

Concord, California, U.S.A.

A Monthly Newsletter
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Issue
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cathy McCaughey
President

Our March 15th general meeting will be a little heavy on activities, so I will try to keep it as streamlined as possible. In addition to our painting program we will be voting on nominated charities, having a brief show and tell of projects from the Las Vegas Painting Convention, and holding our Easter Ornament Exchange for those who want to participate. The charities nominated at our February meeting are the First Lutheran Church, Heart of a Hero, and Bay Area Crisis Nursery.

Whoever thought up the idea of secretly painting a charger plate for a fellow chapter member to celebrate TBT's 20th Anniversary was just brilliant. Those of us who attended the February meeting got a little head start in drawing our person's name. Even though I thought I knew my recipient, I learned a lot about her from the questionnaire she filled out. I would encourage all of you who are interested to participate!

Kurt Vonnegut wrote, "To practice any art no matter how well or badly, is a way to make your soul grow." Our painting chapter continues to help us all grow and celebrate art, friendship, and the kindness of the Tole Fairy.

Cathy



PROGRAMS

Tamara Mannon
1st Vice President

The February program was quite a success thanks to Karen coming up with a creative project using multi-media techniques. Everyone had enjoyed the project and finished it – check out the website for pictures of the happy members with their bird canvas. THANK YOU Karen. Easter is coming early this year – MARCH. We were going to have Shirley teach a Gail Anderson project, but instead Marianne is going to teach one of her bunny designs just in time for Easter. Shirley will be teaching at our April meeting. Marianne will be providing the project w/accessories and the paints. All you have to do is bring your regular painting supplies. The cost for the bunny is \$3.00.

For our annual Easter Exchange, if you wish to participate, please bring your ornament or item in a brown paper bag to the March meeting. This has always been a fun event as we have many talented painters.

Tamara

Karen Vecchi sent an email to Beck Albeke, who was the designer of the "Take Flight" design that Karen taught at our February meeting. She told Becky how much fun the members had with her multi media design. This was Beckys reply—

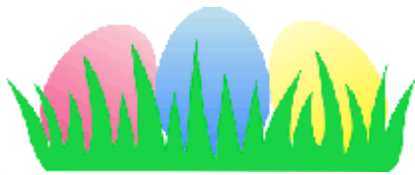
Great to hear from you, Karen!

I'm flattered that you thought of my piece, and so glad that all enjoyed it. I was excited to be published in the DP; good to know folks are still painting it!

Hugs!

Becky

P.S. If you want to do more, I do travel teach in the winter/spring months!



MEMBERSHIP

Karen Vecchi
2nd Vice President

We had a guest at our February Saturday meeting - Sara Schall. It was great to have her join us and she had a beautiful project. Keep on the lookout for new potential members. Invite them to one of our meetings or Saturday projects. We need to have ways to encourage more people to join our wonderful chapter.

You should have received your new SDP number. Some people had a number added in front of their old SDP number and some people had a completely new number. I need to get everyone's new number so please e-mail me with your information so we can update our club records.

If you have not paid your club dues, it is not too late. Please send a check for \$15 and form to Toll Bridge Tolers, P.O. Box 2671, Martinez, CA 94553 and don't forget to pay your National dues as well (www.decorativepainters.org). If you need any assistance, I would be happy to help.

Karen



COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Roz Borgerson

Thank you everyone who have painted the beautiful memory boxes. Please call me if you need memory boxes to paint. I have many to give away. Happy painting!

Fondly, Roz



WAYS AND MEANS

Trish Bertolucci

The special raffle for our February meeting was donated by Jann Otvos. It was a basket with a cheese board, cheese knives and holder, painted trivet and inspirational book donated by Jann Otvos. Jay Otvos made all of the wooden items in the box. The lucky winner was Connie Oakley.

Thank you so everyone who volunteered to donate special raffle prizes for this year.

Trish



SEMINARS

Merlene Ryan, Vivian Roubal and Tamara Mannon

Upcoming events---mark your calendar

March 12 & 13, 2016---Cheri Rol

October 1 & 2----Jillybean

Merlene, Tamara and Vivian



NCCC NEWS

Connie Oakley, Karen Vecchi

The NCCC met on 2/6 to discuss the survey information collected for the chapters. Most input was that people wanted to see a change in future NCCC Retreats, but there were a few that were opposed to change and wanted things to remain the same.

NCCC is looking at different avenues to keep the NCCC chapters meeting. Doing a large scale Retreat like we have done in the past isn't going to happen in the near future due to a lack of funds going forward. We discussed at our last meeting of having a NCCC Seminar to paint a chair. Painted chairs are popular now and we are currently looking into what the seminar would look like, where to hold it and if we have it a structured class or if you bring your chair and own design and collaborate with fellow NCCC members to design your own chair. If you have thoughts to share on this idea, please let either Karen or myself know.

Thanks

Connie and Karen



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FAIR

Karen Vecchi and Luci Flynn

Mark your calendars for the Contra Costa County Fair – June 2-5, 2016. The theme is “Let’s Get Moo’ving”. Start finishing up and varnishing those UFO’s (unfinished objects) so you can display them at the fair. Online registration is now available (see the link below) and there is no cost to enter the fair. The online registration is open until April 30, 2016. You also have the option of mailing your registration form. Items can be delivered to the fairgrounds on May 13th from 3-8 p.m. or Saturday May 14th from 8-3 p.m. Entries for Tole and Decorative Painting for the amateur category is Division 48 and the Professional category is Division 55. You can enter up to 8 items per Division; 2 per class. The classes are wood or metal, fabric, china or glass, holiday, gourds, and other. We will be doing kids make-it-take-it’s on Saturday June 4th and Sunday June 5th. We will need people to help with the event and it is always fun to see what the kids create.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Karen or Luci.

Handbook:

<https://contracostafair.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/2016-Adult-Youth-Still-Exhibits-Handbook.pdf>

Registration Forms:

<http://contracostafair.com/become-an-exhibitor-today/>

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS



At our last meeting, those in attendance drew names for the Charger plate painting for our Anniversary Party. If you were unable to attend and have not yet turned in your survey on yourself to me, please do so as soon as you can. I would like to get the information and charger plates out to everyone quickly so you have as long as possible to paint on them before our party.

The survey you need to fill out, if you have not done so already, is at the back of the newsletter.

If you have questions, please let me know.

Thanks.

Connie



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Shirley Irwin

Shirley was not at our February meeting so no awards were handed out.

Shirley



NEWSLETTER

Trish Bertolucci

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 member’s 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 TBTNewsletter@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 Trish Bertolucci at TBTNewsletter@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.

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
February 20, 2016

The February meeting of the Toll Bridge Tolars was called to order by President Cathy McCaughey at 10:55 am on February 20, 2016. With the absence of Secretary Darlene Smith, Treasurer Jann Otvos acted as recording Secretary. Darlene is recovering from surgery and is expected to

return home soon. Minutes from the January meeting were approved as reported in the newsletter by Lisa Schall and seconded by Barbara Bouchet. The treasurer's report was presented for review by Treasurer Jann Otvos.

Nominations for 2016 charities were as follows: First Lutheran Church by Cathy McCaughey; Heart of a Hero by Lisa Schall and Trish Bertolucci and Bay Area Crisis Nursery by Karen Vecchi. Voting on charities will be held at the March monthly meeting.

The March meeting will be held on the third Tuesday evening and include the annual voluntary Easter/Spring ornament exchange. Marianne Simpson will teach the painting project.

Trish presented the drawing prize which was a basket with cheese board, cheese knives and holder, painted trivet and inspirational book donated by Jann Otvos. Jay Otvos made all of the wooden items in the box. Connie Oakley's name was drawn.

Merlene Ryan explained that the Cheri Rol seminar was on schedule for March 12th and 13th. An email board meeting was held and it was unanimously approved by the board members to cover any short fall in cash with the club education funds. Saturday's class will be held at Merlene's house and the Sunday class will be held at the Live Oak HOA club house in Concord. Attendees are being asked to bring ingredients for lunch and Sue Shimansky will prepare lunch.

Barbara Bouchet passed the hospitality book around, noting that the May meeting is a Saturday meeting. She also told us that Shirley Irwin will be teaching a Gail Anderson floral design at the April meeting and that members will need to bring a 4x6 surface – photo, pattern and paints will be supplied by Shirley. The project cost will be \$3.00

Connie Oakley talked briefly about the 20th anniversary party which will be held on July 16th. She asked that all charger plate information sheets be turned in to her immediately as she would be distributing plates at the end of the day. The catered luncheon will be held at the church. 20th anniversary symbols are emerald; lily and crystal.

Agnes Ketterman-Dobert reported that the 23 year old grand-daughter of former member Sheila Stepp passed away from a long term lung ailment. She has an infant daughter.

Liz Doran was presented with an Excellence in Teaching Award by the California Council for Adult Education and Trish read the article written in the program honoring Liz on her 29 years of service as an adult education art teacher and being part of the Life Long Learning Program. It was noted that she had never missed a class and that she had an average class size of 17 students.

Trish's adorable memory box with bear and balloons was enjoyed by all.

The meeting was adjourned to the continuance of Karen Vecchi's painting lesson.



SUNSHINE Holley Yarberry

Darlene Smith is home from the rehab center!! She would like to thank everyone for their well wishes, cards and emails.

On a very sad note, former longtime member Sheila Stepp's granddaughter Gabby passed away. She was only 23 years old and had an 18 month old daughter. If you would like to send Sheila a card her address is 254 Palin Avenue #39, Galt, CA 95632. If you would like to call her, her number is (925) 989-8353. Thank you to Agnes Ketterman-Dobert for letting the chapter know and giving her contact information.



March 2016 Birthdays

Jan Voester	03/11
Jann Otvos	03/14
Rose Marie Roza	03/17
Wendy Oliver	03/18
Vivian Roubal	03/19
D.J. West	03/22
Lisette Jones	03/25



April 2016 Birthdays

Karen Vecchi	04/18
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The best way to contact me is either on my cell # (925) 890-7691 & leave a message or to send me an email at L.yarberry42@comcast.net as I may be traveling.

Holley



HOSPITALITY Barbara Bouchet

Thank you to everyone who signed up to bring a goodie to our March meeting on Tuesday the 15th.

Snacks: Vivian Roubal, Carrie Garrett and Trish Bertolucci

Beverages: Karen Vecchi

Ice: Cathy McCaughey

Thanks,
Barbara



TIPS, HINTS AND HELPS

TBT IMPORTANT DATES

March 12-13 Cheri Rol Seminar location TBA
Tuesday, March 15th 6:45 pm Board meeting, 7-9 pm General Meeting: Easter Ornament Exchange, Shirley Irwin teaching Gail Anderson project
Tuesday, April 19th 6:45 pm Board Meeting, 7-9 pm General Meeting, Marianne Simpson Easter bunny project
Saturday, May 21st 10am-3pm Roni Marks teaching
Tuesday June 21 6:45 Board Meeting, 7-9pm General Meeting, Carrie Garrett teaching
Saturday July 16th TBT Anniversary Party
Saturday August 20th Bunko Fundraiser at Plumber's Hall Martinez
Saturday September 17 10am-3pm Jann Otvos teaching
Saturday October 1st Sunday October 2nd Jilly Bean Seminar
Tuesday, October 18th 6:45 pm Board Meeting, 7-9 pm General Meeting, Halloween Ornament Exchange, Liz Little teaching
Sunday, November 13th 1pm-4pm 2017 Planning Meeting at First Lutheran Church
Tuesday, November 15th 6:45 pm Board Meeting, 7-9pm General Meeting, D.J. West teaching
Tuesday, December 13th 6:30pm Christmas Dinner (Christmas Ornament exchange)

This portion of the newsletter is to help out our fellow painters with hints, tips, shortcuts or whatever we can share to help each other become better painters! If you find something that helped you, send it to Trish Bertolucci at berts4@comcast.net and she will make sure it goes into the newsletter the following month! We can always use a little help.

Cathy McCaughey shared this tip with everyone!

Not a painting tip, but an FYI for some of our members. If you are 62 years or older for \$10 you can buy a lifetime pass that gives you access to over 2000 recreation sites managed by five federal agencies including the National Park Service and the USDA Forest Service. This is federal not state. It admits the owner and up to four adults in a vehicle or to a site. You can apply on line or at a federal site. So far we have used it to go to a Fort in Florida and driving through the Mauna Kea volcano park in Hawaii.

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.

2016 CONVENTION DATES

February 28-March 4th Creative Painting Convention, Las Vegas
 June 6-11th SDP National Conference, San Diego
 August 8-13th, HOOT
 September 21-25th, Decorative Painting Convention, Seattle
 September 26- October 1st Painting Palooza, Oklahoma City

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

President	Cathy McCaughey Cbrazil73@aol.com	925-682-5311
1 st V.P., Prog.	Tamara Mannon temann@att.net	925-676-5492
2 nd V.P., Mem.	Karen Vecchi Karenvecchi@sbcglobal.net	925-228-0409
Secretary	Darlene Smith dsmit@astound.net	925-689-8557
Treasurer	Jann Otvos jjotvos@comcast.net	925-706-8365
Newsletter	Trish Bertolucci TBTNewsletter@comcast.net	925-625-1439
Ways & Means	Trish Bertolucci berts4@comcast.net	925-625-1439

Committee Chairpersons

N.C.C.C. Rep.	Connie Oakley Oakley1@ltnl.gov	925-825-3851
	Karen Vecchi	925-228-0409

	Karenvecchi@sbcglobal.net					
	Roz Borgerson	925-825-6547	Community Projects	ijotvos@comcast.net	Roz Borgerson	925-825-6547
Sunshine	Rogerroz1@astound.net		Parliamentarian	Karenvecchi@astound.net	Karen Vecchi	925-228-0409
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	L.Yarberry42@comcast.net	925 686-9072	Hospitality	Tjschall01@yahoo.com	Barbara Bouchet	925-682-5312
Handbook	Karen Vecchi	925 228-0409	Nominating	Audret9@hotmail.com	Luci Flynn	925-516-6449
	karenvecchi@sbcglobal.net			lucimarie@yahoo.com		
Historian	Loretta Mateik	707-782-1082	Decorative Painting	Suzanne Olson	925-682-7757	
Seminars/Paint-in	Merlene Ryan	925-754-7997	Month –Central Cty	ruffxing5@comcast.net		
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	Vivian Roubal	925-216-8761	Website	Cbrazil73@aol.com		
	mrsroubal@hotmail.com			Loretta Mateik	707-782-1082	
Rewards & Recognition	Shirley Irwin	925-354-8943		lmateik@comcast.net		
County Fair	Luci Flynn	925-516-6449				
	lucimarie@yahoo.com					
	Karen Vecchi	925-228-0409				
	karenvecchi@sbcglobal.net					
Librarian	Jann Otvos	925-706-8365				

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 Tolars 20th Anniversary Survey
(Information required for Charger Plate Exchange for Chapter Members)

Name: _____

Favorite colors: _____

Colors you do NOT like: _____

Favorite Holidays: _____

Holidays that are not your thing: _____

Likes, (i.e., birds, flowers, landscape, or styles of painting, etc.) _____

Dislikes: (i.e., fruit, butterflies, or styles of painting, etc.) _____

Anything else you would like to share: _____

Please return to Connie Oakley as soon as you can. Thank you.
(1103 Crest Ridge Lane, Concord, CA 94521)