.

Dr. Comer moved into the space formerly occupied by Dr. Hoff on 6th Ave in February of 2011 and remodeled the building to conform to ADA requirements. Accessibility was so important that they added a ramp from their parking area and raised the floor of the reception area to make it easier for patients and owners of all abilities to access care. Parking is easy as well: they have stalls behind their clinic under shady trees.

Dr. Comer is happy to be a part of this community because 6th Avenue has much to offer: a bustling neighborhood, many interesting varied businesses, walkability (for humans and pets). She is also very involved with 4H and firmly believes in giving back to the community. You don’t often think of a veterinary office as an art gallery, but her walls are covered with original artwork by SAMI and SOTA students.

Your pets will be in good hands here.
The Hippie House

3109 6th Ave, Tacoma 98406 | 253-267-1708
http://hippiehouse.com/
facebook.com/theadipiehouse
Look Inside: http://goo.gl/5jk0D

Justin Stieglitz, Owner
Providing high quality functional glass art at affordable prices for anyone.

For the last 3-1/2 years, Justin Stieglitz and his crew have been providing functional glass art (pipes, bongs, etc.) created by local Northwest artists. He chose 6th Avenue because of the location, its reputation as a good shopping district, and the feel of the neighborhood. The building owner, Peter Altman, is on board with Justin’s mission to provide quality pieces in a beautiful setting. Hippie House has a good reputation. The store is OK for military to enter and Justin offers 10% discount to military, medical, and college students. Justin has even had students in the entrepreneurship program intern at his establishment.

From the very beginning, Justin wanted not only a head shop, but a gallery. He sells only glass. But what a beautiful assortment of glass it is. Many of the pieces are created in the store. The glass is thoughtfully displayed to show each piece to its advantage. The mood of the store is more like a high-end jewelry store or glass museum than a head shop (some folks purchase his pieces only to display them as art), but the owner and staff know their business and can answer all your questions.

Justin has seen his clientele change in the past few months due to approval of recreational marijuana sales. Customers must be 18 to enter the store and Justin says to be safe he cards anyone who looks younger than 30. Previous to the passage of recreational sales, his customers tended to be 20’s to 30’s, but lately he is getting customers in their 30’s to 50’s; those who can afford the higher recreational prices. Some are tourists, many live in the area, and many are collectors from all over the world.

In a corner of the store, Tony Diaz (D3 is his glass name) creates pipes of all kinds and sizes, from small, functional pipes to large, intricate pieces. The smaller pipes take only about 8 minutes to produce. Tony answered my questions as he was creating a piece. The glass used in the pipes is borosilicate, a hard glass similar to Pyrex, very resistant to changes in temperature and corrosion. It also tends to crack rather than shatter, making it much safer. Tony describes his work as a hobby and a job. He is a third generation glass blower. His grandfather was selling glass at the Seattle World’s Fair. Tony helped in glass production at the Puyallup fair as early as age 5. He spent time as a chef, but came back to the world of glass. He describes it all as different creative arts. He will sign pieces if asked.

Justin says that his grandfather was a Seattle police captain who was also at the Seattle World’s Fair. It seems that he and Tony were destined to meet. Justin displays his grandfather’s badge proudly on the wall of his shop. Badge number 420.

Tacoma Metal Arts

3833 6th Ave. Tacoma, WA 98406 | 253.227.1694
info@tacomametalarts.com
http://www.tacomametalarts.com/
www.facebook.com/tacomametalarts

Hours: Mon-Tues: Closed, Weds-Thu: 12 pm - 7 pm, Fri: 10 am - 6 pm, Sat-Sun: Open for Classes

Amy Reeves, Owner
Your Jewelry Making Happy Place!

Amy Reeves has been following her passion: metalworking, for the past 22 years and has been offering her classes on the Avenue since January of 2013. She relocated to 6th Avenue from downtown Tacoma when she bought this storefront and has found the parking, the location, and the visibility are better here.

Amy doesn’t just create jewelry here; she allows others to unleash their creativity by providing a fully equipped metalworking studio, tools, teachers, classes, and raw materials. The main focus of her business is [continued on page 4]
Tacoma Metal Arts [continued from page 3]

classes; she also sells tools and supplies. Open Studio time is also available for those who have experience.

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced metalworker, you will find something of interest here. Couples have designed their wedding rings together; experienced designers create items for sale: everything from earrings and rings to belt buckles; and Amy has assembled a veritable army of expert professional instructors who teach classes in fusing, casting, etching, stone setting, and more. This fall there will even be blacksmithing classes with anvils and forges. Classes vary in cost and time commitment but three hours is the usual minimum; more involved techniques take longer: some as long as 3 hours per week for 8 weeks.

After traveling the I-5 corridor between Seattle and Olympia to offer classes, Amy finally settled in Tacoma in 2004, finding it a good, central location as well as an easy city to live in. Her clientele come from Canada, Chicago, Olympia, Seattle, and all around Tacoma. She has found that Tacoma has opened her to a far more diverse customer base than she had in Seattle or other venues. She delights in providing a community for creative individuals to express themselves. Stop in and say hello. You may find a perfect consignment item, or find yourself creating that perfect gift for someone special.

Swiss Iron Works inc.
3417 6th Avenue, Tacoma WA 98406
253-759-6796
facebook.com/swissironworks
SwissIronWorks@gmail.com
Owner: Pat Barnett

Taking Pride in Taking Care of our Locals (Customers & Suppliers)

When Pat Barnett started working at Swiss Ornamental Iron back in high school he didn’t know he’d still be here over 20 years later. But, he found his passion, and when the owner of the company got sick, Pat bought it and has been the owner for the past three years. He renamed the company Swiss Iron Works, and he and his two employees have been busy fulfilling orders ever since.

Over 75% of their customers live within five miles of the business and they try to take care of their elderly clients with senior discounts. Pat also believes in buying local whenever possible and has developed longstanding relationships with Gray Lumber and McClendon’s for hardware and supplies.

[continued on page 5]
Swiss Iron Works [continued from page 4]

Pat takes a lot of pride in his business. The company has been creating custom iron installations for over 60 years right here on 6th Avenue, and although his driveway gates, railings, door- and window-guards, fencing, and spiral staircases are useful, they are also unique custom-made works of art. From doodled sketch to the final install, these 20 foot lengths of raw materials are cut, turned, and welded into beautiful objects. Spiral staircases are his specialty. He likes the challenge they provide and the satisfaction of a perfect fit at the install.

When you create items that are designed to last forever, they might as well be beautiful. Pat loves what he does and looks forward to that challenge every day.

ConStellation Art Gallery
3013 6th Ave, Suite B | 253-625-7107
www.ConstellationArtGallery.com
Look Inside: http://goo.gl/maps/1gyYd
www.facebook.com/ConstellationArtGalleryTacoma
Summer Hours: Thursday-Saturday 11 to 6 | Also by appointment
Owner: Stella Vera | Art Director: Therese Tucker

Showcasing local artists and offering a unique blend of one-of-a-kind, original Art items with a price point for every budget

ConStellation Art Gallery just celebrated its first anniversary on the Avenue. They opened July 12, 2013. They have periodic sales that are announced prominently on their website and facebook pages. Whenever you visit ConStellation, it is like walking into a whole new store. The artwork is varied and beautiful, and it’s elegantly and peacefully displayed. And, true to their mission statement, you will likely find a piece of art that speaks to you, no matter what your budget allows.

Often, you will find Therese, the Art Director, creating an art piece (or two … or more) at the counter between customers. Over the course of the summer I watched her create some of the pieces featured in ConStellation’s Oceania exhibit, and today I found her working on a Brooklyn piece (inspired by her nine years living in one of New York’s most lively boroughs).

She describes herself as an intuitive artist, using different intuitive methods to create her art. She works with various media including found items. Therese often finds inspiration for her art in dreams. Her aim is to bring more love and light into people’s lives through art so that you feel uplifted when you experience it, and she includes hidden messages in the artwork, sometimes under the paint, sometimes written on the back, sometimes channeled to the owner in a sealed message. She firmly believes that the artwork will find its intended owner.

Therese received her BFA in Acting from Cornish College of the Arts and studied Mixed Media at the Gage Academy of Art in Seattle. She is always taking classes and working with new materials. She is not afraid to take risks with her work. You can watch her distress a piece, dragging bleach over paint to reveal a battered look, and then add resin and glitter to create hope (Therese is not afraid of glitter). And she is prolific. She is currently producing three pieces for publication, two Brooklyn pieces, and various other items. At last count she was working on 12 different pieces. She thinks it may be the influence of the baby--she is in her third trimester--who seems to calm down while she’s working.

Some of her art is for sale in the gallery, but she also has a highly rated Etsy shop under her Blythe Starlight signature. (www.etsy.com/shop/BlytheStarlight). Stop by either place and check it out. You may be the intended owner of a piece being created right now.
From our President

Where’s your change? Perhaps it’s found in the newly forming Art on the Ave committee or through helping on the Safety Committee. With the SABD’s gateway pieces on the cusp of being installed, efforts towards beautifying and promoting our district are well underway. There are many opportunities to contribute and all that’s required is a desire to take part.

So, attend our monthly General Membership meeting held on the second Tuesday of each month at the John L Scott building on 6th Ave, or contact a current board member and let them know that you’d like to find your change.

Dan Smith
President
S.A.B.D.

District Manager’s Report [continued from page 1]

are special sales, guest artists, drawings for prizes, goody bags, music and a mural project. She is now located directly across from Satori and Pure Body Shop.

Congratulations to Marta Gronlund (SABD Board Member at Large) for getting the ad together for the UPS New Student Orientation magazine.

James Tucker was selected by the Board to be the Committee Chairman for 2015 Art on the Ave Festival.

And then there is the land of limbo, where a question resounds: Will there be a “Dia de los Muertos”/Day of the Dead celebration on the Ave this November 1, 2014? Interested parties should please step forward right away.

In Love and Service,
Mario Lorenz
SABD Manager
Members, 2014

- **A+ Driving School**, Latonya Gore & Sean Harris, 253-272-5869, 608 North Oakes
- **Bluebeard Coffee Roasters**, Kevin McGlocklin, 253-272-5600, 2201 Sixth Avenue
- **Chalk Talk Bistro**, Mike Sandford, 206-290-5765, 2301 Pacific Avenue
- **City of Destiny Float**, Marcia Ouida, 253-792-9735, 406 Ea. 26th St.
- **Commencement Bay Animal Hospital**, Dr. Karen Comer, 253-475-5301, 3511 Sixth Avenue
- **Connect Realty**, Christopher List, 253-219-3041, 3407 So. 7th St.
- **Connections Fine Jewelry**, Tom Donnelly, 253-475-0751, 3108 Sixth Avenue #A
- **Constellation Art Gallery**, Stella Maris Vera, 253-625-7107, 3013 6th Avenue Ste B
- **Creatively Unique Gifts**, Joan Johnson, 253-383-4438, 3009 Sixth Avenue
- **Epworth LeSourd United Methodist Church**, Dave Parker, 253-370-6208, 710 So. Anderson St.
- **Fediay, Nick**, Nick Fediay, P.O. Box 3336, 360-507-7001, Lacey WA 98509
- **Gateway to India**, C. J. Singh, 253-552-5022, 2603 Sixth Avenue
- **Gray Law Firm, The**, Judson Gray, 253-759-1141, 4142 Sixth Avenue
- **Gray Lumber Co.,** Steve Gray, 253-752-7000, 3800 Sixth Ave.
- **H & R Block**, Julie Lomas, Ron Pinckney, Bert McKinney, 253-383-5603, 360-265-2010, 2411 Sixth Avenue
- **Half Pint**, Josh Norris, 253-272-2531, 2710 Sixth Avenue
- **Jason Lee Middle School**, Kelli Johnston/Mary Boone, 253-571-7755, 602 No. Sprague Ave.
- **Jazzbones**, Daniel Rankin, 253-396-9169, 2803 Sixth Avenue

- **John L. Scott Tacoma No.**, Debbi Anderson, 253-752-1025, 4424 Sixth Avenue Suite 1,
- **Jon’s Barber Shop**, Jon Tryfon, 253-752-5162, 3825 1/2 Sixth Avenue
- **Just Loving Care Farm**, Jeff & Lisa Breiner, 253-441-8811, 843 So. Pine St.
- **Kathleen Creso**, 253-537-7565, 160151-6th Ave So., Spanaway 98387
- **Laughter Masters**, Mario Lorenz, 816 So. L St., 253-272-6622
- **Laundry Mart**, Rose Mathes, 5401 Sixth Avenue, 253-752-6100
- **Law Offices of Terry E. Lumsden**, Terry Lumsden, 253-537-4434, 3517 Sixth Avenue, Suite 200
- **Legal Shield**, Bill Connolly, 253-272-2924, 1321 No. 5th St.
- **Mandelin’s Consignment**, Rachael Kragelund, 253-301-3383, 2714 Sixth Avenue
- **Marta Gronlund**, 253-448-8282, 614 So. Oakes St.
- **Marlene Carrillo**, 253-534-6563, 2588 Pacific Hwy E
- **Michele Malec**, 253-272-6336, 710 So. Five St.
- **Minuteman Press**, Casey Cowles, 253-474-9900, 2941 So. 38th St. Ste C
- **MSM Deli**, Mike Mohamed, 253-272-4814, 2220 Sixth Ave.
- **Mt. Tahoma Seventh Day Adventist Church**, Pastor Kevin Rogers, 253-572-6470, 615 No. Sprague Ave.
- **North China Garden**, Andy and Jenny Yee, 253-572-5106, 2303 Sixth Avenue
- **Northwest Costume**, Tom & Mary Johnson, 253-383-4700, 2315 Sixth Avenue
- **Northwest Float**, Alex Ziegler, 253-212-0360, 3907 Sixth Avenue
- **O’Malley’s Irish Pub**, Pat Mawhinney, Richard Jenning, 253-627-9403 2403 Sixth Ave COMMUNITY MEMBER
- **Paul Reilly ND**, 253-752-4544, 3620 Sixth Avenue
- **Pierce County Community Newspaper Group**, John Weymer, 253-922-5317, 2588 Pacific Highway Ea., Fife WA 98424
- **Primo Grill**, Jacqueline Platner, 253-383-7000, 601 So. Pine Street

[continued on page 8]
Membership [continued from page 7]

- Pure Body Shop, Bandy L. McDaniel LMP, 253-267-0367, 2501 Sixth Avenue
- Reclamation Candle Company, Tammi and Barney Loucks, 360-770-3806, 751 St. Helens Avenue
- Retrospect, Julie Bennett, 253-327-1399, 2709 Sixth Avenue
- Rogge Law Offices P.S. Inc., Theodore C. Rogge, Gayle Doiron, 253-272-0503, 253-219-3797, 3211 Sixth Avenue
- Satori, Diamond Sanger, 253-272-0910, 2503 Sixth Avenue
- Seabury School, Sandy Wollum, 253-952-3111, 1801 NE 53rd St.
- Shakabra Java, Tina Kalowski, 253-572-2787, 2618 Sixth Avenue
- Southern Exposure, Gloria Gentry, Angela Hernandez, 253-272-2514, 2715 Sixth Avenue
- Starbucks, Janelle Graciano, 253-572-9525, 601 So. Pine Ste 100
- Starbucks, Jessica Hamilton, 253-272-1023, 2008 Sixth Avenue
- South Sound Pano, Dan McCormack, Angie Lokotz, 253-227-6061, 704 No. Warner St.
- Suton-McCann & Co., PS, Gordon Bower, 253-564-2217, 7320 Sixth Avenue Ste 2
- Tacoma Custom Jewelers, Dan Smith, 253-572-0508, 3013 Sixth Avenue, Suite A
- Tacoma Food Co-op, Vickie, 253-627-3344, 3002 Sixth Avenue
- Tacoma Bike, Mike Brown, 3010 Sixth Avenue
- Tacoma Frame Makers, Kim Weiser, 253-564-2320, 3013 Sixth Avenue, Suite C
- Tacoma Games, Loren Hess, 253-301-2137, 3001 B Sixth Avenue
- Tandem Gear, Dmitry Mikheyev, 253-301-3026, 3019 Sixth Avenue, Suite B
- TAPCO Credit Union, Elizabeth Stewart, 253-565-9895, 2802 Sixth Avenue
- The Hippie House, Justin Stieglitz and Sintha, 253-267-9846, 3109 Sixth Avenue
- The Nearsighted Narwhal, 253-301-4098, 2610A Sixth Avenue
- The Travel Company, Mary Jo Strom Copeland, 253-564-8189, 2522 No. Proctor, Ste 153
- Tiki Hut, Steve and Tamera Lerma, 253-625-7690, 4427 Sixth Avenue, Suite 1
- Turntable Treasures/House of Records, Peter W. Vanrosendael, 253-272-9229, 608 No. Prospect
- University of Puget Sound, John Hickey, 1500 No. Warner #1027, 253-879-3203
- Vapor Café, Chris & Andrea Hendricks, 253-302-4985, 2602 Sixth Avenue
- Vapor Works LLC, Kevin Mitchell, 253-448-2625, 6409 Sixth Avenue Suite 15
- Vantive, Mark Davis, 253-677-5170, 411 No. G St.
- Zion Lutheran Church, Linda Dybwad, 253-752-1264, 3410 Sixth Avenue