

The Painting



Connection

Concord, California, U.S.A.

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

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Karen Vecchi



Happy New Year! We are ready to start planning 2012. All are welcome to attend the planning meeting on Sunday January 8th from 1-4 at the First Lutheran Church, our usual meeting place. If you have any ideas or suggestions for our chapter, please feel free to let any of the board members know. We are always looking for ways to improve our chapter. We have already planned a year of our chapter meeting projects with a bunny of the month. If you would like to order a bunny or two and have not already done so, contact Connie to order one. I am looking forward to dressing my bunny each month!

I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays. Our holiday party at the Vineyards Crowne Plaza was a really nice evening and a great way to finish off our year. Thanks to everyone for the wonderful gifts, company and support. We have a great group and I always appreciate and am thankful for our chapter. Have a safe and happy New Year!

Karen Vecchi
President



PROGRAMS

Connie Oakley
1st Vice President

The following individuals have signed up for the Bunny Project:

Achterberg, Robin (1)	Oakley, Connie (2)
Bertolucci, Patty (1)	Otvos, Jann (1)
Borgerson, Roz (1)	Roubal, Vivian (1)

Bouchet, Barbara (1)	Schall, Lisa (1)
Davison, Virginia (2)	Simpson, Marianne (1)
Doran, Liz (1)	Smith, Darlene (1)
Flavin, Barb (2)	Strech, Jeanie (2)
Flynn, Luci (1)	Vecchi, Karen (1)
Hart, Lucille (1)	Vernon, Bonnie (1)
Irwin, Shirley (2)	West, DJ (1)
McCaughey, Cathy (1)	Yarberry, Holly (2)
Mateik, Loretta (1)	

Bunnies will be handed out at the January meeting.

The program for our January meeting will be 2 accessory kits for the Bunny. January's kit will be a snowman and February's kit will be a heart. Bring your normal painting supplies as well as your favorite paint colors for each month's project.

Connie

MEMBERSHIP

Liz Little
2nd Vice President

As of this newsletter we have 58 members paid for 2012. If you have not already renewed your membership, it's not too late. The membership application form can be found on the TBT Website (www.tollbridgetolers.org). Just print and complete the application and forward it and your dues to the address on the form. You don't want to miss out on the wonderful projects, paint-ins, ornament exchanges and social functions planned for 2012.

Don't forget to renew your SDP membership as well.
(Editor's Note)

WAYS & MEANS

Vivian Roubal, Merlene Ryan,
Carrie Garrett & Cathy McCaughey

Happy New Year!

The New Year is already shaping up to be another great one! A few items have already been donated for the 2012 year's bunko party and we've had a gift donated for January's raffle prize. I know I'll have my \$3 donation ready!

A prize is given away every month as part of our club's fundraising activities. While it's always fun to win a prize, the basket of goodies has to come from somewhere. There are ten meetings a year where a prize is offered. We would appreciate any donations you can contribute during the year.

A man was on a beach when he discovered an old lamp in the sand. He rubbed it and a genie popped out. The genie said "I will grant you three wishes. The only condition is that you cannot wish for more wishes." "Alright," said the man, "I wish for more genies."

Vivian, Merlene, Carrie and Cathy

SEMINARS & PAINT-INS

Liz Doran

Happy New Year everyone! I will have more to report after the planning meeting on January 8th. I'm looking forward to another great year!

The Monterey Peninsula Decorative Artists are hosting a two day Trudy Beard Seminar on March 10-11, 2012. The deadline for signups is January 14th. For more information call Kathy Brechel at (831)462-6340 (email: svantiqs@pacbell.net) or Barbara at (831)465-1814 (email: brechelbarbara@comcast.net)



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Tamara Mannon

Start thinking everyone--if you know of anyone who has done an outstanding job or has gone out of their way to make our chapter and chapter events a success, please let me know. I'll prepare an award for them which will be presented at our monthly meeting. There are many members out there who should be recognized for going the extra mile but you need to nominate them.

Thank you,
Tamara

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Roz Borgerson

Happy New Year my dear painting friends. I am looking forward to serving you in 2012. See you at the next meeting.

Roz



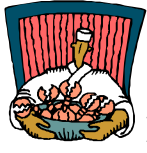
2012 COUNTY FAIR

Marianne Simpson

Mark your calendar, the 2012 Fair dates are May 31st through June 3rd.

It's not too early to start planning your entries! Wouldn't it be great if everyone submitted a project to show what we can do! Taking home a ribbon and some extra cash is always nice too.

I will be looking for volunteers to help demonstrate our painting as well as with the adult and children's projects. I had a great turn out last year, please let me know if you will be available.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL CRAB FEED

SAVE THE DATE: January 28, 2012. If anyone would like to donate a raffle item for the church's crab feed fundraiser, you may bring it to Darlene Smith at the January 17th meeting. All donations will be very much appreciated.

NCCC News

Roz Borgerson, Connie Oakley, DJ West



The theme for the NCCC Retreat in 2012 is *Carnival of Color*. We are looking for teachers for the 2012 Retreat. If you would like to teach at our upcoming Retreat, please let one of us know.

CALLING ALL TEACHERS AND THEME DESIGNERS:

January 28, 2012 is the deadline to submit to teach at NCCC and for submitting for the "Theme" contest.

The guidelines for both teaching and the theme contest can be found on our website on the HOME page. At the top of the Home page, click on the blue NCCC letters and it will take you to the guidelines. Please consider teaching at our Retreat next year. The winning theme wins \$100 Retreat bucks that can be used toward your registration fee.

Below is a list of upcoming painting opportunities with the chapters within NCCC:

1/13-15/12 – Maureen McNaughton, – 1/13 (evening)
March 2012 - Trudy Beard will be teaching at Monterey Peninsula Decorative Artists

Roz, Connie and DJ

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”



CHAIR CLASS: Dates, Sat Jan 14 & Feb 11 at 9:00 to 3 or 4 pm. Cost \$20 each day. Please send me an email if you are going to attend so I can plan accordingly. Merlene (merlenerv@comcast.net)

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

RECIPES

Several members have asked for the following soup recipe. This soup was originally prepared for us by Shirley Irwin's daughter, Christine Gott, at one of our seminars. Everyone enjoyed it so much, we are printing it here for all to enjoy!

Chicken Tortilla Soup

Prep and cook time: Approx. 30 minutes
Makes 6 servings

- 1/3 cup chopped onion
- 3 cloves of garlic, peeled and chopped
- ¾ teas. Ground cumin
- ¾ teas. Dried oregano
- ¼ teas. Cayenne pepper
- ¼ teas. Black Pepper
- 8 cups fat-skimmed chicken broth
- 1 (14oz.) Canned Tomatoes
- 1 can (4 oz.) Green Chilies
- 10 Corn Tortillas (6 inch wide)
- 1 ½ lb. boned, skinned chicken breasts
- 2 Tbsp. chopped fresh cilantro
- ½ cup shredded reduced-fat sharp cheddar cheese

1. In a 5 to 6 quart nonstick pan over medium heat, stir onion, garlic, cumin, oregano, cayenne pepper and black pepper until spices are fragrant, about 1 minute. Add broth, tomatoes (including juice) and green chilies. Cover and bring to a boil over high heat.
2. Meanwhile, stack tortillas and cut into 1/8-inch wide stripes. Add to boiling broth. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer for 15 minutes, stirring occasionally.
3. Rinse chicken and cut into ½ inch pieces.
4. Add chicken to broth and return to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer until chicken is white in the center (cut to test) about 5 minutes. Stir in cilantro. Ladle into soup bowls and add cheese to taste.

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS BOARD AND GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

In lieu of the December Board and General Meetings, our annual installation dinner was enjoyed by all at the Crowne Plaza in Concord on December 13th.

No minutes were taken.

(Editor's Note)

SUNSHINE

Genie Miller



January 2012

- 1/1 Jo Iaconis
- 1/6 Bonnie Vernon
- 1/14 Loretta Mateik



February 2012

- 2/2 Roz Borgerson
- 2/5 Beth Pierce
- 2/9 Teri Hallock
- 2/18 Lucille Hart
- 2/19 Shirley Irwin
- 2/26 Holley Yarberry
- 2/28 Delta Lamb

HOSPITALITY

Barbara Bouchet

Snacks: Roz Borgerson, Suzanne Olson, Robin Achterberg and Shirley Irwin

Beverages: Marianne Simpson, Darlene Smith and Karen Vecchi

Ice: Cathy McCaughey

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