

The Dollmaker's Dispatch

Published Monthly by

Michigan Doll Makers Guild

Oldest Doll Club in Michigan, Chartered in 1978

<http://michigandollmakersguild.com/>

JULY 2011



MEETING - THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2011

Michigan Doll Makers Guild will meet at 6:00 PM, Thursday, July 7, 2011 at the Clinton-Macomb Public Library, 40900 Romeo Plank Road, Clinton Twp, MI. The program will be the second and final "Tassel Doll Workshop" presented by Linda McArthur, Rita Paulus, and Jane Covington. Bring needle, thread, scissors and Fabri-Tac glue (if you have it). A glue gun will be available. The tassel dolls will be completed—bring a bag or box, etc. to safely carry your tassel doll home.

MEETING DATE

**Thursday,
JULY 7, 2011
6:00 P.M.**

**Clinton-Macomb Public
Library
40900 Romeo Plank Road,
Clinton Twp, MI
(586) 226-5000.**

2010 Executive Board

**Diane Boatman—President
Linda McArthur—Vice President
Rita Paulus —Secretary
Beverly Loftis—Treasurer
Beverly Loftis—Membership
Jane Covington—
Newsletter Editor**

"Tassel Dolls - Part Two"

"Tassel dolls are made from a porcelain half doll decorated with fringe, flowers, beads, etc.

Your kit will consist of:

1. A painted half doll with hanging loop attached.
2. Your chosen fringe, beads, etc.

Procedure:

1. Attach fringe—roll & glue fringe at the top until it is the right size to fit into the waist. Glue bead strings onto roll, if desired.
2. Glue in place. Another bit of fringe may be glued around the unpainted lower part of the half doll.
3. Choose other embellishments and attach as desired: ribbon roses and other flowers, lace leaves, etc.
4. Take home, hand on wall, cabinet pull, window, etc.— - - and enjoy!!!



Fake Babies, Fake Lives

This article was reviewed in the recent ABOUT.COM: Doll Collecting. To read the entire article go to the website listed at the bottom of this page.

Whenever reborn baby dolls make the news, the (mostly) women who collect them are usually criticized or analyzed. This week, Dr. Keith Ablow from Fox News takes a look at reborn baby dolls, and his take on the collecting phenomenon is no exception.

According to recent news reports, elaborate fake babies—called “reborn dolls”—are becoming popular with adult women. The dolls, which can cost more than \$12,000 (but often sell for several hundred or a few thousand dollars)—have extremely realistic hair and incredibly lifelike facial features and skin tone, thanks to many hours spent by artists who paint them, complete with one-of-a-kind birthmarks—and painstakingly apply their locks and lashes.

Some of the dolls are made to look exactly like pre-mature babies and delivered with an incubator and even with IVs.

Reborn dolls,” seen this way, are closer to drugs than they are to collectibles. Like street drugs, they reduce anxiety by substituting an illusion. But, like every anesthetic, they only delay the inevitable reckoning with anxieties everyone must face. A woman who uses a fake baby to treat questions she has about her value as a human being after her childbearing years is actually dodging those questions. And, like every artificial way of avoiding discomfort, nurturing a fake baby will only increase that discomfort, in the longer run.

“WOW” !

Dr. Keith Ablow is a psychiatrist and member of the Fox News Medical A-Team. Dr. Ablow can be reached at info@keithablow.com. His team of Life Coaches can be reached at life-coach@keithablow.com.

Read more: <http://www.foxnews.com/health/2011/06/28/fake-babies-fake-lives/#ixzz1R61K6iJr>

Gems from the Internet !

Adele Sciorino's Costuming & Trim~

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

In this site I will keep you up-date on any new workshops being offered, workshop schedules, easy ordering of costuming kits/figurative art supplies and signing up for my quarterly newsletter, which will contain information on costuming tips, books reviews and vendor resources.

A GORGEOUS SITE ! SIGN UP FOR ADELE'S FREE NEWSLETTER— SHE IS A MASTER OF COSTUMING!

Go to:

www.costumesandtrim.com/newsletter.html

to download back issues

Piano Babies ~

Most well-decorated Victorian parlors of the late 1800s and early 1900s had pianos draped with shawls. Something decorative was needed to hold those fabrics in place. From that necessity, piano babies were born.



Piano babies are figures of babies made of unglazed bisque, mostly produced in Germany. Factories were already established as makers of fine bisque dolls, so it wasn't difficult for them to expand their market by creating piano babies.

http://www.antiquetrader.com/article/The_charm_of_Piano_Babies/

Gathering Fabric with Dental Floss !!

All it takes is a spool of dental floss, and it will make your life so much easier!

Set your zig-zag stitch to its widest setting - on my machine that is 6mm, and a fairly long stitch length - 4mm is my favorite length. Center your dental floss under your presser foot and stitch the length of your fabric, making sure to keep the dental floss free. (For smaller pieces such as ruffles stitch settings may be smaller.)

After stitching the length of your fabric secure one end of the dental floss and pull up the other to create the gathers: Adjust your gathers and attach them to your project.

Voila! Great gathers in record time

Look What We Did !

Dollmakers at Work !

This page is available for members to share Photos, Stories, etc. Items may be mailed to me or e-mailed. Both addresses (snail & e-mail) are available on page 4. Photos will be returned, if requested.

SHOW US WHAT YOU ARE
WORKING ON!



Alesia Ruffin took these pictures at the first tassel doll workshop. Thanks Alesia ! She also requested that members remember to bring items for the Sunshine raffle.

Pics: Above L, Karen Hayes and fringe; Above R, Karen Hayes and Karen Clara select fringe assisted by Rita Paulus. Below L, Samples of Tassels, Below R, Beverly Loftiis works with fringe skirt.



From the Editor...

Every Time I Think I've Seen Everything...

... I find out how wrong I am. I watch Dr. Keith Ablow on Fox News Channel often— usually he is offering his opinion as a Psychiatrist on some issue or other.

Imagine my surprise when I ran across his article in the Doll Collector's newsletter that I have received online on a regular basis for years. He has a rather unique opinion on the "reborn babies" (like we have seen in our own Doll Shows).

Don't miss reading the whole article—the website is on page two along with a few paragraphs. A MUST for all doll collectors.

Thanks to Alesia Ruffin for the pics on page three! I am always grateful to those who send articles, pictures, personal doll artistry or collections. Look around and see what you have to share with our doll members.

I wish to share the recipe for one of my favorite summer treats:

Gazpacho Recipe

Gazpacho soup was invented for the summer. - Refreshingly cold on hot summer days.

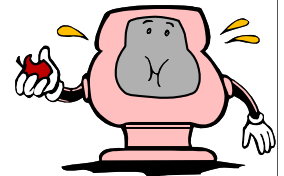
Ingredients

6 ripe tomatoes, peeled and chopped
1 purple onion, finely chopped
1 cucumber, peeled, seeded, chopped
1 sweet bell pepper seeded and chopped
2 stalks celery, chopped
1-2 Tbsp chopped fresh parsley
2 Tbsp chopped fresh chives
1 clove garlic, minced
1/4 cup red wine vinegar
1/4 cup olive oil
2 Tbsp freshly squeezed lemon juice
2 teaspoons sugar
Salt and fresh ground pepper to taste
6 or more drops of Tabasco sauce to taste
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce (omit for vegetarian option)
4 cups tomato juice

Combine all ingredients. Blend slightly, to desired consistency. Place in non-metal, non-reactive storage container, cover tightly and refrigerate overnight, allowing flavors to blend. Serves 8.

See you at the meeting!

Jane Covington, Editor
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