

Small Wonders



Vol XVIII, No 1

Winter 2009

Rosalie Whyel Museum of Doll Art
1116 - 108th Avenue NE ♦Phone: (425) 455-1116 ♦Fax: (425) 455-4793
Bellevue WA 98004 USA
www.dollart.com ♦dollart@dollart.com

from the director

Even the proverbial Mailman isn't getting through what the Northwest Weatherman has tossed at us this winter! And many of us are saying "Uncle"! We feel fortunate, however, to be open again at the Museum after the snow closures around the Christmas holiday as there are those who have suffered so much since then with flooding and the effects of the snow, wind, and rain. Sun is in the forecast once again and we pray this time it is true. Homes need drying out and spirits need lifting.

Many of us gathered in the Museum Rose Room on Saturday, January 10 for a much-needed dose of frivolity and mirth as Elaine Pardee of Sacramento presented "LET ME CALL YOU SWEETHEART", a sentimental and hilarious program using her favorite Nancy Ann Storybook Dolls to tell a tale of LOVE. We really have a head start on Valentine's Day after that. Elaine signed bookplates for her upcoming book NANCY ANN STORYBOOK 2 that should be available in the Museum Store in March. After hearing what we

Continued on Page 2...

CURATOR'S
CORNER

Two Neighbor Ladies Who Made Cloth Dolls: Kruse and Scavini (Senci) February 7 - May 24, 2009

So many of the most beloved, beautiful, and functional play dolls ever made were conceived of and created by women. Even at a time when most women were not employed outside of the home, entrepreneurial mothers on a mission to create appropriate play dolls for their children were designing, manufacturing, and marketing dolls. Emma

and Marietta Adams, Martha Chase, Norah Wellings, Martha Wellington, Beatrice Alexander and Sasha Morgenthaler, name but a few.

Two "neighbor ladies," one born and raised by a single-mother who earned a living as a seamstress in Germany; the other who grew up in Italy and

whose own father died when she was seven, contemporaneously undertook just such a mission. Both were devoted mothers and both artistic. Both longed for more realistic, lifelike dolls for their children (and themselves).



Kathe Kruse Series I
Germany c1912 Cloth

Käthe Kruse was a young mother living in a little cottage above Lake Maggiore, with her growing family when her doll-making dream began. It was her daughter Mimerle that inspired her mother's doll enterprise. Mimerle asked for a baby of her own, just like her baby sister. Kruse's first effort had a potato for a head, and a sand-filled towel for the body. After five years of experimentation, a

Continued on Page 2...

from the director

...Continued From Page 1

have to look forward to with its release, we can't wait! Thank you, Elaine, for a FABULOUS PROGRAM and a great doll beginning to the New Year!



Elaine Pardee poses at the Museum next to our Polka-dot Tree in honor of those wonderful NASB boxes.

We always find it difficult to hide our enthusiasm for a new exhibit as we research, photograph, accession, design, and plan. But our excitement over TWO NEIGHBOR LADIES WHO MADE CLOTH DOLLS has been impossible to conceal- I'm sure you've noticed. With the addition over the last year of amazing and fantastic dolls that have come to us out of the blue in addition to our already nice collection, our excitement has grown and we just can't wait to bring you this adorable exhibit.

The charm, as well as the fashion, of these dolls created during the most trying of times – surrounding, during, and after two World Wars on the continent most affected - leaves us

incredulous knowing what it took to even look at life beyond survival then. And twice again the famous and beguiling Francois Duquenois sculpture influenced both these women as well as others, as you will see in our comparison study display.

We are equally excited to announce LENCI EXPERT and AUTHOR of the Lenci book “Lenci- The History and the Dolls”, NANCY LAZENBY will be our program presenter for this exhibit. Her beautiful photographs and research document years of work done by Nancy on these delightful dolls and the company that manufactured them. Mark your calendars now – this is where you will want to be! (See page three for more information.)

Now would also be a good time to book your doll club's meeting or event at the Museum. Whether it is a tour, luncheon, program, or you want to rent the entire space, we are here to serve you. We have many ideas for doll club programs and work with many great caterers in the area who provide value for your money, making it easy for all involved to just have a great time! Call our Events Coordinator Abby at 425-455-1116 to book. And if you are traveling from afar, let us know and we can provide names of nearby accommodations. Make 2009 your Back to Dolls Year. Happy, Safe, and Healthy New Year!

Rosalie Whyel, Director



...Continued From Page 1

move to Berlin, and a display of her dolls at the now-famous “Art Doll” exhibition organized by Max Schreiber in 1909, orders poured in for her dolls.

Elena König Scavini was always known as “Lenci” to her family. She was born of



Girl with Jump Rope
Lenci (E. Scavini)
Italy 1920s-30s Felt

accomplished parents, however when her father died, her mother struggled to support the family teaching piano lessons and selling off the family's possessions. (Another similar parallel to Kruse.) Elena began making dolls after enduring the loss of her first baby to the Spanish influenza. Her doll-making desire was born out of her wish to bring cheer to children in such a difficult time.

This article relates only a small fraction of the stories of each of these remarkable ladies, but I will leave it here. We will unfold the rest of their histories in our exhibit of their innovative, lovely, and historically significant dolls.

Jill Gorman, Curator



From the Museum Store...



The Little Princess \$95
Madeline \$70
The Secret Garden \$80

Celebrate the Reader in you or someone in your life with these wonderful dolls all based on beloved books! From classic to contemporary, there's one to spark your fancy (Fancy Nancy that is)!



Gone with the Wind Mrs Kennedy \$195
Trip to Saratoga Lost Costume \$125



20" Cloth Fancy Nancy \$45
Cloth Raggedy Pair \$70



Raggedy Ann & Andy \$140
Raggedy Ann & Me \$70



10" Fancy Nancy & Posh Puppy \$41
Bonjour (with wings) \$54



Nancy Drew \$150
Outfits \$70-90



Looking For A Valentine? Come and get your very own Nancy Ann Storybook Doll



with polka dots and hearts to cheer your heart forever! Starting at \$20, an antique for anyone.



"Will the Real Lenci Please Stand Up?" Program with Identification by Nancy Lazenby

Mark your calendar for this informative program on the creative felt Lenci dolls. Nancy will explore the unique attributes of the celebrated Italian dollmaker. A collector of Lenci's for over 30 years, she will enlighten you into the years of different owners, tagging, and look-a-likes. Bring books for signing and your Lenci's and Lenci-types for identification in this program!



Saturday, April 18 1 pm Museum Rose Room

Museum Members \$3, Non-Members \$5. Seating is Limited. Reserved seats required.
Call the Museum at (425)455-1116. Regular admission charged to tour Museum.

Lenci- The History and the Dolls \$60

Traces the company's history, outlines identification, and even covers Lenci-types with over 400 color photos.

Books available for purchase at the Museum Store & during the event, while in stock.

Area Doll Show Dates

ANTIQUÉ DOLL & TOY MARKET*

Bellevue Inn Red Lion
Bellevue WA
Sunday February 8, 2009
11am - 4pm

CROSSROADS DOLL, TEDDY BEAR & ANTIQUE SHOW & SALE

Nat'l Guard Armory
Portland OR
Saturday February 14, 2009
8:30am - 4pm

ROSIE'S TOO SALE*

Rosie's Too
Bellevue WA
Saturday February 28, 2009
11am - 4pm

*Look for the Museum Sales Table

CROSSROADS DOLL, TEDDY BEAR & MORE*

Puyallup Fairgrounds
Puyallup WA
Saturday March 14, 2009
10am - 4:30pm
Sunday March 15, 2009
10am - 4pm

NADDA*

Nat'l Antique Doll Dealers Assoc
Embassy Suites LAX
Los Angeles CA
Saturday April 4 &
Sunday April 5, 2009

UFDC REGION ONE CONFERENCE

The Grove Hotel
Boise ID
April 22 - 25, 2009

NEWS



DOLL TOTS BEARS

ROSIE'S TOO

Rosie's Too Sale Saturday 11 to 4 February 28th

Happy New Year to all our faithful customers. Hope your holidays were wonderful. January is a good time to reflect; evaluate your collection. Is there anything you wish for? Valentine's Day is on the horizon. Come and look over our new items in a quiet, peaceful atmosphere. Find something for yourself or a loved one. We look forward to seeing you!

ROSIE'S TOO APPRAISAL CLINIC! Saturday February 7th

During our open hours. These are complimentary, verbal appraisals, limit three dolls per person please.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE GALLERY

Too often the very special items from the collection that are displayed in the Museum drawers are overlooked by our visitors. One of my favorites is located across from the popular fashion doll Madelaine du Baine, so it is easy to see how one doesn't think to turn around and open a drawer behind. It is an early **TABLE GAME** of **STORKS** and **FROGS** titled "Les Grenouilles Demandent un Roi; Qui sera élu?" (The Frogs Call A King; Who will be chosen?!). The graphics



A close-up of the storks whose beaks open via a wire pull at their base. This allows them to "gobble up" the frogs above.



Early Board Game (Lid)
by Saussine France c1900

on the box lid are vivid and bright and show the game in action with children and adults gathered and

playing. The wonderful play pieces of three-dimensional cardboard storks with moveable beaks that combat to catch colorful little celluloid frogs are delightful. This must have been a fun and hectic game in the early 20th century suitable for everyone in the family with the prize of being "crowned" King (or Queen!).

So don't forget to gently pull on those handles whenever you see them- Wonderful treasures await you inside!



Evelyn peaks at the colorful table game located in the drawer of the Museum. The complete game includes lid, storks, lily pad holder, and boxed frog pieces.

We would like to thank the following people for their generous donations during the last quarter:

Charles J. Arnone
Bisque clown

Alice Bennett
Native-made Eskimo doll with provenance

Mary Dragovich
Baby dolls, parts, clothing, stuffed dog

Lorraine McFarland
Bye-lo baby, child's coat c. 1910, shoes

Jean Finnegan
Native American dolls with provenance, c1927

Susan C. Fuchs
NASB-type dolls, Floradora doll

Delores D. Groth
Composition doll

Violet Jesberg
Bisque doll, composition doll

Diana M. Klitgaard
Wicker furniture

Susan Krebs
Raggedy Ann collection

Suellen Musgrove
Baby Coos doll

Hilva Novota
Beanie, composition parts

Kathryn Roberts
\$50, Madame Alexander bride & groom, English Guard, Irish outfit

Lynn Tissell
Formal dress, veil & slip, 1949

Allan Venner
Celluloid dolls, baby slip

Kathy Whitener
Ethnic doll collection

Welcome To Our New & Returning Members:

Yvonne Baird	Julie Cheetham
Shannon Corbin Family	Gloria Cyrus
LaDonna Dolan	Maylie Donaldson
Scott Dudley Family	Jenny Eastlick
Margo Fagerholm	
Dr. & Mrs. Ted Feree Family	
Joan Fisher	Ron Fong
Val Garcia	Kathleen Genis
Karen Griffiths	Denise Hauck
Barbara Heib	Diana Henneuse
Nancy Rose Janzen	Becky Johnston
Mary Krombholz	Marilyn Likosky
Sydney Lough	Mary Lu McDaniels
Leone McMullen	Carol McVicar Scott
Anita Olson	Linda Poggi-LeStrange
Melanie Powers	Ann Reynolds
Susan Royer	Julie Scott
Eric Shalit	Helen Shannon
Gretchen Sill	Charland Torrence
Marilyn Watson	Fern Watt
Dianna Weir	

MUSEUM

MEMBER'S SALE

Members, please join us for
**Robert Tonner Doll
Company**

From dolls to clothes, come shop the world of high fashion with 10-40% off!
Tyler Wentworth Family Kitty Collier
Tiny Kitty Gone With the Wind
Nancy Drew New York City Ballet

Saturday March 7th

10 am to 2pm

Museum Rose Room

**Non-Members are welcome to
shop at 12pm.**

For more information on becoming a member and attending these special events, please call the Museum at 425-455-1116.



1116 - 108th Avenue NE
 Bellevue WA 98004 USA
 www.dollart.com
 dollart@dollart.com
 425.455.1116
 fax 425.455.4793

MUSEUM HOURS:

Mon-Sat 10 to 5
 Sun 1 to 5

ROSIE'S TOO HOURS:

221 106th Ave. NE Bellevue
 (425) 455-0363
 Thurs 11 to 8
 Sat 11 to 4
 Or by Appointment

SPECIAL VISITING EXHIBIT COMING SOON TO THE MUSEUM

The Washington State Jewish Historical Society will be launching a special touring exhibition and kicking it off right here at the Museum! Featuring a special collection of dolls entitled "Dolls For Democracy" which were created in the 1950s by artist Cecil Brooks. These realistic dolls were made to tour schools and promote minorities and their contributions to our country. The group represents many different ethnicities and nationalities, including G.W. Carver, Saint Francis of Assisi, Jackie Robinson, Sacajawea, and Abraham Lincoln, to name a few! A great educational opportunity for children of all ages. Stay tuned for more information!

Coming Events at the Museum

FEBRUARY 7 - MAY 24 2009

"Two Neighbor Ladies Who Made Cloth Dolls; Kruse & Scavini (Lenci)"
 Changing Gallery Exhibit

FEBRUARY 7 2009
Doll Appraisal Clinic at Rosie's Too

During Regular Hours, 11 to 4

FEBRUARY 14 2009
Valentine's Day Museum OPEN

Bring Your Favorite Sweetheart!

FEBRUARY 28 2009

Rosie's Too Sidewalk Sale

Saturday 11 to 4

MARCH 7 2009

Member's Sale

Featuring Tonner Doll Company

(see page five)

APRIL 12 2009

Easter Day

Museum CLOSED



APRIL 18 2009

Lenci Dolls by Nancy Lazenby
"Will The Real Lenci Please Stand Up?"

Saturday 1pm Rose Room
 (see page 3)

MAY 10 2009

Mother's Day Museum OPEN

A Wonderful Way to Treat a Lady!

MAY 30 - OCTOBER 25 2009

"A Few of My Favorite Things"

Changing Gallery Exhibit