

Dear UFDC Club Presidents:

Hi, I am Jeri Robinson from the Black Gold Doll Club of New England, Boston MA (Region 15). Cheryl Brown-Greene (also a member of Black Gold) and I are serving as the Junior Collector Coordinators for this year. We are very excited about this appointment and are even more excited that UFDC wants to do more to encourage and support the Junior Collector Program.

So, who are we?

Cheryl is an elementary school teacher and has hosted a junior collector club, the "Bumblebees" at her school for several years. Our club sponsors the "Bumblebees", 24 girls ranging in age from 5-12 (Grades K2-5). Their monthly meetings include: doll study, show and tell, and a related craft. They also participate in community service projects. For the past two years they have prepared care packages for the troops personalized with letters and paper dolls. Several times during the year, they receive small dolls or other doll related items to add to their collections. In June, they end their year with a tea, sponsored and co-hosted by members of Black Gold. In addition, Black Gold has hosted several doll and teddy tea parties for local children and has an annual Doll Day for families at one of our branch libraries. Cheryl has collected dolls ever since she can remember. She has a varied collection but has travelled extensively and a large component of her collection is international dolls. She also has an extensive collection of historical and celebrity dolls which she uses in her teaching.

I am the VP of Education and Family Learning at the Boston Children's Museum. We are one of only 4 children's museums that have significant collections (over 40,000 cultural and natural history 40,000 objects including a significant number of dolls, including "Miss Kyoto" one of the Japanese Friendship dolls, Victorian doll clothes and dollhouses). Due to limited resources, most of our collections are not on display, although we have recently installed some of our spectacular dollhouses. I also am a member of the UFDC Collections committee. I am a co-founder of the Black Gold Doll Club and have collected dolls since early childhood (I still have my first Ginny and Tiny Tears dolls, in very played-with condition). My collection has a bit of everything, but focuses on Black and other ethnic dolls from the 1950s to the present. In addition to dolls, I love to give tea parties, and have hosted several teas with book authors for junior collectors at my home and the museum.

We have heard from some of you about the exciting things you are already doing with juniors and from others who are interested in getting more involved. So- we would like to identify all of the clubs who are currently working with juniors and create a forum that will allow us to share and learn with and from each other. Please complete this questionnaire return it to me by **February 1, 2012**. We hope to share our next steps in the Spring issue of Doll News.

Happy Dolling,
Jeri Robinson

Doll Clubs and Junior Collectors Survey

(Please type or print clearly)

Name of Doll Club: _____ Region _____ Number of members _____

Club President or Junior Collector supervisor _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ E-mail _____

Please circle the number that best describes your club's current relationship with junior collectors

1. Club has an established junior collectors group that meets 6 or more times each year
2. Club works with the same group (not a formal Jr. club- may be a Girl Scout Troop, school class)
4 times or less each year
3. Club hosts/sponsors events for groups of children, on a one time basis (library event, scout troop, etc)
4. Club hosts/sponsors a special event which includes children (annual tea party)
5. Club is working with junior collectors in a format not listed above- explain

6. Club is interested in working with juniors, but hasn't done anything to date)
7. Club isn't interested in working with juniors at the moment

We are exploring ways for clubs who are working with juniors to share their ideas with each other.

Would you be interested in participating in: (check all that apply)

_____ an on-line group (Google Groups)

_____ bi-monthly conference call

_____ contributing to a Junior Collectors column in *Doll News*

_____ other

(Describe) _____

What would you like to share about your work with juniors?

What would you like to learn from others?

Other ideas?

Please return your completed questionnaire to:

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