

DOLL Rx

A NEWSLETTER OF THE DOLL DOCTORS' ASSOCIATION

www.dolldoctorsassociation.com

Volume No. 15 Issue No. 1 Published every March, July and November

March 2010



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MARCH 2010

This is the time of year we like to look back over our accomplishments, trials and challenges of the past year and ahead to the opportunities of the future.

2010 brings not only a new year but the first full year for the new DDA executive. Rosalie, Beth, Fred and I all look forward to seeing the DDA having another successful year and to accomplish this we really need your input and ideas.

I thank those members who sent submissions to the newsletter and would encourage more of you to do so. I also welcome all the new members to the DDA and look forward to hearing from you.

We have selected a committee to investigate the feasibility of the DDA supporting a worthwhile cause. An initial report by June is forthcoming with closure scheduled for the end of this year. If you have any ideas you would like to provide to our committee in this respect please do not hesitate to contact me and I will pass your comments on to them.

Over the past six months Marjorie and I have given the DDA's website to a number of our customers suggesting they might benefit from our newsletters and association. We are very pleased to see several new members from around the world have joined as a result and I encourage all of you to solicit new members whenever possible.

My wife Marjorie and I are looking forward to the June 5th meeting of the DDA plus attending the Bellman's Doll Show that weekend. I would encourage all those who can attend a meeting to do so. The Washington area is rich in history with plenty of things to do nearby plus the Bellman's doll show is worth the trip.

Bye for now.



Beth Ryan

Fred Trussell

Doug Marchant

Rosalie Jostes

National Doll Doctors Association Meeting Minutes

Location: Gaithersburg, MD

Date: December 6, 2009

Opening Remarks:

Mr. Doug Marchant called meeting to order at approximately 7:35pm following a delicious dinner at the Hilton Hotel. Welcomes were extended by Mr. Marchant and professional photographer, Susan Mathias, snapped away many candid photos! Thank yous were expressed to Fred Trussell and Rosalie Jostes for all their hard work on DDA.

June 6 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Marchant asked for a motion for previous minute to be accepted and both Susan Mathias and JoAnn Mathias motioned and seconded simultaneously.

Treasurers Report

Mr. Fred Trussell announced \$2300.00 in dues brought in annually with a \$24.88 profit for the year. Mr. Trussell thanked Ila Marvel for cheaply producing the newsletter and mailing it to members who still preferred it in paper form. He announced we have about \$7200.00 in our checking account with 152 members paid. He also thanked Shallee Doll for her flawless work as Treasurer for the past two years. A motion was moved and carried to accept the treasurer's report as stated by Mr. Trussell.

Website Report

Ms. Rosalie Jostes reported there would be no restoration contest until further notice. She needed to update member's names and addresses. We need to encourage growth with State Chapters and new State Chapters. She suggested quarterly website changes to Randy the webmaster, such as Jan.1, then Apr. 1 and July 1...etc.

No Committee Reports

No Old Business

New Business

Mr Marchant would like to establish a committee to distribute moneys for a worthwhile cause, such as a Doll Museum like the Strong Museum in Rochester, NY. We as a club would give a charitable donation to the museum to support its doll exhibits and educational area within the doll exhibits. He elected certain members to investigate this museum further for presentation by our June meeting.

Mr. Marchant and members present then had a nice and lively discussion about a recent email he received from a lady in Spain complaining about a Doll Doctor who is certified by the DDA. Should we have a code of ethics? How would we enforce this code? Are we a policing club? The answer to all three questions was "NO". How was Mr. Marchant to really know if this email was truthful or vindictive? "It is not the purpose of the DDA to enforce a code of ethics", said strongly by Susan Mathias, "not enforceable!" We decided it is each individual's responsibility to see who they are dealing with as a doll doctor.

Finally, on Mr. Marchant's wish list was his DDA Publicity Pamphlet to get more individuals to the DDA. He asked if anyone else felt there was a need for it or not? What if they made it available off website...you could print off however many you needed to share with others. Mr. Trussell said he could put it into PDF form and it would be printable to everyone. It was agreeable by everyone present.

Now what to do with all this remaining DDA advertising Items??? Susan Mathias suggested and motioned that all remaining items be sent to State Chapters, divide them equally and ship to Presidents of State Chapters. Fred Trussell amended the motion, "To divide according to total membership of State Chapter and then ship to President of State Chapter." Marta Kinder seconds the amended motion and it was agreed by all attended.

-Beth Ryan, Secretary

BULLETIN BOARD FOR OUR MEMBERS

Because I restore antique cloth and felt dolls, I often run across a variety of very unsavory stuffing materials. My question has to do with originality and the ethical standards we try to follow as professional conservators. Here is just one example:

If a doll needing repair is very crudely stuffed with lumpy organic material, including small sticks poking (or threatening to poke) through the fabric, what would you do? What would you do if you found within that same contents -- what looked like insect parts or abandoned larvae cases? What if the doll contains this material but shows no outward signs of insect damage and no live insects are noted? **When your repair is done, would you restuff that back into the doll, just to maintain the doll's "originality?"** Or, would you toss the unsavory and partly unidentifiable organic (and often deteriorating) contents, and restuff the doll with something more sterile that would most likely contribute to preserving and conserving the doll for many more years to come?

Getting rid of insects is *not* my question. My question is about the stuffing itself. What would you do? Preserve the "originality" of the interior doll, or preserve the rest of the doll, including her important exterior, by replacing the old stuffing with something that may help the doll historically last for many more additional years?

I know what I would do. What would you do?

Stephanie Spika

thedollymomma@gmail.com

"I have a small all bisque right arm. I have been looking for years for a left arm. Does anyone know how to make a reverse mold for a bisque arm that is approximately 1.5" long? Any suggestions for making an arm (reverse mold or other ideas) would be appreciated. Many thanks!"

Doreen Liberty

dliberty@personainternet.com

Doll Doctors' Association

Next Meeting: Saturday, June 5, 2010

Gaithersburg Hilton Hotel

Dinner 6:00 p.m. (Dinner before the meeting is Dutch treat.)

Meeting 7:00 p.m.

For DDA dinner meeting reservations, please e-mail Rosalie Jostes at

vicepresident@dolldoctorsassociation.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance January 31, 2010 \$7211.43

Income June 1 to Jan 31

Interest	\$3.28
National Dues	\$1195.00
Chapter Dues	\$98.00
<u>Sales</u>	<u>\$118.60</u>
TOTAL	\$1414.88

Expenses June 1 to Jan 31

Bank expenses	\$31.52
Reconciliation	\$(96.15)
Newsletter	\$450.00
Postage, copies, etc.	\$537.89
<u>Web Site</u>	<u>\$399.45</u>
TOTAL	\$1322.71

Net Income \$92.17

Total Paid Members 157

Fred Trussell
Treasurer

Dear Members of DDA,

The DDA changed the policy on membership renewal some time ago. The membership renewal is due EACH JUNE 1 and is not pro-rated over the year. So whenever you paid the previous 2009-2010 dues it is **DUE ON JUNE 1, 2010** again for 2010-2011. Please be prompt in sending in your dues.

On July 1, 2010 we will modify the Hospital map for those who have not paid their dues and it will be several months until it is changed again.

Your prompt payment allows the DDA to collect interest for a full year on that dues payment. For those that have made multiple year payments please be aware I will be notifying you that your dues are paid for the next year so you will know in advance that you do not have to pay this year.

Chapter members please send your payments to your Chapter Treasurer.

Everyone who is **not** a Chapter member, please send your \$15.00 to me at the address on the form by June 1, 2010.

Remember I do know where you all live :(

Fred Trussell
Treasurer, DDA

WHO AM I?

-Rosalie Jostes

Can you identify this doll? She's 17" tall with wax over a papier-mâché shell. Her body is made of cloth with wired-on wooden arms that connect through her body under the shoulder plate. She has a curly gray mohair wig. Her dress is made of ruffled layers of pink organdy which has faded and is melting, and her shoes are green felt heels. She may have once held a fan in her left hand. Her face paint is simple with two eyelashes at the corner of each eye. Lips are two-tone rose with the top lip painted darker than the bottom. Her bloomers are stamped with a simple black ink stamp, "A Lynda Doll".



If you have such a doll and would like to submit it to WHO AM I? please e-mail a clear picture of the doll's face or a full body shot, and a picture or full details of any mark it might have. We will try to identify it for you. If we can't, we will publish the picture with clues and let the membership try to solve the mystery. Send your entries to me, Rosalie Jostes, at vicepresident@dolldoctorsassociation.com.

Pennsylvania Chapter News



The PA Chapter of the Doll Doctors Association met in Annville, PA on October 24, 2009 with seven members attending. We elected new officers for a two year term beginning April 2010. They are: President – Leslie Beltz; Vice President – Miriam Farlow; Secretary – Joan Strong; Treasurer – Judy Emerson; Public Relations (DDA newsletter) –Valarie Moyer; Historian – Spring Seldomridge

This meeting focused on repairs of “modern” dolls, both hard plastic and vinyl. Many ideas were shared as we examined some patients with problems. The relative merits of many techniques and materials were discussed.

We continue to search for a regular meeting location central to our members, rather than meeting in different locations each time. Our next meeting will be Saturday, April 17, 2010 in Gap, PA and will focus on the installation of brush eyelashes.

-Submitted by Judy Emerson

MOLDS ARE DANGEROUS TO THE HEALTH OF YOU AND YOUR DOLLS

Doug Marchant

A few months ago my wife, Marjorie, and I attended a doll auction which had a wide variety of dolls for auction. We were inspecting a lot of Chatty Cathy dolls and to our dismay discovered that almost all had a white mold that resembled talcum powder mainly on their eyes and necks. The other indication of the mold was that sweet sickly damp smell that is usually associated with books from a damp basement. We had learned from past experiences that this mold quickly transfers when in the vicinity of other suitable hosts and it is very hard if not impossible to eliminate. We did not buy any dolls at this auction for fear of transferring this mold to ours or our customer's collections.

Molds are very hard to control and normal indoor conditions provide a suitable environment for the growth of a wide range of fungal spores. The presence of moisture or high relative humidity is a sufficient catalyst for the germination and growth of fungal spores. Materials normally present in a home provide nutrients for fungal growth and these include items such as wood or plastics. The presence of mold growth is sufficient reason to undertake remedial measures such as controlling of humidity which provides one means of preventing or limiting growth.

The relationship between mold and health complaints should be of concern to those who are working on dolls that have any type of molds. Health studies have shown high correlations between health problems and dampness or mold growth especially among children.

In a Canadian study, 38 percent of houses were either damp or had mold growth. The presence of lower respiratory symptoms was approximately 50 percent higher in these homes while upper respiratory symptoms were almost 25 percent higher. The presence of these molds was associated with coughs, colds, and eye and skin irritation. A study in Finland found that 52 to 58 percent of houses had moisture problems and that this was associated with a higher risk of respiratory ailments, especially in children. Asthma can be aggravated or even induced by exposure to certain fungal species. Allergic rhinitis can occur in sensitive individuals who are regularly exposed to both fungal agents and other allergens, such as pollen, dust mites, and animal dander.

I remember reading an article in the Doll World magazine about a doll doctor who almost died from a virus spread and carried by rodents which she had contracted by working on some filthy dirty dolls.

In summary be careful when working on dolls as they may be dangerous to your health.

United Federation of Doll Clubs Convention

July 18-23, 2010 ~ Hyatt Regency ~ Chicago, Illinois

We would like to coordinate a gathering of Doll Doctor Association members who will be in Chicago for the UFDC convention in July. If you would like to participate, please contact Carol Sieburg at sieburgc@aol.com. A time and place will be announced at the June meeting and published in the July newsletter (which will come out the end of June).

Michigan Chapter News

Minutes of Meeting
October 26, 2009

Michigan Chapter of DDA met in October at the home of Louise Kush, with eight members present.



We are starting a new project, to make a classic wooden doll. This is not easy!!



-Continued

We are using soft wood, like Balsam and Cherry, or Pine. Some are trying dowels 3/4 " thick and using wood carving tools to make the forms.



It is rather difficult to get the feeling of the doll on the wood, so some tried to estimate the placement, while others tried tracing and drawing on the wood.



That beginning is rather humorous!



Michael made a large wooden doll, several years ago, which is quite impressive!

-Continued

We are using many different size and types of tools to see what works best with our piece of wood: chisels, wood carving tools, mat knife, x-acto blade, files of various sizes, saws and sandpaper.



At the end of the first meeting, things are rather funny, but we know we will improve over the winter months and hope that by spring some beautiful images will begin to appear!



We will be meeting again in April with new enthusiasm!

-Madelaine Conboy

Maryland/Virginia Chapter News

Yes, we did have a chapter meeting in October. My apologies to the members present Susan Mathias and Pat Dean for not reporting sooner. After lunch at the Tobacco Company in Richmond, I presented a program on making a simple wig.

For most of us, making a wig seems like a task that takes more time and effort than compared to just buying a wig at a doll show or on the internet. But the results can be very rewarding especially when you are faced with a small doll or larger one for which you want a certain style and look. Here are some easy tips to make a doll wig for an antique bisque doll or any other wigged doll.

First you will need wefting either in mohair or human hair. You can purchase wefted mohair from various doll supply companies, or you can look for an old human hair wig at a thrift store. Be careful when purchasing an old wig as some synthetic ones look and feel like human hair. If using an old wig, cut the wefting off the wig cap.

You will need some buckram which is purchased at a fabric store, usually in the interfacing section. Cut a piece that fits over the top of the doll head. Here comes the fun part- put the buckram in some water to soften the piece. After placing a plastic bag over the doll's head, put the wet buckram over the head. Smooth out the buckram over the head and place a rubber band around the head where you want the wig cap to fit. Let the buckram dry, usually an hour or so. After drying, remove the rubber band and cut the buckram following the mark around the head that was left by the band.



-Continued

Now you need to decide if you wish the wig to have a center part, side part with bangs or no bangs. Using the example of a center part wig, take a pen or marker and draw a line on the buckram where you want the part. Then mark where the wefting lines will be sewn on.

To apply the wefting, you can either sew by machine or hand or glue with Tacky Glue. If you use glue to set the rows, you will not be able to wash the wig in the future. Water will dissolve the glue.



If you are doing a center part with bangs, your first row of wefting will run all the way around the buckram edge. Attach the other rows of wefting until the buckram is covered except where the center part lies. For the part, take a length of wefting that is double the length of the part line. Fold the wefting in half and sew both halves together. When you turn that piece over, you will have a perfect part which can be sewn on the part line. Next follows the placing of the wig on the doll so you can cut the bangs, trim the length, set the curls and now your dolly has a new wig!

Our next chapter meeting will be on March 20th at 11:30 at the Tobacco Company in Richmond. Anyone interested is encouraged to join us!

Happy Dolling,

JoAnn Mathias

Illinois Chapter News

Editor's Note: While the attached article may not be a doll doctor note per se, the executive board felt it was an important example of how Doll Doctors can reach out to their communities.

FINDING MY HOLIDAY JOY!!

Picture this! Thanksgiving has been my holiday for several years to entertain my side of the family. My mother's china is washed, dried and the crystal for the shrimp cocktails are waiting to be filled. The silver and brass are polished, the crystal vases are filled with red and gold ornaments, and everything that doesn't have a chance to escape my onslaught has a red or gold ribbon around it. All in my entire house is tastefully and elegantly decorated for my big Thanksgiving entertaining day. So I called my family and one by one they declined my invitation. None of them were coming to my holiday celebration!! They had all made alternate plans, completely ignoring the fact that I was looking forward to MY DAY. I was so disappointed that the word "DISAPPOINTED" doesn't even describe what I felt.

Sure, I was going to entertain my in-laws for their Christmas get-together, and yes I was hosting a get-together of the Illinois Chapter of DDA – but –THEY WEREN'T MY FAMILY, MY JOY!!

So like any manic-depressive, I panicked and thought of other ways to bring me joy: I'd fix dinner and drive to where the homeless lived and serve them food; I'd pick up about 20 people and bring them home for dinner; I'd rent a hall and serve anyone who entered, and on and on and on. Thus was my desperation to have a Thanksgiving celebration.

Once my obsession with Thanksgiving entertaining ebbed, I was able to look at the bigger picture. Thank God!! Since, my husband and I were not exchanging Christmas gifts; I decided to use the money we would usually spend on each other for a charitable cause. I decided to investigate the number of homeless families in my neighborhood and see if I could make a difference. I called the police station, believe me no help there! I then called my alderman's office. A lovely lady told me of the teenagers who attended a high school just down the street from my home. These teenagers lived on the street, because of abusive homes, parents with drug problems, and many other reasons. Now, remember, these are teenagers!! So I called the school and talked with the counselor who counsels these kids. She told me they all have perfect attendance, none of them are on drugs, or other substances, and they all maintain good grades. Their only problem in her eyes was their homelife was an impossible situation and they would never grow into good human beings if they stayed. So, they choose the street and the safety of the school along with others like themselves. I was told the school periodically gave them gift certificates for Subway, and also bus passes so they can get around the city.

I then thought of all the things a teenager needed, hygienically, to appear normal in their high school. I knew these kids could come into school early, shower and eat breakfast before school started. I knew the school gym provided soap, shampoo and hair dryers for their use. I then decided to supply these kids with the most basic of human necessities for their every day existence in school. I went to Wal-Mart and purchased deodorant, hair gels, pre and after shaves for the boys, razors for girls and boys, toothpaste, floss, underpants, socks and tampons. I don't remember what else I picked up, but I thought about getting up for the day and what you need, besides clothes, to ready yourselves for the world especially when you are their age. I think I did good! One of my nieces sent me a check for \$100.00 to help pay for everything. Another niece, picked up travel sized necessities, including wash cloths, towels, and blankets for those kids who travel from shelter to shelter. One of my good friends contacted friends who had teenagers and was able to score winter coats, sweatshirts, and jeans.

I cannot even express how much joy and fulfillment I personally got from giving this Christmas. And, to know my nieces and friends were willing to help me in this endeavor, made every disappointment I had at Thanksgiving time simply disappear. This school is now my project! This month I'm donating supplies for washing clothes as well as Peanut Butter and cans of SPAM.

-Continued

We all as doll doctors have big hearts and are all about giving back to our clients that which they treasure most. In our case, their dolls, their youth, and their families' memories. But, think of this, by contributing in our own neighborhoods, in whichever way we can, we are also giving to the future generation. Be it a single teenager, an entire family, an abused mother and her children, whatever. We are improving their memories of the past, in the same way we restore our clients' memories of their past. The difference is – we can make the future better than the past for the people we help now!

My club members Phil and Rosalie Jostes are now involved in donating, on a steady basis, whatever they can for the homeless families, and Junior High Schoolers in their neighborhood, the Plainfield, IL area.

Carol J. Sieburg
Secretary/Treasurer Illinois Chapter

CHAPTER COACH NEWS

No inquiries or contacts were made since the last newsletter.

-Linda Janney, Chapter Coach
25206 Singing Rain
San Antonio TX 78258

New York Chapter News

No Report

Texas Chapter News

The February meeting was not held. Dates for future meetings have not been determined.

California Chapter News

Southern California DDA Meeting report by Charyle Chiles, President.

We are hoping to start meeting again this Spring. We have stayed in touch via e-mail, but it isn't quite the same as getting together.

Even though I was caught up with moving accumulations of 40 plus years into a new place, I ended up doing a compo job. Sorry, I didn't take "before" photos. This was a labor of love for a doll owner, Janet, who wanted her **Rosemary** fixed up a little before giving her to her Niece. Janet wanted the doll kept in her family, tho she has no children of her own. I wanted to get the doll back to her as quickly as possible.

Janet had received the doll from her Aunt when she was 9 years old. Rosemary's body had been wrapped in a blanket for most of the time it was on display in a buggy, so only the face paint had faded. The doll has a human hair wig which had lost its curl, so I suggested a bonnet for her even though Rosemary had a bonnet when Janet received the doll. As a 9 year old, she didn't like the bonnet and had tossed it. However, she said she'd now consider one. Janet had dressed Rosemary in one of her own baby dresses as well as a pair of her baby shoes. Rosemary's body paint is beginning to flake a bit, leaving small spots. Janet had the doll in a bag with a number of Teddy Bears and dropped the bag, not remembering that Rosemary was in the bottom. The right wrist cracked at the joint, but did not break off. I met with Janet to give her an assessment, and encouraged her to have me do minimal work on the doll. Brown glue had run down the forehead which I was able to diminish. I filled the wrist crack with white epoxy, carefully repainted the white layer and then sealed the surface. Since this paint is flaking, I found the more I worked with it, the more it flaked. You'll see that the finger paint is also flaking, but I sealed it so it won't lose more paint. It just won't look brand new.

Effanbee dolls often came with a heart shaped paper tag with the name of the doll and the year it was produced. I thought Janet might want to do something similar. I made a small heart with Rosemary's information from the shoulder plate, and then left the back of the heart blank so Janet could document the doll's history before giving her away. I obtained a small plastic bag – like what used to be sold with "beanie babies" to protect the heart. I attached the heart to that repaired right wrist so that anyone picking up Rosemary will not risk damaging the right wrist with heart label.

Janet was very happy with Rosemary. As I often find, after they see the improved doll, they think about keeping the doll for a while longer before giving them away.



From New DDA Member
Sandi Palmer:

I worked on this little girl for a
friend of mine in 2007.

I was able to get her home for
her 60th Christmas!!



Doll Doctors' Association

Website

Be sure to check out all the features of the Doll Doctors' Association website located at www.dolldoctorsassociation.com.

An index of past articles has been added to the newsletter tab.

The password for website access has changed!! Reminder: It is case sensitive! So be sure to capitalize the first letter. The new password is:

Dolly2time

Publication Deadlines

For publication in

March

July

November

Article must be received by:

February 15th

June 15th

October 15th

Anything received after those dates may be held over until the next publication. Feel free to send your article at ANY time, however! (Of course, we all know that if it weren't for the 11th Hour, a lot of things would NEVER get done!!)

PLEASE notify me of any changes in your email address or regular mailing address. Each publication has several returns. We want to make sure that everyone receives a newsletter!

-Ila Marvel, Editor

3049 Morris Road Bismarck ND 58503

imarvel@dolldoctorsassociation.com



Answer to WHO AM I?

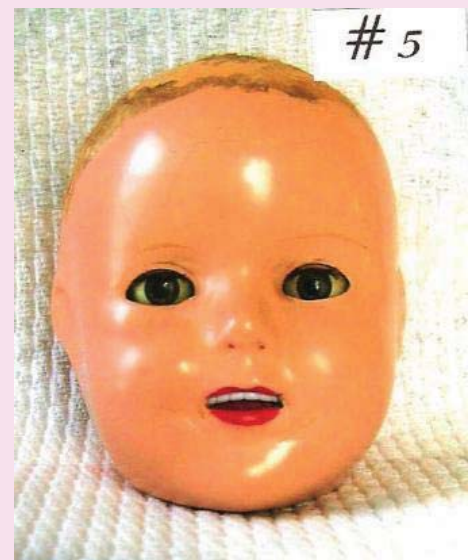
Answer: We believe this doll is an artist doll from the 1920's or 30's. She resembles boudoir dolls or lamp dolls but not quite. She may be one of a kind, or she may have "sisters" who are similar. We could not find any information on a company or person designing "A Lynda Doll". If you have any information on her, please contact us and we'll share it.

Shirley's Journey

-Submitted by Marjorie Marchant



Shirley was having more than a bad hair day when she came to me. I started by removing her wig. Her teeth were missing and when I looked inside her head, I found a small remnant of the red felt fabric that was used to back them. I proceeded to unstring Shirley and replace her missing teeth with a set that I had purchased from Dollspart. Unfortunately, I did not have a vintage pair in that size to use. You can see (below) the small, fuzzy piece of the remnant felt. I attached her new teeth to a little square from an old red banner. Lip colour was then added which started to bring life back into her face! Her overall condition was good so I then proceeded to restring her.



Then it was time to work on her original blond mohair wig. I gently needle combed the mohair, then curled the wig using end papers, old perm rods and a small amount of spray (1 part hair spray to 1 part water). I heat-set the new curls by placing the wig near a 60 watt light bulb at 15 minute intervals per area, never leaving it unattended. The wig then cooled overnight and the perm rods were removed.



I reglued the wig to her composition head and then dressed her in her original pink pleated dress.



Shirley's journey was over and she was ready to return to her owner!!

Doll Doctors' Association Renewal 2010 - 2011

Name _____
Hospital Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State/Province _____
Country _____ Zip code/Postal code _____
E-mail Address _____ Web Site _____
Phone # _____ I am a member of State Chapter _____

I would like my hospital listed on the DDA Website Hospital map: Yes ____ No ____

ANNUAL DUES:	1 Year	2 Years	Total of Check
	\$15.00	\$30.00	_____

State Chapter dues vary from Chapter to Chapter and are in addition to the National dues. If you are a member of a State Chapter it is recommended that you give this form and pay both your National and State Chapter dues through the Chapter Treasurer. The following are the current state chapters recognized by DDA National: California, Maryland/Virginia, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, and Texas.

All non-chapter members send in the completed Membership Renewal form and dues check made out to ***"Doll Doctors Association"*** to:

Fred Trussell - Treasurer
Doll Doctors Association
1804 Cam Fella St. SE
Albuquerque, NM 87123

YOU MAY PAY USING PAYPAL. Add \$1 to defray the cost of fees and use

Treasurer@dolldoctorsassociation.com

for PayPal payment.

PLEASE FILL OUT AND EMAIL THIS FORM TO FRED AS WELL. THANKS!