



*“For the Love of Children”
Eleventh Members’ Only Print*

The Third Johnson Year 1997

As the Society began its second decade, only one change occurred on the Board of Directors — Carl VanTine of Clifton Park, New York, replaced Roger Jorn. The remaining directors and all the officers continued on in their positions.

However, in April the Society honored two of its previous leaders by planting memorial trees on the grounds of the P. Buckley Moss Museum one rainy April day. Matt Harbison, the Society’s first treasurer and the primary membership record keeper from 1987-1990, died on July 24, 1996. Suzanne Boothe, chapter chairperson and three-time chairperson of chapter training weekends, passed away

on January 29, 1997.

The most significant change during the year resulted from the June departure of Mary Ann Guerrieri as Executive Director. The job description was rewritten, and a search committee was appointed to review the numerous applications and conduct interviews.

During the approximately four-month interim, Al Wells, director and treasurer on the Board, capably held things together. His willingness to accept this responsibility allowed the search committee sufficient time to fill the vacant position without interruption in service to members. In November, the Board hired Carter Hopkins, a native Virginian, as the new Executive Director.

Physical changes occurred at the office itself. With its lease expiring in 1996, the Society considered alternate sites in the Waynesboro area. Instead, it leased the entire second floor of the building, reconfigured the space, and did some major renovating. It then rented about 15 percent of the space to the P. Buckley Moss Foundation for Children's Education. The major improvement, though, was correcting problems with the heating and air conditioning. No longer should snow sneak in beneath the French doors to the balcony!

FOUNDATION

After operating with a volunteer board of directors since its inception in 1995, P. Buckley Moss Children's Charities hired Brian Carroll as its Chief Executive Officer in February of 1997. Two months later, its board changed the name to P. Buckley Moss Foundation for Children's Education. It felt the new name better demonstrated its commitment to improving the quality of education for students with learning difficulties.

The first project the Foundation assumed was the LD Teacher Award. The 1995 award went to Kyle Kemp of Tulsa, Oklahoma; the 1996 award went to Marc Schimsky of Smithtown, New York. No award was given in 1997 because of a change in the deadline from October to May.

For about 18 months, Brian divided his time between his duties as the CEO of the Foundation and the position of consultant to the Society. For the latter, three of his

primary responsibilities were to supervise the ACT program, create the web site, and develop and oversee the scholarship program.

PROGRAMS

Several programs began in 1997 which continue to exist. The 128-page history of the first ten years of the Society, *For the Love of Children*, was released in May at a cost of \$10. Beginning two years later, it became a free benefit to new members but continued to be available for purchase by anyone until supplies were depleted in 2003.



1997 membership card featuring "Royal Pair"

As the popularity of the Internet grew, it became apparent that the Society needed a presence there too. Its first web site was operated through the free facilities of Bridgewater College. Efforts also began to develop pages for each chapter in order to increase their visibility and attract members. Over the years, the site has improved considerably in its sophistication and its amount of information.

With Pat no longer making appearances at gallery shows, much discussion involved ways to increase Society membership. The voucher

program remains one of the most popular methods. A member can receive a \$5 voucher for each new member recruited. Vouchers may be accumulated and applied to renewal dues up to a maximum of the renewal fee; they must be used within a 12-month period. Members recruiting more than that number during that time could apply the additional voucher(s) to a gift membership.

The Society could not exist without dedicated volunteers, both at the national level and at the chapter level. To honor these people, the Officer Recognition Program kicked off at the 1997 Chapter Training weekend. All individuals who serve at least one year as president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer of a chapter or of the Society's Board of Directors receive a golden geese pin. Since the president's position carries additional responsibilities, the presidents also receive pewter stars to wear behind their golden geese pins.

Various prototypes were also developed throughout the year for a pin to honor volunteers who participated in the ACT program after one full year of service. This recognition began in 2000.

IOWA CONVENTION

The Moss Portfolio once again sponsored two conventions this year, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on May 2-4 and Dayton, Ohio, on September 26-28.

What most people on Friday's tour in Iowa recall first was how incredibly cold and wet the day was. The first stop was the Herbert Hoover National Historic

Site, where highlights were Hoover's birthplace cottage and the fascinating Presidential Library-Museum. However, the driving wind and rain blew so many umbrellas inside out that most people cut short their meandering to the assorted buildings.

Members of Moss Reflections Chapter, led by Connie Bender and Sharon Sowadski, arranged the tour, including cleaning the Secrest Barn and setting up for the lunch. Featured in the large convention print, the octagonal barn was built in 1883 and has been restored. Thank goodness piping hot vegetable soup and coffee supplemented the delicious box lunches. Malcolm conducted an impromptu auction of three cardboard lunch boxes on which Pat had drawn sketches. The activity raised \$595 which was donated to the barn's restoration fund.

Over 2,200 people attended the convention, which was the final time that Joe and Ellen Waterbury set up the Moss Doll House for attendees to enjoy. The



Judy Roe doll sits with the 1,300 dolls which were donated to Iowa children's hospitals.

Costume Parade, always popular in Iowa, again drew numerous entries, including several chapters. Winners were the “Quilting Grannies” of Moss Country Friends Chapter.

The most unique component of this convention was the Doll Project. Judy Roe of Central Iowa Chapter reported at last year’s Chapter Training sharing session on her chapter’s service project. The creation of stuffed body outline dolls was promoted in the *Sentinel* for several months to all members, not just chapters. Over 1,300 dolls were sent to Judy or delivered to the convention to be donated to four Iowa children’s hospitals. The chapter set up two playpens at the convention to house the dolls, which quickly overflowed their new homes. This was the first major project since 1993 that the Society sponsored.

In addition to the generosity exhibited with the Doll Project, other events raised \$9,495 for the Foundation. The 15 items in Saturday’s auction of the framing competition pieces raised \$5,590. Pat decorated seven of the stuffed dolls which Central Iowa Chapter members and friends dressed; the raffle of these raised \$1,030.

One highlight at Saturday’s dinner dance was the entertainment provided by Malcolm Henderson, Joe Waterbury, and Bill Abigt, owner of M & J Gallery in Ottumwa. Dressed in their skirts and

wigs, they really dazzled on the dance floor!

OHIO CONVENTION

The first stop on the optional Friday tour at the Dayton convention was Clifton Mill, where two busloads of collectors had breakfast. During a tour of the mill, Pat and Malcolm turned the wheel to start the 20-foot water wheel for the largest water-powered grist mill in existence. While most of the group wandered to the shops in the area, a few hardy souls hiked the trails along the Clifton Gorge with its scenic waterfalls and spectacular scenery.

A refreshing stop after that was Young’s Jersey Dairy for pralines and cream ice cream. The tour concluded with stops at a couple of Greene County’s covered bridges.

The convention featured two charity recipients. PALS for Life, a Dayton area breast cancer support group, again sponsored the Moss Walk. That event, along with raffles, print orders, and donations, raised over \$13,000 for the organization. The etching raffle and Saturday night’s auction raised \$6,484 for the P. Buckley Moss Foundation for Children’s Education. The most unique items auctioned were a Moss print framed with one of Pat’s paint brushes and an “Izzy” doll with pins from the 1996 Atlanta Olympics; the latter was donated by Sue and Larry Brissey.

Again a chapter won the Costume Parade — Trees of Life Chapter from Defiance, Ohio, depicting “Nine Lives.” Also visiting at this convention was Mrs.



*“Blue Madonna”
renewal brooch*

Surefire, the character created by Malcolm at the 1994 conventions. The Moss Portfolio Newsletter reported that she had retired temporarily following an accident while dancing to "Beauty and the Beast" on a table in a bar in Biloxi, Mississippi. Released from the employment of Pat and Malcolm, she had spent the last three years in the Highlands of Scotland.

This convention may be the one that President Noreen Newman Johnson remembers the least. Feeling ill after dinner, she, accompanied by a few friends, spent the remainder of the evening becoming acquainted with the Dayton hospital emergency staff!

SOCIETY TRIP — CHARLESTON & SAVANNAH
Forty-one travelers enjoyed visiting Charleston, South Carolina, and Savannah, Georgia, on June 15-21, two beautiful cities which have been nicknamed the "Ladies of the South."

The group strolled along Charleston's noisy Battery and strained to hear the guide as she pointed out some of the city's most exquisite homes. Another stop was the Nathaniel Russell House, with its graceful, free-flying or floating staircase. The afternoon visit was America's most photographed plantation, Boone Hall, a 738-acre estate with its famous one-half mile avenue of massive Spanish moss-draped live oaks, the oldest of which were planted in 1743. A panoramic view of Charleston Harbor and a visit to Fort Sumter, where the Civil War began in 1861, headlined Tuesday's sightseeing.



Several of the travelers stand beneath the massive Angel Oak.

Charles Kuralt, distinguished travel writer, described Magnolia Plantation and its gardens as "my greatest Charleston pleasure." Besides offering the oldest major public garden in America, it is also America's oldest man-made attraction, having been open to the public annually since the late 1860's. On Wednesday, many of the group admired those gardens, while others rode through the swamp looking for alligators. Several tried out the Old Charleston Juggling Board. Legend has it that there was never an unmarried daughter at the home that had a Juggling Board.

A stop at the Charleston Tea Plantation, featuring the only tea grown in North America, was cut short by fire ants and a rain shower, giving the group time to buy out the souvenir shop. The final stop en route to Savannah was the 65-foot tall Angel Oak on Johns Island with its massive limbs shading an area of 17,000 square feet. Resembling an angel in a flowing gown, it has been reported, but never substantiated scientifically, to be over 1,400 years old. Pat and Malcolm

were waiting outside the historic Hampton Inn to welcome the travelers to Savannah.

A special treat Thursday morning was a visit to the oldest art museum in the South, The Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences. Its staff provided refreshments (great strawberries), and visitors were amazed with the mansion and its permanent collection of paintings, prints, sculpture and decorative arts, and five Viennese stone statues in front of the portico.

Dinner at Mrs. Wilkes' Boarding House was truly the place to enjoy down-home Southern cooking served family style, a feast of over 20 dishes. Instead of working off the meal with a long walk, the group took carriage rides which centered around John Berendt's 1994 best-seller, *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*. Directed by Clint Eastwood, the movie version had just been filmed in the city. The book and film became the impetus for a tourism boom for Savannah.

An impromptu gathering at the hotel delighted everyone. All identified their favorite piece of Moss art and explained reasons for their selections. Pat sketched a black and white called "Savannah Girl." Everyone's names were put into a box to determine the piece's new owner. Ginny Myers tried hard to draw her own name but pulled out Marlyn De Waard's instead. Pat also sketched one of her marvelous birds, which was auctioned off with some spirited bidding.

Friday's lunch stop at the Crab Shack at Chimney Creek, "where the Elite eat in

their bare feet," offered an extra surprise. One of the young waiters was a Moss fan from Springfield, Ohio, not many miles from where several members of the group lived.

CHAPTER TRAINING

For the first time, a mini-tour preceded the Chapter Training weekend on July 25-27. Forty-six people on two buses traveled to some of the significant sites in western Virginia which Pat has painted. Planned by Judy Cary and Peter Rippe, the Thursday visits or photo stops included the Daniel Harrison House, the Dayton Farmers' Market, Bushong House at New Market, Old Brick Union Church, and Massanutten School. It was challenging for Peter to move back and forth between the buses so that both groups could hear his explanations!

The group spent Thursday night at Mimslyn Inn in Luray, where Pat's elder son John was the chef. They were graciously greeted with wine, chocolate covered strawberries, and other goodies. Also meeting the group here were Pat, her daughter Mary Donnelly and granddaughters Katie and Sarah, and her daughter and son-in-law Ginny and Corrado Gabellieri and grandson Picco. Most of the group wanted their breakfast omelettes personally prepared by John! Friday's stops included Monticello, Tinkling Spring Church, lunch at the Buckhorn Tavern, and the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace.

The 130 attendees from 32 chapters continued their education at this year's

session by moving on to college, Bridgewater College, that is, site of the meetings. For many people, the most challenging part of dorm life was having to share the restroom facilities with about 20 other people. Another was eating college cafeteria food. But they quickly adapted and created a camaraderie, albeit noisy, not found in hotels.

Once again a highlight was the “share the light” session, during which each chapter offered one of its “bright” ideas. Presenters to the entire group included Peter Rippe of the Museum; Kyle Kemp, 1995 LD Award Winner; Karen Vermaire Fox, former Leadership Resource Manager for the Council for Exceptional Children; and Brian Carroll of the Foundation.

Other program topics throughout the weekend included Protect Your Moss Investment, Officer Positions and Meeting Procedures, LD “Hands-On” Activities in the Classroom, Moss Schools Slide Presentation, numerous Chapter Projects, Motivating Chapter Members, Help! for Struggling Chapters, Sightseeing with Moss Art, Society Publications, Chapter Promotions, and the ACT Program.

One of the LD “Hands-On” Activities taught by Kyle Kemp was creating a hot air balloon out of tissue paper. After the weather cooled a bit following dinner at The Barn, the proud creators launched their balloons. Some were more successful than others!

The evening’s raffle, with tickets sold for \$5 for an arm’s length, raised \$937 for the Foundation. Prizes were the items



Pat, Society president Noreen Newman Johnson, and Museum director Peter Rippe display the Society Presidential Plaque, which will hang in the Museum.

each chapter brought to illustrate their chapter or their geographic area.

The Officer Recognition Program, described earlier, was launched on Friday evening. Also unveiled was a special Presidential Plaque, which will hang in a place of honor at the Museum.

BOARD REUNION

While assisting with the history book, *For the Love of Children*, Board members enjoyed reminiscing about some of the earlier days. They began discussing how good it would be to see some of the early leaders and officers again. These important volunteers were invited to attend a reunion to celebrate the first decade of the Society.

Several of them enjoyed a special weekend together in Williamsburg, Virginia, on Nov. 15-16. Former leaders in attendance included Anne Harbison, president 1987-1990; Ray Donn, vice president 1989-1992; Marlene Ham, director and vice president 1989-1994; Neil Lapp, director and treasurer 1988-



Board members in attendance who served with Anne Harbison, the first president, were (front) Judy Bush, Ginger Cloonan, Anne, Pat, Marlene Ham; (back) Malcolm, Neil Lapp, Harold Henning, and Ray Donn.

1990; Judy Bush, secretary 1990; Mary Winkless, treasurer 1994-1995; Roger Jorn, director 1993-1996; and Ron Kingen, chapter chairperson 1988. They joined all current directors and officers except one. Art Smith, director and legal advisor, was unable to attend due to business commitments; ironically, Art was the person who originally suggested the reunion.

The Saturday afternoon activities began with a slide program by Deb Weisgerber which recapped the first 10

years. President Noreen Newman Johnson then surprised Anne Harbison with her announcement of the establishment of the P. Buckley Moss Society—Anne and Matt Harbison Award. To begin in 1998, the award of \$1,000 would go to a high school senior with learning difficulties who intended to further his/her education. It would be renewable for three additional, consecutive years.

The group spent the remainder of the afternoon socializing, picture taking, and looking through the 10 wonderful pictorial history books compiled by historian Mary Wasik.

After an outstanding dinner, Noreen presented each former and present leader with an oval cherry wood plaque with a “Blue Madonna” brooch inset on the top and a brass plate with name and years of service below. She also presented Pat and Malcolm with special thank-you gifts, a lovely silver box with a heart for her and a flying machine mobile for him.

At the farewell Sunday morning brunch, past and present Board members also received the Officer Recognition golden geese pins.

