

MARY F. FISCHER

Having been born and raised in New Braunfels, I am the product of Central Texas German and Russian immigrants.

After graduating from North Texas State University with a degree in history, I joined the Air Force as a way of getting out of the state and seeing something of the world. Surely, I thought, not every place would be as hot and drought ridden as home.

After tours in Tennessee, Thailand and Okinawa, I came back to Texas knowing that every place has its hot and dry spells. So ended that eight year career.

Next I took up map making and spent many years working for various environmental consulting companies in Austin.

For our fortieth birthdays, a friend and I gave ourselves clay lessons at a city-funded facility a few blocks from my house. After becoming addicted, I took classes at the Southwest School of Art and Craft in San Antonio, which offered a wider range of courses and experience. Also because the facility in Austin burned.

After buying a few acres west of Austin, I built a small house and smaller studio where I work and feed deer, which are much less trouble than the horse I owned in Tennessee, unless you want to garden.

I make what I do in clay because I want to. Talking about the why and wherefore usually means taking liberties with the truth. What is true one day may not be the next. What you swear by one day, you curse the next. As with all things in nature, a state of flux is the rule and means all is well.