



United Federation of Doll Clubs, Inc.  
Region 10 - Illinois and Wisconsin

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Have you heard? Change is in the air and my job is up for grabs!!! I do hope that someone out there really wants to get involved in moving our organization forward. I have loved visiting so many of you and making new friends who share our wonderful hobby. BUT – it really is time for a change. We are looking for someone with new ideas on bringing in new members and new clubs, someone with a fresh outlook on using the internet and the digital age to share our message of Education, Conservation and Preservation. Any of our club members may send me their name and the next Regional Director will be nominated from the floor and elected at our convention in Orlando, FL (August 2-6, 2017). The next training class will be held in October next year at the UFDC Headquarters in Kansas City. I do regret that our Members at Large are not currently eligible to fill this position.

Speaking of convention ---- our Region will participate in a fund raiser while in Orlando. I am donating a reproduction Bleuette 301 by



Suzanne McBrayer. The regional members are asked to donate clothing, shoes and accessories. Helper tickets will be sold at the convention, in the Helper room, with all proceeds to benefit our Regional Directors Expense Fund. This is a separate event from the normal Helpers. The members of the Madison Doll Club have agreed to donate a trunk to hold her goodies. I'll be happy to bring her along if

invited to any of your meetings before the convention. The deadline for donations for this special helper is May 15.

**DONATIONS**

**Unity Fund:**

Enchanting Dolls of Fox Valley

IL-Wis Antique Doll Club

Madison Area Doll Club

Lets Play Dolls in memory of Kathy Adams

Caryl Yancey

**Museum Fund** (adopt a doll):

Madison Area Doll Club

**Regional Directors Fund:**

Sangamon Valley Doll Study Club in honor of Larry Bramel and Donnell Wisniewski

**Convention Sponsorships:**

Cathy Noone

Kathy Treece

Donnell Wisniewski

**EBAY Donations:**

Donnell Wisniewski

Hope Wright

I also want to thank the clubs that donated in my name to UFDC. It is always an honor and a privilege to visit one of our doll clubs and take back your concerns and suggestions to the rest of our board.

## Membership Symposium Results:

1. Our no.1 concern is improving our website with features that include online payment options and interactive pages.
2. UFDC and all of our clubs must become more visible within the community.
3. Clubs could create a flyer about the club and use a local Welcome Wagon or Community out- reach to newcomers to spread the word.
4. Ask a local show for a table for club promotion. Keep a supply of old Doll News on hand for these occasions.
5. An old chestnut—BE OPEN to all doll collectors. Today's modern dolls are tomorrow's antiques.
6. Lunch meetings during the week no longer work for most of those we're trying to attract. There are many collectors who are working two or more jobs and find that evening meetings or weekends are easier to fit into their busy schedules.

There were many more suggestions that we will be working on throughout the year. If anyone has found something that worked well in your area, please let me know so that I can pass it along.

Ginger and I attended a small local BJD gathering this past weekend. The theme was "Circus time". All of the workshops were low cost and their sales room was small but focused. This group of collectors covered all ages but the primary group were in their thirties and still working. They schedule casual "meet-ups" just to have fun with their dolls. Here's a small photo of Ginger as a clown. Her creator is an UFDC member from Missouri – Judy Porter.



CONGRATULATIONS! To Fritzi Bartelmay Martinez on her election to President of NADDA. She has many new ideas in store – including the annual NADDA event in Kansas City, March 31 to 1 April. She is inviting all UFDC members to attend - no charge for registration. Please check out the winter issue of Doll News which will mail in January for more information. She has also introduced a Facebook page for NADDA – more eye candy!

Facebook pages for our clubs and regions are a great way to communicate with our members and to attract new faces to our organization. Look for "Sangamon Valley Doll Study Club" and "UFDC Region 10 Illinois and Wisconsin" on Facebook and be sure to "like" us. Any club in our region is free to announce their events and post photos as well on this site. Please keep it all doll-related. For those of you who are not yet on the internet or on Facebook, please don't despair. We're not leaving you behind, we're just adding another layer to our interactions.

I had a chance to visit the lovely ladies in Rockford, IL who celebrated 60 years of the IL-WIS Doll Club. It was a lovely party with friends new and old. We were treated to a slide show of memories that brought giggles galore.

Meeting the wonderful group of the West Chicago Doll Club was another celebration – this one was 25 years. A few faces were familiar but it was another chance to meet even more wonderful women.

I will be traveling again in April so be sure to contact me if you would like a visit. You may request a program if you like. I just want to meet everyone and talk about our dolls.

Don't forget that our next convention will be in Orlando from Aug. 2-5. We will be celebrating a day in the life of a doll. What will you be thinking of along those lines - morning coats, afternoon dresses, evening gowns, pajamas, robes, etc.? And of course many play suits for our "younger" dolls.

You'll be hearing from me at least twice more before my term ends. I really do want to hear from you! Best wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving, **Happy Holidays** and a GREAT New Year!