

DOLL Rx

A NEWSLETTER OF THE DOLL DOCTORS' ASSOCIATION
www.dolldoctorsassociation.com

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November 2009



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT NOVEMBER 2009

Hello all, its Doug – The leaves are turning color (colour) here in Canada and the geese have been flying for a week so I guess Fall has officially arrived.

We are very pleased to advise that the new Secretary of the DDA is Beth Ryan of Cincinnati, Ohio. Welcome on board, Beth.

I have tried to correspond to as many DDA members in the last few months as I could to try and gauge how the recession is affecting the doll world. Plus I am trying to see where our members feel the DDA should be heading for the future.

It's official that collecting dolls is the number one hobby in the world but it's hard to see that when we look at the dismal showings being reported at the majority of doll shows. Perhaps it's a really good time to buy those dolls you really want while the prices are reasonable because once our economies improve the bargains will disappear. My wife's doll hospital business is very busy here in Canada and I would like to hear from you how your doll business is doing.

I note that on several occasions in the past it has been discussed by our members that our DDA should champion a cause perhaps financially assisting a doll museum or other worthwhile venture. We would like to hear from you in this respect in the future and we intend to set up a committee to seek your opinion and look into this area.

I am pleased to note that two new areas will be added to the Rx "WHO AM I" and "BULLETIN BOARD FOR MEMBERS". One addition has been made to the website. You will now have an INDEX for newsletter articles! Please let the executive team know what you think about these additions and make use of them as you see fit.

I encourage all of you our members to try and recruit new members whenever possible.

Marjorie, my wife, and I are looking forward to the December meeting of the DDA plus attending the Bellman's Doll Show that weekend. Please try and attend the meeting if you can work it into your schedules. Bye for now.

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BULLETIN BOARD FOR OUR MEMBERS

Our DDA members have a great wealth of doll and related knowledge. There are times when a member needs information and here is the forum they can use to get assistance. Perhaps you need to get information as to a specific restoration project. Perhaps you need an antique composition hand or leg to finish a restoration.

Send your question to our editor (information on masthead, page one) and we will post it in the next Rx issue.

However, if you wish a faster response include your mailing or email address so members can respond directly to you.

TREASURER'S REPORT

1st quarter (June-August) 2009-2010

Income	\$3077.82 (Includes income from 2008-2009 year)
Expenditures	
Newsletter Editor	\$300.00 (Includes February 2009 newsletter)
Postage	\$182.28
Printing & Copying	\$149.54
Supplies	\$ 23.84
Web site	\$329.45 (Includes an annual hosting fee)
Current Bank Balance	\$7398.50
Paid Members	151

Fred Trussell
Treasurer

Doll Doctors' Association

Next Meeting: Saturday, December 5, 2009
Gaithersburg Hilton Hotel
Dinner 6:00 p.m. (Dinner before the meeting is Dutch Treat.)
Meeting 7:00 p.m.

For DDA dinner meeting reservations, please e-mail Rosalie Jostes at
vicepresident@dolldoctorsassociation.com

Doll Doctors' Association Website

Be sure to check out all the features of the Doll Doctors' Association website located at
www.dolldoctorsassociation.com.

An index of past articles has been added to the newsletter tab.

The password for website access has changed!! Reminder: It is case sensitive! So be sure to capitalize the first letter. The new password is:

Dolly2time

Publication Deadlines

For publication in
March
July
November

Article must be received by:
February 15th
June 15th
October 15th

Anything received after those dates may be held over until the next publication. Feel free to send your article at ANY time, however! (Of course, we all know that if it weren't for the 11th Hour, a lot of things would NEVER get done!!)

PLEASE notify me of any changes in your email address or regular mailing address. Each publication has several returns. We want to make sure that everyone receives a newsletter!

-Ila Marvel, Editor
3049 Morris Road Bismarck ND 58503
imarvel@dolldoctorsassociation.com

WHO AM I?

-Rosalie Jostes

We are introducing a new feature to the Rx called, "Who Am I?" Future newsletters will carry pictures of dolls needing identification. If you have such a doll and would like to submit it, please e-mail a clear picture of the doll's face or a full body shot, and a picture or full details of any mark it might have. We will try to identify it for you. If we can't, we will publish the picture with clues and let the membership try to solve the mystery. Send your entries to me, Rosalie Jostes, at vicepresident@dolldoctorsassociation.com .



Our first picture is from member Joyce Whittle. Her doll is early composition, has tin eyes, and is thought to be made around 1918. The mark on the back of the head reads, "BDC". Has anyone seen this doll? (To solve the mystery now go to the last page of the newsletter. Or, don't peek and have some fun doing research to see if you can find out just who she is.)

New York Chapter News



The July 13th, 2009, meeting of the NY Chapter was held at Charlie's Restaurant in East Aurora, NY. We had six members present. They were Helen Wright, Claudia Schneider, Thelma Lopez, Joyce McDonald, Judy Burger and Peggy Shunk.

Our program was on mixing flesh tones for painting dolls. We all brought body parts of porcelain, bisque and compo. We mixed different skin tones using titanium white, cadmium red light, cadmium yellow medium, yellow ochre, burnt sienna, burnt umber and ultramarine blue.



We started with white and slowly added a little red and then yellow, etc., until we got the correct flesh tones. It was very interesting seeing what different flesh colors came up with yellows, browns and blue.

Our next meeting will be a tour of the Chili Doll Hospital and Museum in North Chili, NY, on September 9th, 2009.

-Peggy Shunk

New York Chapter News (Continued)



For the September 9, 2009 meeting Claudia Schneider, Helen Wright, Joyce McDonald, Judy Burger and Peggy Shunk traveled to Chili, NY, to the Chili Doll Hospital and Museum. We were given a delightful tour by Linda Greenfield, who established her business in 1967. Many of the displays have informational recordings. We all enjoyed the tour.



Frederick and Linda Greenfield



Claudia Schneider, Helen Wright, Linda Greenfield, Joyce MacDonald, Judy Burger and Peggy Shunk.

Michigan Chapter News

Minutes of the meeting - July 27, 2009

This lively Michigan group assembled at the home of Elaine Carps for lots of talk, learning and eating! We do have a great time!!

Madelaine continued with the process of making an eye rocker for a porcelain head doll. The rocker needed extra plaster on the "T" bar and around the top of the eye tubes to hold everything securely. (Photo bottom left) Next the eyelids were painted with Acrylic paint, using a paintbrush. Some people like to dip the eyes in the paint; there are, of course, many different ways to do the job.

Elaine put the tin can of solid eye wax in a large pan with about 1 ½" of water on a very low heat to melt the wax completely. When the wax was liquid, the eye rocker was rolled into the wax just to the edge of the paint of the eyelid. Next the eyeballs were greased with Vaseline, placed in the head so the eyes were in proper position, and then the plaster was spooned around the eyeballs. (Photo bottom right) It took about ten minutes for the plaster to set up enough to be able to raise the weighted end of the rocker to make the eye socket. By the end of the meeting we could hold the head to open and shut her eyes!



After a delicious lunch Elaine showed us how to make shoes for fashion dolls with small feet. Using paper patterns she cut out the uppers from soft black leather gloves and sewed up the back seam by hand. Then open the seam flat and glued open with a small amount of Tacky Glue on a toothpick. The inside sole was made of cardboard and covered with black silk using small amount of Tacky Glue. The shoe upper was first clipped in tiny V cuts around the toe and then stretched around the inner sole, starting at the toe and moving around towards the back using small amounts of glue with a toothpick to secure the upper to the bottom edge of the inner sole.



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Elaine showed us several ways to finish the embellishment of the shoe with a buckle with a leather bow (sew the buckle on the shoe before inserting the bow), (below, left) or different methods of using ribbon around the edges. The top edge of the shoe can be touched with a marker to make a finished look. Another method is use ¼" wide silk ribbon to bind over the top edge with small amounts of glue.



For a fancy look try ruching the ribbon and glue to the top edge. (Above, right) To ruche a ribbon, make 3 small stitches first on a left slant and back on a right slant so that the pattern on the ¼" ribbon looks like $\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge$. Pull the thread to scrunch up the ribbon! Glue to the top edge of the shoe! Pretty! Very informative project, Elaine, Thank you!



A really sweet pair of black shoes has an easy pattern to follow! Try it!

We were quite pleased to hear from Peggy Shrank that the NY Chapter liked our presentation of the Alabama Baby so much that they are going to make one for their next project. How exciting! We sent all the patterns and information to help them on the project!

Our next project will be to carve a Queen Ann type wooden doll. Bring pictures and ideas to the October meeting, which will be held at the home of Louise Kush.

-Madelaine Conboy

Illinois Chapter News

September Meeting of the Illinois Chapter

First and foremost, we want to express our sheer delight in having one of our own chapter members serve as a National Officer. Rosalie Jostes is the new Vice President!! The Illinois chapter exists only because Rosalie was the spearhead. She did all the formation work, found the members, worked with National etc. We are so very proud and pleased with her achievements in the Doll Doctor World we all belong in.

On September 13, we held our third meeting of the year at the home of Rosalie and Phil Jostes in Channahon, IL. Our agenda was: Airbrushing. Most of our members are already experienced in using this great tool, however, some were not, or were afraid to try it. We even had members who possessed airbrushes for years, and had never used them, or had tried to use them with unsuccessful results.



Carol Sieburg led off the demonstration to teach airbrushing cheeks, knees and elbows or any area needing a little blush. First off, Carol's brushes had not been used in over a year, her paint was either too thick, or too thin, and for some reason she had forgotten every skill she ever knew! One poor head got half covered in green paint! When Carol got it together, she used green or violet to blush cheeks so members could easily see the end result. This resulted in several members being absolutely horrified she would disfigure a perfectly good compo head. They kept yelling at her to clean the paint off right away. In the meantime, the heads she used would never grace the top of a body again, so she wasn't swayed.

Carol had three different airbrushes two were Paasche and one a Badger. Carol walked around to each member showing them the differences in the brushes. She then had a couple of members come forward and try a brush they weren't familiar with. She used only Dr. Martin's paint so her part didn't include a lot of paint questions.

When Carol finished, Phil Jostes gave his demonstration. Phil only uses a Badger airbrush, however, he uses several different paint mediums. Airbrush ready acrylic, oil based paints and stains, and acrylics made for multiple uses. Phil was questioned at length on how much thinner to use, how much water to add, what the consistency should look or feel like, in what manner it should leave the airbrush. Several members brought their own airbrushes, and Phil proceeded to teach them how to hook them up, how to set the spray and was able to free up a frozen screw of one member's airbrush.

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Illinois Chapter News (Continued)



Carol is helping Barbara Peterson with her airbrush.

After the demo, Rosalie served refreshments and various cakes and we were able to update each other on current news. All in all, we had a wonderful time!

We are so fortunate to have found members who really enjoy one another's company, all have a sense of humor and all are dedicated to repairing/restoring those beautiful dolls that need some TLC.

Our next meeting is scheduled at the end of November and will be our regular Christmas get-together.

Submitted by Carol Sieburg
Secretary/Treasurer Illinois Chapter

Maryland/Virginia Chapter News

No Report

California Chapter News

No Report

Pennsylvania Chapter News

No Report

Texas Chapter News

The Texas Doll Doctor's Association met on August 24, 2009 at President Linda Janney's home. The focus of the meeting was internet sources for dolls and doll supplies. Ms Janney went over favorite web sites for collecting, supplies, and doll research.

Products for cleaning composition that members have had good luck with:

Sandra Lee compo cleaner

Gold Seal Glass Wax (no longer being made)

Sandra Lee Craze Control for filling in fine lines

To remove green ear on Barbies, first clean with isopropyl alcohol, then use CLR. There is a tutorial on ebay by user "avintageshop" that explains how to get rid of green ear.

The Dremel contour sander is being discontinued by Dremel. Sears Craftsman sander was suggested as a replacement, and most members that have a Dremel contour sander have been stocking up on hook and loop sanding pads.

Super Sculpey FIRM is a product that can be used to rebuild shoulderheads. It is grey, and is a similar product to Milliput.

Dollspart.com has a good rubber band variety pack, as well as 1972 Shirley Temple parts, and mohair and Toni wigs.

Global wigs sells tiny wigs for all bisque dolls, they are wholesale only and have a minimum order.

Theraults/Dollmasters have online doll auctions, sell doll reproduction clothes, and sell Goldhorse books at a discount on their old store stock of auction catalogs.

Ehow.com lists some doll repair guidance.

Saveoncrafts.com is a good source of satin ribbons.

Tapplastics.com sells glues

Restoredoll.com sells Barbie doll hair and replacement joints.

Doll Websites:

<http://www.dollspart.com>

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

<http://joycescraftsupplies.com>

<http://www.seeleys.com/StoreFront.bok>

<http://www.miniworlddoll.com/Eyes.htm>

<http://www.bjcraftsupplies.com/dolls/>

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

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

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

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

<http://www.dollclothessuperstore.com>

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

<http://www.thedollclothes.com/home.php>

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

My favorite for Doll Patterns and Baby Patterns!!!

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

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

www.casesforcollectibles.com

www.catspawonline.com

www.clotilde.com

www.compocraze.com

- Joann Natarajan

CHAPTER COACH NEWS

No inquiries or contacts were made since the last newsletter.

-Linda Janney, Chapter Coach
25206 Singing Rain
San Antonio TX 78258



DOLLS AND BUGS



It's time that we all started to be very careful about welcoming that new doll into our home as they may just be home to some very unwelcome insects.

A few years ago a person brought a beautiful Jumeau doll she wanted to sell to us into my wife's studio. The asking price was reasonable and we had decided to buy it subject to a full examination. Well it only took a few minutes to discover this doll and her clothing were infested with moth larvae. I told this person we would have to finish our examination outside due to the insect contamination and she, to say the least, was extremely upset. She then cut her asking price in half and left as fast as she could after we paid her happy to get rid of her bug infested doll.

In this case it only took a few days to detoxify the doll to kill the larvae and eggs in the clothing and inside the composition body. We place and seal all incoming dolls into clear plastic bags after adding an open small container filled with cotton batten that's been soaked with nail polish remover or Quick Start. This procedure does not hurt the doll but you have to make sure the container and the solvents do not touch the doll or the clothing.

We never really know the environment from where the dolls are coming when we bring them into our lives and they could be harboring bed bugs, cockroaches or moth larvae.

Be safe - exterminate!

-Doug Marchant



Membership Renewals Bring Surprises!!

Look at the wonderful "Before and Afters" sent in by member Sylvia Livers of Eclectic Antiques and Collectibles, Indianapolis, Indiana!



GREAT JOB! Thanks for sharing!

I am sending along a copy of a poem written for me by and friend of mine, Rhonda. I have done and am still doing doll restoration work on her extensive composition doll collection. She is very passionate about her dolls and spends many hours dressing them and finding special places around her house for them. Hope you enjoy the poem.

-Marjorie Marchant

DOLLS



The dolls come to you from afar
broken and so forlorn,
Their tiny hearts are so sad
many a body dirty, torn
Lifting up each doll, you look
while you are hold tight,
Oh! My gosh so sad and oh
what a sight,
You put the dolls back together
so they will last,
Marjorie has a big job to do
oh what a task,

With very serious attention and
deep concern she begins,
With lots of hard work and effort
you know you'll win,
Such great love and tender care
these feelings touch you,
Making all the dolls look better
Marjorie to the rescue,
Curling the hair, painting flesh
putting in new eyes,
All the many old ragged dolls
have a new disguise,
On each new body, bright fabric
a beautiful dress,
Marjorie has shown her talent
what a success!

Rhonda - March 2009

THANKS TO THE EDITOR!!!

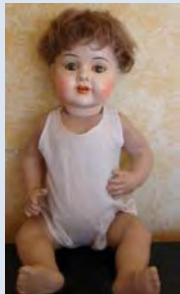


Have you looked at the issues of the RX since its inception? Have you researched a question concerning repair within the Rx issues? From Day One the DDA has had very good newsletters. As I browse the issues, one fact is clear. With each issue the newsletter got better and better. The articles are excellent and the accompanying pictures are better as well.

When I became President of the DDA, our current editor, Ila Marvel and I became acquainted quickly. Ila was always working hard to make each Rx issue better than the last. AND she succeeded! Through the past 4 years I have always counted on Ila for an excellent Rx. There are some issues that are absolutely outstanding but all issues are excellent.

Here's to you Ila! I wanted everyone to know what a wonderful asset you are to this organization. Thank you for your skills, your professionalism and your friendship.

Susan Mathias
Past President



Answer to WHO AM I?

After much research, Joyce solved her own mystery! She believes her doll was made by the Bester Doll Co. of New Jersey, and we concur. She reminded us, and Joyce, of a Morimura doll. Joyce wrote, "Interestingly, the Bester Doll Co. gave its dolls to the Morimura Brothers Co. to sell. They only produced dolls for 3 years and then simply made and sold parts to other doll companies." Thanks, Joyce!