

The Painting



Connection

Concord, California, U.S.A.

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

2010 Issue Number Seven
July 2010



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jann Otvos

Summer is finally here and along with it the mixed blessing of longer daylight painting hours and paint drying too quickly in the heat. Saturday mornings bring a choice of working in the yard, going for a picnic in the park or finally getting that special project base coated. I must admit that reading a book in a shady spot often sounds like the best plan.

Summer also brings two of my favorite Toll Bridge Tolerers events – the picnic at Loretta’s house and our Bunko fundraiser. Both are great fun social events. Our picnic is devoted totally to talking and eating, two activities I happen to excel at! It is a time when we get to know each other a little better, share life experiences and enjoy each other’s company.

When I visualize our Bunko party, I see a room filled with smiles, laughter, chaos and fun. What a great way to raise money for our wonderful charities! I cannot think of a fundraiser I have ever been involved in that has been so well done and so much fun. Both the picnic and bunko are must do’s in my book, and I heartily encourage all to attend. The picnic is July 24th and the Bunko fundraiser is August 28th. Mark you calendars!

The NCCC Retreat is a perfect way to end the summer. It’s not too late to sign up – great classes are still available. Information, registration forms and classes can be viewed on our web site as well as the NCCC site; tollbridgetolers.org or ncccinfo.com. The retreat will be held in Modesto this year and several members are registered and ready to go. Ride sharing and room sharing are only a phone call or email away, so there is no need to fear a long drive or high room cost. This is another event that lends itself to a lot of social interaction and is a great

opportunity to meet painters from other Northern California chapters.

Above all, I hope you all have a wonderful summer filled with fun, family and food. My fingers are crossed that we will have a lot of sun but not too much heat!

Jann



PROGRAMS

Connie Oakley
1st Vice President

The funnel Santa that Jann taught at our June meeting was a fun and cute project. Thank you Jann for teaching the project and thanks to everyone who stayed to paint the Santa. The Funnel Santa will be our Chapter’s Make It and Take It project at NCCC this year.

Mark your July calendar for Saturday, July 24th for our annual BBQ at Loretta Mateik’s home. Plan to arrive around Noon for the festivities. I hope you all can make the BBQ; it is so much fun and again thank you Loretta and Robert for allowing TBT to hold it at your beautiful home! To date, here is a list of who has RSVP for the BBQ:

Roz Borgerson; Tomatoes/cheese/basil dish
Barbara Flavin; Chinese Chicken Salad
Luci Flynn; Caprise Salad
Karen Fuller; Fruit Salad
Carrie Garrett; Dessert & Pasta Salad
Lucille Hart; Cherry Pineapple Nut Cake
Cathy McCaughey; Berry Fruit Salad

Wendy Oliver; Green Salad
Connie Oakley; Potato Salad
Jann Otvos; Dessert
Marianne Simpson; Garlic Bread
Darlene Smith; Dessert
Karen Vecchi; Appetizer
Vernon, Bonnie; Sodas

If you have not responded yet and plan to attend the BBQ, please let me know you will be attending and what you plan to bring. I need to know how many are attending and if you are bringing a guest so I can purchase meat for the BBQ. Thank you.

Just a little reminder that we do not have a meeting in August, see you in September. Hope you all have a safe and fun summer.



MEMBERSHIP

Jeanie Strech
2nd Vice President

31 members and 1 guest, Suzanne Olson, attended the meeting and were greeted by Robin Achterberg. What a nice touch, Thanks Robin

Member profile of the month:

I am an only child and in 1985 I married my late husband Louis. We have 2 children, Michael and Steven. I have 4 grandchildren, 2 boys and 2 girls.

I am now retired but have worked as a telephone operator, clerk, and have been a farmer, milking cows and raising calves.

My love for painting started 22 years ago and I am affiliated with only one chapter (TBT). Offices I have held in the chapter have been rewards and recognition and decorative painting month.

My favorite Toile Teacher is Merlene Ryan as she can paint anything and secondly Trudy Beard because of her style. My goal is to become a master watercolorist. Other hobbies I enjoy are making jewelry, knitting-crocheting, carving gourds and working with clay.

"I love people and friendships are really important to me." Agnes L. Ketterman-Dobert is our member of the month.

Thank you Agnes for being our first member to respond to the questionnaire.

Respectfully submitted Jeanie Strech
2nd V/P/Membership.



Seminars-PAINT-INS

Roz Borgerson and Connie Oakley



We are in the process of setting up paint-ins with DJ West and Merlene Ryan. More to come soon on these paint-ins.

:

NCCC UPDATE

Jann Otvos, Karen Vecchi, Barbara Flavin

The NCCC Retreat is September 30 - October 3, 2010. The Modesto Double Tree has added additional hotel rooms under the NCCC reservation so if you need to reserve a room at the NCCC rate, call the hotel now 209-526-6000. There are some rooms with 2 double beds and a few with king beds. You can still sign up for the NCCC Retreat. Many classes still have room. The Retreat starts off with 3 make-it-take-it projects on Thursday night; classes all day on Friday and Saturday and finishes off with brunch on Sunday. Fabulous raffle prizes are given away at the meals. There is also a Chapter Sales/Boutique with great items for purchase. It is a great way to meet people from the other Northern California chapters. For more information on the retreat visit www.ncccinfo.com.



WAYS & MEANS

Liz Doran



Our Charity Bunko is Aug. 28--11:30 AM--Plumbers Hall--Martinez.

Karen Vecchi has tickets for you to sell and will send them to you on request.

Please, Rose Marie needs salad and cookies for desert; give her a call.

Remember your painted piece for the raffle; cut off date for tickets and pieces is Aug 18 2010.

Thank you for all your help.
Liz Doran

TABLES FOR BUNKO

I would like to thank everyone who volunteered to provide tables for our "Bunko Fundraiser" in August. I will be contacting each of you to arrange to pick up the tables from you prior to the 28th. Please put your name on the underside of the tables so we can make sure your table is returned to you after the event.

Jo Iaconis



ELECTION FUNDRAISER

Merlene Ryan

We had three people work at the June primary. Thank you to Jann and Jay Otvos and Merlene Ryan. Think about volunteering for the November election. The date is Nov 2, I will probably need to send in the paperwork in Sept.



COMMUNITY ROJECTS

Merlene Ryan

Our painting projects for the Food Bank turned out wonderful. (My opinion.) Hopefully Kathy Gleason will come to one of our meetings and tell us how they did. Pictures are on the web site and at the end of the newsletter. Barb Flavin painted and donated a plant shelf. Jann and Jay Otvos built and donated a potting bench which Connie Oakley and DJ West painted. It made an appearance at the June meeting so some of us got to see it. Shirley Irwin painted a child's rocking chair--I heard some of you got to see it at the May meeting. Jeanie Strech painted and donated a nutcracker box. Karen Vecchi painted a jewelry chest. Thank you all.

Don't forget to finish and turn in the memory boxes. Thursday at the fair, several of us painted memory boxes as we talked to fair attendees. We also had a small display with a short explanation of the program.

A quilt project for next year's Food Bank auction was approved at the last meeting. I will try to organize a couple of Quilt Block 'Paint Days'. I see no reason why we can't have fun while we are doing our good deed.

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS BOARD MEETING

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
June 15, 2010

PRESENT: Jeanie Strech, Marianne Simpson, Jann Otvos, Karen Vecchi, Roz Borgerson, Darlene Smith, Liz Doran, Rose Marie Roza.

The meeting was called to order by President Jann Otvos at 6:55 pm. The agenda for the general meeting to follow was reviewed and finalized. Correspondence includes the 2011 Las Vegas convention catalog. Merlene Ryan has a suggestion regarding the TBT donation to the Food Bank auction next year. Seminar reports will be heard from Connie Oakley and Jeanie Strech and a report by DJ West on the County and State Fairs.

Announcements: Jann reminded the October meeting will be held on Sunday, October 24, at 1:00 pm at the Plumbers' Hall in Martinez, (The Hall was not available on Saturday.)

Newsletter: Marianne Simpson proposed newsletter articles be sent to her by the 25th of the month for publication on the 1st. After discussion it was decided to continue with the current practice of requesting articles by the end of the month. Marianne will put a note in the newsletter reminding members that everyone may submit appropriate articles for the newsletter.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Smith, Secretary

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS GENERAL MEETING



First Lutheran Church
June 15, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Jann Otvos at 7:30 pm with a quorum present. The minutes of the May meeting were approved as published in the June newsletter (Shirley Irwin/Sue Platania). The Treasurer's report was available for review. Welcome to guest Suzanne Olson. The greeter at tonight's meeting was Robin Achterberg.

Correspondence: Jay Sharpe's 2011 Las Vegas convention catalog is available via mail and the web site. Five hundred have already registered.

Jann acknowledged several members who went above and beyond in painting the potting bench for the Food Bank auction. Connie Oakley and DJ West painted the piece and Jann's husband, Jay, built it. The Food Bank will pick it up tomorrow and store it in their conference room until the auction. Several other members painted pieces for the auction: a jewelry box from Karen Vecchi, a rocking chair from Shirley Irwin, a shelf from Barbara Flavin, and a nutcracker box by Jeanie Strech. Pictures are on the website.

Memory Boxes: Marianne, Jeanie Strech and Lisa Schall brought in boxes.

Cards for the Troops: Four more cards for the troops are available for painting. See Jann if there are any to be turned in. Patterns are available.

Committee Reports: Bunko: Liz Doran advised Jo Iaconis is seeking square card tables to borrow for the event and

Rose Marie is getting sign-ups for salads and desserts. The bunko event is on August 28 beginning at 11:30 am. Tickets are \$25 each and available from Karen Vecchi. Liz needs more painted pieces and other items (no raw wood or paints). August 18 is the cut off date for raffle pieces and they can be brought to the July BBQ in Petaluma on July 24.

Seminars: Connie announced Merlene Ryan will be teaching the Ferdinand and Croak paint-in on Saturday, June 26, at the Plumbers' Hall in Martinez beginning at 9:00 am. Connie would like suggestions for "Big Brushes" to invite for future seminars. She was given numerous suggestions for painters in various mediums (acrylics, water color, oil) and will follow-up on these. DJ West brought in five fabric painting projects for members to consider for a future paint-in. Connie will send out pictures for members to vote for their favorite. It was suggested another paint-in for the Chapter logo and to paint it on a glass ornament be held and this will be scheduled. Barbara Flavin would also like another rock painting project.

Liz Little brought in a prepped watering can for the October Halloween paint-in/meeting/ornament exchange and asked that members obtain the surface and prep it black.

Liz Doran showed a tea light that changes colors that she obtained at Richards in Livermore.

County Fair/State Fair: DJ West thanked everyone who helped at the County Fair. She announced several members received multiple awards at the County Fair and several members received awards at the State Fair.

Community Services: Merlene thanked members for bringing in the memory boxes. She suggested a project for the Food Bank auction next year might be a hand painted quilt. She has offers for quilting squares, volunteers to put the top together and someone to quilt it at minimal cost. A chicken theme was suggested but rejected in favor of a floral theme. It was suggested this project be done as a paint-in in January. Jeanie Strech moved that we do this Community Service project for 2011 and allocate \$150 to Merlene for any quilting costs incurred. D'Ann Hayes seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Newsletter: Marianne advised that all Chapter members are welcome to submit painting or craft related articles for the newsletter. Send the articles to her via e-mail. The deadline for newsletter articles continues to be the end of each month. She asked that any e-mail address changes be sent to her. Eileen Galea's address is decoarteileen@sbcglobal.net.

Membership: Jeanie advised she continues to collect information for the December awards.

NCCC: Jeanie advised 99% of the NCCC decorations are finished and she shared photos of the items. She will be reimbursed for material costs by NCCC. So far 104 people have registered for the retreat.

Jeanie advised Maureen McNaughton is doing a seminar for the Northern California Decorative Artists in February at \$225 per person with a \$100 deposit. Information will be on the TBT website.

Apple Hill: Jeanie also has information on Apple Hill events and suggested we plan this as a group outing next year. Barbara Flavin suggested members go on line to check out the peak season for various farms and to read their individual reviews.

Hospitality: Barbara Bouchet advised Robin Achterberg was the greeter this evening and it went well. Connie will be sending out an e-mail asking for potluck donations for the July BBQ.

Kaleidoscope Door: Lisa Schall sent in another local news article published in The Press regarding TBT painting the door for this organization.

Future Meeting Announcements: Jann reminded the July BBQ is at Loretta's home in Petaluma on Saturday, July 24. The October meeting will be held on Sunday, October 24, at the Plumbers' Hall in Martinez and the Holiday dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 14 at the Holiday Inn in Concord.

Bunko Display: Jeanie brought in a display of decorations for the Bunko party and NCCC retreat.

Awards and Recognition: Shirley Irwin presented awards to Virginia Davison, Jann Otvos and Jo Iaconis for prepping memory boxes.

Special Drawing: The drawing this evening was for a bunko ticket and was won by Roz Borgerson.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm to a MITI project for NCCC presented by Jann Otvos.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Smith, Secretary

NEWSLETTER

Marianne Simpson



All Chapter members are welcome to submit painting or craft related articles for the newsletter. Send the articles to me via e-mail. The deadline for newsletter articles is the last day of each month.

I try my best to keep up to date on members email addresses. However, if you are not receiving your newsletter notification, please contact me as I may have old or incorrect information. Please send any e-mail or address changes to me at maritoler@comcast.net.

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”

Wanted: An electric skillet (or two). Call me if you spot one at a garage sale or thrift shop or if you have one on it's way to Goodwill. I would like to pay \$10 (or less). Thanks. Merlene 925-754-7997

Help, please. I would like to look at the April and June issues of Painting Magazine. There was a 3 part project I was interested in and I forgot to remember to shop.
Merlene

Yogurt Pie (no baking)

2 small containers fruited yogurt
1 cup fresh fruit
One 8 oz container Cool Whip
Mix together well. Place in an 8-9 inch graham cracker crust tin
Freeze for one hour. Take out 30 minutes before serving.
Refreeze rest of pie.

Better Than Sex Cake

One (18 ounce) pkg German Chocolate Cake Mix
One (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
2 cups hot fudge topping (one jar should be enough)
One (12 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
3 (1.4 ounce) bars chocolate covered English Toffee (Heath bars)

- 1) Bake German chocolate cake mix according to package directions.
- 2) While cake is still very warm, poke holes in top of cake with end of a wooden spoon. Pour sweetened condensed milk over top. Let cake cool.
- 3) Pour hot fudge topping over top of cake & let set.
- 4) Spread on whipped topping & garnish with crushed toffee.
- 5) Refrigerate.

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,

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Marianne Simpson

August 7th: Stamping Up Party at Jann Otvos's

I will be hosting a Stamping Up Party at my house on Saturday, August 7th. Arrival time is 10:00 am. Linda Romer will be teaching us how to make a cute greeting card folder as well as two or three greeting cards. Cost for the afternoon will be \$15.00, which will include all the materials, use of Linda's equipment and a light lunch. Linda is very low key and does not pressure to buy. Stamping experience is not necessary. Come have a fun

morning! Please RSVP by August 1st. Thanks - Jann

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.



SUNSHINE

Genie Miller

July

7/1	Liz Little
7/4	Cathy McCaughey
7/15	Barbara Stierwalt
7/22	Eleanor Metzgar
7/27	Patricia Barcelona
7/29	Carrie Garrett

August

8/4	Beverly Morn
8/6	Jeanie Strech
8/20	Feleccitas Hewitt

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

We'll see you all at Loretta's for the Barbecue on July 24th

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.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

President Jann Otvos 925-706-8365
jjotvos@comcast.net
 1st V.P., Prog. Connie Oakley 925-825-3851
oaklev1@ljl.gov
 2nd V.P., Mem. Jeanie Strech 707-838-6489
jeaniepaints@comcast.net
 Secretary Darlene Smith 925-689-8557
dsmi@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

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 Genie Miller 510-223-5148
millereugenia@att.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
Oaklev1@ljl.gov
 Rewards & Shirley Irwin 925-458-3454
 Recognition shirlevirwin@sbcglobal.net
 County Fair DJ West 925-679-0676
debrwst@aol.com
 Librarian Lucille Hart 925-672-4169
Lhart32@astound.net
 Community Projects Merlene Ryan 925-754-7997
Merlenery@comcast.net
 Parliamentarian Connie Oakley 925-825-3851
Oaklev1@ljl.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@comcat.net
 Decorative Painting Vivian Roubal 925-216-8761
 Month –Central Cty msroubal@hotmail.com
 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
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

FOOD BANK CHARITY DONATIONS

Nutcracker Box painted by Jeanie Strech



Potting Bench Built and donated by Jay and Jann Otvos,
painted by DJ West and Connie Oakley



Jewelry Chest painted by Karen Vecchi



Childs Rocking Chair painted by Shirley Irwin



Plant Shelf painted by Barbara Flavin

