

Mystery surrounds returned art

BENNINGTON, Vt. (AP) — Two wooden crates that arrived unexpectedly at the Bennington Museum were found to contain seven Grandma Moses paintings that were stolen 14 years ago.

Where the artworks have been all this time — and exactly who sent them back and why — are still a mystery.

"It was someone who honestly loved them and wanted to own them and enjoy them," museum curator Deborah Federhen says. "If they wanted to sell them, they would have broken them up and not kept them as a set of seven but tried to dispose of them one by one."

The brightly colored New

England landscapes were stolen in 1984 from the Rose Valley, Pa., home of Margaret Carr shortly after the woman's death. She had bequeathed the paintings to the private Bennington Museum.

The artworks — whose combined value was estimated by the Bennington at \$250,000 to \$500,000 — were not seen again until they arrived at the museum in February in good shape, still in their original, two-tone painted wooden frames.

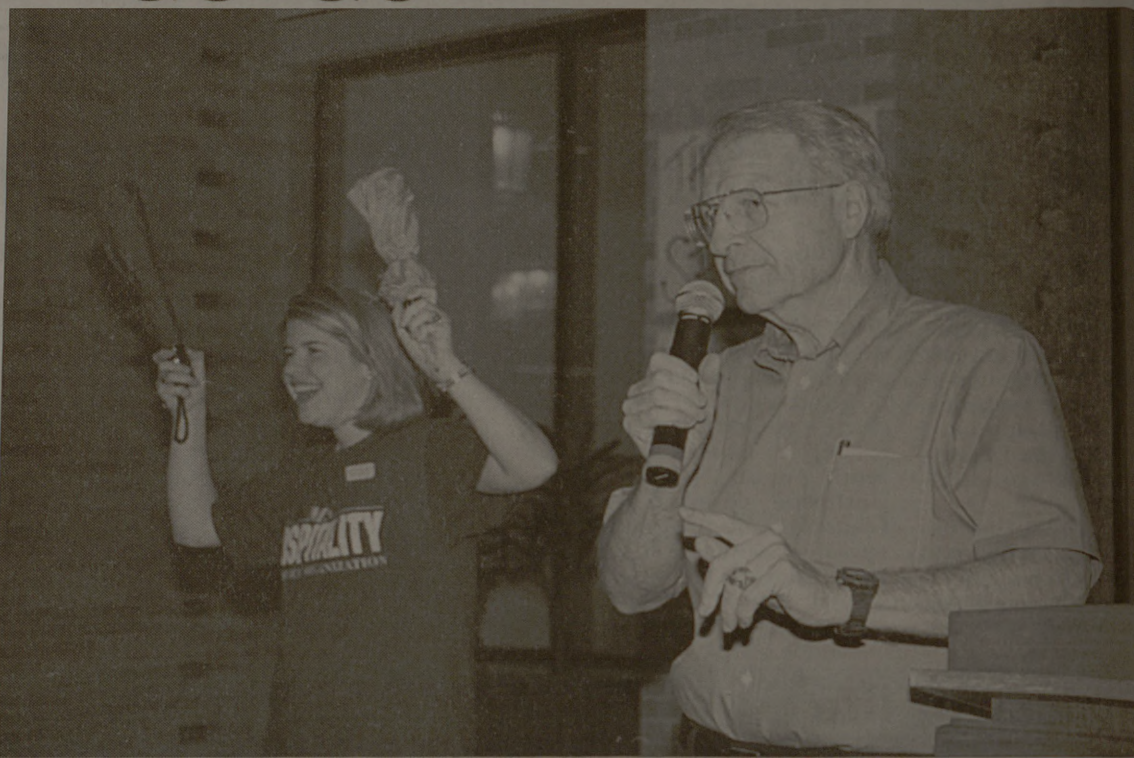
Each crate contained a cryptic computer note in bright purple ink and a hard-to-read typeface. Each note, inexplicably signed "Ring Sar," lists the names and dates of the paintings and

says: "Please send the attached following for a seven-year anonymous loan" — a reference, perhaps, to the seven-year statute of limitations for prosecuting the transportation of stolen property across state lines.

The museum contacted the FBI, the Pennsylvania State Police and an international registry of lost art in New York City. The New York gallery that handles Grandma Moses' estate helped identify the works.

Grandma Moses, born Anna Mary Robertson, took up painting in her late 70s and lived in Eagle Bridge, N.Y., near Bennington. Carr and her sister became friends with the artist and used to visit her.

Going, going, gone



Lloyd Joyce, Class of '55, auctions off the umbrellas displayed by Allison Underwood, a freshman biomedical sciences major, Wednesday at the MSC to raise money for the MSC Hospitality fund.

WHAT'S UP

Thursday

Graduate Fellowship of Interservice Christian Fellowship (IVCF): Bible study for graduate and on-traditional students, followed by fellowship will be held at 7:30 p.m. See our website for location and map at <http://stat.tamu.edu/~inlow/ivcf.html>. Call Mark or Jennifer at 764-1552.

ATM Womens Rugby: Come join! No experience needed. Practices are from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the pitch on the corner of Texas Ave. and University Dr. Call Nikki at 694-0084 for information.

Association on Baptist Students: A meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at 410 College Main. Call Bobby at 846-3223 for details.

ATM Roadrunners: Meet at 6 p.m. in front of G. Rollie White. We will run three to four miles. All students and skill levels are welcome. Call Steve at 847-7905 for details.

Alpha Phi Omega: Meet to go to the Boy's Club at 3:30 p.m. in 133 Koldus.

Aggie Speleological Society: A meeting will be held at 8:30 p.m. in Koldus 146. Call Travis at 693-4088.

Pagan Student Association: A meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in Rudder 504.

Aggie Wranglers: There will be a tryout informational meeting will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in MSC 292B. For more information

look at www.tamu.edu/aggie_wranglers.

Mexican Student Association: There will be a Mexican folklore dance performed by Ballet Folclorico Celestial at 4 p.m. at Rudder Fountain. There will be a lecture "The Roots of Lo Mexicano" by Dr. Samuel Gordon at 7:00 p.m. in MSC 206. Call Paco Rangel at 693-0140 for details.

What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit student and faculty events and activities. Items should be submitted no later than three days in advance of the desired run date. Application deadlines and notices are not events and will not be run in What's Up. If you have any questions, please call the newsroom at 845-3313.

Bush speaks to students

Former president George Bush spoke Wednesday to the Cold War Rhetoric, Intelligence and Ideology class at the George Bush School of Government and Public Service.

Bush met privately with students and answered questions about his experience as

the director of the CIA.

He said that during the Cold War, the CIA helped the United States plan military strategies based on knowledge gained from satellites and other technological intelligence gathering.

He answered questions about United States relations with China and the former Soviet Union. This is the first year the class has been offered.

Photos taken for students

Students receiving their Aggie Rings today can have a free picture taken compliments of the Association of Former Students which also pays for part of each student's ring.

Photos will be available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the first day of ring delivery only. The photos, taken by

Photo Systems Station, will be a "Day" and the Association of Former Students. Photos may be taken at the campus office in the Clayton Alumni Center, Room 29 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students may receive 1688 extension more information on pictures taken. An

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RODEO PARTY WEEK 2000

Thursday: Special College Night - No cover with College ID
The Only Drink Special That Lasts Till 11 p.m.
50¢ Bar Drinks & Draft Beer 75¢ Call Drinks
\$1 Premium Drinks & Longnecks 7-11 p.m.
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Friday: Pre Concert Party for the 1st Ever Major Country Concert at Kyle Field
Featuring Mark Chestnutt, Trace Adkins, & David Lee Murphy on April 25th
15 Pairs of Tickets to be Given Away
Many Other Prizes to be Handed Out
Live Remote with KORA 98.3 9:30-11:30 p.m.

Saturday: Regular Kick-Butt Country Night
75¢ Drafts \$1 Bar Drinks \$1⁵⁰ Longnecks
7-10 p.m.

Sunday: David Allan Coe Concert
Advance Sale Tickets at A&M Western Wear & Rodeo 2000 \$5. Tickets at the Door \$6
Doors Open at 7 p.m.
75¢ Drafts \$1 Bar Drinks \$1⁵⁰ Longnecks
7-9:30 p.m.

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