

Mammoth Times Weekly

THE AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER OF MAMMOTH LAKES AND THE EASTERN SIERRA

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Artist stops in Mammoth during tour promoting art for change

Capturing the “places, faces and homes of America on camera and on canvas”, Mammoth Lakes was one of the first stops of the Across the USA from the Eyes of an Artist tour.

Collins and her husband Bruce were the guests of Mammoth Lake residents Chris and Tom House, at their home they call “Far Side”, after Leisa and Chris met earlier in the day when Leisa was doing an open air painting of the Bishop City Park. “We were soon chatting with Chris and Tom as if we had known them for years. They’re a delightful couple who’ve been married for 50 years and have traveled and lived in all corners of the world. They have fascinating stories and a great sense of humor,” said Leisa. “When they offered for us to stay the night, they didn’t have to twist our arm,” she added.

Collins a pen and watercolor wash house portrait of the House’s chalet as a thank you gift. She added one of their four Burmese Mountain dogs poking his head over the balcony.

In addition to recording the scenic beauty and people of of America through photos and paintings created by Leisa on the road and promoted through her Art with a Message Blog, Leisa has kids’ art projects scheduled along the tour route to promote and raise funds for children and art education. In this regard, Leisa is partnered with Free Arts for Abused Children so as to get this message across.

The tour has traveled 800 miles to date, with another 5,000 to go before reaching New York City. “A planned one hour stop in Mammoth Lakes for a “quick drink” on our way to Yosemite turned into a 24-hour stopover and the discovery of true Mammoth Lakes hospitality.” Collins said.

