

Featuring More Than 75 Quilts Spanning 80 Years



**WHETHER YOU'RE A DOLL LOVER,
A QUILTER,**

an American folk art fan or a history buff, this unique exhibit is layered with rich stories of nineteenth- and twentieth-century life. Visitors will get a close-up look at the renowned **Mary Ghormley Quilt Collection** and learn how the expressed intricacies of Victorian life are colorfully reflected in the fabrics and patterns exhibited. More than 75 quilts dating from the 1850s to the 1930s will be showcased. The exhibit also features a Victorian Crazy quilt on loan from the International Quilt Study Center in Lincoln, Nebraska. Doll clothes and beds as well as period sewing accessories are included in the exhibit.

"For girls growing up in the Victorian era, doll quilts were more than play toys," say Kristie Dobbins, Museum Curator. "Making quilts was an integral part

of girls' training for their roles as wives and mothers."

Throughout the exhibit, the Museum is featuring several education programs exploring the domestic art of quilting. Visitors will even be able to try their hand at designing a unique quilt block. See pages four and five for a schedule and description of programs. On Nov. 7 and 8, Mary Campbell Ghormley will be our special guest at the Museum. Ms. Ghormley will talk about the quilt collection. In addition, Merikay Waldvogel, author of *Childhood Treasures: Quilts by and for Children* will talk about and sign her book. **See page 4 of LOOK! for details.**

"Each doll quilt is layered in meaning," says Kristie. "Symbolic patterns brought to life by fabric saved from special garments reveal amazing details about the lives of these young seamstresses."

WE DID IT!

*677 of Our Favorite
Friends Helped Us Set a
New Guinness Record
for the World's Largest
Marble Tournament*
See page 3 for more fun photos.



**The
Dangerous
&
Daring
Exhibit
For Kids**

The Dangerous & Daring Exhibit for Kids may be over, but we're still thinking of playful memories from the past. Get a glimpse of growing up, as told by our guests. The reminiscing begins on **page 2**.

Dangerous & Daring Exhibit for Kids

Evokes Memories of Old Fashioned Fun

Thank you to all of our friends and guests who joined us in our journey back in time. **The Dangerous and Daring Exhibit for Kids** was a tremendous hit, attracting thousands of Museum guests during a three-month period. We had a lot of fun recalling the toys, games and past times of days gone by... and our guests – regardless of their age – found their minds and hearts traveling down memory lane. *Here's what they had to say...*



My FAVORITE TOY was...

Two-inch-tall cowboys and Indians. I squatted in our backyard's grove of elm trees, totally shaded, surrounded by dirt and grass and twigs and branches. I built forts and cabins and teepees all summer long. The only cost was leg cramps three or four times a week.

– Stephen, age 58

My wiffle ball and bat. I would play for hours in the backyard with my brother. Over thirty years later, the indentions where we stood when batting still exist.

– John, age 38

A three-foot-tall Patty Playpal doll. I called her Debbie. She was so much fun!

– Anne, age 45

We would make dolls of hollyhock flowers (for the dress) and an acorn (for the head) with toothpick arms, then pretend they were dancing.

– Debbie, age 56

Play dishes. We had a shed in the backyard that we used as a playhouse. My sister and I and the neighbor girls spent hours making mud pies and other confections. We fed them to our brother – until our mother found out!

– Teddie, age 58

My Radio Flyer wagon. We would pretend to ride our covered wagon across the frontier, gathering items along the way.

– Anonymous



The MOST DANGEROUS OR DARING thing I ever did as a kid was...

Playing firefighters with my brothers.



We made my younger sister, the baby of the family, jump off a chair into a blanket. The blanket hit the floor and our sister ended up with a neon pink cast on her arm.

– Tony, age 24

Zip lining across a forest at Girl Scout camp.

– Natalie, age 9

I jumped off the high dive when I was five and couldn't really swim! My brothers dared me to do it and my mom didn't know until my brothers yelled, "Mom, Look!"

– Lisa, age 43

Riding on the back of a home made go-kart with a milk crate for a seat and ropes for steering and my tennies for the start and stop.

– EK, age 43

When I was five or six, I used to go down to the little boy's house on the corner. We would turn over big rocks and eat the bugs that were under them. Yuck!

– Not Telling, age 38

My brothers and I made parachutes out of old material and hooked them onto the back of our Spyder bikes. We climbed to the top of a shale pile and avalanched down the hill on our bikes, hoping our parachutes would open. They never did, but it was sure fun.

– Tammy, age 50

When I was a kid my FAVORITE BOOK was...



Beautiful Joe by Margaret Marshall Saunders because my dad read it to me. He was very dramatic, making the scary parts extra scary, the sad parts extra sad and the happy parts very joyful.

– Anna, age 65

Are you There God? It's Me, Margaret by Judy Blume.

I was the same age as Margaret when I read it. I could relate to everything she went through and it helped me feel better about myself.

– Shelly, age 39

Go Dog Go by Dr. Seuss.

It was the first book I ever learned to read. I remember running into my parents' room and shouting "I can read."

– Kevin, age 13

The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett. My aunt Laura brought a special copy home from England for me.

My third grade teacher, Mrs. Pickrell then read it to our class.

– Emily, age 34

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle. It opened by eyes to the world of possibility and the fact that everyone is not the same.

– Chris, age 38

The Nancy Drew series by Carolyn Keene. She was the coolest girl detective and eventually I met the author with my mom on a crazy summer trip.

– Sarah, age 20

The **HULA HOOP** Turns 50

When **Wham-O Inc.** introduced the Hula Hoop® to the world in 1958, this novelty toy put a new spin on play. Some thought it was just a passing fad, but five decades later, kids and kids-at-heart are still shakin' and shimmyin'! On June 21, the Museum, with the help of some twisting, turning and super-swiveling friends, celebrated the 50th anniversary of this classic toy!



Congratulations to the talented twirlers who won our hula hoop contest.



ROUND ONE

Kennedy Kooi, age 7
Sarah Gordon, age 11

ROUND TWO

Sophie Frizzell, age 9
Isabel Robb, age 3

Welcome to the **World's Largest Marble Tournament**



On August 23, marble enthusiasts gathered at Swinney Recreation Center at UMKC to break a world record. **Above right:** The final round of play was filled with anticipation. **Below right:** Tournament champ Graham Wegner gives the thumbs up, sharing the thrill of victory with second-place winner Todd Taylor and third-place winner Marilyn Simmons. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who helped us reach our goal!

FALL/WINTER
Fun & Learning
 Begins at the
 Toy & Miniature
 Museum



The next time you're driving south on Oak, take a look at our awesome new sign on the corner of the Museum grounds!

Every day in October

SCARY Scavenger Hunt



Take your family on a tour through the Toy and Miniature Museum and find some of the scariest objects in the collection. When you are finished you can turn in your scavenger hunt for a scary prize in the Museum Store!

Free for members. Program is included in price of admission for Museum guests.

Saturday, Oct. 11, 11:00 a.m.

Remember When?

Do you remember radio...*real* radio? Those days when the whole family sat around the console and *WATCHED* the radio! Master storyteller **Steve Otto** brings back memories of simpler days and family fun. Grandparents, parents and kids will be transported in time!

Free for members. Program is included in price of admission for Museum guests.



Friday, Nov. 7, 7 p.m.
 or Saturday, Nov. 8, 9 a.m.

Childhood Treasures: Quilts by and for Children

Childhood Treasures: Quilts by and for Children by author Merikay Waldvogel, features 100 quilts from the Mary Campbell Ghormley collection on display at the Toy and Miniature Museum Nov. 2008-March 2009. Ms. Waldvogel, joined by Mrs. Ghormley, will do a lecture and book signing. Refreshments will be provided.

Free for members. \$15/person for Museum guests. Book sold separately.

Seating is limited and reservations are required. Call Tony Julio at 816.333.9328, ext. 16.

Saturday, Nov. 15, 1 p.m.

Beginning Quilt Workshop for Girls

American Girls have been making quilts for generations. Continue the tradition with this mother/daughter or grandmother/granddaughter quilt workshop for beginners. We will provide the materials and instruction to make a doll quilt to fit an 18-inch American Girl doll. The workshop will last three hours and will include a tea party and doll care presentation with doll doctor Patti Joyce. Girls must be at least 10 years of age and participants are encouraged to bring their own sewing machine.

\$25 per mother/daughter pair for members.
 \$35 per mother/daughter pair for Museum guests.

Space is limited. Call Tony Julio for reservations at 816.333.9328, ext. 16.

**Friday, Nov. 28,
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Family Day: Focus on Russian Lacquer



Join us the day after Thanksgiving for some family fun as we explore the Russian Lacquer Box Collection. Donated to the Museum in 1995 by Lucy Maxym, these delicate boxes feature fantastic paintings of traditional fairy tales and landscapes of Russia.



Sergei Shapoval of Cultural Kaleidoscope will introduce Museum guests to the art, music, and culture of Russia in two programs

scheduled at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Museum docents will give gallery talks in the Russian Lacquer gallery and you can even make your own version of a Russian Lacquer box!

Free for members. Program is included in price of admission for Museum guests.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Behind the Scenes: Coleman House

Back by popular demand, we will throw open the hinged doors of the Museum's largest dollhouse and offer our guests an unfettered view of the treasures within. The house will be open all day and collection coordinator Mary Wheeler will reveal new research about the rusticated mansion at above times.

Free for members. Included in price of admission for Museum guests.



Saturday, Dec. 13, 1 p.m.

Miniature Ornament Craft Workshop

Make your own glass orb ornament with a miniature scene inside. This workshop is perfect for families with school-aged kids. First come, first served.

Free for members. Program is included in price of admission for Museum guests.

This workshop is sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Koupal.



Sunday, Dec. 21, 1:30 p.m.

Dear Father Christmas

Jim Two Crows Wallen breathes life into the legend of Father Christmas through stories and toys from the 19th century. Don't miss this annual Toy and Miniature Museum tradition with your little ones!

Free for members. Included in price of admission for Museum guests.



**Saturday, Dec. 27,
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Music in the Museum

The Prairie Dulcimer Club will interpret the collection through music on the Saturday after Christmas. The Museum will resonate with the haunting folk melodies of the hammered and mountain dulcimers.

Free for members. Included in price of admission for Museum guests.

Saturday, Jan. 10, 1 p.m.

How Does It Work: Toy Steam Engines

Learn how the toy steam engines in the Museum's collection work. It's full-steam ahead with this educational exhibit and demonstration! This program is presented in cooperation with the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art's exhibit *Art in the Age of Steam*.

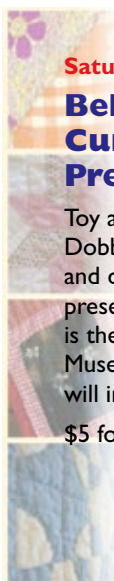
Free for members. Included in the price of admission for Museum guests.

Saturday, Jan. 24, 11 a.m.

Behind the Scenes: Curatorial Quilt Preservation

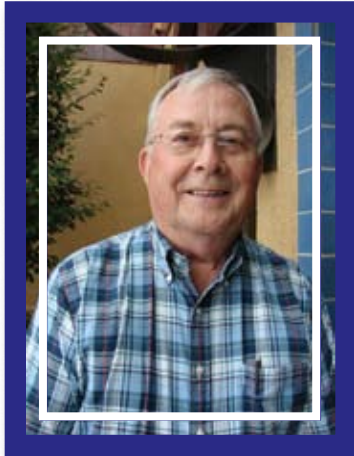
Toy and Miniature Museum Curator Kristie Dobbins will give a talk on quilt preservation and demonstrate the best practices for preserving your family treasures. Kristie is the former textile curator for the Amherst Museum in New York. The presentation will include handouts.

\$5 for members. \$10 for Museum guests.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Bill Swartz



For years, Bill Swartz looked forward to the annual visits he and his wife Nancy made to the Toy and Miniature Museum during trips from their home in Newton, Iowa. He loved discovering new toys and treasures and was especially drawn to the Museum's amazing collection of mechanical toys.

His fascination with gears, springs and mechanized gadgets began in childhood.

"Growing up, one of my favorite things to do was to make and play with rubberband toy guns," says Bill. "We would cut out wood forms and create a mechanism so we could shoot pieces of old inner tube. I also spent many days in the basement making lead soldiers. It was a pretty dangerous operation – I've still got a scar on my hand from one time when the melted lead didn't make it into the mold."

Bill parlayed his creativity and mechanical skills into a career in product design at the Maytag Corporation where he worked for 40 years. After he retired, he and Nancy – both raised in Kansas City – decided to move back home. One of the first things Bill did was to inquire about becoming a Museum volunteer. Since completing a docent training program, he has become a Friday regular at the Museum.

"Although I've spent hundreds of hours exploring the Museum, I see something new and learn something different every single week," he says. "I guess that's what makes it so interesting – that, and the people I meet."

Bill is such a Museum fan that he's recruited Nancy to volunteer for special events and exhibits. In addition to serving as a Museum docent, Bill volunteers at his church and goes golfing regularly with his classmates from the Rockhurst High School class of 1950. The couple enjoys traveling and recently returned from trips to Hawaii, northern Minnesota and Nantucket Island.

Thanks for everything you do to make our guests' visits more enjoyable, Bill.

TOOLTIME

Coming Your Way in May 2009

If you're a fan of our amazing scale miniature collection, you may be curious about the types of tools craftsmen use to create these small wonders. We'll be presenting a special exhibit next spring that celebrates the tools used by miniature artists and other skilled craftsmen. Visitors will get to explore 300 years of precision tools. Drawing from three notable collections, the exhibit will feature elaborate presentation pieces, handmade specialty implements and early power tools.

"Beyond function, fine tools often feature elaborate decorative elements including brass inlay, scrollwork, pin striping, exotic woods and ornate carving," says Kristie Dobbins, Museum Curator. "The tools themselves are works of art."

Look forward to more details in spring 2009.



Please help us welcome our newest Museum Board member, **Mrs. Sherry Forsee.**

CAROLE PATTERSON PHOTO

Would you like to become a **MUSEUM VOLUNTEER?**

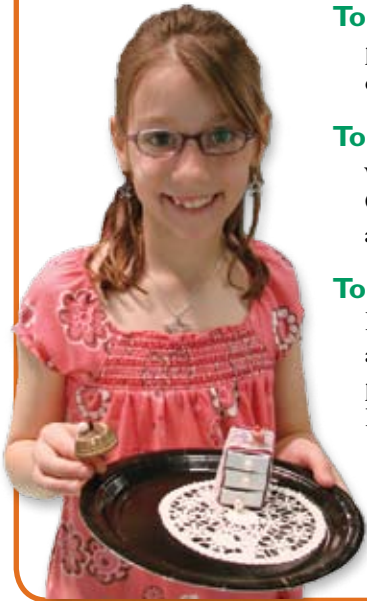
CALL LAURA TAYLOR AT 816.333.9328 FOR INFORMATION.



Let Us Help You Earn the **Toy Maker Badge**

IF YOU'RE A GIRL SCOUT LEADER OR PARENT, we invite you to join us for this fun learning opportunity. Our team can help your scouts earn the Toy Maker badge. The adventure begins with a tour of the antique toy collection. We'll focus specifically on objects that were made or adapted for dollhouses. Next, the Scouts will use their imagination to create a unique piece of dollhouse furniture from recycled household items in the Trash-it workshop. At the end of the program, your scouts will fulfill three of the six requirements for the Toy Maker badge including **(#2) Toys Around the World**, **(#3) Toys Through History** and **(#10) Trash It**. We'll also cover toy safety in history, partially fulfilling **(#8) Toy Safety**.

Programs range in time from one to two hours. The cost ranges from \$3 to \$10.



Tour Only. Includes guided tour and worksheet. Cost is \$3 per Scout. One chaperone per five girls is free. Additional chaperones are \$5. Please allow one hour for the tour.

Tour & Trash-it Workshop. Includes guided tour, worksheet and hands-on activity. Cost is \$5 per Scout. One chaperone per five girls is free. Additional chaperones are \$5. Please allow two hours for tour and activity.

Tour, Trash-it Workshop & Goody Bag. Includes guided tour, worksheet, hands-on activity and goody bag. Cost is \$10 per Scout. One chaperone per five girls is free. Additional chaperones are \$5. Please allow two hours for tour and activity.

For additional information or to schedule your troop, contact Tony Julo, at 816.333.9328, ext. 16.



We Get By With a Little **Help from Our Friends**



We are fortunate to have the support of so many folks (like you!) who are dedicated to the mission of the Toy and Miniature Museum. As we continue to offer more and more opportunities to an ever-expanding audience, there are some special ways that our friends can help. Would you be willing donate needed supplies or sponsor a program? **Current needs include:**

- **A Study of Dolls** by G. Stanley Hall (Call Museum Educator Laura Taylor if you'd like to donate this book or funds to purchase it.)
- **Fluffy kitchen towels**
- **Card board tubes**
- **Cast off ribbon and sewing notions**
- **Financial gift to sponsor an educational program.** Take a look at the schedule of upcoming programs and let us know if there's a topic of particular interest to you. Your support will make it possible to create more rewarding learning experiences for our Museum guests. Contact Laura Taylor, Museum educator, to discuss current needs and share your ideas.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I think it's always fun to have something to look forward to. It just makes life a little more exciting! Maybe that's one of the reasons why I enjoy my role at the Toy & Miniature Museum so much. Just as we wrap up one event or exhibit, the Museum staff is well on its way to bringing another fun learning opportunity to life. Thanks to the insight, resourcefulness and creativity of our Board, staff and volunteers, the Museum seems to be on a roll. Attendance has increased by 40 percent during the past two years, and we continue to attract hundreds of first-time visitors each month.

As we move full speed ahead, putting the finishing touches on *Pieced With Love: Girls and Doll Quilts of the Victorian Age*, I want to take a quick moment to thank YOU, our Museum members, guests and friends for your enthusiastic support. When we launched an exhibit celebrating the spirit of the American Girl, you brought your daughters, granddaughters, nieces and special friends. When we decided to get "dangerous and daring," you joined us on our journey, celebrating wonderful playtimes of the past. And when we asked you to help us set a new world record at an event we billed as the "world's largest marble game," you showed up... all 677 of you, to help the Museum make marble history.



Always looking forward, there's no end in sight to the fun and excitement. As autumn's refreshing chill falls upon us, it's a great time to come indoors and explore the Museum. Go to pages four and five, pick a program, find a friend and get set for a great day. One of the things we look forward to most is seeing YOU!

Jamie Berry, Executive Director



STOP BY THE MUSEUM STORE

Fun, Unique Merchandise Has Arrived

New items include nostalgic quilt patterns, vintage-styled doll quilts, transferware glass, mirrors, vases, trays and more... just in time for your holiday shopping!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.toyandminiaturemuseum.org

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