

United Federation of Doll Clubs

My Newsletter, August 2015

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I'm baaaaack! Okay, no threatening intent meant. I'm back from our 2015 **UFDC** convention, **A Dream Come True**, where I had such a good time, despite my myriad RD duties that I almost didn't want to come home. Almost. But, happy news, only about 350 days until the next con, in beautiful Washington DC, so save your pennies and get ready to rock and roll in The District. Let's show'em what **Region 11** is made of!

Naturally, I got no pictures, not one, which is okay, as we have a lot to cover in here anyway. If you look on **UFDC's** website or Facebook page, you can see all kinds of wonderful dolly sights from the convention, held in one of my all-time favorite cities, Kansas City, MO. And our museum...beyond any dream that I ever had, is what I can say. A must-see.

We did make a good showing re judging at this year's convention. In alphabetical order, **Julie Blewis, Marseille Bunk, Ann Coleman, Florie Hirsch, Barbara Kincaid, Donna B. Landis, Jennifer Murtha, Susan Sirkis and Kathy Turner** all did our best to give deserving dolls their props, as did student judge **Mary Elizabeth Groupe**.

Other jobs at convention were filled so ably by **Pauline Pivowar, Vicki Christopherson, Kim McIntyre, Sheri Kaplan** and many others. This region always steps up to the plate, and is diligent in its capabilities. In other words, as we say in Baltimore, ya done good, Hons!

Events and Coming Attractions

Southern Maryland Doll Club and **The Black Eyed Susan Doll Club** will be hosting their annual doll show and sale on September 12, 2015 at **Archbishop Neal School**, 106 Tobacco Road (Route 6) in La Plata, Maryland, from 10-3pm. For information, contact **Pat Magruder** at 301-843-8541 or **Lynn Buonviri** at 301-375-3466. Support your local doll shows! Online shops are great, but there is nothing like seeing a doll in person and loving her (or him) and taking her (or him) home to make things more fun.

Don't miss the next **Regional Director's No Host Luncheon**, this time at **Fisherman's Inn**, noon, October

31st, which is yes, you guessed it, an opportunity to bring your dolls dressed in Halloween costume. The restaurant is in Grasonville Maryland, 3116 Main Street, Grasonville MD and features wonderful regional cuisine. As in, seriously yum!

Barbara Stone and I will be at **The Christmas Time Doll and Bear Show** held at the **Richmond Raceway**, 602 Laburnum Avenue, Richmond VA 23222. This is such a fun and festive show. Don't miss it-or us. We want to see you there! It's a really nice facility too.

One of the most looked forward to events in our region is the storied **Gaithersburg Doll Show**. Hold the dates for **December 5th and 6th** of this year for a fun-filled weekend with loads to do. **The Learning Room** will be up and running again, so if your club wants sales tables or you're willing to give a program on either Saturday or Sunday, please let me know ASAP. The tables are on a first-come, first-served basis. Don't let this show die! Support it and have fun too. Who knows? You might find your grail doll there...and make new friends. You help yourself and you help **UFDC**. Win-Win!

Don't forget to save April 23rd, 2016 for the **Maryland Society of Doll Collector's Old Fashioned Social**. This is a not to be missed event, one that our dolls will want to attend too, with a souvenir doll by the inimitable **Goldie Wilson**. **Stacia Pate**, the chairperson, can be reached at 410-522-3367. Book early-and often

I've never been to Montana, but if things go well for me, I'll be there in September of next year. And you can be too, at the **Region 6 Conference** in 2016. It's called **Western Treasures: Exploring the Many Facets of Region 6**. The website for pertinent information is **region6conference.org** and the dates are September 22-24, 2016.

I love the **Adopt-a-Doll** program! Where else can I "rent" a fabulous French papier mache Pauline with bamboo teeth for a measly hundred bucks-for a whole year? With my whole name, **Jennifer Kohn Murtha**, on a card. So that everyone can see she's "mine". Or "yours", if you adopt a doll. Have credit card, call and get the doll of your dreams! So easy too, no cost of room, board or braces. Dolly lives at our wonderful **UFDC Museum**.

Speaking of other ways to help **UFDC** to grow and prosper, don't forget to advertise in **Doll News**. **Kathy Turner** is our advertising manager, so contact her at kturnersan@gmail.com. She has some fabulous deals for you, so make sure that you email her before September 1, 2015, which is the deadline.

Members at Large

So nice to have four new members in Region 11! Welcome to **Martha Bumala**, **Beth Anne Hall**, **Terry Kita** and **Karen Ruberry**. If you want to move to a doll club, please let me know and we'll help to find the one that suits you best.

Donations

This region is so generous! I'm honored to report that once again, so many came through to support **UFDC's** mission-with a grand total of **7057.61**. Let's start off, in no particular order, with **Black Eyed Susan Doll Club** and **Sugarland Searchers Doll Club** having given generously to our **Building General Fund**. **Blue Ridge Doll Club** and **Sugarland Searchers Doll Club** donated to the **Collections Fund** and the **Regional Director's Fund**, the latter in honor of yours truly by the great folks at **Blue Ridge Doll Club**. The lovely and talented **Victoria Forbes** also gave to the **Regional Director's Fund**, and so did the equally lovely and talented **Rita McCloskey**. **West Virginia Mountaineer's Club** did me proud (had a FABULOUS time at their convention in early May) and also gave so generously to the **Regional Director's Fund**. That's how we RDs keep traveling to meet and greet, you know.

Charm City Dolling Club continued to support the **Junior Collector's Fund**, while **Chesapeake Doll Club** and **Clarissa Massey Doll Club** gave to **The Unity Fund**, as did one of our favorite redheads, **Henrietta Gomez** and **Maryland Doll Club** too. Not to mention **Barbara Stone**, who also supported the **Unity Fund** in fine style. **Sugarland Searchers Doll Club** honored wonderful antique doll dealer **Billye Harris** with their donation to the **Unity Fund**.

The **Dollology Club of Washington DC** gave a boost to this year's **Convention Fund** (and wasn't it fun!) as did **The Maryland Society of Doll Collectors** and **Barbara Stone**. **Florie Hirsch**, **Rita McCloskey**, **Mary Ruddell**, **Jennifer Murtha**, **Lady Baltimore Doll Study Club** and **Maryland Doll Club** gave to the **Museum Fund**.

Lillian Peeler gets a whole paragraph to herself, as she's the sole donor to **Doll News** and good for her! It's the best doll magazine in the world, as we all know. Well, okay, I'm going to share the paragraph as I supported **The Adopt-A-Doll** program-with joy! I "got" a fabulous antique doll for a whole year-for a pittance. Can't wait to get her first letter. I wonder if she'll email me?

Memorials

Sadly, we lost two beloved members of **UFDC** this summer, **Mary Kromholz**, a peerless researcher and

Catherine Speakman, someone who inspired a lot of us to keep collecting all of our lives. **Barbara Stone** donated to the **Unity Fund** in their honor. They will both be sorely missed by many of us.

Convention 2016

It's not too early to be thinking about convention next year, our 67th annual one, can you believe it? Anyway, the theme is **Kindred Spirits**, aren't we all? and the dates, in Washington DC, July 27th to July 30th, 2016. Yes, you read it right, our convention will be ending on a Saturday, so we can all travel home safely on Sunday. And while we're talking about convention, please think about hosting a meal event. Too small a club to do it by yourself? You could join forces with another and come up with a winner! Please contact **Barbara Stone** with questions or offers of help at barbara@ufdc.org. This is going to be a wonderful convention with a wonderful souvenir doll by the gifted **Heather Maciak** of Canada. I can hardly wait!



Just look at Araminta Suzanne and me at our annual Business Meeting. Don't we look as though we're having a wonderful time? We did! And you can too! The photo is by Victoria Forbes. Isn't she good?!

Hate to be gauche and invite myself, but don't forget, please, to send me an invitation if you want me to visit. Have large red car, will travel, but let me know. I can't drop in unannounced, ever.

Happy Dolling, Everyone!

Jennifer Kohn Murtha, Regional Director, Region 11, UFDC