

Quinlan Museum Doll & Teddy Bear Newsletter

Volume 2, No. 13

December 2023

Barbie Mania

There have been over 40 animated Barbie movies since 1987, but this year's Barbie movie was the first live-action version. The new Barbie movie has been extremely popular. Most of the visitors to the Quinlan Museum admit they have seen it. Susan Quinlan went with some of the members of the Santa Barbara Doll Club where she wore one of her vintage Barbie shirts from years ago.



Seeing a movie of human actors is one thing, but seeing the real thing – actual Barbies – is what it is all about. All of the Barbies in the Quinlan Museum love to have visitors who want to reminisce

www.quinlanmuseum.com • (805) 687-8901 • sq@quinlanmuseum.com

© Susan Quinlan Doll & Teddy Bear Museum & Library • 122 W. Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 3218, Santa Barbara, CA 93130 • Museum Telephone: (805) 730-1707

Museum Hours: Friday & Saturday (11am-4pm) Sunday -Thursday (by appointment, just call (805) 687-4623)

about the days they played with them. They also enjoy hearing Susan Quinlan explain about their origin, history and roles played in doll collections as part of her tours for visitors. Barbies can be found in various sections of the three museum galleries. In the Toy Hall of Fame Display there are two of Susan's favorite Barbies – Pink Splendor and Billions of Dreams. There are also the three Russian Faberge Barbies and some of her favorite Bob Mackie designed Barbies.





Some of Barbie's original furniture is also on display. It is mid-century modern, a period that fits right in with current buying and decorating favorites of house buyers. It was originally made to be used by 8" or 10" dolls, but Barbie was so tall that she needed her own bed. The couches could be transformed into beds for the smaller dolls by dropping down the backing behind the cushions.



Another display in the California section of the museum has Barbies that have a specific connection of this state, such as Malibu Barbie, California Dream Barbie, Cali Girls Barbie, Sees Candy Barbie, and San Francisco FAO Schwartz Barbie.



Additional Barbies appear in other display cases as well, such as, James Dean, Lucille Ball, Elvis Presley, Cher, Frank Sinatra, Diana Ross, Barbara Streisand, The Osmonds, and other celebrities.



So if you are feeling nostalgic after the movie, and all of your Barbies have left you, come to the museum and take a walk down memory lane. You may see some of your other old favorites as well. There also are lots of collectable 10-20 year old Hallmark Barbie Christmas ornaments in the museum gift shop.

Do Something Fun During the Christmas Season

Try something different in Santa Barbara during the holidays with family, friends or visiting relatives with a visit to the Susan Quinlan Doll & Teddy Bear Museum, the largest museum of its kind in the U.S.

Visit the Museum Collection

Visit the Quinlan Museum to relive your childhood and to share your experiences with those close to you –

both young and old

- Over 4,000 dolls and bears on view in 150 display cases (only S.B. museum with as many display cases)

- Special display of “Toys of Our Childhood,” based on the National Toy Hall of Fame inductees
- Young boys especially enjoy the Star Wars and Toys of Our Childhood collections
- Largest display of one-of-a-kind dolls and teddy bears made by world leading artists
- Have a picture taken of you, your child or grandchild with “Bear” the 6’ teddy bear, or standing by “Wart” the 6’ warthog, or “Hoffmann” the 6’ nutcracker
- Enjoy the large painted murals of dolls and teddy bears in Santa Barbara scenes on the walls and teddy bear clouds painted on the ceiling
- Most common comment about the museum: “Too much to see in one visit”
- Personal tour of the Museum conducted by the owner Susan Quinlan upon request

Directions: Driving to Santa Barbara from the north or south on Highway US 101, and take the Carrillo St. exit (exit 98). Go east along Carrillo St. for three blocks to De La Vina St. Turn right and go one block to Canon Perdido St. Turn left and go a half-block to the Museum at 122 W. Canon Perdido St. There is street parking and **75-minute free parking** at the 50 W. Canon Perdido St. garage, across from Paseo Nuevo Shopping Mall and a block from the Museum. The entire Museum is handicap accessible.

Free and Discounted Museum Admission

To give you a reason to get out of the house during the Christmas season, the Museum currently offers **free admission to the Museum for senior citizens and 50% discounts to all others (\$3.50 adults and \$2.00 children).**

Private-By-Appointment Museum Admission

The museum is open to the public 11am to 4pm on Friday and Saturday, or you can leave a message at (805) 687-4623 or sq@quinlanmuseum.com to make an appointment for a **private visit to the museum with exclusive access** on Sunday through Thursday for you, family and friends. Just leave your phone number and the desired date/time of your visit, and Susan will return your call with a confirmation.

Free Dolls and Bears for Children

Children accompanying adults receive a **free doll or teddy bear of their choice** as part of the Museum’s annual tradition of offering Christmas gifts to children for spending the day with their parent or grandparent.

Christmas Shopping



Avoid the crowded stores and consider doing some Christmas shopping at the Quinlan Museum where you will find:

- An intimate Museum Gift Shop with toys, dolls, teddy bears, books and magazines, many not found anywhere else in California or on the Internet (\$2 to \$700)
- Discounted Christmas items sales table, e.g., Santas, ornaments, dolls and bears (\$1 to \$40+)
- “Drastically Reduced Price” sales tables with dolls and teddy bears (\$1 to \$40+)



Unable to visit Santa Barbara? Shop at the Museum online store at **www.quinlanmuseum.com/store** where you will find many hard to find books, doll and teddy bear related items, at prices generally below market prices (assuming you can find them). Nearly 50% of the items are \$30 or less. So far there are over 200 items available at the online store and **only one of each is available** in 98% of the time. Having been in storage for so many years to make them more collectable and scarce, 90% of the merchandise is over 20 years old and in new condition (often still in boxes). Some items like books date back to pre-1920s. The merchandise includes doll and teddy bear books, pop-up books, vintage dolls, doll clothing and accessories, artist and vintage teddy bears, jewelry, Christmas/Easter/Halloween items, miniature dolls and accessories, and more.

Donations of Dolls, Bears or Collections

The Quinlan Museum does accept donations of dolls and bears to share with the public. To inquire about making a donation, just leave a message at (805) 687-4623 or sq@quinlanmuseum.com to speak to Susan Quinlan. She and the museum visitors are very appreciative of all the gifts received this year including these two larger donations.

Doll Donation

In May the museum received a donation of oriental dolls from Sally Blackford Luna. One of the dolls belonged to her mother and is about 70 years old (doll on the left).



In addition she donated a Japanese Hina Ningyo (Girl's Day) doll collection that her family had for close to 50 years. To display all of the dolls, our permanent exhibits need to be changed in order to accommodate the stands custom made for the collection.

Recently the museum received a gift of several hundred doll books and a very large

collection of doll periodicals from Martha Etchart. They belonged to her mother, Marilyn Childs, a well-known local collector who belonged to the Fiesta City Doll Club. Many of the periodicals will be used to fill in gaps in the extensive library collection.

Susan Quinlan Presenting at 2024 Artist Doll & Teddy Bear Convention



Goldilocks & Three Bears Pop Up by Artist Darlene Allen

Susan and Terry Quinlan are going to the Artist Doll and Teddy Bear Convention on May 2-4, 2024 in Philadelphia. They have not attended since covid due to business commitments, but they have really missed being able to see all of the artists they got to know when they were putting on the convention for the event's first ten years. They are so thankful that artist Cindy Malchoff has continued the event since then, and now the Quinlans are taking a red-eye flight from Santa Barbara to spend as much time as possible at the event.

Susan will be giving a presentation on movable and pop-up teddy bear books called "Teddies that Pop-up, Wriggle and Slide." She has been collecting pop-up books for a long time and loves to share them.





For information about the Philadelphia convention, go to www.tbai.org/dnbconvention.html or contact Cindy Malchoff at dollnbearshow@gmail.com or (518) 578-0006. The Friday/Saturday convention (\$225) includes presentations, signed one-of-a-kind sales gallery, marketplace to buy trims/material/furs/supplies/trinkets, early access to artist show & sale, people's choice award ceremony, buffet meals, and receptions. Optional Thursday workshops/classes are extra and quickly filling up.

Christmas Greetings and Update from the Quinlans

Susan is busy at the museum with the growing number of those requesting private-by-appointment visits to the Museum. In addition to her book on the Museum's Teddy Bear Book Collection, she is also working on 2024 Museum Newsletter articles about:

- Clothes Pin Dolls
- Pre-WWII Friendship Dolls Exchanged Between the U.S. and Japan
- Doll and Teddy Bear Cook Books to Teach Kids to Cook
- The Museum's Sheet Music Collection

Terry is still getting his business back to normal after the covid pandemic with his next conference scheduled for Santa Fe, NM. His recently published book *Young San Franciscan Sandboxes, From the Mud Grew Lotuses*, available at www.quinlanbook.com, has been

donated to all 300 freshmen students at his high school. The school is also using the book in a San Francisco History class for seniors. Copies have also been donated to all 8th graders at nine Catholic grammar schools in San Francisco to help them be the best they can be.



*Susan and Terry want to wish each and
everyone of you a Very Merry Christmas
and a Most Happy and Healthy New Year.
Hope to see you in Philadelphia in May 2024.*