

# The Lady Slipper Newsletter

February 2017



## PRESIDENT'S PLATE

by Pat Meyer

As I write this, I am sitting in my warm house looking out at the beautiful snowfall. I am very blessed that I have a lovely warm home so I do not need to find shelter from the cold each night. Please pray for the homeless and if you are able, help support places that provide shelter. There is a great need everywhere.

Nancy Bergman and I have filled the slate of members who will run for office in April. Lois Pribble was ready to help us call members, but thanks to those who stepped up at the November meeting and at the Holiday party, the slate is complete.

- *President – Deb Warwick*
- *1st Vice President – Val Naber*
- *2nd Vice President – Diane Chase*
- *Treasurer – Becky Thompson*
- *Recording Secretary – Sharon Lindbloom*
- *Corresponding Secretary – Ardy Bernier*

Our Slate of Officers will be presented at the March meeting and voting will be at the April meeting. If other members wish to run against the slate above, they can be nominated from the floor when we vote in April.

Dolores Garbarini has volunteered to be the Sunshine Lady – starting now. Dodie has resigned due to her husband's illness. Please call or email Dolores with any information. Cell: 651-485-2199. Email address is doloresgarb@gmail.com.

Deb Warwick has agreed to run for President. She conducts the meetings and is an ex-officio member of each Guild committee. The president also picks the two challenge pieces for the year. Deb is very creative and will be a great leader and will inspire us all.

First-Vice President runs the meeting if the President is absent. She will be in charge of arranging seminars and paint-a-longs for our regular meetings. Please volunteer, making that job easier. The First Vice President is also in charge of overseeing The Lady Slipper. Val Naber has agreed to take on the challenge. She will be great as she already posts great articles on our web-page. We look forward to the new editions of The Lady Slipper.

Diane Chase has agreed to be our 2nd Vice President. She will be responsible for planning and developing our Guild special social events. Diane has volunteered to chair the competition in May so she will be able to see how the whole event is run. She will need volunteers to help with the planning, getting demos, judges, etc. The Holiday Party is always lots of fun and usually has lots of members to help plan it. Thanks, Ardy, for all your past work. Diane will do a great job!

The Treasurer handles the Guild finances. She records membership dues and meeting fees, pays the Guild bills and also the bills of the Education Committee. Becky Thompson has been Treasurer for the school and former shows, so she will do a great job.

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# VERY VERSATILE ARTIST

by Deb Warwick

This issue's victim for the interview originally wanted to be a train engineer, but her father wasn't very excited about that. Then she wanted to be a race car driver, but that didn't happen. But she got good at turning back odometers, which endeared her to many friends who needed to keep their parents from knowing about the true extent of their car usage!

Cherri Beisang was born in Minneapolis. Her paternal grandmother was a watercolor and porcelain painter who taught china painting in both Staples, Minnesota and in the state of Washington. Cherri's grandmother felt that Cherri was too young to learn china painting. Her father thought Cherri needed to learn about perspective. She took art in school from fourth grade through high school, but not in college. Cherri and her father were very crafty and did many projects together. One of their projects was making candles with artificial flowers in wax, which they sold. Her father was her biggest cheerleader and her best critic as well. When she was 18 she got into ceramics with her dad.

While Cherri was in high school, she met Steve -- while she was dating his best friend! At a certain point her affections shifted to Steve. They continued dating through college. They got married just before Steve graduated. Then he left for the Navy during the Vietnam War. Eventually Cherri moved to California to be near the Navy base before Steve went overseas. She lived in San Francisco for four years. One day while walking her dog she noticed an artist sketching along a street. He was there several days and they became friends. He encouraged Cherri to begin sketching. She did, and she even sold portraits to a few people who came by. She never really got to know the other artist but was grateful for his encouragement.

After Steve's military commitments were fulfilled,

they returned to Minnesota where Cherri took a class with Washburn Community Education to learn how to do stained glass. She got so good that soon she asked Community Ed to allow her to teach the stained glass class, which they did. Her fame spread and she was

asked to work at Glass House Studio. Then she became a lamp instructor at Gayette Glass Studio. Then she began working on her own with a lot of commissioned work until about 10 years ago! Her work has been in many restored homes. Her favorite work was making lamps. She really enjoyed the challenge of making lampshades and reinforcing the structure underneath with metal rods and solder.

During these stained glass years, when Cherri was about 26, her mom paid for a class for Cherri to learn decorative folk-style painting with Pipka at Pipka's south Minneapolis studio. She really enjoyed her

new art form and continues to practice it today.

In 1996 or 1997 a decorative painting friend who has studied china painting with Frank Albrecht invited Cherri to the Teacher's Organization Christmas Ornament Sale. Frank was demonstrating and Cherri asked about taking lessons from him. Frank told her he needed 4 students to form a new class. Cherri called several friends and found three others who were interested in learning china painting. They all became Frank's students. Cherri also became friends with Helen Sell and began painting with friends at Helen's every Friday. She wanted to learn how to paint Santa portraits so she took classes from Thelma Granquist, too. Cherri has taken seminars from Andrew Orr, Paula White, Cherryll Meggs, Alzora Zarembo, Peter Faust, Susan Peterson, Donna Casey, Bonnie Martinson, Joan Frandle, Mary Ellen Haggerty, Jane Wright, Kathy Lewis, Nancy Bergman, Sally Meyers, and many others.

*Cherri continued on page 3*



*Cherri continued from page 2*

Cherri also studied faux finishing and has done a lot of this on furniture and walls for many customers. Steve makes wooden Santas and rabbits, and Cherri paints them. They have sold these in art fairs. Steve carved blocks that they used to print on shirts, night shirts, and baby clothes, selling them, too. She taught fabric painting at the Edina Community Center and feels very blessed with her art and her opportunities.

Through decorative painting she has been hired by different companies to demonstrate their products including Liquitex paints and some paint brush makers. She demonstrated these for a class at the University of Minnesota, at Frank's Nursery and Crafts, and Wet Paint. She has painted things for troops and their families at the Reserve Center at Fort Snelling for their family weekend.

Cherri was working on a piece to enter into the State Fair in 2015. But things just weren't turning out like she had envisioned. So she gave it the big wipe! Then she decided just to paint something more off the cuff. Something she would like but not for the Fair. But her friends Sandy Callise and Susan Peterson liked it so much they tried to get her to enter it. Cherri still wasn't interested. She didn't think it was right for the Fair.

Then Steve decided he was going to enter one of his wood carved pieces and Cherri finally agreed to send her fish plate to be entered. She could hardly believe it when she won the Sweepstakes Award! The next year, she entered it the the Dakota County Fair and won their Grand Champion Award! It is a wonderful plate and we're all so glad she entered it!

She has served the Guild by ordering our lunches, calling to give the lunch count each month, and has been on the Education Committee for many years. She is really an asset to our Guild and to our art. And she certainly has vast experience in many creative forms!



## NEWS OF FRIENDS

**A message from Frank Albrecht:** With a heavy heart I'm sending this message to let you know that Bud passed away on February 28th. He has been in Methodist Hospital in St. Louis Park for the last week or so to have surgery on his right leg to improve circulation to his foot. As many of you know, Bud has been on dialysis three times a week for a loooong time. They stopped dialysis after last Friday as his kidney was shutting down. They were keeping him comfortable with pain killers, his eyes were closed and he was mostly unresponsive. I guess it was his time to leave us. His death was peaceful. Three of Bud's nieces and one of their husbands were there visiting as well as Molly (our sweet Yorkie), myself, and a good friend. Shortly after Molly and I left, Bud passed away holding the hand of a niece. FRA

*If you would like to send Frank a card, his address is 10741 Brunswick Circle, Bloomington, MN 55438*

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Thelma Granquist was diagnosed in early February with early stage breast cancer.



# HOLIDAY PARTY 2016

— Find the photo captions on page 6 —







The pomp and circumstance of the 69th Annual Academy Awards is a thing of the recent past. Many movie-buffs are already planning for the 70th Academy Awards ceremony, even though it's a full year away. How lucky are we porcelain painters in the Midwest – we have our own fancy Hollywood event coming up in just a few weeks!

**Hooray for Hollywood** is the theme of the World Organization of China Painters (WOCP) regional convention scheduled for April 20-22 in Omaha, Nebraska. This regional show will draw from WOCP clubs in Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Our Guild's own Helen Petersen is very involved in planning and presenting this event, and she says it's going to be a LOT of fun!

In addition to opportunities for *Painting with the Stars* (paint-a-longs with Nancy Benedetti, Susan Thumm, Paula White, and Randy Wollett), attending up to six demonstrations (one of which will be taught by Helen herself, showing wipe-out flow-ers), browsing the well-stocked vendors' floor, competing for treasures in silent auctions, and viewing all the amazing hand-

painted art on display (some entered into the competition for the WOCP museum!), show attendees can get a little taste of Hollywood stardom, including (for those registered) their very own *Academy Awards Swag Bag*.

Helen tells us the merrymaking will include three big meal events with fun Hollywood themes. On the opening night there is a *Wizard of Oz* reception dinner, including a sing-along. We must all know the songs from *The Wizard of Oz* by heart! The following night's banquet has a *Red Carpet Extravaganza* theme. The convention organizers tell us, "Get your picture taken by our paparazzi in your shabby-chic finery; you might get posted and tagged on Facebook...pull on your long gloves, dust off that tiara or feathered hat, wrap that boa, add on some Henry Winston rhinestones and come a sass-swaying our way...The plan is to be a little bit silly and to have lots of fun." Finally, on the last morning of the show, we can all enjoy *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. Don't forget your sunglasses!

Sounds fun, doesn't it? This is a great opportunity for Midwest porcelain painters and our friends! To get more information and registration forms, visit the MNWOCP.ORG website and click on the **Hooray for Hollywood** poster. Information is also available at IWOCP.COM. If you don't use a computer, contact Deb Warwick (612-869-3853) before the March Guild meeting and she will bring information and forms for you.

This will be a great show. You won't want to miss it! Make your plans for a fun trip and show your support of our fabulous art form and the WOCP!

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*President's Plate continued from page 1*

She gives the Corresponding Secretary information on each new member as well as an up-to-date list of members. She will do the job with ease. In my opinion, this is the most time consuming of all offices.

Sharon Lindbloom has agreed to stay on as the Recording Secretary. She does complete records for both the Guild and Board of Directors Meetings. She is very efficient and diplomatic. Sharon also helps format the Lady Slipper for the 1st Vice President. Thanks, Sharon.

Ardy Bernier will be the Corresponding Secretary (formerly Nancy) who handles all correspondence (written or email) for the Guild. She is responsible for

preparing and distributing an up-to-date roster as well as providing each member with the Schedule of meetings and demonstrations. She is also responsible to make sure new members receive current rosters and schedules. If a new member does not have email, she will supply a paper copy of the Constitution and By-Laws. She does the email blasts when we need to inform members of information between meetings. Nancy Bergman has done a wonderful job of this for over four years. Thank you, Nancy.

Lois, Nancy, and I would like to THANK all of you for volunteering. We look forward to seeing new officers who will move our Guild forward with new and fresh ideas.

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# — MAKE NOTE —

March 24	Joan Hudson • Finger-painting flowers on porcelain
May 19	Founders' Day Spring Event • Midland Hills Country Club

Regular Guild meetings are held at 9:30 am at Midland Hills Country Club, 2001 Fulham Street in Roseville, MN.  
Reservations: **BARBIE BRAMAN** at **952-240-6227** or **barbiedoll6kids@gmail.com**

**DOLORES GARBARINI** is our **NEW Sunshine Lady**.

Please contact her with any Guild family news: **651-485-2199** or **doloresgarb@gmail.com**

## Spring Challenge!

Now is the time to start painting your challenge piece for the May 19th Founders Day Event! Our Spring Challenge is to incorporate two techniques that have been recently demonstrated at our Guild meetings into any piece of your choice. You will find a full list to choose from on the website ([porcelainartmn.org](http://porcelainartmn.org) — Go to Activities > Special Events). Where available, you'll find links to the demo handouts and/or photos to kick-start your creativity. *Game on, painters!*

## Holiday Party photos from page 4 —

*Clockwise:* Dolores Garbarini; our unofficial party mascot, a stunning beaded monkey created by Doris Coghill; Joyce Basham; Thelma Granquist with ten of her former students; hand-painted ornaments by Guild members, given as thank-you gifts to the wonderful Midland Hills staff; some of the pieces painted for the Angel Challenge; more pieces painted for the Angel Challenge (center).



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Minnesota Porcelain Art Guild  
6821 Garfield Avenue South  
Richfield, Minnesota 55423