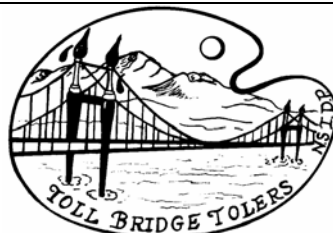


The Painting



Connection

Concord, California, U.S.A.

A Monthly Newsletter
Marianne Simpson, Editor
Loretta Mateik, Webmaster
Website: tollbridgetolers.org

2009 Issue Number Three
March 2009



PROGRAMS
Connie Oakley
1st Vice President

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jann Otvos

As I write this, I am preparing to leave for the Creative Painting Convention in Las Vegas. We are all being bombarded by the bad economic news – home prices plummeting as foreclosures sky rocket, jobs being cut at record rates, the stock market in shambles. It is almost impossible to be optimistic about anything and spending money on a “hobby” seems like a luxury that should be examined.

Why do we paint? The answer is as individual as we are, however history and anthropology tells us that we, as human beings, seem to have an innate need to create. Art is found on the walls of cave dwellings, crude musical instruments are found buried in prehistoric digs. Art and music are used to celebrate life in good times and seem to help people cope with the bad times.

We at Toll Bridge Tolerers are blessed with the love of painting and the fellowship of warm, generous and talented friends. Our “hobby” has afforded us the opportunity to touch many lives. As we paint we find peace and beauty within ourselves and we see the joy and beauty in nature and in others. Perhaps it is because we see the world around us through the eyes of artists that we feel the need to reach out to those less fortunate. Our charitable gifts, both in cash and in the form of time and effort, have brought joy and hope to many in our community. Why we paint is not important. What is important is that we paint.

Jann



Our Program for this month will be our Easter Egg Exchange and the Potato Bar. I hope you are all feverishly painting away for the exchange. It is always nice to see how creative everyone is and what they come up with to paint and exchange. I passed around a sign-up sheet at our last meeting. Below is the information. If you were not at the meeting and would like to sign up, please email (oakley1@l1nl.gov) or call me (825-3851) with what you would like to bring.

Achterberg, Robin – Chili
Borgerson, Roz - 10 Potatoes
Doran, Liz - Green onions
Flavin, Barb – Olives & Bacon Bits
Iaconis, Jo – Dessert
Irwin, Shirley - 10 Potatoes & Bacon Bits
Mannon, Tamara - Sour Cream
Mateik, Loretta – Olives
Otvos, Jann – 10 Potatoes
Schall, Lisa - Butter
Reed, Rosalie – Drinks
Galea, Eileen – Dessert
Roubal, Vivian - Dessert
Gallow, Jeanie – Other
Ryan, Merlene – Chili
Simpson, Marianne – Cheese
Smith, Darlene – Drinks
Little, Liz – Cheese & Sour Cream
Vecchi, Karen – Drinks
West, DJ – Dessert

MEMBERSHIP

Jeanie Gollow
2nd Vice President



We had twenty two members present at the meeting with four guests; three of which were recipients of our charitable donations and one guest that Eileen Galea brought to the meeting. This guest is now the newest member of our chapter--her name is Rosalie Reed from Vallejo. We all had a grand time painting the cutest little Leprechaun sitting on a pot of gold taught by Liz Doran and we all want to thank Liz and her helping leprechauns for all the prep work on these adorable plaques. Don't forget the March meeting is the egg exchange and potato Bar which is always a fun time. Come bring your egg exchange(what ever it may be) to exchange and have a great time visiting your fellow members.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanie Gollow

SEMINARS-PAINT-INS

Roz Borgerson and Connie Oakley



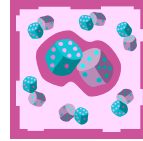
Important Dates to Remember:

March 14 & 15th, 2009 – Rosemary West Seminar
April 25, 2009 – Watercolor Class with Claudette Garcia
February 20-21, 2010 – Arlene Linton Seminar

NCCC UPDATE

Jann Otvos, Karen Vecchi, Barbara Flavin

We have no NCCC news to report--we will be meeting again on April 4th to visit some possible venues in the Sacramento area, but until then, nothing to add.



WAYS & MEANS

Liz Doran

A Reminder to all members: Our Charity Bunko will be August 22, 2009.

It will be here before you know it so I do hope you are planning to paint a special piece for the raffle.

Liz Doran



ELECTIONS FUND RAISER MAY 19, 2009

I got my letter today from the election board and I'm sure those of you who worked last year did also. There will be a special election on May 19th. Send them back the paper work if you are available. If you wish to donate your pay to TBT I will take care of that part. Anyone else who wants to participate, I'll help you get signed up. You must be a registered voter and reside in Contra Costa County. Those of you outside of this county could also do it in your county, if you wanted to check into it. Merlene

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Barb Flavin will be hosting a memory box paint party on March 19th at ten o'clock or when you can make it. Let her know if you will be attending. Just bring your basic paint supplies and a happy attitude (and some lunch so we can stay happy.)

I'll be letting you know as other hostesses come up with their dates. Call me if you have any questions. Merlene

NEWSLETTER

Marianne Simpson



Note: The following is our policy regarding the method by which you will receive your newsletter:

If you have Internet access, you will be receiving an email to let you know that the current month's newsletter is available online at our website -

www.tollbridgetolers.org

You will need to log onto the website and read or print the newsletter from there. If you need assistance, please contact Marianne Simpson at maritoler@comcast.net or Loretta Mateik at lmateik@comcast.net. You must have Adobe Acrobat Reader to access and print your newsletter. There are instructions on our website which will allow you to receive your FREE copy of Acrobat Reader

If you do not have Internet access, you have the option of receiving your newsletter via the mail or as an email attachment. You need to let me know if you choose either of these options.



“THE TRADING POST”

As our membership continues to grow I thought it would be a good time to re-introduce the “Trading Post” and give a brief explanation of what it is and how it came to be.

Barbara Flavin and I were talking one day and Barb mentioned that she wished there was a way we could ask questions, get tips or trade things with each other in a public forum.

Welcome: “The Trading Post”

If you have something you would like to sell, trade or give away; or if you have a recipe or idea you want to share, just send me an email with your tips, recipes, questions, comments or wish lists and I’ll publish them in the newsletter. Then look in the following month’s newsletter for responses from other members. It’s that easy but the only way this feature works is with *YOUR* input. So please, send your emails to maritoler@comcast.net.

Here’s the first input for 2009:

Correction (from the “Tolers Recipe” cookbook):

On page 29 I left out an ingredient in the Tetrizzini Soup. Please add to the list of ingredients; 1 cup light cream. Merlene

The following are some items from “The Trading Post” section from previous newsletters. Some tips are worth repeating:

PAINTERS TIPS From Liz Little (April 2007) – these are ones that have been given or sent to me – I am not the originator – just passing on! Liz

To clean your dirty brush basin. One way is to fill brush basin with very hot water. Drop in one or two denture tablets and let sit over night!

Easy Paint Mixing: You purchase *stainless steel bee bee’s* or small glass stones – (I like bee bee’s but make sure they are *stainless steel*) from a craft shop & put two in each bottle of paint! Give the bottle a shake and the paint mixes together in half the time!

P.S. If you can not find bee bees in the craft store try Daisy 4.5 mm steel air gun pellets, they are usually locked up in cabinet, like at Wal-Mart.

How to use a Mop Brush from Jamie Mills-Price herself:

You gotta make friends with a mop brush girls & guys! The mop brush is used immediately after you have placed your float. (You use the mop brush dry.) Beginning in the water area of the float and moving into the color area, move the brush in a soft, tapping motion (up and down) until it softens and smoothes out your floated color.

*Learning to use the mop was a light-bulb moment for me in my painting! I hope that it will help you also...it will make your floats so much prettier! *g**

You can also pre-moisten your surface prior to floating. I don’t necessarily do this as a rule, as I tend to have my brush fairly moist *and I would totally lose what color I have on my brush....but it is an option you should try - different strokes for different folks* - and then use the dry mop brush to soften the float.

You mentioned moving the mop back and forth? I do this on occasion when I am floating snow or painting clouds especially, I like to move the mop brush back and forth in a sweeping motion to extend, stretch, pull the color outwards and blur/soften the movement a bit.

From Leah Luper (May 2007)

Grandma’s Secret Spot Remover: I bought a bottle of Grandma’s Secret Spot Remover ... and because I never get paint on my clothes I thought I could be throwing my money away, then it happened, I got paint across the front of my favorite painting shirt and forgot to get it out. When I did the laundry I noticed the paint, kicked myself for waiting and letting it dry, then remembered the spot removed and tried it. YES, it works - I also tried it to remove other stains and it took them right out. So, I have to share with you - <http://www.grandmassoap.com/>

Connie Oakley had this tip (originally posted in the May 2007 TP) about Glad Snap together plastic plates: I had mixed a large amount of paint and sealer together to roll paint on a piece of wood. I rolled the first side of my

piece and during the drying time I snapped on another plate to keep the paint from drying out and it worked well. The paint was still useable and had not dried out.

Look for more tips from “2007 Trading Post articles” next month and please send me some new ones.

Thanks,
Marianne Simpson



BOARD MEETING

First Lutheran Church
Concord, CA
February 17, 2009

PRESENT: Jann Otvos, Roz Borgerson, Darlene Smith, Jeanie Gollow, Marianne Simpson, Liz Doran, Rose Marie Roza, Lisa Schall, Karen Vecchi, Connie Oakley, Shirley Irwin

President Jann Otvos called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. The agenda for the General meeting to follow was developed. Representatives of the two 2008 charities will attend that meeting and Liz Doran will present their checks.

Correspondence: Information has been received on two upcoming March seminars – Debbie Slavin (lettering) at Watsonville and a rosemaking seminar in Newark. Jann brought copies of the TBT flyer for members to post in local stores, libraries, etc.

Charities: Nominations for the 2009 charities will be requested.

Tole Trains: Reports will be given on assorted tole train destinations (Roz Borgerson, Tamara Mannon and Jeanie Gollow).

Storage Locker: Connie Oakley found one for under \$50 and Jann found one for under \$30. We will continue to look for a locker.

Memory Boxes: Jann advised Merlene Ryan is planning a workshop.

The Board decided that the Treasurer’s report would no longer be printed in the newsletter. Instead, copies will be provided to the Board and Committee members and copies will be available at each meeting for any interested

member. (The motion was made by Liz Doran. Rose Marie Roza moved that the Treasurer’s report not be published in the newsletter. Roz Borgerson seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously).

Treasurer’s Report: Karen Vecchi advised she has obtained an ATM card for the TBT bank account so she is able to deposit checks on the weekend.

Jann reported she received an e-mail from Peggy Jones in Camarillo advising Martha Bratton in the San Francisco area has issues of the Decorative Painting magazine from the 1980’s (free) for anyone interested. Connie noted DJ West will call her and would be willing to pick them up.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Smith, Secretary



GENERAL MEETING

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
February 17, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Jann Otvos at 7:30 p.m. with a quorum present. The January minutes and Treasurer’s report were approved as published in the February newsletter (Connie Oakley/Roz Borgerson).

2008 Charities: Darlene Smith introduced Larry Sly, Executive Director of the Contra Costa/Solano Food Bank and Liz Doran presented him with a check for \$1,000. He expressed his gratitude and advised how the funds would be used and the ongoing need for food for residents of these counties. Loretta Mateik introduced Randi Plotner of the Bay Area Poodle Rescue who brought Goldie with her to the meeting. She described the work done by the organization which has been operating for four years. Liz Doran presented her with a check for \$1,000.

Correspondence: Jan advised she received information on a rosemaking seminar in Newark and a Debbie Slavin seminar in Watsonville the same weekend as our Rosemary West seminar. Information on these seminars was available as well as coupons for a sale at Michaels next weekend.

2009 Charities: Jann requested nominations by the March meeting for our 2009 charities. Barbara Flavin nominated

the Food Bank again; Lisa nominated Kaleidoscope Kids; Tamara requested we consider a handicapped organization and will bring information to the March meeting; Jann advised there is a Donors Choose website where teachers post their classroom needs. She noted these donations could be made as a group or as individuals at (DonorsChoose.org). Barbara Bouchet nominated the We Care Center that was a recipient about five years ago. Jann reminded the members that \$2,000 is split between two charities with any excess going to the Chapter's treasury.

Tole Trains: Roz Borgerson reported on the Rosie the Riveter National Park and the Red Oak Victory ship from World War II at Richmond's Kaiser Shipyard. She also reported on the two and a half-hour cruise on the SS Potomac at Jack London Square (FDR's "floating White House" yacht). Tamara Mannon reported on the gourd festival that will be held at Knight's Landing near Woodland on May 16-17. Jeanie had information on Apple Hill that can be visited at any time but preferably in September. There is also a fudge factory nearby. She also had information on a tour of the Castillo de Amarosa for \$35/person which is located between Napa and Calistoga, and includes five different wine tastings.

Jann had TBT flyers available for any members interested in distributing them to local stores, libraries, Adult Education sites, etc. Vivian Roubal noted there is an organization that will print information cards for groups at a cost of \$100 for 1,000 cards.

Jann advised that the Board decided the Treasurer's report would no longer be printed in the newsletter. Instead, copies will be provided to the Board and Committee members and copies will be available at each meeting for any interested member.

Committee Reports:

Seminars: Connie Oakley reminded that the Rosemary West seminar is next month and 28 people have signed up to attend. The annual egg exchange will be held at the March meeting and a sign-up sheet for food for the potato bar that evening will be circulated. Eileen Galea will teach a frog plant stake project at the May meeting and she requested people sign up and indicate how many frogs they wanted to paint.

Memory Boxes: Several members have signed up to host memory box workshops and Merlene Ryan advised she has the boxes.

Bunco: Liz Doran advised the Bunco fundraiser would be held Saturday, August 22, at the Plumbers' Hall in Martinez. She requested members start to paint pieces and

donate items for the gift baskets and asked that no raw wood or painting supplies be donated.

County Fair: D.J. West advised the County Fair booklets will be out in March and the fair will be in June.

Visitor: Eileen Galea introduced her friend Rose Reid who was welcomed.

Hospitality: Barbara Bouchet circulated the Hospitality Book for sign-ups for future meetings.

Special Drawing: Liz Little donated her Saturday class for the upcoming Rosemary West seminar, as she is unable to attend. The winner was guest Rose Reid.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. to a shamrock/leprechaun project taught by Liz Doran.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Smith, Secretary



SUNSHINE

Jann Otvos

March

3/7	Sandy Wagner
3/12	Milena Lanka
3/14	Jann Otvos
3/17	Rose Marie Roza
3/18	Wendy Oliver
3/19	Vivian Roubal
3/22	DJ West

April

4/5	Diana Cuva
4/18	Karen Vecchi



As always, if you know of someone in need of a little "Sunshine", please contact Jann Otvos.



HOSPITALITY

Barbara Bouchet

Please refer to the “Programs” section of the newsletter for the list of items for our annual “Baked Potato Buffet” and the people who have signed up to bring them.

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer to bring something if you have not already signed up, please contact Connie Oakley.

Thanks, Barbara Bouchet, Hospitality

National & Chapter Purpose

The purpose of the society is a central dissemination point for information about activities related to decorating painting; raise and maintain a high standard for the art of decorative painting; and stimulate interest in and appreciation for the art form.

Notice: First Lutheran church is collecting foodstuffs year round for Project Share. Any donations would be welcome. Contact Darlene Smith for details.

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Decorative Painting Month –Central Cty	Lucille Hart	925-672-4169
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The costs of advertising in this newsletter are as follows:

		Monthly	Yearly
Business card	Member	\$ 4.00	20.00
	Non Member	5.00	25.00
1/4 Page	Member	7.50	37.50
	Non Member	10.00	50.00
1/2 Page	Member	10.00	50.00
	Non Member	15.00	75.00
Full Page	Member	15.00	75.00
	Non Member	20.00	100.00