



Misselhorn Foundation President Terry Waldron with Elaine Poggi Sunday.

'Healing Photo Art' Shown At Misselhorn Gallery

A good crowd turned out Sunday at a reception for Elaine Poggi's exhibition of healing photo art.

Poggi's photographs were displayed at the Misselhorn Art Gallery in Sparta.

Mrs. Poggi, now a resident of Florence, Italy, was born and raised in Sparta. She has been in Italy, where she met her husband, for 29 years. She lived in Sparta until she was 18 then went to college and eventually to Italy.

Poggi's subjects range from underwater to animal life and display exceptional color. Her mission is to place the pictures in hospitals. Anyone who makes a donation to her

foundation will get two pictures, one to keep and one to be placed in a hospital of the contributor's choice.

The former Elaine Uchtman says she comes home a lot and has many relatives in this area. She explained how she became interested in adding her photos to normally plain hospital walls.

"My mother, Leona Alms, was in the hospital being treated for lymphoma," said Poggi. "I came home to take care of her and became tired of the white hospital walls. I put some photos in her room. That helped her, and other people saw them and began talking about them."

Poggi's mother died and she went back to Florence which is when the idea came to put more photographs in hospitals. Now they are at Barnes-Jewish, Cardinal Glennon, St. Mary's, Centralia, hospitals in Chicago and more. A foundation was created to get more of her photos into hospitals.

Poggi said she has about 1,000 photos gracing the walls of hospitals from Africa to Switzerland.

"They help to take a patient's mind off their illness a little," Poggi said.

Anyone who would like to donate to the foundation may contact the office at Box 401 in St. Albans, Mo. or call 636-530-9886.