

STOCKSDALE GALLERY OF ART  
Presents  
NANO NORE

JULY-AUGUST 2022

THE BEAVER RIVER PROJECT began March 2, 2021 the day of our father's burial in Albion NE. With the death of mom in 2018 and the subsequent sale of our home that had been in the family for 100 years along with moving dad to Lincoln meant that my home town would rarely be visited except for Memorial Day grave decorations and alumni banquets. As I viewed from the Rosehill cemetery I saw the Beaver Vally winding its way south it came to me that I could do a documentary on the Beaver from favorite locations just as I have with Rush Creek in Liberty, MO (1992-2022). Thanks to the great hospitality and generosity of Barb and Jerry Tisthammer, classmates from high school, they hosted me and drove me to the origins of the Beaver in the Sandhills NW of Albion as far SE to St Edward.

The Beaver is not a recreational waterway. It is located in ranch and farming land in North Central Nebraska. Sand, clay and topsoil. The enormous aquifer that covers Nebraska bubbles up water. In its early stages Barbed wire crosses the river to keep cattle in. It begins as a very small spring fed creek and increases in breadth and depth until it reaches Genoa where it is diverted into the Loup power canal and the Loup River. Cottonwoods, the Nebraska state tree celebrate the Beaver and this project. I see them as a metaphor of the life journey and have featured them prominently in this exhibition.

I decided to do 4 seasons along select locations where I had access by permission. Special thanks goes to the Stuhr family, especially Deb Stuhr, who gave me wonderful access to their land, once the farm of my Grandpa and Grandma Myers where I played and worked in my youth. The actual artwork began in May 2021, with additional visits in June and October. As the COVID plague continued I "lived" in my large studio where I worked 7 days a week. Altogether during this year created over 60 works, while simultaneously creating very large paintings of the Adirondacks and Rockport Harbor, also about land and water. I had an exhibition of these 2021 works last October.

