

The Painting



Connection

Concord, California, U.S.A.

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

2009 Issue Number Ten
November 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Like it or not – the Holiday Season is here! I am one of those crazy ladies who loves the hustle and bustle of the holidays. I love the colors – I love the sounds – I love the foods! My favorite painting projects are those celebrating holidays, especially Halloween and Christmas. My interest in painting was initially sparked by seeing all the wonderful hand painted items at craft boutiques years ago. As I spent far too much of my holiday allowance on those items, I began to wonder if this was a “craft” I could learn. And this is how an addiction was born!

The November TBT meeting will feature our annual ornament exchange. One of the most popular events of the year, it is our chance to share our efforts and our holiday joy. We will be making our charity donations at the November meeting as well. In this time of such great need, we can look forward to presenting our generous contribution checks to both of our worthy charities. Charitable outreach is a time honored way to celebrate the holidays.

Be sure to remember to mark your calendars for the Holiday Dinner. We will be dining at the Holiday Inn in Concord on our regular meeting night – December 15th. Menu and price will be announced at the November meeting. This is always a festive night – one not to be missed.

Thanks to Liz Little for the great Halloween candle painting project at the October meeting. What a great start to the Holiday Season.

Jann

PROGRAMS



Connie Oakley
1st Vice President



The crisp cool air has appeared and fall is showing its wondrous colors. Our warm weather is slowly giving way to the brisk mornings and evenings of the season. I love to watch the seasons change, but I can't believe we are already close to being through another year.

Thank you Liz for once again teaching us a great Halloween piece. The candle will go into our Halloween collections and be brought out year after year. There was a tremendous turn out by the Chapter to paint the project. Thank you all for coming to paint.



Reminder . . . we will be having our annual ornament exchange at our November meeting. Since there is always a high attendance at our Ornament Frenzys by members, please do not bring an ornament painted at any of our Ornament Frenzys. Please bring your newly painted or purchased ornament to the exchange in a plain brown paper bag. Hope you all will join us in the fun! Can't wait to see what you have created this year!

CAUTION

One of our members vehicles was broken into at the last TBT meeting and items were stolen from the vehicle. The back window was shattered. The police believe it was probably someone with a flashlight that could look into the back of vehicles with dark windows. Please be mindful and cautious, lock your vehicles and do not leave anything of value in your car!

Thanks to Karen Vecchi for this warning! We should also be cautious walking to our cars if we leave early from the meeting. The parking lot is very dark.

MEMBERSHIP

Jeanie Strech
2nd Vice President



I would like to be the first to CONGRATULATE you on the attendance at the October 20th meeting. We had 33 members join us for the evening. GOOD WORK GIRLS, now let's keep up the good work. We had two new members join: Barbara Stienwalt and Jackie D'Annuzio for a total of 35 members 'all toled'.

Here are some interesting facts about the past year with membership. We have increased our membership by 12 new members, we have had an average of 25 members per meeting, 12 members made it to the Bar-B-Que and 25 members showed up at the Bunco event. I have examined the roster and found 11 members living outside our immediate area or at least more than 1 1/2 hours away from our meeting place which makes it difficult for them to attend meetings regularly.

Again, ladies, I am proud of your last attendance so please keep up the good work and see you at the Ornament Exchange November 17, 2009.

And thank you ladies for bringing the very festive holiday snacks. YUM.

Respectfully submitted Jeanie Strech, 2nd VP Membership

SEMINAR'S & PAINT IN'S

Roz Borgerson and Connie Oakley



Our Sixth Ornament Frenzy took place on October 3rd and was well attended. We would like to thank D'Ann Hayes, Jo Iaconis, Merlene Ryan, Jeanie Strech and DJ West for volunteering to teach at our Frenzy. Without teachers, we would not have the Frenzy and you all work hard to bring us ornaments to be cherished for years to come. As Jeanie was under the weather on the day of the Frenzy, another day will be scheduled to paint Jeanie's ornament.

Each year at this time of year we start reflecting on family and friends and what we are thankful for in our lives. We would also like to add to that list by saying we are thankful for the members we have in our Chapter. We are fortunate to have a Chapter with sincere caring members who uphold each other without giving it a second thought. We wish you all a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

Important Dates to Remember:

February 20-21, 2010 – Arlene Linton Seminar



Happy Turkey Day

Roz & Connie

NCCC UPDATE

Jann Otvos, Karen Vecchi, Barbara Flavin

The 2010 NCCC Retreat "Paint Brush in Hand...Footsteps in the Sand" will be held September 30 - October 3, 2010 at the Double Tree Inn in Modesto, California. So save the dates on your calendars! Teacher submission forms to teach classes and logo contest forms are due by December 31, 2009. Think about submitting a class to teach. The teacher fees are \$3 per hour per student – an opportunity to make a little extra money in these

tough economic times. All teacher projects are voted on based on a picture and project information and no information about the teacher is provided. It is a blind voting so please do not sign the project prior to taking pictures. This year NCCC is accepting digital pictures. There is also a logo contest with the winner receiving \$100 of NCCC bucks which can be used toward registration or raffle tickets or a combination. The forms were e-mailed to the chapter members earlier this month and will be posted to the NCCC website (ncccinfo.com) or you can contact Karen Vecchi (karenvecchi@sbcglobal.net) if you want the forms.



NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS FOR 2010 YEAR

The 2010 slate of officers is shown below. The slate is open until we vote at the November election. So, if you know of someone you want to nominate or if you want to run for something yourself, please contact Lisa Schall at (925)634-4552.

Executive Board Members

President: Jann Otvos
 1st Vice President: Connie Oakley
 2nd Vice President: Jeanie Gollow
 Secretary: Darlene Smith
 Treasurer: Karen Vecchi
 Newsletter: Marianne Simpson
 Ways and Means: Liz Doran

Committee Chairpersons

Reward/Recognition: Shirley Irwin
 Hospitality: Barbara Bouchet
 Sunshine: Jann Otvos
 Handbook: Connie Oakley
 Historian: Loretta Mateik
 Publicity: Tamara Mannon
 Seminars/Paint-ins: Roz Borgerson/Connie Oakley
 Librarian: Lucille Hart
 County Fair: DJ West
 Decorative Painting Month East County: Jo Iaconis
 Decorative Painting Month Central County: **NO ONE HAS VOLUNTEERED**
 NCCC Reps: Barb Flavin, Karen Vecchi, Jan Otvos
 Community Projects: Merlene Ryan
 Nominating Committee: Lisa Schall
 Parliamentarian: Connie Oakley
 Website: Loretta Mateik

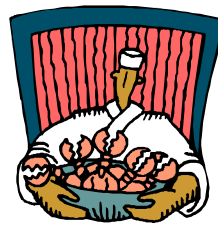


I would like to thank everyone for their cards, visits, good wishes and prayers during my recent hospitalization. Darlene Smith

MEMORY BOXES

Merlene Ryan

Don't forget to paint and turn in your memory boxes. I still have a few unpainted to hand out.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL CRAB FEED

SAVE THE DATE: January 30, 2010. Tickets are available for \$45 per person or \$325 for a table of eight. Painted items from the Toll Bridge Tolars for raffle prizes would again be welcomed. Contact the Church office at 925-671-9942 for tickets or contact Darlene Smith for further information at 925-689-8557.

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.



ARTS AND CRAFTS

Marianne Simpson

Listed below are some upcoming events that members may want to attend:

35th Annual Santa's Smokestack Boutique Friday November 6th, 7am - 7pm; Saturday, November 7th, 9am - 4pm Walnut Country Club House, at the Crossings 4465 South Larwin Dr, Concord, CA

Fall Faire 2009 at the Contra Costa Fairgrounds in Antioch, November 14th and 15th

Country Folk Art Craft Show as the Pleasanton Fairgrounds, November 20, 21 and 22.

If anyone knows of other craft fairs or events coming up, please pass the information on to me so I can list it in the upcoming Newsletters.



“THE TRADING POST”

The trading post is not just for painting tips.....

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. It's that easy but the only way this feature works is with YOUR input. So please, send your emails to maritoler@comcast.net.

Thanks,
Marianne Simpson

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA

October 20, 2009



PRESENT: Jann Otvos, Darlene Smith, Karen Vecchi, Roz Borgerson, Shirley Irwin, Jeanie Strech, Connie Oakley

President Jann Otvos called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. She announced that a memorial gift in the amount of \$25.00 was made in memory of Mike Shimansky, husband of member Sue Shimansky.

Jann reviewed the agenda for the general meeting to follow. She advised she has received several e-mails from Golden Gate Fields inviting us to do a “Day at the Races”.

Charity Donations: The checks for our two charities this year will be presented at the November meeting. Lisa Schall will accept the check for Kaleidoscope and Darlene Smith will contact the Contra Costa/Solano Food Bank asking Executive Director Larry Sly to attend to receive that check.

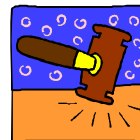
The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Smith, Secretary

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA

October 20, 2009



President Jann Otvos called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. with a quorum present. The minutes of the September meeting were approved as printed in the October newsletter (Shirley Irwin/Roz Borgerson). Jann announced the Treasurer's report was available for review at the front table.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Vecchi advised the bunco fundraiser made a profit of \$3,100. She recommended that \$500 be sent to SDP due to their difficult financial situation. Several other chapters have also given SDP \$500. Connie Oakley moved that the Toll Bridge Tolers donate \$500 to help out SDP with their financial issues.

Barbara Flavin seconded the motion. Discussion followed with concern expressed that the bunco funds were to go to charities. Jann noted the \$500 was over and above the usual charity donation amount. If not from this excess the money could come from the General fund. The motion was approved with two opposed.

Jann announced that a \$25 donation was made from the bereavement budget fund in memory of Mike Shimansky, husband of member Sue Shimansky.

Guests: Two guests were introduced--Jacqueline D'Annizio and Barbara Stierwalt. Both joined this evening.

Correspondence: Jeanie Strech announced the Wine Country Decorative Painters was holding its annual Christmas lunch and raffle on December 12 at 11 a.m. at her home in Windsor. Any TBT members who would like to attend are asked to RSVP by December 1.

Jann advised she has received several e-mails from Golden Gate Fields inviting us to a "Day at the Races". This will be considered for a tote train next year.

The Yellow Rose Chapter in Texas has advised there has been a reduction in the cruise fare for the January 24th cruise out of Galveston. The cost is \$500 to \$700 for the seven-day cruise. This does not include the classes or registration fee. For more information contact www.yellowrosechapter.com.

Membership: Jeanie Strech announced we have 74 members including the two who joined this evening. Dues for the coming year are due tonight and delinquent November 1, with the application form (required). Please add your fax number to the form if you have one.

Ornament Frenzy: Connie expressed her disappointment with the turnout for the ornament frenzy. She advised 45 people signed up, 39 advised they would attend and only 23 came. Food for the event was purchased for 40 people that resulted in a lot of waste. She does have extra ornaments for sale. Due to the NCCC retreat there will not be an ornament frenzy in 2010.

Awards and Recognition: Shirley Irwin distributed many awards, some of which were earned this year and many that had been outstanding for the past two years, to recipients who were present tonight.

NCCC: Karen Vecchi reported the retreat would be held September 30 through October 3, 2010 at the Doubletree Inn in Modesto. The theme is "Footprints in the Sand/Paintbrush in Hand" and members were encouraged to submit entries for the logo contest. The prize is \$100 off the registration fee. Our chapter is responsible for two

baskets valued at \$50 or more for the retreat. The registration form is on the NCCC website. Teachers are also asked to submit their projects.

Bunco/Portland Convention: Liz Doran advised the Portland Convention attendees received a box of joy ornaments at the banquet. She asked members who attended to consider giving her their ornaments as she has the pattern and will be teaching the project to the Kaleidoscope children.

The bunco fundraiser was a big success with 21 tables and 84 players with 97 tickets sold. The profit was \$3,170.42 with expenses of \$618.58. Not included were donated items estimated at \$295.80. Grants Pass, Oregon and the San Jose Tolling Belles also held successful bunco fundraisers. Jann thanked the committee for their work.

Nominating Committee: Lisa Schall advised all current officers and committee chairs have agreed to serve another term. Jann Otvos has volunteered to serve as Librarian. The confirmation vote will be held at the November meeting with any other nominations received.

Ornament Exchange: Jann reminded that the Christmas ornament exchange will be held at the November 17 meeting and explained the process for the newer members.

Charity Donations: Jann advised the presentation of the charity checks will be done at the November 17 meeting as it was felt the donations should be made the same year the funds were earned. Lisa Schall will accept the check for Kaleidoscope and Darlene Smith will contact the Food Bank and ask the Executive Director to attend to receive that check.

Christmas Dinner: Jann has contacted the Holiday Inn regarding our December 15, 2009 dinner and expects to receive the menu next month. The cost is expected to be the same as last year -- \$25.00.

Christmas Trees: Marianne Simpson announced her husband is making trees suitable for Halloween or Christmas made from a type of florist wire and is selling them for \$12.50 each if anyone is interested.

Seating: A change in the seating arrangement for tonight's meeting was made to a more open configuration that was felt to be easier for teaching the evening's project. It will be tried for awhile.

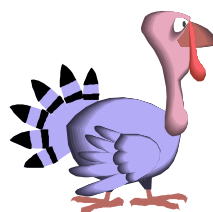
Jeanie Strech reminded members that she needs a copy of their 2010 SDP membership card/number when received for her records.

Special Drawing: The prize this evening was a Halloween plate and ornaments and was won by Jeanie Strech.

Jann thanked Connie Oakley for presiding over the September meeting in her absence.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. to a Halloween candle project taught by Liz Little.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Smith, Secretary



**NOVEMBER
HOSPITALITY
Barbara Bouchet**

Snacks: Carrie Garrett and Barbara Bouchet

Beverages: Barbara Bouchet

Ice: Barbara Bouchet



**SUNSHINE
Jann Otvos**

November

- 11/2 Nadine Fillipucci-Oliver
- 11/3 Barbara Gregoire
- 11/4 Genie Miller
- 11/7 Zoeann Barbier
- 11/19 Liz Doran
- 11/26 Lisa Schall
- 11/29 Viola Da Silva
- 11/30 Sue Platania

December

- 12/11 Lynna Lange
- 12/12 Leah Luper
- 12/21 Eileen Galea
- 12/21 Marianne Simpson



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

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.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

President	Jann Otvos	925-706-8365
	jjotvos@comcast.net	
1 st V.P., Prog.	Connie Oakley	925-825-3851
	oakley1@lml.gov	
2 nd V.P., Mem.	Jeanie Strech	707-838-6489
	jeaniepaints@yahoo.com	
Secretary	Darlene Smith	925-689-8557
	dsmit@astound.net	
Treasurer	Karen Vecchi	925-228-0409
	Karenvecchi@sbcglobal.net	
Newsletter	Marianne Simpson	925-754-1362
	maritoler@comcast.net	
Ways & Means	Liz Doran	925-634-5137
	dbredbob@sbcglobal.net	

Committee Chairpersons

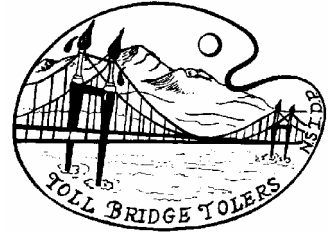
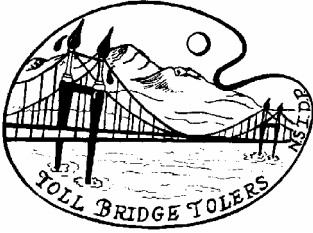
N.C.C.C. Rep.	Jann Otvos	925-706-8365
	jjotvos@comcast.net	
	Karen Vecchi	925-228-0409
	karenvecchi@sbcglobal.net	
	Barbara Flavin	925-779-9596
	hlpinghand@aol.com	
Sunshine	Jann Otvos	925-706-8365
	jjotvos@comcast.net	
Handbook	Karen Vecchi	925-228-0409
	karenvecchi@sbcglobal.net	
Historian	Loretta Mateik	707-782-1082
	lmateik@comcast.net	
Seminars/Paint-in	Roz Borgerson	925-825-6547

Rogerroz1@astound.net
 Connie Oakley 925-825-3851
Oakley1@llnl.gov
 Shirley Irwin 925-458-3454
shirleyirwin@sbcglobal.net
 County Fair DJ West 925-679-0676
debrwst@aol.com
 Becky Nivolo 925-899-4370
beckyniv@earthlink.net
 Librarian Lisa Schall 925-699-4226
Tjschall01@yahoo.com
 Community Projects Merlene Ryan 925-754-7997
Merlenery@comcast.net
 Parliamentarian Connie Oakley 925-825-3851
Oakley1@llnl.gov
 Publicity Tamara Mannon 925-676-5492
temann@att.net
 Hospitality Barbara Bouchet 925-682-5312
Audret9@hotmail.com
 Nominating Lisa Schall 925-699-4226
Tjschall01@yahoo.com
 Decorative Painting Jo Iaconis 925-432-6832
 Month – East Cty iaconis@comcast.net

Decorative Painting Lucille Hart 925-672-4169
 Month –Central Cty Lhart32@astound.net
 Website Loretta Mateik 707-782-1082
lmateik@comcast.net

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
¼ Page	Member	7.50	37.50
	Non Member	10.00	50.00
½ 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



Toll Bridge Tolerers

2010 Membership Application

S.D.P. # _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Home: _____ Work: _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

OK to publish: Yes or No



Birth Month & Day: _____

Are you a new Member? **Yes or No** Student? _____

Are you a Teacher? **Yes or No** What Medium: _____

Dues are \$15.00 per year, payable October 1st, delinquent November 1st.

Please enclose a copy of your S.D.P. Membership Card, complete this form and return to:

Toll Bridge Tolerers Membership
P.O. Box 2671
Martinez, CA 94553

Your Cancelled Check Is Your Receipt Of Payment

