

Early Winter 2008

n e w s l e t t e r

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Bonnie's Bundles Dolls

TRADITIONS LIVE ON



When Caroline, a long time Bundle fan (she is the very person who encouraged me to sign my dolls), commissioned me to create Saint Nicholas to be a partner to her Clara Claus, I was delighted. JoAnn's provided red velvet, white fur, linen, brocade trims, and a filigree clasp, and I created a detachable beard with a warm smile to melt the North Pole; Eileen and Bunny stitched the face and the gorgeous costuming. Wow! He was #1 in Yahoo searches of the 1,650,000 Saint Nicholas dolls five days later.

ALWAYS CONNECTIONS



Whether it is a makeover of a 65-year-old buddy like Martha, an email from someone who bought a doll 25 years ago and was glad I was still in business or a heartfelt sharing from a customer who found it unbelievable that a doll made by someone she never met could create an emotional tide. Dolls are best friends forever creating nostalgic moments.

A SUCCESS

Those Bundle Buddies, the calico stuffed animals, introduced a year ago were a smashing success, especially, Camilla the Cat. Popularly priced at \$39, they made new friends, especially a buddy to boys, requiring no feeding!



LIFE ADJUSTMENTS

We hunkered down this winter after our prebuy of fuel. Our back room, originally the blacksmith shop and then the doll shop in 1980, now the great room heated with a wood stove -- became the center of our activities - assembly of calico paper dolls, cozy meals, marketing sessions, the dismal nightly news, and cutting, assembly and wiggling of the dolls. Silvio always joined us when the temperature got above 60. One of my two working sewing machines worked famously there until the last day when Nancy Necchi started acting up, asking for a vacation. Well, she has earned it.

THANK YOU

Especially, heartfelt thanks to Yankee Magazine. The Nov/Dec issue was all about celebrating Christmas in three Vermont villages, including our own. In the Chester section, a color photo of Holly was featured, along with our phone number and website. The calls and visitors were from all over the USA. And it continues, thank you. Were it not for this incredible boost, I doubt if Bonnie would be as pleased as she is right now. (It is Christmas Eve, and we are heading out to St. Luke's to celebrate Christ's birth.) Thank you one and all.

I LOVE MY DOLL, I LOVE MY DOLL

That would be one pleased Myra who on receiving her doll with calla lily eyes and teddy bear overalls called to tell us she loved her doll! She was so pleased that she ordered another, this time with daisy eyes. Naturally named Daisy, she's a keeper. Now you can find her along with the other New Girls on our ever changing website.



WORKSHOPS AND TEACHING CONTINUE

Workshops here at the Gallery every first Saturday every month, February vacation days, and in the schools will occupy the doll maker this winter as it did last. A doll making class will be offered in March at the Howard Dean Technical Center in Springfield and at Fletcher Farm in Ludlow on a weekend in July. Consider booking a calico paper doll birthday party. To see the schedule and book a date, check the Craft Workshops pages. Note the special January 10 workshop to make a decorator dolly. Watch for other special projects on our website.

