

# Les Célébrations des Poupées

*United Federation of Doll Clubs, Inc.  
62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention  
Anaheim, California  
July 24 - 29, 2011*



I have just come back from a fantastic UFDC (United Federation of Doll Clubs) Convention in Anaheim, California.

This was my sixth UFDC convention. I have not missed a convention since I discovered how fantastic they are.

The convention was held at the Hilton Anaheim Hotel which it was open in 1984 for The Los Angeles Olympic Games. In the heart of The Anaheim Resort District, across the street from The Disneyland Resort, and steps away from the Anaheim Convention Center, Hilton Anaheim was truly in the center of it all. Close to shopping, tourist attractions and scenic walkways.

Since the hotel was only 35 miles from Los Angeles, I decided to take a day tour of the "City of Angeles" with some friends.

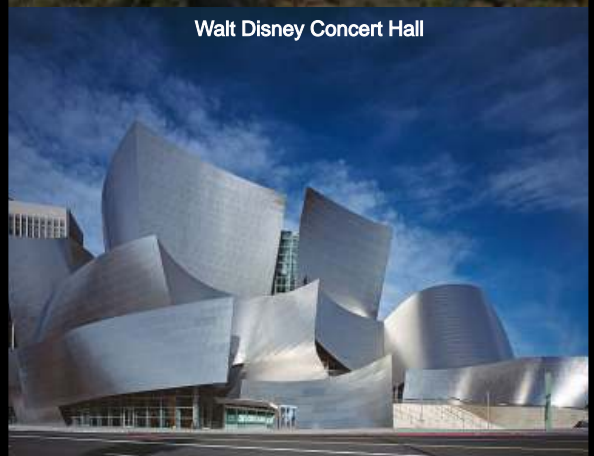
I loved all about the city, from the palm trees to the stunning huge modern buildings, from the amazing gardens to the spectacular sunsets on the beach.

The Walt Disney Concert Hall was just amazing and it reminded me a little bit of the Sydney Opera House.

Off corse a "must" part of the tour was to take a picture of the Hollywood sign and to drive around Beverly Hills and Rodeo Drive hunting for celebrities ... with no luck.

We did walk along Hollywood Boulevard stepping over all the 2300 stars on the sidewalk.

My favorite stars were:



Walt Disney Concert Hall



Hollywood - Chinese Theater



Those pictures were taken on the famous "Venice Beach"

...  
no comment



I also love to arrive at the convention earlier to attend the amazing Auction by Theriault's and also to attend one of my favorite activity of the entire convention called "Dynamic Doll Dialogues", round-table discussions on a variety of topics. Nine participants can be accommodated at each table, with discussions lasting about 45 minutes. Some of the topics: "Accessories found while researching historical doll costuming" by B. Pelham and J. Hile, "Positive ID of German Chinas and Parians" by M. Kromholz, "Patented Paper Doll Improvements" by M. Goldsmith, "Hat & Shoes for 12" French fashion doll" by B. DeVilbiss, "Daisy-Ladies Hole Journal" by D. Denery and lots more ...



On Monday night at 8.30pm the UFDC sales room opened. On the left picture you can see how the 1200 people attending the convention are standing in line. On the right pictures you could see how those ladies are running to their favorite dealers.

UFDC sales room = the best/most amazing sales room ever





One of the first boot I run to real fast, is the:  
**“CARMEL DOLL SHOP”** ... every year they seem to have the most gorgeous dolls in the entire salesroom ... usually they are the boot selling A. Marque or very rare dolls ...

Check their website here:

<http://www.carmeldollshop.com/index.html>

The owners of Carmel Doll Shop are also the editors of the fantastic UFDC magazine called: DOLLNEWS.

If you are not a member you “MUST” subscribe here:

<http://ufdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/member-at-large-renewal-form.pdf>



Alan Scott Pate's boot



Collectible Dolls's boot

Throughout the week, free programs were presented by experts. Topics varied from antique to modern, domestic to foreign. For example some of my favorite programs to attend were:

- **"The Magic of Lenci Art Dolls"** by Judy Fisher: *"Judy had developed a specialized collection of dolls made by the Lenci Company. She has been studying these dolls since 1990. In this programs she will share hundreds of images of Lenci dolls from 1920s to the 1940s"* (text from the UFDC's convention schedule booklet)
- **"Kestner the King of Doll Makers"**
- **"A Celebration of French Dolls"** by Dorothy McGonagle
- **"European dolls of the 17th and 18th centuries"**
- **"The Bad Boys, Japanese Boy's Day Display"** by Alan Scott Pate: *"an exploration of the villains and rough-stuff warriors that make up the Japanese Boy's Day pantheon of dolls, with a hero or two thrown in for good measure. Using Images of dolls, painting, wood blocks prints and other materials he will take you on a journey deep into Japan's samurai past to discover who collected ears as a hobby, who tried to beat up on court pages as they strolled the streets of Kyoto, and who was supposed to be keeping the demons out of the Imperial Palace"* (text from the UFDC's convention schedule booklet)
- **"From St. Nicholas to Santa Claus"** by Lynn Murray
- **"Baby Boom! French-made dolls from the forties and fifties"** by Samy Odin, curator of the Musee de la Poupee-Paris ...
- **"Happy Birthday Daisy"** by Donelle Denery: *"it is hard to believe the ever popular Daisy is 100 years old! The Ladies Home Journal promotion fr selling magazine subscriptions to receive a doll was wildy popular in 1911. Thousands of little girls sold three subscriptions so they would receive and 18" german doll who came with clothing patterns to match the paper doll page in the month's magazine. Come hear about what led up to the phenomenal marketing success of this promotion and a related promotion for a doll house"* (text from the UFDC's convention schedule booklet)

... and lots of other programs to enjoy.



Kestner Daisy and lots of dress patterns



Kestner Daisy paper house - now is available again !!



Lots of workshops were offered during the convention.

I cannot ever stop to learn something new.

In this pictures you

can see me making a straw hat thought by the amazing Doll Artisan Guild Instructors Peggy Brown and Nelly Valentino.





On Thursday night I have attended the “**Publishers’ Preview**”. This is a special time to meet the authors and publishers of my favorite doll magazine and books, especially for the authors to sign your book and make it really special. There were tables offering books, posters, newsletters, magazines, auction catalogs and museum books.

My favorite: the “**DOLLS BEAUTIFUL**” magazine, the best for dollmaking, both modern and antique reproduction dolls.

If you are not a member you “must” sign up here:  
<http://www.dollsbeautiful.com/MAGAZINE.html>



Thursday night was my special night to attend the “Be Mine” dinner, where I received this amazing 11 inches doll by the incredible talented Maggie Iacono.  
 isn't she gorgeous ?



*I have to thank all those people that contributed to the five Special Exhibitions. It was like entering into a magical world of dolls ...*

### Christmas Revisited

Diane Hoffman and her Turn of the Century Antiques team have assembled a historical and nostalgic display of everything Christmas. The decorated tree, evolving from early Victorian splendor to sparkling modern aluminum, will be prominently displayed. From life sized vignettes featuring Father Christmas, splendidly dressed dolls and studio Steiff animals, to the miniature world of a Victorian doll house decorated to celebrate the season. All the wonders of Christmas are assured to delight the eye. Santa through the ages, playful Snow Babies and an array of colorful Christmas memorabilia created through the decades. The elaborate grandeur of a Neapolitan presepio will also be included in this exhibit. It is shared with us by Jose' Cabrera, whose inspired creative talents have lovingly restored the various town folk and biblical characters



*'Photographed at the United Federation of Doll Clubs, Inc. Annual Convention.'*

## Long Live the King!

J. D. Kestner's name is synonymous with beauty, ingenuity and uncompromised quality. This comprehensive exhibit will feature a variety of dolls and items produced by this prolific company, from the early 1800's, until the 1930's and will include dolls of paper-mâché, china and bisque. Part of the display will spotlight Daisy who is celebrating her 100th birthday this year.

(text from the UFDC's convention schedule booklet)



## The Heart of the Matter

This year's convention souvenir artist **Darlene Lane** was well known to the doll world for her exquisite work. The loving care and detail that go into each aspect of the dolls she designs and makes are evident in every beautifully painted little face, every carefully arranged coiffure, every perfectly conceived costume. This exhibit did showcase the art and skill that lies at the heart of her work.

(text from the UFDC's convention schedule booklet)



Also Special Exhibitions: “*Célébrations en Couleurs*, Celebrating the artists and artistry of modern dolls of color” and “*Lewis Sorensen, The Master of Wax*”

*'Photographed at the United Federation of Doll Clubs, Inc. Annual Convention.'*

In the competition room I saw so many beautiful dolls. The President Choice (which is the top award for the antique category) was awarded to a fantastic "Kammer & Reinhardt 112" doll, own by Rosalie Whyel . Isn't him cute?



Other antique dolls in the competition and lots more ...





Patricia Hauser won a “Blue Ribbon” for first place on the costuming category with her beautiful Christmas fashion lady . A Blue Ribbon in this kind of competition is the highest award you could receive from each category. Good job Patricia ! I hope a lot of us dollmakers will continue to enter the UFDC competition with the hope one day to be a much larger selection of categories for antique reproduction dolls.

One of my favorite category in the competition this year was: “CHILDHOOD DOLLS: any material, any maker, before 1970. Must include a picture of exhibitor or prior owner holding the doll”. Have a look of some of those amazing memories and pictures:



'Photographed at the United Federation of Doll Clubs, Inc. Annual Convention.'



Darlene Lane and Anita at the UFDC's boot. Darlene had every kind of high-quality accessories for the beautiful Aimee and all of them were made in the USA from different doll artists: leather shoes and socks, hand knitted gloves, crochet purses, dresses, jump rope and a little lamb pull toy, and a lot more ...



Darlene worked three years on this project. She made more than 1500 dolls. Aimee is an all bisque reproduction doll from Simon Halbig German company. Aimee came in a beautiful box, with a screen and a stand. Just amazing ! Thanks so much Darlene ... now I hope you can finally take a vacation !



Sadly ... it all had to come to an end. So many people showed up at the final banquet Friday night. I think every body was so excited about the Souvenir doll.



I found my table hostess and table with my favorite friends.



These were just a few of the gifts I received at my table ... WOW !! It is custom to bring nine gifts at the final banquet to share with the people seated at your table ... so if you are coming next year, don't show up empty hands like I did the first year (I was so embarrassed ...)



The companion doll Andre' was the center piece of the tables. Christmas was the banquet theme.

I hope you enjoyed this newsletter and forgive me for my “broken” English.  
If you are interested on see all the pictures in high quality, please email me and I will send you a photo gallery.  
I took lot of pictures of the competition room and special exhibition.

**Next year the UFDC 63rd Annual Convention  
will be at the Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana  
July 24th to July 27th, 2012  
“A Jambalaya Jubilee”**

Don't forget to visit the new UFDC website for more information:  
[www.ufdc.org](http://www.ufdc.org)

Looking forward to see you next year.

*Alessandra Marcellan Thor*



*'Photographed at the United Federation of Doll Clubs, Inc. Annual Convention.'*

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