

# "small talk"

Official Newsletter of  
Club Olszewski, Inc.

ISSUE 6

JULY, 1991

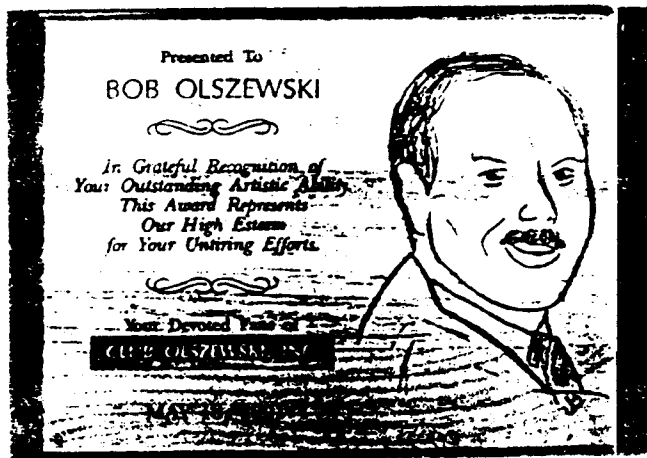
- THE FIRST NATIONAL ROBERT OLSZEWSKI CONVENTION -  
What a mouthful! We still have a delightful "hang over" from this special event. Bob's friends came from near and far. The Robert Olszewski Study Group made sure our days were filled with special surprises, information, speakers (like us), fantastic food and entertainment. On a scale of 1 - 10 everyone we spoke to gave ratings that soared through the roof! To the Olszewski Study Group, especially Marlene, a great big thank you for all you did.

The fun started Friday night in the lounge. It was great recognizing so many members from the pictures we had received. We won't mention Tom's name, but he decided not to wear his name tag because he wanted to scope out the crowd first. Apparently we all met with his approval for he was "badged" for the rest of the convention!

Everyone enjoyed the trolley ride to Cooper's where a very nice reception was held along with a demonstration on how to decorate with Hummels.

Saturday morning we anxiously entered the auditorium to view Bob's complete collection. There were paintings, papier-maches, the doll house, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas houses and the original pre-Goebel minis. A definite favorite was Bob's Nativity. All were impressed by versatile Bob. You didn't know what to look at first! A favorite? It's hard to pick when you're hooked! Oh what the heck - how about ALL OF THEM!

Bob began to tell of his background, his life goals and philosophies. After hearing from some of the speakers we had a delicious lunch with "The Bag Lady". Instead of being addicted to Olszewskis, this lady of talent is constantly on the look out for a new bag. Marlene obliged her with a Study Group tote. Bob's "dessert" was made by us on behalf of all you devoted fans of Club Olszewski. We presented him with the following laser engraved 9 x 12 walnut plaque:



### MY LIFE GOALS

1. Becomes An Artist
2. Go To College - Become An Art Teacher To Support Myself
3. Pay For College
4. Learn To See
5. Marriage - Move To California
6. Buy A House - Start A Family
7. Leave Teaching - Make A Living Off My Art Work
8. Get Kids And House Back
9. Home With A View
10. Build A Studio At My Home
11. Work Exclusively On My Work
12. Push The Art Form As Far And To The Highest Quality Possible
13. Work More At Home - Slow Down To Enjoy My Family

### MY LIFE PHILOSOPHIES

1. This Is Not A Dress Rehearsal
2. Lust For Life - Live Fully
3. Knowledge Is Power - The Truth Shall Set You Free
4. Life First - Art Second
5. The Value Of A Work Of Art Is Not Determined By It's Size
6. My Art Skills Should Benefit My Family
7. And Whatever You Do, Do It With All Your Might
8. Garbage In, Garbage Out - Good In, Good Out
9. I Know You By What You Do, Not By What You Say
10. I Am A Systems User Not A People User

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Czerwony Kogut - Red Rooster. Do those two words have any meaning to you? This was the nickname Bob had until his friend shortened it to just "Red".

After the elegant dinner, the Study Group unveiled their gift to Bob, a long lost painting he thought he would never see again. A hush fell over the room when Bob announced his surprise, a self portrait figurine. Bob made himself as small as the characters he works on. There is no official title for it, but Bob thinks of it as "welcome to my world!" It is Bob in his painter's smock sitting down holding the bird from The Farmer With the Doves showing it to the boy from Clowning Around. Also, the Oz characters of the Lion, Munchkin and Toto are watching the rabbit from Alice Down the Rabbit Hole. Bob also carved in some flowers from the Wildlife Series in the foreground. All of this sits on a 1" x 3/4" brass oval base and is a MUST for everyone's collection. It retails for \$185 but will only be sold at Bob's appearances. This is by far *the best* Bob has done. What an amazing mini! In appreciation of all their hard work, Bob presented numbers 1-4 to the Study Group committee.

Sunday was "Fan Day". We couldn't wait to surprise all attendees with some favors. There were yellow diamond-shaped car signs stating "I'm an Olszewski Fan" along with Club Olszewski wooden nickles. It was a very emotional Kleenex day for all. The crowd was moved to tears of laughter when the real Bob was shown in our Club's slide presentation. Just picture Bob as a large VIKING asking for a kiss or as a Bronco Buster. How about Bob dressed as a NUN, complete with the habit, glasses, a HUGE cross around his neck and his hairy lip giving him away! Atta way Roberta?!!

The Study Group gave us a beautiful engraved digital clock desk set in appreciation for making Fan Day complete. We were overwhelmed when Bob presented us with #5 and #6 of his self portrait figurine. - AWESOME! -

Bob talked of his family and his life in Camarillo. All were touched by the picture of Meredith, David and Bob's Mom. You looked great, Ann and we wish you continued Good Health!

"Say Olszewskiiiiii!" Each person or couple brought home a nice memento from the convention, a picture taken with Bob. If you were not fortunate enough to be one of the 244 people in attendance, you missed a truly memorable event. Since time did not allow us to personally visit with each one of you, we would like to take a moment to say: "Watch out, we're gonna getcha next time!"

Our favorite part of the newsletter is next, "A phone call from Bob."



*'This is the world I live in,  
welcome to it.'*



"You know what the convention did for me? It really gave me a lift. I knew going in when I put that show together that it was going to be a tough one to present. When I was a dinner guest in Eaton, OH they asked me to do a little on the personal side. I had a real tough time getting into it, so I knew this would be difficult. It was a lot of fun to show the in depth side of myself that people don't get to see.

Aren't my collectors neat? These were *pure Olszewski collectors*. You folks were great! Now you people know how I feel about you. What was fun for me was to look out at all of you and just look at everybody's faces and these are the people who had come to my shows for 8, 9 and 10 years. It was an incredible experience. You people are smart and sincere and down to earth, just the best of the best. I will never forget it as long as I live. I think it just brought me back here to do better work and press for the things that I should be pressing for and that's the quality of the work and doing things for the right reason. IT WAS FANTASTIC!!! I came back from the convention feeling so good and so loved.

My self portrait is a fun little piece. It took me a long time to think it through. I really wanted to do a special piece for my collectors. I started it last year in September. First I did a portrait of myself standing and that didn't look right. Then I started fooling around with some of the pieces and put them in. Once I put Clowning Around next to me and added the Lion, I KNEW I had it. There was a major disaster with it. We had made a mold around it and I worked on that piece over a week and a half to make it perfect for casting. While taking it to the sterling we blew it in the casting. I had to rework the face and everything. It was just awful. I've had a lot of major problems with stuff this year. What probably made me feel the calmest through the whole thing is knowing that people are interested in MY work.

What I'm working on today is Joseph and he should have been done already. This is the beginning of June and I've been working on him exclusively since I've been back from the convention. I've just done all of his robing and I'm burned out. Next I'll work on the cherubs. The donkey, Mary and Christ are done right now. The next group I'll work on is the three kings. It's been fun for me. The Nativity Set will be done when it's done. I can tell you right now that it's going to be late, I don't care what they say.

The Nativity is the first piece with the light underneath it. At my seminar you probably noticed that I'm very conscious of lighting. I had it in the doll house and the two Christmas houses. When I went to Toledo in November to check out the convention facilities, we went over to the Toledo Museum. In the gift shop I noticed some paperweights

with lights in them. I looked at them and thought I should put some lights in the Nativity Set. I bought one, carried it back, bored a hole into the base and put the light in there. You have to keep your eyes open, inspirations can come from anywhere.

Let's go through where I'm at home. My mother is doing real well back home in PA enjoying her friends and bingo. I made the room she was staying in downstairs into my carving studio. I'm spending about 60% of the time carving here rather than the studio. I'm waiting to get the plaque that you gave me so I can put it up. It's being shipped along with the rest of the convention art works. I'm fixing up my carving studio and have all my figurines on display. I just finished putting in a home security system.

Remember I told you last time that I planted lots of wildflower seeds? The flowers are blooming like crazy. There must be 700 flowers blooming in the backyard right now. It's just flowers and dirt, but it's pretty. I'm sure there's going to be some work coming out of all this. I want people to really know this stuff is my personal life. I think it's real important because too many companies are making too many products for the wrong reasons and that really bothers me.

I'm really enjoying my dachshunds, Toby and Terri. They're two characters who are always happy to see me. I play ball with them every day and it's a good break from my carving.

Meredith is going up to school this Saturday for testing. She'll be leaving towards the end of summer. I'm starting to get the feeling that it's over. You know what I mean? She's looking for work right now and jobs are hard to get. David is going to move into her larger room in the fall, that was the agreement.

Last week we sat down for breakfast at the kitchen table and David told me he is definitely going to end up in the Arts. It was great, I was just so pleased. I told my kids the story about the beach and that you can express yourself in any way, whether it be music or whatever. David is aware of his sensitivity, that's neat! He told me, 'When I hang around with my friends, they don't see the same things I do. When we're up in the valley, it'll look real beautiful, but my friends don't see that.' You know what I've done? I've looked outside and said, 'Gee David, look how beautiful that is out there, look at all these birds.' He watched me plant all these flowers. He has grown up with it. Whichever road he takes, I'll be glad to help. I pulled out some of my favorite art books and told David he's welcome to go through them. Right now he's using my airbrush booth and he's got his own carving area set up. This house is going to be a house of art!"

Will Bob be in your neck of the woods? Here is his promotion schedule:

7/12 - 7/14:

South Bend Plate Show  
South Bend, IN  
708-295-4444

9/12: (2 & 7 pm)

Seville's Ltd. Ed.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
412-366-5458

9/13: (2 & 7 pm)

H. K. Gift World Ltd.  
Livingston, NJ 07039  
201-992-8605

9/14: (11 am & 2 pm)

Westons  
Eatontown, NJ 07724  
201-542-3550

9/15: (1 & 3 pm)

Wit's End  
Clifton Park, NY 12065  
518-371-9273

9/28 - 9/29:

'91 Hummel Club Local  
Chapter Convention  
Nassau Inn  
Princeton, NJ  
609-921-7500

Date Unknown

Collector's World  
Montrose, CA 91020  
818-248-9451

10/26: (10 am & 1 pm)

Henri's  
Belmont, CA 94002  
415-591-2758

10/27: (1 & 3 pm)

Swiss Miss Gift Shop  
Cascade, CO 80809  
719-684-9679

10/28: (2 & 7 pm)

Lori's Collectable  
Tucson, AZ 85711  
602-790-6668

11/8: (2 & 7 pm)

Sweetsters Home Spec.  
Maryester, FL 32548  
904-243-6405

11/9: (11 am & 2 pm)

Gift Attic  
Raleigh, NC 27612  
919-781-1822

11/10: (2 pm)

Precious Cargo  
Jacksonville, FL 32216  
904-641-2251

11/23: (11 am & 2 pm)

Collector's Haven  
Los Angeles, CA 90036  
213-931-8894

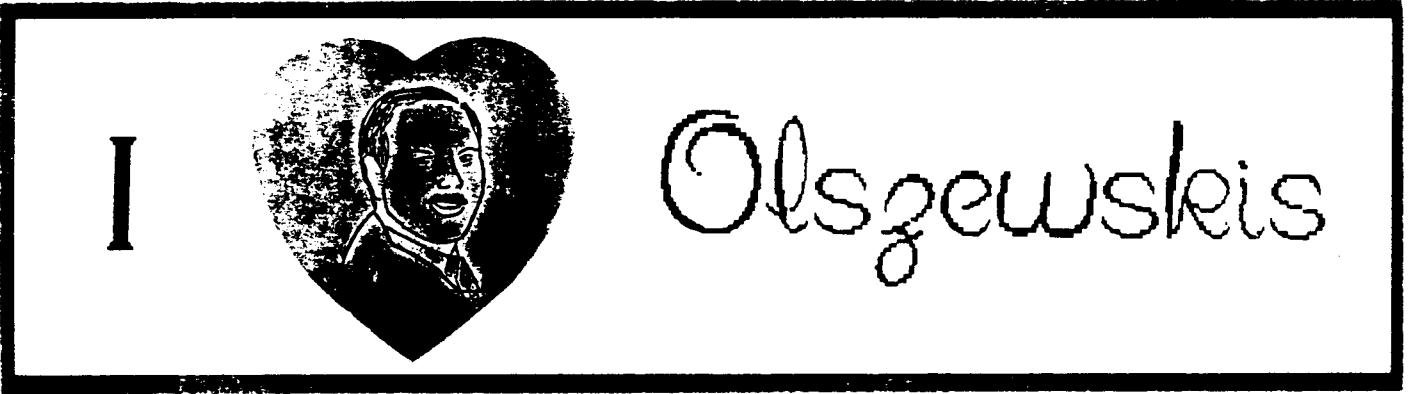
CHECK WITH THE STORE FOR EXACT DATE AND TIME

"What time is it? It's Club Olszewski time!"  
For the very first time we have available Club Olszewski watches. We have a very, very limited quantity. Order yours now while supply lasts. The price is \$35.00 for either men's or ladies'. If you ordered a watch at the convention, it will be mailed out as soon as they come in. Other items you might be interested in are a 2 1/2" x 10" Bumper Sticker (\$1.75) or cute Club Olszewski Tokens. These wooden nickles are 2 for \$3.00. After all, Bob is worth more than a plug *nickel or gold or silver or bronze!* Each of these items includes shipping and handling.

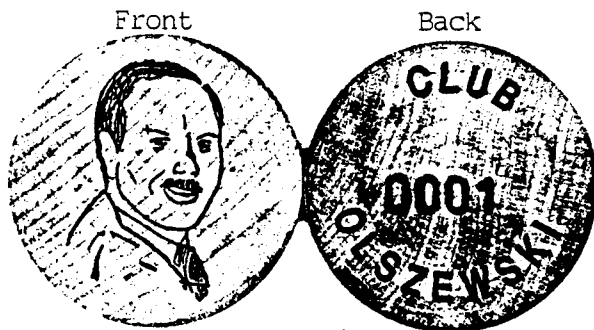
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Ladies' Watch - Actual Size



Actual Size 2 1/2" x 10"



Actual Size

Some of you may have renewal forms enclosed. We bill you ahead of your expiration date so will you not miss a single issue of "small talk". We don't send out any additional reminders because of cost and time involved.

\* \* \* \* \*

We really had FUN working on this newsletter. From our first issue of four pages to eight in this one, we seem to be running out of room. This confirms our notion, Fans like yourself crave input - just like computers! We can never get enough information on our mini addiction!

For our new members, back issues are \$2.00 each.

miniaturely yours,

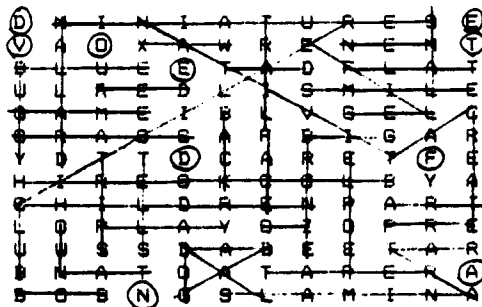
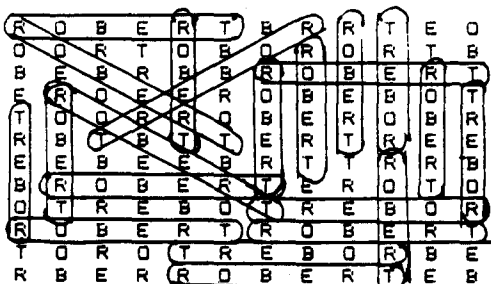
Jacqui + Wallie

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Here is the solution to Jacqui's "Word Finder". If you don't know how to spell Olszewski by now, you never ever will. Space permitting we'll have our regular "Fun Page" in our next issue!

Circle the words in the letter square as you find them and cross them off the list. Find the hidden words. I know you are one! Clue: Club Olszewski member. DEVIATED EAN

See if you can find "Robert" 21 times.



Search for the name "Olszewski" 10 times.

