

The Painting



Connection

Concord, California, U.S.A.

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

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April 2010



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jann Otvos

Wow! I continue to be blown away by the talent, originality and generosity of our members. Each time we have an exchange, I walk around the room in amazement as I look at the items that were hidden in those brown bags. In true gift giving spirit, time and thought is put into each offering and the results are little works of art. Those who did not have the time to paint have taken time to shop for a gem. Sometimes it is hard for new painters and/or new members to feel secure in participating for the first time, but rest assured, Ladies, your pieces were wonderful! Hopefully we all took the time to properly acknowledge the donor of the treasure we were lucky enough to get. As an astute member said to me: "It is not about what you get, but what you are able to give with your egg/ornament: a smile, a kind word of encouragement, and a heartfelt thank you". Please visit the TBT website and enjoy the picture array Loretta has posted.

After being gone for the past week, my postal carrier welcomed me home with a box full of mail. Hiding under all of the "junk" mail, I was pleased to find my Contra Costa County Fair premium book. We are all dismayed by the lack of good local painting supply sources and having to shop online and paying shipping for our painting needs. The plain fact is that there needs to be more demand for painting supplies before there will be more stores. One very effective way that we can attract more interest in our craft is to exhibit our work at fairs. Through our exhibits we can create interest in those who want to learn, and we can also attract new club members from those who have painted for years but did not know about our chapter. A strong chapter provides a unified voice which can lead to community awareness. Exhibited items don't have to be "masterpieces". In fact, it is often the simpler items that

will give the non-painter the courage to learn. As painters, we all have different tastes, paint at different levels and enjoy different surfaces. This diversity will make the fair display the rich cross section which best represents us as the painting community.

I was asked to share my "Pass It On Card" verse – so here goes:

The message is sincere and true
We hope it will bring some joy to you.
When your time of need is through
Please pass it on to someone new.

Feel free to use it in your "Paint for Freedom" cards. I placed it on inside left of the card. Happy painting!

Jann

PROGRAMS

Connie Oakley
1st Vice President

Thank you all who participated in our Easter Exchange and Potato Bar. This meeting is always so much fun and we have a great turn out for the festivities. The thought and time put into making these treasures is truly appreciated and great fun to see what everyone comes up with. Another great year, keep up the eggceptional work!

The Program for April's meeting will be taught by Liz Doran and will be an envelope that can be used for gift cards, money gifts and small cards. The envelope will be decorated by stamping and using acrylic paint and pen to create a watercolor style. Supplies you will need to bring: See through or metal ruler, sharp paper scissors, sharp pencil, Black ultra-fine point permanent marker, good #4 or #5 round brush and your regular painting supplies. The cost of the project will be \$1.00.

The Program for May's meeting is shown below and will be taught by Jeanie Strech. There will be prep work that is needed to be done before our May meeting. The wood will be handed out at our April meeting so you have time to do your prep. If you have not notified me that you would like a project piece, please do so as soon as possible so Jeanie can have an accurate count.



MEMBERSHIP

Jeanie Strech
2nd Vice President

WOW, we sure had a great turn out for our Easter Egg Exchange and potato bar. 34 members assembled to have a wonderful evening - eating, talking and exchanging great painted gifts.

I want to commend each of you for coming out and adding to the enjoyment of the evening. It was terrific seeing some old familiar faces.

SDP is offering a new member kit so encourage some of your painting pals who do not belong to National or our TBT Chapter to join and become one of the painting sisters across the nation. We need to perpetuate our love for painting and creativity. I know DJ and her fair volunteers do a great job at fair time with demonstrations and classes for adults and children.

Keep up the great work of painting, volunteering and coming to the meetings

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanie Strech
2nd VP/Membership



Seminars-PAINT-INS

Roz Borgerson and Connie Oakley



Paint-in: Christmas Basket Ornament taught by Jeanie Strech.

May 2, 2010
1:00 p.m.
Plumbers Hall, Martinez

This ornament was part of our Ornament Frenzy in October 2009 that Jeanie was unable to teach.



Paint-in: Ferdinand and Croak – Designed by Janet Moreland

Taught by Merlene Ryan
June 26, 2010
9:00 a.m.
Plumbers Hall, Martinez

NCCC UPDATE

Jann Otvos, Karen Vecchi, Barbara Flavin

Nothing new to report. All previously reported information regarding the NCCC Retreat is the same. (Editor's Note)

NCCC DECORATIONS COMMITTEE

Jeanie Strech

The next NCCC Paint/In will be held on April 24th at Jeanie's place in Windsor. Most of the painting was completed at the March 20th get together but we still have some other craft projects that need to be completed.

Place: Jeanie Strech's house
7755 Hembree Lane
Windsor, CA 95492

Time: 10:00 to 4:00

Bring your bag lunch and I will provide dessert and drinks.

I'll have more information on the projects we need to work on at the April TBT meeting on April 20th.

Hope to see you on the 24th



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FAIR

June 3,4,5,6

<http://www.contracostafair.com/>

Hi all,

Mark your calendars! The dates for the County Fair are Thursday through Sunday, June 3,4,5,6.

Start thinking about what you can enter, it is lots of fun to see your work on display and to show our community what we can do, and learn to do. Spread the joy of painting.

Thank you all, for all your help in the past, and to all of you who will help again and again!!!!!!

Contra Costa County Dates

Deadlines

- **May 4** Forms and Entry Fees must be received, postmarked *deadline*
- **May 9** submitted online *deadline*
- **May 16** Hand Delivered entries 11:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.
- **May 17** Hand Delivered entries 3:00p.m. - 7:00p.m.

- **June 7** Pick up Exhibits 10:00a.m. – 8:00p.m.
- **June 8** Pick up Exhibits 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.



Calif. State Fair Creative Arts Exhibit Calendar

(key dates only)

- **April 16** Summary Forms and Entry Fees must be received, postmarked or submitted online.
- **April 21** Signature Acquisition Form Due for on-line entries.
- **May 14** Shipped Entries Due by 4:30 pm
- **May 14** Hand Delivered entries, Expo Center - Building 8, 12 noon to 6 pm
- **May 15** Hand Delivered entries, Expo Center - Building 8, 9 am to 1 pm
- **May 19** Creative Arts Closed Judging
- **June 4** Pick up non-selected entries, Expo Center - Building 8, 12 noon to 6 pm
- **June 5** Pick up non-selected entries, Expo Center - Building 8, 9 am 1 pm
- TBA Award Ceremony
- **July 14** California State Fair Opens
- **August 1** California State Fair Closes
- **August 6** Pick up Exhibits - Expo Center - Building 8, 12 noon to 6 pm
- **August 7** Pick up Exhibits - Expo Center - Building 8, 9 am to 1 pm

<http://www.bigfun.org/index.asp>

News

The California State Fair moved it's dates; we will now open July 14 and run through August 1, 2010.

Tell your family, neighbors and friends we have moved our dates. We would miss you if you were not there. Look for the 2010 Creative Arts Handbook it on our website late December 2009.

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:

Ø **California Exposition & State Fair**

P.O. Box 15649. Sacramento, CA 95852

Entry Office entrvooffice@calexno.com

Nancy Emelio ncmelio@calexoo.com

(916) 263-3134

Thank you, DJ



WAYS & MEANS

Liz Doran

Saturday, August 28th, 2010 is the date for our 4th annual Charity Bunko fundraiser.

Theme: Hawaiian Beach Party

Time and Place: 11:30 AM, Plumbers Hall in Martinez

Tickets: \$25.00 non refundable.

Luncheon: Salad – desserts: cookies - drinks. Rose Marie will be calling you to find out what you would like to bring.

For the raffle we need hand painted pieces, any size, wood, glass, fabric etc. If you have another talent and would like to donate a piece, that's fine also. Please, no bare wood or painting supplies.

Thanks to everyone who answered my call for baskets!

If you have any questions, give me a call.

Liz Doran



COMMUNITY PROJECT AND ELECTION FUNDRAISER

Merlene Ryan

Thank you to everyone who stepped forward to volunteer!

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS BOARD MEETING

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
March 16, 2010

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

The meeting was called to order by President Jann Otvos at 7:06 p.m. The agenda for the general meeting to follow

was reviewed and finalized. Connie Oakley will discuss paint-ins, Jeanie Strech will comment on new member packets from SDP, D. J. West will report on the County and State Fairs and Karen Vecchi will give an update on NCCC.

Jann advised Marianne Simpson ordered palette paper from Arlene Linton after Arlene's seminar on February 20 as requested by several members. The wrong items were sent (brush cleaners) and Arlene told her to keep them and use them to benefit the club and she will send the correct items. The Board decided to draw names for these items in addition to the normal special drawing.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Smith, Secretary

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS GENERAL MEETING



First Lutheran Church
March 16, 2010

The meeting was preceded by a potato bar dinner. The meeting was called to order by President Jann Otvos at 8:15 pm. With a quorum present. The minutes of the February meeting were approved as corrected (Lisa Schall was present at the Board meeting) and printed in the March newsletter (Luci Flynn/Becky Nivolo). The Treasurer's report was available for review.

Jeanie Strech brought plastic eggs for all members with a prize in one. D'Ann Hayes drew the winning egg and received a beautifully painted Leprechaun from Jeanie.

Correspondence:

1. Information was received on the SDP conference. Merlene Ryan will attend and may represent the Chapter.
2. The Rhode Island chapter is doing "Freedom to Paint" cards for our troops. Jann has painted five and had extras for members to paint. Half of the cards will be distributed nationwide by the Rhode Island Chapter and the other half will be distributed locally. D. J. West has six of the SDP website designs on her computer and will share

with interested members.

3. Jann passed out service pin hangers for those who needed one.

2010 Charities:

Three charities were nominated: Bay Area Crisis Nursery, Meals on Wheels and the Contra Costa Food Bank. A ballot was taken and Bay Area Crisis Nursery and Meals on Wheels were selected.

Committee Reports:

Bunco: Liz Doran advised she is receiving baskets for the Bunco fundraiser to be held on August 28 at the Plumbers Hall in Martinez. The theme is Hawaiian and she needs painted pieces and other items for raffle prizes. Liz also advised members of mechanical fabric pens for drawing on patterns. They are in the quilting section at Joanne's and come in white only.

NCCC: Karen Vecchi advised a meeting was held last Saturday. If you attended the 2008 Knocti conference you can get a coupon for \$20 off the registration fee for this year's conference. This coupon expires March 31. The Northern California Chapter wants to schedule Maureen McNaughton February 10-12, 2011 in Livermore. Please let Karen know if you are interested in attending.

Paint-ins: Connie Oakley discussed the Halloween ornament exchange. Members also want to paint at that meeting and it was felt this would be too time consuming for a regular meeting night. Connie suggested the October meeting be held on a Saturday to do both. October 23rd was suggested and Connie will follow up on the meeting location.

Merlene Ryan will teach a moose wreath project in June. The cost will be \$30 (including the wood) plus any rent cost. Merlene may also teach a fabric painting project with the date to be determined.

Jeanie Strech will teach a Santa project at the May meeting and needs to know how many will be participating so she has enough surfaces. These will be passed out at the April meeting for prep work.

Please let Jann know if you want a surface.

Membership: Jeanie advised we now have 72 members and 34 are present tonight. She will have another NCCC centerpiece paint-in at her home on March 20. She advised SDP has put together new member packets including paints, brushes and other painting supplies. Jeanie passed out a few updated rosters and advised she will be changing her e-mail address again.

County and State Fairs: D. J. asked members to sign up to work at the County Fair June 3-6. She had informational packets available. County Fair entries are due by April 16 and May 4 for the State Fair. Online registration is available. She announced the painting schedule for the fair. Jann advised a drawing will be held for a starter kit for an adult participant.

Memory Boxes: Merlene received three painted memory boxes this evening. A former member (Roxie Fechtner) is also painting boxes. Merlene brought a flyer for a line drawing class to be held in Concord September 17-19. The teacher is Mike Sibley from London. The Northwest Tolers conference in Seattle is September 22-26 and several TBT members are attending.

Special Drawing: Marianne Simpson ordered gray palette paper from Arlene Linton following her seminar on February 20 as requested by several members. Arlene sent Dove Scrubby brush cleaners in error and told Marianne to keep them to benefit the Chapter and she will send the palette paper. The Board agreed to include them in the Special Drawing this evening. The drawing was an Easter basket prepared by Liz Doran and Rose Marie Roza. Marianne Simpson won the basket. The brush cleaners were won by Eileen Galea, Genie Miller, Carrie Garrett, D'Ann Hayes, Carrie Rice, Sue Lane, Becky Nivolo and Darlene Smith.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm to the Easter egg exchange.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Smith, Secretary

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”

Swap Meet: The following members have duplicate books or pattern packets that they would like to trade:

Tamara Mannon ~ temann@att.net

Marianne Simpson ~ maritoler@comcast.net

If interested, please contact them. If anyone else has anything they would like to trade, please let me know and I will list your name in next month's "Trading Post" so you can contact each other.

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

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Marianne Simpson

April 10 and 11, 2010: Crossroads Street Faire

Manteca, California

Location: Downtown

Website: www.visitmanteca.org

Hours: 10am-6pm

Details: Enjoy a wonderful event on the tree-lined streets of downtown Manteca. Over 400 arts crafts, food and entertainment.

April 24 and 25, 2010: Walnut Creek Sidewalk Fine Art Fest

Walnut Creek, California

Location: Cypress, Locust & Main Streets

Website: www.pacificfinearts.com

Hours: Fri & Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm

Details: The 63rd Semi-Annual event lines the sidewalks of downtown Walnut Creek, and has been ranked as one of the top 100 outdoor fine art shows in the country.

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



SUNSHINE

Genie Miller

April

4/5 Diana Cuva
4/7 Sue Lane
4/8 Sonia Wilkinson
4/16 Karen Fuller
4/18 Karen Vecchi

May

5/10 Jacqueline D'Annuzio
5/13 Robin Achterberg
5/14 Patricia Brookshire
5/15 Karolyn Reed
5/24 Connie Oakley

If the letter carrier doesn't deliver your birthday card, or if you know of someone in need of a little "Sunshine", please let me know.

Thanks,
Genie Miller, Sunshine



HOSPITALITY

Barbara Bouchet

Snacks: Lucille Hart, Carrie Garrett and Liz Little

Beverages: Tamara Mannon, Eileen Galea and Jann Otvos

Ice: Darlene

Thanks, Barbara Bouchet, Hospitality.

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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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

THE TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS

Are Proud To Present

Merlene Ryan

June 26, 2010

Plumbers Hall

1308 ROMAN WAY, MARTINEZ, CA

9:00 AM – 4 PM

Ferdinand and Croak by Janet Moreland



REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ **EMAIL ADDRESS:** _____

REGISTRATION FEES: This paint-in is offered for Toll Bridge Tolars or NCCC members. If you are a non-member, then please add \$5.00. Registration fees are listed below. **Registration is due by Friday, June 4, 2010.** If you have any questions, please contact Roz Borgerson at (925) 825-6547 or email rogerroz1@astound.net; or Connie Oakley at (925) 423-0704 or email oakley1@ltnl.gov.

REGISTRATION FEES	TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS/ NCCC MEMBERS	NON TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS/NCCC MEMBERS
Saturday, June 26th	\$32.00 (includes surface cost)	\$37.00 (includes surface cost)
Add'l. Surface Fee:	\$15.00 ea. -- No. Needed: _____	\$15.00 ea. -- No. Needed: _____
Total Enclosed:	\$ _____	\$ _____

NOTE: All persons registering for the paint-in must use this registration form. Payment must accompany registration form. All classes have a *No Smoking Policy*. Please remember that Registration Fees are *not refundable but are transferable*. If the paint-in is cancelled, teaching fees will be refunded. No meals will be provided.

Please make checks payable to **Toll Bridge Tolars** and send Registration Form and fees to:
Connie Oakley, 1103 Crest Ridge Lane, Concord, CA 94521-4539