

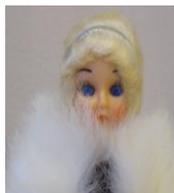
# United Federation of Doll Clubs, Inc. Region 5 Spring 2020 Newsletter

## Minnesota Iowa Missouri



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Dear Friends, It is hard to imagine that this is our spring edition of the newsletter. Here in Minnesota there is still quite a bit of snow cover and the temperatures are dipping below zero, but the days are getting longer. We just need to be patient, it will come. I wanted to share that I recently acquired a vintage brochure on *The Lovely Mary Jean Doll: America's Famous Character Doll*, manufactured by Midwestern Mfg. Co., **St. Louis, MO**. I was not familiar with the Mary Jean dolls, but I was intrigued. The brochure states they are "dolls that tell a story for **big and little** girls, collect one after another." I looked up the dolls on the internet and discovered they were produced in the 1950s. The dolls came in either 5.5 inch or 7.5 inch, unbreakable, with a series listing for "Twelve Little ladies," "Lovely Brides and Their Bridesmaids," "Pretty Girls That Tell a Story," and "Festivals." Thanks to Maurine Steurer, I was also aware of the **Carlson Doll Company** that produced dolls in **Maple Lake, Minnesota** in the 50s and 60s. The Carlson Company, a cottage industry, produced primarily Native American dolls that were sold in gift shops at National Parks and historical sites. They also produced dolls representing historical figures, international dolls, and dolls depicting the months of the year and many more. I thought I would inquire about dolls produced in Iowa and thanks to Norm Beu, I learned about **The Little Nurse Doll** produced in **Cedar Rapids, Iowa**. Norm has been working on an article for DOLL NEWS on these delightful dolls, hopefully we can enjoy reading it very soon. I got to thinking that maybe we could have unofficial state doll symbols. **What do you think?** I'm sure you might have other suggestions or tidbits of information on other dolls. Please consider sharing them in upcoming newsletters. The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is May 6, 2020. Thanks for reading and please share with you club. *Christine*



Carlson Doll Company



Little Nurse Doll



Lovely Miss Mary Jean Doll

### Welcome to Our New Members



**Iowa Kate Shelley Doll Club** gained two new members, **Lynn Berk & Laura Sauser**  
**The Star of The North Doll Club, MN** was joined by newcomer **Shannon Stankey**.  
It is so nice to have you join. I'm sure you will find that belonging to a doll club significantly adds to your enjoyment of doll collecting.



**The fabulous fifties:** even if you don't have personal knowledge of that era, you probably remember the old television show "Father's Knows Best." There is an episode in which Kathy trades her doll for the neighbor girl's baby sister. Additionally, there is the segment of "Leave It to Beaver" in which Beaver is the only boy invited to Linda Dennison's birthday party and Beaver wins a beautiful doll at the party.



This July we will have an opportunity to turn back time and experience the "Golden Era" of the baby boomers and all those wonderful dolls. Please register for the convention and consider volunteering, you'll be glad you did!



*Travels with Miss Unity: Educate Preserve Conserve*

In November, we traveled to Kansas City for the **UFDC Open House and Sales Boutique**, such a fun retail therapy experience! We had the pleasure of meeting the talented doll artist, **Judy Porter**. Time did not permit for us to attend the doll club meeting of the **Heirloom Doll Collector’s Club of Greater Kansas City**.

We hope another invitation will be extended. However, we were able to meet many of the members at **Frasher’s Doll Auction** the next day. Many wonderful new treasures went home with those attending. Forty-five minutes after returning home from our KC adventure, we were on the road to Marion, Iowa to attend the gathering of the **Hawkeye Doll Club of Iowa** at Don Juhl’s antique shop. **Don and his co-host Joe Davis** served an astonishing lunch and Joe gave a wonderful presentation on the dolls of Simon and Halbig. Club member **Rose Merrill** was present and brought many of her exquisite dolls for us to admire. We had a bit of a hiatus on our travels due to the holidays and snowy weather but finally had the pleasure of attending the February meeting of the **Forever Children Doll Club of MN**. **Carol Sherwin** was our gracious host and I was asked to speak on my doll tour of Japan. I brought along my new acquisitions from my trip and several of the doll club members brought their lovely Japanese dolls as well. The club made some exciting plans for their upcoming doll presentation to a local assisted living facility. They are possibly purchasing a display cabinet and have volunteered to provide seasonal doll displays for the residents to enjoy - what an admirable endeavor. I am continually impressed by the dynamics of the doll clubs and the love and support that the club members have for one another. I would love to visit more clubs but need for the club to offer an invitation, (hint hint).



Judy Porter & Little Miss Unity



Hawkeye Doll Club of Iowa



Visiting the Forever Children Doll Club of MN

*Quarterly Donations*

- UFDC Unity Fund:** Colleen Holden in memory of Beverly Hrubetz, Show-Me Doll Club
  - Building General Fund:** Spirit of St. Louis Doll Club in memory of David Ditch, Greater St. Louis Doll Club
  - Museum Fund:** Iowa Kate Shelley Doll Club
  - Library:** Carole Martino
  - Regional Directors Fund:** Lady Slipper Doll Club
  - Junior Collectors Fund:** Spirit of St. Louis Doll Club
  - Convention Fund: Special Exhibit Case:** Barbara Corson and Patricia Gosh
  - Convention Fund: Competitive Exhibit Case:** Neal Foster, Patricia Gosh, Nancy Harmon, Barbara Patrick
- 14 Donations from 12 donors totaling \$1,350.00** Your generosity is truly appreciated.

*Thank You*



*Upcoming Dates to Note*

- March 3:** Hina Matsuri, Girl’s Day or Doll’s Day in Japan
  - March 8:** I will be at the **Maquoketa Iowa Doll Show**, Americinn by Wyndham, 9AM-3PM, early bird from 8AM-9AM
  - May 17:** I’ll be at the UFDC table at the **DSS Doll Show & Sale**, Mermaid Center Mounds View, MN, 10AM-3PM
  - April 1:** Deadline for Club Presidents to submit **Annual Club Activity Report**. Let me know if you need assistance.
  - June 11:** **World Doll Day**
  - August 30:** **Lady Slipper Doll Club’s Doll Show**, Courtyard Mankato by Marriott Event Center, MN 9:30AM-3:30PM
- If you have any events, please list them on the **UFDC Calendar** and **Doll Shows USA** or send me an email.