

December 19th, 2012

Another year has slipped by, so quickly it seems, until I take the time to reflect on all of the interactions I have had, all the places I have been, thus the feeling of: *Happy to be Alive!*

Work has been slow, still, so I have set up more workshops and shows to keep myself busy. This year, besides showing on Lopez, I had my booth at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show and the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show. This coming year I am adding the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show. It is hard work, but meeting so many wonderful people is invigorating, inspiring. I hope to see you there!

Randy travels with me for the California shows, we bring art and the dogs, fill up the big dodge truck, and have a great time traveling. Although when I promised Randy fun on the beach in Santa Barbara, with beautiful babes who would come and greet his cute dogs and chat him up, the weather didn't cooper-

ate. We had some of the coldest weather in years, with snow on the hills above. No beach babes for Randy....

Along with my Hawaii Orchid Painting workshop and those in the Siskiyou (through the Siskiyou Field Institute) I taught at Point Reyes again, where we stay in a wonderful field station, away from the beach, but away from people, with no cell phone service or online accessibility: wonderful! We get to see foxes, bobcat, deer...I am waiting to see the resident cougar.

I am still doing lots of botanical art: black and white for science and color for sale to the general public, *and* I have added silk painting... it is fun! Botanical art is very slow and controlled, and if color is used, hues are subdued. Silk painting is (for me) unpredictable, bright in color, and lends itself to more child-like designs. It is freeing and scary, all at once.

Know that I think of you all, wonder what thoughts and experiences you have as you go through the world, hope that we all can have health and happiness, and help each other out when that is not the case.

My best to you, Linda

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SPRING WILDFLOWERS OF LOPEZ ISLAND

Botanical Watercolors by Linda Ann Vorobik

2012: Happy to be Alive!



Barbara Ertter sleuthing *Potentilla* in the North Cascades.



Searching for *Erysimum menziesii* on the California coast with BLM botanist Jennifer Wheeler.



Drawing and painting wildflowers in the Siskiyou Mountains.

...in the field, to fields of tulips....

Kealakekua Bay, for October's orchid painting workshop. (See blog entries about workshop.)



Botanizing the Southern Sierra (see my blog of same).

Skagit County, Washington: fields of tulips.





Above and right: Remi and Andrew (proud parents), and Yetta (proud aunt) with little Freya Trillium.



Laurie and Kyle, my favorite hiking buddies, on my favorite trail: Sauk Mtn.

*to friends
and family.....*



Above: Becky (friends for-ever) and me (on right). Left: Brand Family Reunion.

Right: Randy and our dog family. Below: Randy and nephew Seamus during mother's day gathering.

