

Creative Living

Co Abett editor/644-1100

CLASSIFIED REAL ESTATE



Thursday, August 22, 1991 O&E

(B.F.) 10



Emily Barnett took this picture of her sister Alex, 3½, at the entrance to Cedar Point. Mary Barnett, the girls' mother, said Alex was looking at the Devil's Drop, determined she would never go on such a ride.



Linda Solomon, left, and Emily Barnett, 7, discussed what kind of pictures Emily liked to take as they took a short walk looking for possible subjects. Emily quickly found three things she liked.

SHARON LEMIEUX/staff photographer

Photographers, a new generation

By Corinne Abett
staff writer

One way or another Linda Solomon of Bloomfield Hills has been promoting photography for a couple of decades. First it was as a kid who was an enthusiastic amateur and later as the celebrity photojournalist who has taken shots of many of the country's best known people, from top business and political figures to show biz folk such as Candice Bergen, Elizabeth Taylor, Frank Sinatra and Michael Jackson.

Now as national spokeswoman for the Photography Information Council, she has been traveling the country talking to individuals and groups, reminding her

audiences of the many wonderful ways to enjoy taking quality pictures.

Then, recently, a light went on — why not build an interest in and appreciation of photography from the ground up? Solomon began to develop a pilot photography promotional program for children roughly 3-8. She has furnished small lightweight inexpensive 35mm cameras to about a half dozen youngsters nationwide.

"I asked them to photograph what makes them happy," Solomon said, adding that the results have been delightful.

SHE SUGGESTS they use 400 ASA film, fast enough to override most jiggles by both photographer and sub-

ject. She asks her young proteges to pick out and send her some of their best photos.

Birmingham resident Emily Barnett, 7, epitomizes Solomon's idea of what could (and did) happen between camera and novice photographer.

Emily and her mother, Mary, were in Solomon's office looking at some of the girl's color shots — "my very special doll," brother Jake, 2, (sans swim trunks) asking for help getting out of the wading pool and sister, Alex 3½, near the entrance at Cedar Point.

Solomon said, "Their opinion really matters to me — all the pictures that Emily liked best, I liked too . . . What amazes me is that she shoots both vertically and horizontally without anybody telling her to."

EMILY AND Solomon went for a short walk one afternoon last week to see if they could find some things Emily wanted to shoot. She did, very quickly — a small outdoor sculpture on the wall of Solomon's office building, a small garden sculpture and a little flower garden beside the sidewalk. Emily is a confident photographer, she takes her one shot and then moves bravely on.

Back at Solomon's office when Emily picked out several of her shots to go with this story, Solomon cautioned her to write her name on the back, "Pencil won't work. Use a pen, but don't press hard. I pressed a ballpoint pen hard one time and it ruined the picture." Emily gave her a look of understanding as she printed her name lightly and very legibly on the prints.



Jose Romero of West Bloomfield says that as he drives home from his job as nurse anesthetist, the sunrise or a sunset he sees may inspire a new painting.

Local painter goes to China

By Corinne Abett
staff writer

Jose Romero of West Bloomfield deftly divides his two-career life between nursing and painting. This month he has been in China extending the art career to new and, of course, distant horizons.

Philippine-born Romero, who says he always wanted to be an artist, but took up nursing to please his practical-minded father, quietly studied art on the side after he settled in the United States and completed his nursing education. His career as a nurse anesthetist (Strath Hospital of

Southfield) provided him with the financial security as his father anticipated, leaving him free to pursue his love of art in his spare time.

He was accepted as a member of the Scarab Club of Detroit since 1976. His works have been in exhibits at the Scarab Club, the County Galleria, Somerset Mall of Troy, Southfield Civic Center, H & R Block of Troy and in Paris where he studied at the Marmottan Museum.

When he left for his Beijing, China exhibition, he took 100 paintings with him, all of which he had ar-

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Calligraphers to meet When handwriting becomes art

By Virginia Lee Clark
special writer

"This is the place of letters and lettering," Jan Adkins wrote in her book "Letterbox." It applies as well to MOSAIC, the Twelfth International Assembly of Lettering Artists to be held at Oakland University, Rochester Hills June 20-27, next year.

"MOSAIC will bring over 500 participants and faculty from various parts of the world here for a week of classes, lectures, exhibits and sharing. The conference is an opportunity for calligraphers of all skill levels, from beginners to masters, to enhance their love of letters," says Rochester Hills resident, Candi Schwark, director of the MOSAIC Steering Committee.

Forty states as well as South Africa, Puerto Rico, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Germany and Australia have been represented at past conferences held at different colleges every summer.

"Having the conference here will give us a chance to showcase Michigan calligraphers to the rest of the world," says Schwark.

Those attending will have a choice of 60 different classes to choose from during the day and a variety of social events including informal gatherings, and exhibits to select from in the evening.

Lothar Hoffman, former chairman of the graphics department at the Center for Creative Studies, will be the keynote speaker. Hoffmann designed the colorful prismatic logo for MOSAIC and a retrospective show of his work will be on display to the public at the Meadow Brook



JIM RIDER/staff photographer

Candi Schwark of Rochester, head of the upcoming conference, holds a copy of the colorful emblem of the international gathering.

Art Gallery on campus during the conference.

"A juried faculty exhibit is being planned," says Schwark, "and we are working with the Galleria in Pontiac on hopefully displaying the works in a cultural exchange show between the Soviet Union and the United States put on by the New York based International Typeface Corp. It is currently touring Russia and several Michigan calligraphers are represented in it. These shows will also be open to the public."

A SERENDIPITY Room will be

available where conference participants can share their work and demonstrate special lettering techniques.

"We are arranging through the sponsorship of area service clubs to have local art students and teachers attend for one day," says Schwark.

Three stores will be open on campus that week: a supply store run by the Maryland firm of Paper & Ink Books, a book store supplied by John Neal Bookseller from Greensboro, and a conference store where logo items can be purchased.

To enroll in the conference a \$100

'Having the conference here will give us a chance to showcase Michigan calligraphers to the rest of the world.'

— Candi Schwark
of MOSAIC

deposit, payable to MOSAIC, postmarked no earlier than Aug. 15 may be sent to: Candi Schwark, Director, MOSAIC, 915 Peach Blossom Court, Rochester Hills 48306.

The full cost, about \$600 includes tuition, room and board. Commuters from nearby will pay less. The balance will be due in February and at that time class and room assignments will be made.

The conference is being given under the auspices of the Michigan Association of Calligraphers (MAC).

Other area members of the steering committee are: Elaine Grohman of Farmington Hills, communications; Eileen Morline of Southfield, events faculty; Grace Wiseman of Rochester Hills, treasurer; and Jaci Sullivan of Rochester Hills, MAC board representative.

"While the conference goals are education, communication and the promotion of the lettering arts, it is also a time to share and make lasting friendships with calligraphers from all over the world," Schwark says.