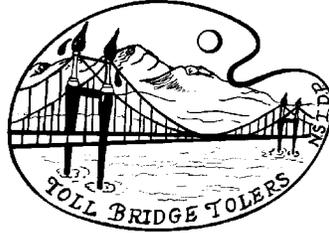


The Painting



Concord, California, U.S.A.

Connection

A Monthly Newsletter
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P.O Box 2671
Martinez, CA 94553



2017
Issue
Number 11

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the year (and my two year term as President) comes to a close, I would like to thank everyone for their support of both the chapter and the Officers/Committee Chairpersons. As a non-profit organization our success depends on the dedication and participation of our members. Your attendance at chapter events and your donations of finances, time and effort help to keep our chapter viable and relevant. It has been a pleasure for me to represent Toll Bridge Tolerers.

The following are a few last minute housekeeping details. Our not to be missed Holiday dinner is December 19th at 6:30 pm at Mangia Bene 1170 Arnold Drive in Martinez. The cutoff date for signups is December 8th. Checks may be mailed to TBT P.O. Box 2671 Martinez, CA 94553. There are 22 people signed up so far. We will be having our officers' installation, recognition of 2017 officers and chairs, and our painted ornament exchange at the dinner. If you are so inclined, you can also bring an unwrapped toy for Heart of a Hero and donations (cash or gift cards) for the two families (of TBT members) who lost their homes in the Santa Rosa Fire. Thanks to those who have already donated. I will have the boxes and cards for you to sign at the dinner.

The November planning committee for 2018 has come up with some great projects to paint at our meetings as well as our continued charity projects and two Big Brush seminars with Karen Brouwer and Sandi Strecker. Wishing all of you Wonderful Holidays!

Cathy McC



PROGRAMS

1st Vice President

We had a great turnout at our November meeting for DJ's Penguin ornament. Everyone finished their pieces and I know they're going to look so cute on your Christmas tree. Thanks DJ for teaching this darling ornament!

Where has the time gone? It's time for our annual Holiday dinner and Ornament exchange on Tuesday, December 19th at Mangia Bene Restaurant in Martinez. If you wish to participate in the ornament exchange, please bring your hand painted ornament to the dinner in a plain brown paper bag and enjoy receiving an ornament painted by another one of our members. The ornament should be hand painted either by you or can be purchased from another chapter member. As always, participation is voluntary. I will collect the bags as you arrive at the restaurant and we will do the exchange after dinner. I hope to see everyone there.

I'm looking forward to 2018 as we have many wonderful programs planned. Our first program of the year will be a beautiful lamp with a Gail Anderson pattern on it taught by Shirley Irwin. Please be sure to check the January newsletter for more details.

Happy Holidays!

Marianne S.





MEMBERSHIP 2nd Vice President

The chapter and society dues were due on December 1st. Chapter dues are \$15 for 2018 and the National renewal dues are \$60. You can access the chapter Membership Application form on our website at www.tollbridgetolers.org. Mail a check and the form to Toll Bridge Tolers, P.O. Box 2671, Martinez, CA 94553 or bring it to our December dinner. The Society of Decorative Painters dues needs to be paid directly to the Society. You can submit payment on their website at www.decorativepainters.org or mail it in with a form. You can call them for assistance to pay the National dues. Please let me know if you have any questions or need assistance.

Karen V.



WAYS AND MEANS

The special drawing prize at our November meeting was donated by Carrie G. It was a wonderful gift basket filled with a wax warmer, apron, coffee mug, pot holders, cookie mix, coaster, dish drying mat and candy. Liz L. was the lucky winner. Thank you to everyone who signed up and donated such wonderful prizes for this years drawing. Thank you to Jann O. for volunteering to do Ways and Means in 2018.

Trish B.



SEMINARS

*****Feb. 10, 2018 Karen Brouwer Seminar***
Sept. 15 & 16, 2018 Sandi Strecker Seminar**

The Planning Committee selected a 3 D Laser Cut “Reeds and Dragonflies” that uses Pearl inlay for Karen Brouwer’s seminar on Saturday February 10th, 2018 from 10am-4pm. The registration form is at the back of the newsletter. The

cutoff date for signups is January 17th because Karen is bringing the pieces from Australia (she is coming to the US at the end of January). The seminar is at the First Lutheran Church and due to the size of the room, we will cut off registration at 22 participants. Sandi Strecker seminars are in September 2018 and members will be voting on which two projects we will be painting at the January meeting.

Merlene, Carrie and Cathy



LIBRARY COMMITTEE

We are signed up again for a library display at the Concord Library to celebrate Decorative Painting Month in October 2018. We need to acknowledge and apologize to Luci Flynn who loaned us one of her painted pieces last month. A belated Thank you, Luci!

Cathy M and Suzanne O



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

No awards were handed out at the November meeting.

Shirley I.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL CRAB FEED

The annual First Lutheran Church and Preschool crab feed is scheduled for Saturday, January 20, 2018. As usual, any donated raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated. They are always well received and contribute greatly to this annual fundraiser. Please get any donations to me no later than our January 16th meeting. If you have any questions, please call or email Darlene S.

Darlene S.



TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS 2018 PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
November 19, 2017

Present: Cathy McC., Darlene S., Trish B., Connie O.,
Merlene R., Barbara B., Jann O., Marianne S.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by President
Cathy McC.

Board Meeting Time – It was agreed to start the Board
meetings at 7:00 pm with the General meetings to follow
at 7:15 pm. If urgent items come up, information will be
emailed to the Board members prior to the meeting.

Meeting Schedule – The meetings will continue on the
third Tuesday of each month except for three Saturday
meetings to be held on the second Saturday as follows:
March 10, May 12, and November 10, 2018. The Tuesday
meeting dates are: January 16, February 20, April 17, June
19, September 18 and October 16. The dates for the BBQ
in July will be determined and the Bunco fundraiser in
August will be August 18th. The December holiday dinner
will also be determined later on in the year. A meeting
schedule page is attached to the back of this newsletter for
you to print out and save as a reminder.

Meeting Programs – Marianne S. tentatively scheduled the
programs for the Tuesday and Saturday meetings. She
suggested, and it was agreed that registration forms and
payment will be requested for the Saturday meetings as
there has been an issue with members not attending after
signing up in the past. Teaching fees will continue to be
\$25 for Tuesday projects and \$75 for Saturday projects.
One of the Saturday projects will be for a charity, such as
wheelchair bags for Veterans.

Seminars – Merlene R. circulated several suggested
projects available for the Karen Brouwer seminar to be
held on Saturday, February 10, 2018. The dragon fly
project was first choice and the penguin project was
second choice. Merlene will contact Karen. The Sandi
Strecker seminar is September 15-16, 2018.

Chapter Goals – It was agreed to wait on this until we see
how many members renew.

2018 Budget – Jann O. passed out the proposed budget.
She reviewed each category noting there are no major
changes from 2017. The budget will be presented for
approval at the November meeting.

New Business – Community Service – Merlene advised
the County Hospital mural is nearly complete and Liz L.
will do some work to finish it. Trish advised the
Sacramento Hospital is not willing to go forward with the
lily pad project due to liability issues. As many hospitals
have stopped using them for that reason, it was agreed to
not pursue this any further. We will continue with memory
boxes. The Veterans' Hall in Martinez would like us to

decorate the men's bathroom. We will not paint the room,
as we did for the women's bathroom. Merlene will
coordinate this project. Suggestions for the 2018 charities
will be requested at the January meeting. The check for
2018 for First Lutheran Church will be presented at the
January meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:33 pm.

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS BOARD MEETING

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
November 21, 2017

Present: Darlene S., Cathy McC., Marianne S., Luci F., Merlene
R., Shirley I., Jann O., Barbara B.

The meeting was called to order by President Cathy McC. At
6:45 pm. She announced at the Planning meeting it was decided
to start the Board meetings in 2018 at 7:00 pm and the General
meetings at 7:15 pm to accommodate incoming President Connie
O.'s work schedule. A list of the 2018 meeting dates was printed
on the back of the agenda and will be in the next newsletter. The
BBQ at Loretta M.'s home will be in June or August, depending
on her schedule.

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm.

TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS GENERAL MEETING

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
November 21, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President
Cathy McC. with a quorum present.

Charity Presentations: Darlene S. introduced Larry Sly,
Executive Director of the Food Bank of Contra Costa and
Solano, who accepted a check for \$600 from TBT. He
thanked us and briefly commented on the program, noting
this amount will provide 1,200 meals.

Luci F. accepted the \$600 check for Newberry's
B.L.O.C.K., as its representative was unable to attend, and
briefly described the purpose of the charity.

The minutes of the October 17, 2017 meeting were
approved as published in the newsletter (Marianne
S./Barbara B.).

President's Report: Cathy McC. advised the Christmas
dinner is on December 19th at 6:30 p at Mangia Bene in
Martinez. She needs all checks by December 8th.
Donations of unwrapped toys for "Heart of a Hero" charity
are to be brought that evening, as well as donations to the
families of two of our members who were victims of the
North Bay fires. She had donation boxes and cards
available tonight and will have them at the dinner. The
Christmas ornament exchange will also be done at the
dinner.

Darlene S. announced the annual crab feed at First Lutheran Church will be held on January 20, 2018 and, as usual, raffle prize donations from the Tolers would be greatly appreciated. She asked that any donations be given to her no later than the January 16th meeting.

Cathy advised the Board meetings will start at 7:00 pm and the General meetings at 7:15 pm beginning in January 2018. She reviewed the 2018 meeting schedule as printed on the back of the agenda. It will also be published in the December newsletter. The BBQ will be scheduled by Loretta M. in either June or August as she will be traveling in July. The Bunco fundraiser will be August 18th at the Plumbers' Hall in Martinez. Seminars with Karen Brouwer and Sandi Strecker are scheduled. The projects for Sandi's two-day seminar next September will be selected in January or February. The first day will be at First Lutheran Church and the second day at the Plumbers' Hall in Martinez. Cathy circulated a letter received from SDP regard a travel scam for the SDP Convention by the National Travel Association.

VP Membership: Karen V. reminded that membership dues are due. She will notify those who have not paid.

VP Programs: Marianne S. displayed the glass lamp project Shirley I. will be teaching in January. Marianne has teachers for all of next year's programs.

Treasurer: Jann O. had the Treasurer's report available for review. She distributed the proposed 2018 budget for review, noting there were no significant changes from 2017.

Luci F. moved that the 2018 budget be passed. Marianne S. seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. It was noted if an expenditure exceeds the budgeted amount it will require a vote to approve. Jann reported on the recent TBT cruise to Catalina and Ensenada. The group painted on Wednesday of the cruise and she showed the finished projects taught by Cathy McC., Vivian R., D.J. W., and Jann O. They painted in a corridor on the ship and garnered a lot of positive attention from other passengers.

Ways and Means: Trish advised Carrie G. donated the special drawing prize consisting of an assorted basket of items.

Hospitality: Barbara B. will ask for items for the January meeting.

Seminars: Merlene R. showed the February 10, 2018 Karen Brouwer "Reeds and Dragonflies" mother of pearl project selected at the Planning meeting. Cathy passed out sign-up sheets and advised it will also be in the newsletter. The cost is \$55 due by January 17th and will be held at First Lutheran Church. Volunteers were requested to help coordinate the food. Carrie G. volunteered to help paint name tags.

Awards and Recognition: Shirley I. had none to present tonight.

Community Service: Liz L. reported the repair work on the mural at the County Hospital has been completed by Liz L., Merlene R., Vivian R., Luci F. and Suzanne O. The Hospital will write about it in their newsletter and Vivian will do an article in the Martinez Gazette. Liz noted the mural was originally painted by the Tolers 13 years ago.

She will obtain a plaque to affix to the mural paid for by TBT.

Announcements: Merlene advised Mary Lou from The Barn in Antioch has passed away. Suzanne O. showed a painted piece displayed at the Concord Library with no name on it and asked who it belonged to. It will be determined. Suzanne advised Jo I. is in a care home and will not be returning to her home. Her daughter advised she has a lot of wood and unused brushes to give away. Loretta suggested giving the items to the painters who lost all of their supplies in the North Bay fires. She will follow through on that.

Special Drawing: Liz L. won the gift basket.

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm to D.J.'s penguin project.



NEWSLETTER

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 at TBTNewsletter@comcast.net or Loretta. 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.



TIPS, HINTS AND HELPS TRADING POST

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.



SUNSHINE

Wishing you a wonderful Birthday Jo I. and Loretta M.
Merry Christmas to all of our members

The best way to contact me is either on my cell and leave a message or to send me an email, as I may be traveling.

Holley Y.



HOSPITALITY

Our Christmas Dinner is our December meeting. See you all there!!!



TBT 2017 IMPORTANT DATES

December 19- Installation Dinner

2018

Karen Brouwer Seminar- February 10, 2018

Sandi Strecker Seminar- September 15-16, 2018



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 for details.

		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

2018 TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS' MEETING SCHEDULE

The 2018 meetings will be on the third Tuesday or the second Saturday of each month as follows:

Tuesday Meetings (7:00 to 9:00 pm)

January 16, 2018
February 20, 2018
April 17, 2018
June 19, 2018
September 18, 2018
October 16, 2018

Saturday Meetings (10:00 am to 4:00 pm)

March 10, 2018
May 12, 2018
November 10, 2018

There are no meetings at First Lutheran Church in July (BBQ), August (Bunco) and December (Holiday Dinner).

BBQ at Loretta's – Date to be determined

Bunco – August 18, 2018 – Plumbers' Hall, Martinez

Seminars:

Karen Brouwer – February 10, 2018 at First Lutheran Church

Sandi Strecker – September 15, 2018 at First Lutheran Church

September 16, 2018 at Plumbers' Hall, Martinez



TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2018

Dues are \$15 per Year, payable October 1, and delinquent November 1

SDP# _____ Birth Month and Day _____

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phones: Home (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

Work (____) _____ Email _____

Fax (____) _____

For Emergencies only Health Issues _____

Medication pertinent to health issues _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ relationship _____

Home phone _____ Cell _____

Are you a new Member Yes ___ No ___

Are you a member of another chapter Yes ___ No ___ Name _____

Are you a teacher _____ Medium _____

Your cancelled check is your receipt of dues payment.

You must be a member of the Society of Decorative Artist, info on www.decorativepainters.org

Current SDP membership card or **SDP** E-mail must accompany this application form and return to:

**Toll Bridge Tolars
P. O. Box 2671
Martinez, Ca. 94553**

Date received _____

Check # _____

Cash _____

OK to publish: Yes or NO

REGISTRATION FORM- KAREN BROUWER

3 D Laser cut “Reeds and Dragonflies” with Pearl Inlay

DATE: Saturday February 10, 2018 at the First Lutheran Church, our regular room

TIME: 10 am to 4pm

COST: \$55- includes the surface (3D Laser cut and Pearl), paints and lunch provided

\$60 for SDP members who are not members of Toll Bridge Tolars

Registration Deadline- January 17th (as these are pre-cut and coming from Australia the end of January). No refunds unless the class is cancelled. You may transfer your registration to another person if you need to cancel. There is a cutoff of 22 participants due to the limited size of the room.

Checks should be made out to Toll Bridge Tolars. Mail registration forms and checks to me (address in our TBT Membership book) or c/o TBT P.O. Box 2671 Martinez, CA 94553

Questions: Cathy McCaughey (925) 682-5311.

Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone: _____

