

The Biking Life

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Yah-Bah-Dah-Bah-Doo!

A windy cold January air penetrated my jacket and whipped around my heart when my boy friend, Dikki, asked, “Do you want to meet my other girlfriend?” Oh no, I thought to myself, had I fallen for one of “those guys?” He guided me through the yard and toward the garage. “Here she is,” I heard him say as he pointed to a beautiful Harley motorcycle.

Whew! I could tell this girlfriend would be on the fast track to becoming my BFF. Swinging our legs over her saddle we headed down the road. As we leaned into curves, the Harley vibrated beneath us as an excitement began to brew. I could feel Dikki tighten his grip on the handle bars as he cried out, “Yippee, Yahoo” and as if on cue, we yelled in unison, “Yah-Bah-Dah-Bah” followed with a resounding “Doo!”

This phrase became our motto for freedom, joy, and fun and the words became our signature cry every time we rode away from the neighborhood.

Several road trips later, Dikki became my husband. And yes, the cake was decorated with our motto as a reminder that above all else; life should be fun. As newlyweds, we relocated from Kansas City to the Ozark Mountains where sensational motorcycle riding vistas appear at each turn.

Within six months I was diagnosed with breast cancer. Although my focus became one of thriving, I remained grateful for the love of my family and friends and the opportunity to heal in an area of incredible natural beauty.

When my cancer treatment ended Dikki encouraged me to “do what you love.” Even though my career as a Physical Therapist had been rewarding, I took his advice.

With a recharged enthusiasm for life and always ready to learn something new, I began to create inspirational artwork drawn from everyday life experiences. My creations expressed the joy and humor of nature as it unpredictably unfolded around me.

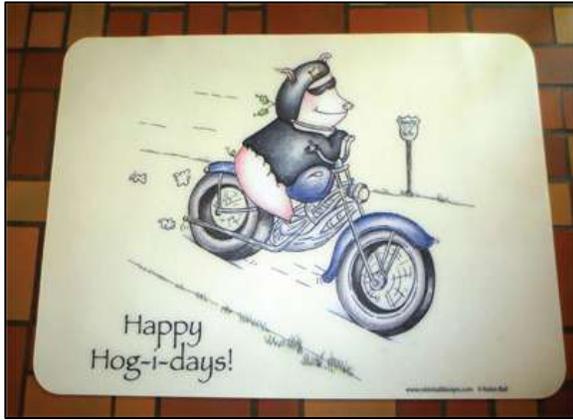
My intention as an artist was to honor life, bring pleasure through my imagery and words, and hopefully encourage, entertain, and inspire others. I painted on floor cloths, table mats, and wall hangings which evolved into pastel-colored illustrations. I participated in several National and Local art shows and placed commissioned work in both private and public locations.

It seemed natural to continue my creativity through handmade greeting cards which I sent to family and friends. Encouraged by them to “get your cards out there” I began to develop a card collection.

Along the way, “Robin Ball Designs – Delightful Creations” was formed. Originally, a paper product company specializing in stationery, posters, postcards, and bookmarks, the company has grown into a textile and flooring manufacturer – targeting the home accessories, gift, souvenir, and personal expressions industries. We produce USA made products that offer function and fancy for you and your loved ones. I am proud to announce our recent certification through the State of Missouri as a Women-Owned Business Enterprise.

And, more exciting news - we are showcasing a new product for the Holiday season! My whimsical images are now available as Art for the Floor.” The designer floor mats are colorful, durable, and perfect as a gift for you or someone you love. Currently, there are 16 designs available in a variety of sizes. The 24” x 36” floor mat pictured here was inspired by our “Yah-Bah-Dah-Bah-Doo” road trips.

Each floor mat is protected by a commercial grade finish that easily wipes clean with warm water and is fade resistant and stain protected. Its non-skid backing and low profile makes it appropriate for many locations in your home or garage. An anti-fatigue foam backing is also available for those areas where comfort is important such as a bathroom or kitchen. Custom orders are welcome.



As I have experienced a sense of recharge in my life, I hope my creations will do the same for you and give you the chance to share a heartfelt moment with someone special in your life!

Today, like every day, is a celebration and an opportunity to cry, Yippee, Ya-hoo, and Yah-Bah-Dah- Bah-Doo! You can find Dikki and me with our dog, Hunter, relaxing on a ridge overlooking the Ozark Mountain range – where our days are filled with wonder and delight.

My collections are available on the internet at www.robinballdesigns.com and in retail locations across the United States.