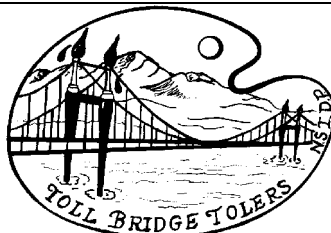


The Painting



Connection

Concord, California, U.S.A.

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

2010 Issue Number Eight
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jann Otvos

What a fun day we all had at the annual bunko fundraiser! Liz Doran and her committee really went the extra mile this year and gave us the most successful event yet. Each year I think it can't raise more money, can't be better organized and can't be more enjoyable, and every year I am proven wrong. The only glitch I know of is the one I made when I announced that our charities for 2010 were the Food Bank and Bay Area Crisis Nursery. In fact, the charities are Meals on Wheels and the Bay Area Crisis Nursery! Checked and double-checked and still got it wrong!?! The talent and generosity of our members as showcased at the raffle table blew me, as well as everyone in attendance, away. Thank you one and all for helping to make this year's bunko fundraiser the best ever.



A few weeks ago Jay and I spent a week in a condo complex in Kauai, Hawaii. In checking the activity schedule, I discovered that a "coconut postcard" session was included. Upon inquiry, I found out that participants would paint a coconut, which could be sent through the mail. I decided that this was a "must do". Who wouldn't be thrilled to receive a real coconut through the mail! As I walked to the clubhouse on the morning of the session, I was sure that I would be the only adult there. To my surprise, I found every age group represented. There were young children, teenagers, young married couples, parents – with and without kids – and grandparents. We each selected our coconut and were given a prepared palette of acrylic paint and an assortment of very tired brushes. What a fun morning. We chose two sides of the coconut

(it was a three sided oblong coconut, not the round kind found in our supermarket) to paint and one side to address. We talked, laughed and stole ideas from each other as we created a special memory. Each coconut was different; each was fun, colorful and painted from the heart. After the paint was dry and the coconut sealed with spray varnish, we needed to take them to the airport to be inspected and approved by the Department of Agriculture. The agent who inspected mine smiled broadly and said that he loved seeing all of the "works of art" we were sending through the mail. The woman at the post office who weighted and stamped my coconut remarked on how fun it was to see all of the coconuts. Upon returning home, I was thrilled to find a voice mail message from my "main land" recipients who expressed surprise and joy at receiving a painted coconut in their mailbox. My lesson with this entire experience was to once again appreciate the role art plays in life. A simple coconut, covered with a few brush strokes of paint brought such joy to the painter, government workers and loved ones at home. It also opened my eyes to yet another painting surface!

PROGRAMS

Connie Oakley
1st Vice President

Our September program will be one of Tamara Mannon's glass painting projects taught by Merlene Ryan. The glass surface and paint will be provided by Tamara. Please bring your normal painting supplies. You may use your regular paint brushes or some soft painting brushes such as white nylon brushes should work well. The approximate cost of this project will be between \$4.50 and \$5.00.

Please note the day and time change for our October meeting.

Date: Sunday, October 24th

Time: 1:00 PM

Place: Plumbers Hall

(There will be NO meeting held on the 3rd Tuesday in October)

Our program will be this fun and spooky project pictured below and will be taught by Liz Little. The pattern and any special project instructions will be handed out at our September meeting so there will be plenty of time to have it prepped. We will also have our first annual Halloween 'ornament' exchange that day!



MEMBERSHIP

**Jeanie Strech
2nd Vice President**

September is here and the annual membership dues are payable October 1st and will be delinquent November 1st.

I would appreciate it if everyone could copy the TBT 2011 membership application at the end of this newsletter and fill it out completely and turn it in with your dues. Having your completed membership applications will help ensure that the membership booklet is accurate the first time.

Karen Vecchi has worked very hard to get everything in the booklet correct as this is a year long job. Barb Flavin has volunteered to do the Handbook for 2011 and this will make her job a little easier. Please keep in mind to send in updates to your email, address or phone numbers throughout the year as they come along so there is not an interruption in getting chapter information and newsletters to you promptly. I would also appreciate having a copy of your national membership card as it becomes available as SDP dues are different from ours. Everyone renewing

should have their SDP membership cards by the 1st of 2011. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

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

P.S. Remember I am still keeping an eye on all of you so see who will be a Can't Beatum, Carrolots or a Sweetpea. Points mount as you participate in all chapter sanctioned events.

GUESS WHO?????

Now for a little fun. See if you can identify the young ladies in the pictures below.



Stumped! Their identities are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.



Seminars-PAINT-INS

Roz Borgerson and Connie Oakley



We are working on getting dates for upcoming paint-ins with DJ West and Merlene Ryan. More information coming soon.

2010-2011 Toll Bridge Tolerers Nominations

Our nominations for officers and committee members will be coming up in November. The following people have said that they were interested in doing board/committee positions next year, but we still have several positions available. If you are new to the club please consider some of these available positions. It is a great way to get to know the other members of the club. Please contact Lisa Schall at (925)634-4552 if you are interested or have any questions. More information on these positions can be found on our website.

President: Karen Vecchi

1st VP-Programs: Connie Oakley

2nd VP-Membership: Jeanie Strech

Secretary: Darlene Smith

Treasurer: **position is currently available**

Newsletter: Marianne Simpson

Ways and Means: Vivian Roubal (Vivian is looking for a co-chair) **position is currently available**

County Fair: **position is currently available**

Community Projects: **position is currently available**

Dec. Painting Month: Jo Iaconis and Lucille Hart

Handbook: Barb Flavin

Historian: Loretta Mateik

Hospitality: Barbara Bouchet

Librarian: Lucille Hart

N.C.C.C. Reps: Jann Otvos (but travels a lot), Roz Borgerson (if someone else will drive) and DJ West

Seminars/Paint-Ins: Liz Doran, Merlene Ryan

Nominating Committee: **position is currently available**

Parliamentarian: Jann Otvos

Publicity: Lisa Schall

Rewards/Recognition: Tamara Mannon

Sunshine: Genie Miller

Website: Loretta Mateik

NCCC UPDATE

The 2010 NCCC Retreat is finally here and it starts on September 30th with make-it and take-it projects. We have several members teaching at the Retreat and Vicki Gardiner, one of our Idaho members and a past president, will be attending and teaching a seminar. DJ West designed the beautiful retreat logo and Jay Otvos (Jann's hubby) has made a gorgeous frame for it and it will be one of the fabulous Retreat raffle prizes. The NCCC Retreat raffle prizes are wonderful! Each chapter provides 3 raffle prizes valued \$50 or more. In addition, most teachers donate a class sample for the raffle and many painters donate other raffle prizes too! It is well worth saving your money to buy raffle tickets. There is also a chapter sales store on-site which has many wonderful items for purchase. The Chapter Sales will be open to the public this year, so anyone can come in and buy the items for sale. It is a great chance to get unique gifts. All the NCCC representatives will be wearing cute sandy colored vests with footprints in the sand which were made by Jeanie Strech, so if you are at the NCCC Retreat and you have any questions, you can ask any of the chapter representatives. Hope to see you at the Retreat! Your representatives – Karen Vecchi, Barb Flavin, Jann Otvos



WAYS & MEANS

Liz Doran

Our 4Th Charity Bunko this past Saturday was such a fun day; thanks to all 99 members and guests in attendance.

I want to thank all who brought salads and cookies; they were all so good.

A big thank you to the committee members for their hard work:

Rose Marie Roza for all her hard work in the kitchen, in contacting all our members and all the little things she does.

Jo Iaconis for getting card tables together, cutting table coverings and getting them tied on.

Karen Vecchi for printing tickets, score cards, rules of the game, name tags, keeping the afternoon moving and much more.

Other members helping were:

Marianne Simpson and Lisa Schall for selling raffle tickets;

Connie Oakley for reading off raffle tickets and making and selling Bunko jewelry.

Cathy Mc Caughey and Jann Otvos for running raffle prizes and all members that donated items for the raffle.

Tamara Mannon - Vivian and Jeff Roubal for helping in the kitchen;

Loretta Mateik for hand made Truffles and boxes;

Jeannie Stretch for food utensil holders and NCCC decorations.

Liz Little for use of the Plumbers Hall and moping the floor.

Thank you everyone, your help is what made it such a success.

Liz Doran

COMMUNITY ROJECTS

Merlene Ryan

Thank you for continuing to turn in memory boxes. Please, keep them coming.

NO BOARD OR GENERAL MEETING'S WHERE HELD IN JULY OR AUGUST

Our annual July BBQ was held at Loretta and Robert Mateik's beautiful home in Petaluma on July 24th. We shared lots of laughs, great company, great food and beautiful weather. No meeting minutes were taken. (Editor's Notes)

Another annual event, our 4th Bunko Fundraiser was held on August 28th. Many thanks to Liz Doran, Rose Marie Roza, Jo Iaconis and Karen Vecchi for another highly

successful and enjoyable event! This event gets bigger and better every year! (Editor's notes)

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”



Shirley Irwin has gently used/like new Donna Dewberry books she would like to sell. If interested, please call her at her home # 925-458-3454 or on her cell phone 925-470-0751.

2 Pointed Q-tips. Great for cleaning up those painting oops! Look for them at Rite Aid in the make-up aisle. 128 for \$2.50. A little pricey but well worth it.

The following tip is from Barb Flavin:

I've "discovered" another great use for **Masking Fluid**—some of you may remember it from watercolor classes? It's the white liquid stuff (it's made from latex) you paint on the paper to block color. After you paint it on, you let it dry and then paint away. When you're all done painting and the paint is dry, you rub the dried latex off and the under color (or the plain white paper) shows.

I use Winsor & Newton's "Colourless Art Masking Fluid" which I bought from Aaron Brothers. I'm sure it's available in most art stores. I've never tried any other brand. If you decide to try out my tip and want to use another brand, I strongly suggest that you test it out before you use it on something important.

So, here's the "other great use" tip I'm referring to: I discovered it when I needed to repaint a background area AFTER I had already painted the stuff in the foreground. I tried taping over the foreground subjects to protect them, but there were too many curves for the tape to negotiate. In a desperate state of mind, I looked up and saw the bottle of masking fluid and decided to try it. Before using the masking fluid on my real project, I tested it on a "sacrificial" painted piece which is what I recommend any of you do if you want to try this out. It worked GREAT—on both pieces

I painted the masking fluid on all the parts I wanted protected then let the stuff dry. Then I repainted the background areas—painting carefully up to and sometimes over the dried fluid. After the background paint dried, I rubbed off the latex and SHAZAM...no paint on the foreground objects and no discoloration of the paint it had covered!

Answers to Guess Who???

The first picture is Jo Iaconis and Merlene Ryan, members of the Adult Education School Tole Painting class, displaying some of the items that they painted for a craft faire at the Highlands Elementary School in Pittsburg. The event expected more than 25 booths featuring a variety of handmade gift items with proceeds benefiting the Highlands School Parents Club. The date was December 3rd but the year is unknown. (Thanks for sharing this with us Jo, imagine Merlene's surprise!)

The second picture shows Liz Doran watching Jo Sonja, seated, paint a box. (Thanks to Liz for sharing this picture).

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

Harvest Festival at the Pleasanton Fairgrounds, September 17, 18 and 19. Opens at 10:00 am.

37th Annual Benicia Chamber of Commerce **2010 Fine Arts & Craft Fair** will be held on September 18th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM located on First Street.

Smith Family Farm / Pumpkin Patch: Oct. 1st - 31st (Sellers Ave. between Delta & Sunset Rd., Knightsen, CA): Hayrides to Pumpkin Patch, Live Entertainment, Farm Animals, Scarecrows, Educational Displays, Corn Maze, Sunflower forest, Picnic Area and more.

Kaleidoscope October Fest Boutique

Please join us to help raise money for
Kaleidoscope, a local non-profit group
offering hope and connection for families
living with cancer.



When: Sunday, October 10th
From 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Where: Byron United Methodist Church
14671 Byron Highway Byron, CA

Contacts: Sue Arkwright (925) 516-4677

- ♥ *Local Artists & Crafters*
- ♥ *Raffle-Lots of Great Prizes*
- ♥ *Refreshments & a Variety of Great Food!*



Please come by and do some early Christmas
shopping for a great cause!



**"October is Breast Cancer
Awareness Month"**

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

September

9/3 D'Ann Hayes
 9/12 Roni Marks
 9/14 Phyllis Josephson
 9/18 Donna Singer
 9/19 Becky Nivolo
 9/24 Sue Shimansky

October

10/7 Tamara Mannon
 10/24 Barb Bouchet

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: Jeanie Strech, Marianne Simpson and Roz Borgerson

Beverages: Barbara Bouchet

Ice: Liz Little

Thanks to those who volunteered to bring snacks, drinks and ice for our September meeting. You really came through in a clutch!

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

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2 nd V.P., Mem.	Jeanie Strech	707-838-6489
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Treasurer	Karen Vecchi	925-228-0409
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Newsletter	Marianne Simpson	925-754-1362
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Ways & Means	Liz Doran	925-634-5137

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 Month – East Cty iaconis@comcast.net
 Decorative Painting Vivian Roubal 925-216-8761
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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



Toll Bridge Tolerers

2011 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

