

# President's Message

UFDC has a bright future. We are the premier organization whose mission it is to protect and preserve all dolls. We have a dedicated Executive Committee and Board of Directors always willing to reach beyond what is expected. We have an active membership of willing volunteers.

In the past two years we have made creative organizational changes which are allowing us to think beyond the ordinary and reach our dreams. We have an active and well informed Collections and Acquisitions Committee working hard to update and upgrade our museum collection. We have new electronic systems, improved storage, and, most importantly, the recent procurement of new and exciting collections. This committee also continues to work on the reorganization of the library and the cataloging of our impressive collection of historical materials relating to our hobby. UFDC is becoming a world class repository for dolls and documents which are significant to the study of and to the maintenance of our hobby. This is indeed the stuff of which our dreams are made.

Thanks to the wisdom, sacrifice and hard work of our past presidents and others we have a building in Kansas City to house our collections and successfully conduct our business. This is a major asset and we appreciate those who came before us and brought this dream to fruition. This year alone with the help of clubs and individuals we have been able to make repairs and innovations so that our space continues to be state of the art. I hope you all dream about the day you can visit our National Headquarters.

Convention is the vehicle through which we are able to conduct the business of our Federation, but it has also become an opportunity for members to congregate with and learn from the true authorities in our hobby. At Convention members come together in the spirit of friendship, learning to know and connect with each other. It is my dream that more and more members can and will attend Convention.

Membership remains our greatest challenge. Our goal is to welcome new members and then educate them about UFDC. To that end, the Membership Committee is assembling a packet of materials to be given to all new members as a teaching tool. Increasing membership is one of our dreams. If we all believe in the mission of UFDC and through our actions allow others to see our commitment to that mission, we can and will increase our numbers as others will be inspired by our bright candle.

DOLL NEWS is a dream in itself. The last issue was in my



*“The Future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”*

*Eleanor Roosevelt*

opinion, the best issue ever. We have a dedicated and creative editor and staff who combine all aspects of doll collecting between the covers and give us entertainment and education. The future is open before us.

Our new and improved website has no limits. We dreamed we could have this modality as a way to inspire members and other collectors and now it is a state of the art reality. Have you seen us on FACEBOOK? We will continue to grow with the electronic age and make our future bright.

When I took office in October, 2010, my primary dream for UFDC was the establishment of a solid and active fundraising program. I am thrilled with the fine committee we now have. They are dedicated, well informed and under the able leadership of the Fundraising Chairperson. It is a team in which each member contributes to the success of the whole. There is cooperation and concern for what is best for UFDC. Look in DOLL NEWS for the Fundraising Committee Report page in each issue. Raising funds is necessary to protect and preserve our hobby.

UFDC has these and many other beautiful dreams. All too often I hear the doomsayers disparaging about our future. This is wrong! We must believe in the beauty of our dreams. This requires us to look forward with insight and with a spirit of optimism. This requires us to not be self-serving but work as a team to engage each other in a spirit of cooperation. Negativism never built anything; it destroys whatever it touches. I believe the future is ours because we can and we do believe in ourselves. When one considers all we have done as an organization since our inception, it is clear we have realized our dreams because we have believed in ourselves. We must believe in ourselves now.

Our hobby must flourish and be strong. The study of dolls replicates the social history of the human race. There is no more relevant charge than to preserve this historical record. This organization is the body which can and will keep doll collecting relevant. IF WE DON'T DO IT, WHO WILL? Eleanor Roosevelt was a woman who met and survived many crises. Her personal history is not dissimilar to our own organizational history. Now UFDC must follow her example and insure the future by believing in the beauty of our dreams.

In Unity,

*Ada*  
UFDC President