

# LOCAL ARTISTS

Each month we will feature the works of our local artists. If you have or know someone who has an artistic talent please contact us at the O.B. Beacon for submission requirements and deadline dates. Send to: Beacon Publishing Co., P.O. Box 7098, San Diego, Ca. 92107.

by: Velma Blake
An adaptation of:
Beach Fire
by: Bill Mayo

Crates and old lumber
give rise to flames
that light the sky.

A burning gauntlet hypnotic, undulating fire cobra.

Fears revealed in fire's honesty -

Life's truisms held in conversation,

words without pretense;

While night's darkness beyond

swallows the person

we each pretend to be.

I've seen many places and have met many more people.

I chose to be acquaintances with most friends with few.

It takes time and patience
to find people with whom I can feel
comfortable
and allow me to be myself.

Though it can be a long process - it is so worthwhile.

Be patient.

by Monica Goodwin

#### The Fisherman

Keen is the eye

of the man at the helm,

Cold are waters he calls his realm.

Swift be the man

at the lines in the stern

Steady be the gaffer

when it comes his turn.

for every sailor

must earn each meal

lest he fear the crusty keel

upon the waters wearily they fend,

or within the depths might descend.

Through high winds

or the fiercest gale

fearless these hearty men must sail

o'er crest and trough

and frothy foam

this is where the fishermen must make

their home.

Kurt Kierulff

# WATCH FOR OUR GRAND REOPENING

OUR
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IN BUSINESS



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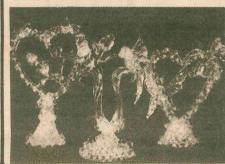
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## FERN LENICH - FANTASIES IN SCULPTURED GLASS

by: Mary Jane Church

Fern Lenich came to Ocean Beach seven years ago after reading a magazine article touting San Diego as THE ideal city to live in. But, this 65 year young great-grandmother is definately NOT your typical little old lady!

Working out of the tiny kitchen in



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her one bedroom beach house, Fern creates and designs glass sculptures.

Examples of Fern's glass sculptures are dragons, hummingbirds, ballerinas, mermaids and wedding cake tops. She has designed and created a whole line of unique Christmas ornaments and has made to order graduation gifts, holiday items or special occasion gifts. "My goal in the field of my art is to create a manger scene in sculptured glass for each of my grand children. It would be my legacy to them." Her items have been displayed all over San Diego but some can be seen here in Ocean Beach at Games People Play on Newport Avenue.

There are a variety of techniques used in sculpturing glass objects. Fern uses two glass rods approximately 14" in length and a propane and oxygen flame that changes the molecular structure of the glass as it melts it. One rod forms the object, the other rod acts as a base. An item can take several hours before it is completed. After the object



is formed, it is gently placed by a pair of tongs into a kiln and fired at 1000 °F to temper it. Later it is taken from the kiln and cooled slowly to room temperature. Some items are then colorfully stained with a camels hair brush and dyes, but the majority are crystal clear

to magnificently catch and reflect the sun's rays.

Fern goes on to say "I strive for perfection in my art. No two pieces are exactly alike, each is unique. Glass sculptering offers endless possibilities that are limited only by the imagination."

It bothers Fern to see men and women in their 60's or approaching retirement giving up and not realizing the potential in themselves as yet undiscovered. She feels that older citizens have so many talents to share and so much wisdom to give, just as she is doing here.



Fern Lenich at work.

Fern is just one of many people to try their trade in Ocean Beach and she says she just loves it here. She is proud to be an Ocean Beach resident and Ocean Beach is proud and lucky to have an individual like Fern Lenich.