



Di-Dah-Dit

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PARKERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO KLUB
P.O. Box 2112, Parkersburg, WV 26101

Judy, Judy, Judy—What a Doll

We're not talking about Cary Grant's "Judy, Judy, Judy!" Instead, we're referring to Judy Johnson Smith (XYL of Tim, KB8JWF).

She is the talent who created "Widget," the Boots Tyner doll the Klub is giving away on December 20 at 2p.m.

The word "talent" doesn't fully describe Judy's artistic qualities. She is a sculptor, painter, seamstress, scientist, chemist, hairstylist, mold maker, student and marketing expert—all wrapped into one talented person.

Judy laughs when she talks about her roots. She says, "I was born in Norfolk, Va., during a blackout, in WWII. My father was in the U.S. Navy at the time. A suspected enemy submarine attack had put the naval base and city in the blackout status." Judy told *Di-Dah-Dit* she doesn't think her unusual birthplace and time has anything to do with her talent as an artist and doll maker.

Anyone can easily recognize the God-given talent she has when they walk through the Smith's home at Lake Washington. Original paintings and other works of art adorn the walls and display areas throughout the house.

"The doll I made for the Klub would sell for about \$300 around here. In Atlanta, the same doll would bring \$500."

Judy Smith, doll maker

In the Smith's basement is a complete doll factory. (Judy allows Tim to use one corner of the basement for his radio shack. But, Tim admits, "I am losing ground in the battle for space.") The factory houses costumes, wigs, molds, paints, brushes, sewing machines and other expensive devices like kilns.

Kilns are ovens used to fire porcelain slip (a watery

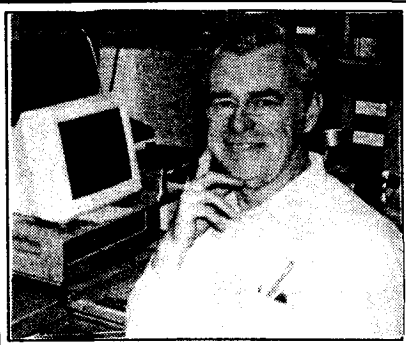
clay-like substance) which is used in the manufacturing of porcelain dolls.

additional photos and story on page three



Artist and doll maker Judy Smith insists on perfection. Here, she closely inspects, from head-to-toe, one of her creations.

President's Corner



Curt Fouse, K8UC

Christmas and Code Party and Practice

Hello again! First off, don't forget there is not a regular meeting this month at Bonanza in Vienna. You watch, George, K8VAH, will probably show up at the Bonanza since we're not having it there. Hi.

The reason we're not having the meeting at the regular place at the regular time is because of our annual Christmas Party. Make a note: Washington Bottom Community Building (below DuPont and GE) at 2 p.m. on December 20. This gathering will serve as our December meeting (See Jane's note about the particulars on the back page of the newsletter).

I would like to congratulate all of you who were successful at the ARRL VEC test session November 8.

The Klub is offering an excellent program of CW practice three nights a week on the PARK 39-machine at 8:30 p.m. On Monday nights Tom, N8NMA runs various speeds from his QTH in Mineral Wells. On Wednesday from Lake Washington, Tim, KB8JWF starts with the alphabet and uses the same format as the ARRL tapes. Leachtown is the source of Friday night's practice session and Mike, N8NKN, pounds the brass.

This is audio-modulated FM. Which means, the OPs are using either a code practice oscillator or other device while holding a mike close to the device for broadcast through the repeater. Listen in. And let the guys know you are listening. Or blow them out of their chair and go back to them with your own CW.

Back to the Christmas party, for a moment. If Santa has brought you an early present (*radio related or otherwise*)—bring it with you, so we can drool over your good fortune. Hi. Don't forget, bring your favorite food specialty, serving utensils, your own place settings and your family. We'll all have a good time, I am sure. Also, if some of you would help us put the community building back together after the party—that would be helpful too.

Larry, KF8NW and Jerry, KA8NJW, wanted me to remind all of you the deadline for the next issue of *Di-Dah-Dit* is December 10.

VY 73 ES Merry Christmas,
Curt, K8UC

Klub Knots

submitted by
Rory, KB8MDN, secretary

50/50 raffle won by Libby, KA8FUA. Congrats Libby! (This is another benefit of attending the monthly Klub meetings)

Code practice on 147.390 Mhz
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
at 8:30 p.m.

CW ragchew, from time to time, on
10 meters—28.125 Mhz

Raffle tickets should be turned in by
December 16. Drawing will be
conducted at the Christmas Party.
Get additional tickets from Jane,
N8MOW or John N8NBL via 146.970.
Or phone them—428-2873.

ARRL Testing a Big Success

A dozen people found out ham radio tests and the code aren't all that tough.

At the most recent test session at the Red Cross Center, eight out of 12 people upgraded their license and four people became new hams. Congratulations to all of you.

Upgrades were earned by:
Mary Britton, KB8BOA-general to advanced class

James F. Koun, KA3TXA-novice to technician with HF

Edward E. Bonnett, KB8NRA-novice to technician with HF

David E. Davis, KB8AJA-technician to general class

Jeffery W. Newton, KA8ZQL-novice to technician with HF

James R. Snider, N8RNP-technician to technician with HF

Larry L. Deems, Sr., N8TGI-technician to technician with HF

Kelly D. Phelps, KB8MZQ-novice to technician with HF

Enjoy your new privileges.

Those who passed their no-code technician test were:

Phillip Green

Debra K. Phelps

James E. Phillips, Sr.

H. David Howell

Watch for the postman and join us on the repeater, soon.

Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub 1992-1993 Officers and staff

Curt Fouse, K8UC, President

Earl Hulce, KB8HRG, VP

John McGuffey, N8NBL, VP

Bob Lyons, KB8EFB, VP

Rory Hughes, KB8MDN, Sect.

Jane McGuffey, N8MOW, Treas.

Jerry Wharton, KA8NJW, Ed.

Larry Dale, KF8NW, Ed.

continued from front page

After the slip is properly mixed and allowed to settle it is poured into molds of various body parts. The molds cost from \$100 to \$400 each. Once inside the mold, the slip is fired in the kiln at temperatures exceeding 2200° F.

Most porcelain dolls require several placements into the kiln. This helps produce the quality dolls like Judy sells. Yes, she does sell her dolls—from here to Atlanta and back.

Judy points out, "The doll I made for the Klub would sell for \$300 around here. In Atlanta the same doll would bring \$500."

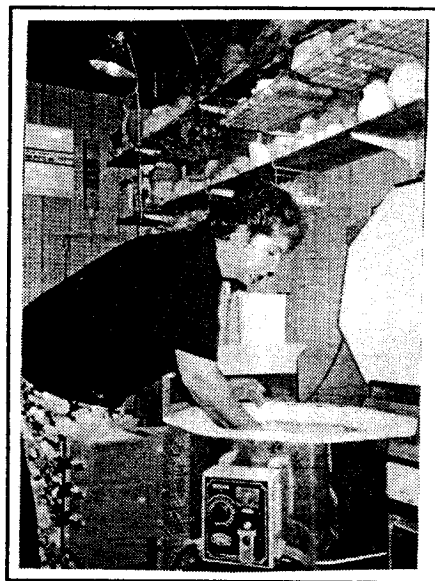
"The money is not my motivation," she says. If money is not her motivation, what is? "I enjoy making the dolls. As a matter of fact, I have to be careful, I become too attached to the dolls and want to keep them for myself.

(She has about 100 hours in the doll created for the Klub, and says she could have easily held on to it for herself.)

Judy doesn't keep all the dolls she manufactures. Some she ships to a sister-in-law in Atlanta who operates a doll store in an exclusive Atlanta-area shopping mall. Others she gives to her daughters. (Judy and Tim have four daughters—Tammy, Nicole, Connie and Tonya.)



Kiln-fired doll head

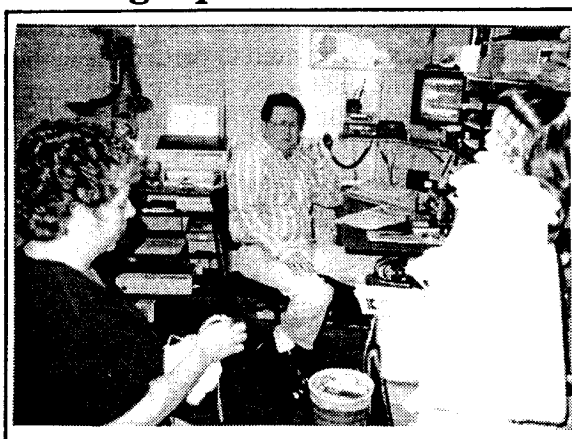


"I used this kiln more than once to get the quality I demanded on the doll created for the Klub. Inside, the doll was fired at about 2200 degrees. All totaled, I have around 100 hours in the doll."

Judy Smith

Judy says, "There are not a lot of boy dolls on the market." (You may remember, last year, our Klub doll was a boy) Judy could try to balance the market. "One time, I made a mold and doll of one of my granddaughters—with four grandsons in the family—maybe I need to work on them." Right now, Judy is concentrating on making Santa's elves, complete with costumes and various staging props like ladders and rocking horses. She will probably have completed these by presstime, for use under the Smith's Christmas tree.

The Big Squeeze



"I am losing ground in the battle for space." Tim, KB8JWF, and his wife Judy, in the basement of their Lake Washington home.

Like any artist, Judy is always expanding her horizons and exploring new and fascinating techniques used in her profession and hobby. She says, "I am trying to talk Tim into allowing me to go to New York City and/or Maine and study under Jack Johnston. A world-renowned doll maker who makes unique caricature-type dolls, Johnston is the best in the business. But so far, Tim hasn't said, 'Yes'."

Tim! What on earth is wrong with you? The Broadway shows are great in the Big Apple. And Maine lobster is delicious. If I were you—I'd reconsider. The trips would make a doll of a DX-pedition. And maybe you'll reclaim some of the space for your shack. Hi, Hi.

73, Larry, KF8NW

Editor's note: The Klub salutes Judy and wishes to express our appreciation for all her hard work and many talents. God Bless you, Tim, and the girls, and Merry Christmas.

Christmas Dinner PARK Style

The PARK Christmas dinner is scheduled for December 20 at 2 p.m. This year's party will be held at the Washington Bottom Community Building. The location of the community building is on Route 892 South, below the Du Pont and GE plants, near the old Washington School, next door to the Washington Bottom Volunteer Fire Department.

Please prepare one or more items using your favorite recipe(s)—dessert, salad or vegetable. Plus, bring your beverage (non-alcoholic) and place setting with flatware. The Klub provides turkey, and of course,—ham. Coffee is also provided by the Klub.

Additionally, Santa will make a visit to all good little boys and girls. If you want your child to receive a gift—you will need to bring one with your child's name on it. *If you have children you probably should bring a small gift, since Santa will make up his sack of gifts from the gifts you bring. (If you have questions, call me. 428-2873)*

As an adult you may purchase a gift (\$5 maximum) and exchange it with other adults who decide to bring a gift too. You are not required to participate in the gift exchange for adults.

The entertainment is provided by Klub members. Share your special talent with us.

And be prepared for the "Amateur Chorale" (aka A.C.). You can be an A.C. singer—or just A.C. hum (that's a joke, son!).

Remember, we have plenty of raffle tickets, if you need extras. All ticket stubs and unsold tickets should be turned in to me or Mary KB8BOA/AA by December 16.

One more note, dues are payable anytime. The due date is April 1993. Many of you like to go ahead and pay as the calendar year changes. Feel free to pay your dues in advance—if you like. Dues are \$16 annually for a single membership. And \$24 annually for a family membership. Send your check to: PARK, P.O. Box 2112, Parkersburg, WV. Or, to me, Jane McGuffey, 1514 30th Street.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the Christmas party.

73, Jane, N8MOW, treasurer

Amateur Radio Classes to Start

Carl, K8OWL, the Klub's education committee chairman announced recently that Amateur Radio Classes are slated to begin the week of January 18, 1993. Classes will be held at the Red Cross Center, 8th and Markets Streets in

Parkersburg. The fee amounts and exact start date and times will be announced in the January issue of *Di-Dah-Dit*. Encourage your friends and family members to become hams. Ham Radio—the King of Hobbies.

Don't forget!
Tuesday night
is
NetNight
on Nine-Seven
at
Nine-oh-Clock

Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub
P.O. Box 2112
Parkersburg, WV 26101

91
KA8NJW Jerry Wharton
1722 20th St.
Parkersburg WV 26101

HABITAT COOKIE CORNER... DEC. 12TH AT WAL-MART

Thanks to the business sponsors (and bakers !) at Wal-Mart and Commerce Bank, Habitat will host a "Cookie Corner" at the new Wal-Mart store in Vienna on Saturday, December 12th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Employees of Wal-Mart and Commerce have agreed to bake home-made, holiday cookies. Commerce will also be providing the deli boxes to package at least four dozen cookies. NOW, all we need is lots of pre-sales ! Please fill out the coupon below if you are willing to make a pre-order so that we'll know how hard to work all the bakers ! We are asking for a minimum donation of \$7 for a box of four dozen cookies. Please also ask your friends to make a pre-order... All proceeds will go towards building the third Habitat home for a local working mother and her three children. We are very appreciative of our business sponsors and we are anxious to help them help us through this special project. So: 1) Please make a pre-cookie order yourself; 2) Ask friends and families to place an order; 3) Send your check into Habitat marked for "Cookies" 4) Pick up your cookies at Wal-Mart on December 12th between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. ; 5) Let Susie Casto (863-8458) or Lindy Deem at (485-0135) or the Habitat office (422-7907) know if you can work a couple of hours at the Cookie Corner on Dec. 12th and , finally, 6) ENJOY your cookies and give thanks for your own shelter and the opportunity to help another family have a decent home !

YES, I would like to place an order for the home-made, Habitat, holiday cookies !

Please reserve _____ boxes for me.

I understand that there are four dozen cookies per box for a minimum donation of \$7 per box and that I can pick up my order at Wal-Mart in Vienna on Dec. 12th between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

I am enclosing a check for \$ _____ made out to Wood County Habitat for Humanity and forwarding it to P.O. Box 462, Parkersburg, WV 26102.

P.S. _____ YES, I would also be willing to work at the Cookie Corner at Wal-Mart on Dec. 12th. when people come to pick up their orders. My preferred time slots would be _____ or _____
