

"I love this place better than anywhere on earth" – Rose O'Neill

The BONNIEBROOK News

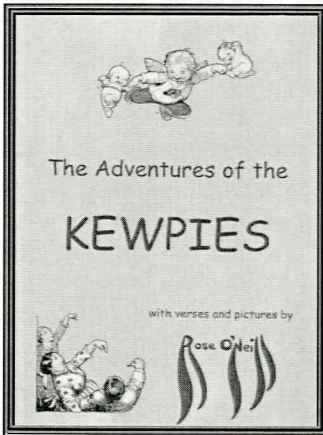


Honorary Members: Holly Baker, Clay & Jean Cantwell, Mary Ann Eden, David Edwards, Wilma Hamilton, Maxine Hiett, Shelley Kleypas, Earl McGrath, Sereda Perosa, Connie Pritchard, Glenn & Venus Robinson, Susan Scott, James Skahill, David & Su Stewart, Mike & Angie Stokes, Chuck & Ingrid Taylor, Mark & Lea Trimble, Louise Williams, Betty Nelle Whitman, CB & Arlene Willmore, Roxanne Young, International Rose O'Neill Club Foundation, Ralph Foster Museum.

Vol. 40 No. 2 Summer 2012 Bonniebrook Historical Society 485 Rose O'Neill RD Walnut Shade, MO 65771

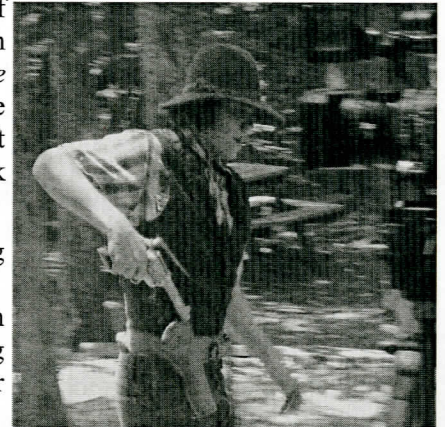
Message from the President

The 2012 BHS Banquet and Open House events were enjoyed by enthusiastic visitors. They had the opportunity to view the new exhibits of original art in the fine art gallery and museum. Of special note, the original art received last year from the Eric and Jayne Menssen estate was displayed—some of which were restored by a conservator prior to our opening for this season.



Thanks to many hours of volunteer work by Martha Melton and her son Seth, our online website (www.roseoneill.org) has been totally renovated and is looking great. Our site now features more details about the history of Rose O'Neill along with many examples of O'Neill's art career. Puck illustrations can now be purchased on our website for a nominal fee of \$2.00 per image. All proceeds go to BHS.

In addition, Martha spent an enormous amount of volunteer hours preparing and compiling the images for our recently published book, "The Adventures of the Kewpies." This book contains 63 Kewpie stories which were originally published in *Good Housekeeping Magazine* from 1914-1919. This is a beautiful book which can be ordered online through our Ebay store or by calling the gift shop at Bonniebrook (417-561-1509). The cost of the book is \$36.00 plus postage. All proceeds go to BHS.



Special thanks to film director, Mike Johnson with Bear Creek Productions for selecting our beautiful homestead woods and bonnie creek areas for the shooting of many segments of his "Bald Knobber" film. It was with great pleasure that we worked with Mike and his talented cast for this historic film. Also, thanks to Gayle Green for taking this and other photos of the filming. In addition, we thank our professional volunteer photographer, Glenn Donze, for providing BHS with the photos shown on page 9.

Our heartfelt condolences go to Helen Harralson for the recent passing of her husband, Cliff. He served as BHS President, was on the board for many years, and assisted with numerous BHS fundraisers. Cliff was a tremendous resource for knowledge about the history of Rose O'Neill and generously donated his large collection of research papers, magazine pages, photographs and other items now archived in the BHS Research Library. Cliff will be remembered as someone who not only loved O'Neill research but also enjoyed sharing it!

Kewpishly Yours, Susan K. Scott

From our Members.....



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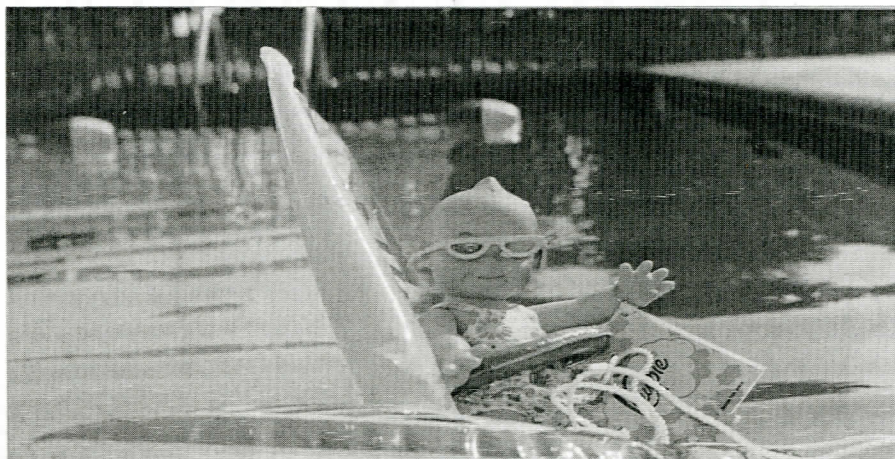
Phone: 417-561-1509
800-539-7437

website
www.roseoneill.org

Membership Dues: 15.00

Admission:

Adults	\$8.00
Students	\$3.00
BHS members	\$2.00
12 & under	free



Have a safe and happy summer from member Constance Jennings!



Member Betty Hove shares her
favorite Kewpie!



Member Darlene
Lupo—Kewpies &
friends in her
special doll room!

Rose O' Neill's Faerie Gathering and Sweet Monsters Costume Ball

This fun filled festival is a celebration of the life and artistic accomplishments of Rose O'Neill who incorporated all of the sister arts in her work. Visitors will discover that Rose O'Neill was a published author and poet, a musician, a fine artist and sculptor, and a prolific illustrator. The faerie art of Rose O'Neill will be shown continuously as a slideshow presentation in the gallery.

Most of the performers are from the local community. Some of them will be playing Irish folk songs using traditional Irish instruments! During the Costume Ball, there will be the entertaining talent of an all female Celtic Rock Band. Local performers, Mike & Nancee Micham, will not only share their Irish music but will also join the fun of storytelling along with several members of the StoryTellers of the Ozarks.

As with last year, faerie houses will be donated by their makers and placed in the faerie woods at Bonniebrook for the future enjoyment of our visitors.

Plan to join the fun and entertaining vocal and instrumental music, folk art, dance, poetry reading, storytelling, sculpting, and instruction!

Friday, September 21 5:00 PM—11:00 PM Sweet Monsters Costume Ball

Saturday, September 22 9:30 AM—6:00 PM Faerie Gathering

1 day pass - \$10.00

2 day pass - \$15.00

Children 12 and under free



Happy Birthday Kewpie Doll: 1912-2012



Shellie Kirkendall generously donated to BHS the PDF files for the "One Hundred Years of the Kewpie Doll" booklet. Shellie, Donna Davis and David O'Neill compiled this historic information which includes the following:

O'Neill explained, "When the Kewpie drawings and verses had been appearing for some time in the magazines, I began to receive letters from children (postmarked anywhere from Mexico to New Zealand) asking me if I wouldn't make a Kewpie they could hold in their hands. Soon after, several toy factories got the same idea and approached me with it. Ideas seem to be like certain seeds that float on the air of an epoch to root in far separated places – as many a dismayed inventor will tell you."

George Borgfeldt and Company, gigantic distributor of toys at the time, requested O'Neill to sculpt a Kewpie statuette that could be cooked into a bisque doll. When she delivered her first plaster cast model of Kewpie to the Borgfeldt office, there was a salute of "New Yorky" voices that included one saying, "Take it from me, this little fella is going to steal the world."

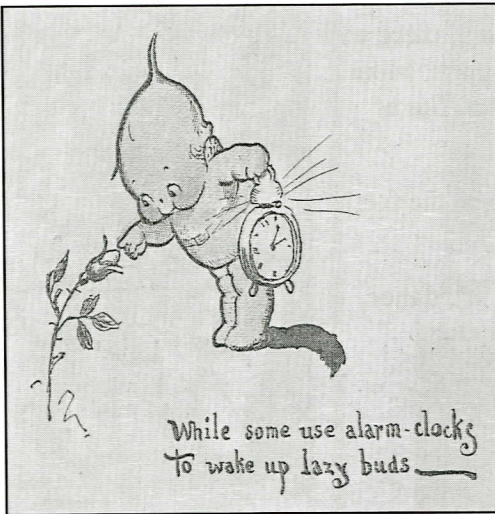
Early in 1912, O'Neill traveled to ancestral doll factories in the Thüringen Wald of Germany where she sculpted twelve sizes of Kewpies. The resulting German bisque Kewpies were first sold in stores in December, 1912.

O'Neill later revealed, "It never entered my mind that the Kewpie would do what he did; that there would be no corner of the world where he would not take his smile."

This year marks one hundred years of continued manufacturing and sale of Kewpies – Rose O'Neill's messengers of love and happiness.

Master Gardeners Come to the Rescue: Beautification of Bonniebrook's Gardens and Landscape

Laurie McCann, Master Gardeners of the Ozarks, headed a call from one of our BHS volunteers, Annette Fitzgerald, who was aware of the wonderful volunteer work that the Master Gardeners do for the community.



Laurie came out to Bonniebrook and admitted that we needed some guidance with planting perennials that would assist with our limited budget.

Laurie informed us that we have several hearty flowering plants which are called 4 o'clocks so we thought Rose's drawing of a Kewpie with an alarm clock was very appropriate for this article!

Laurie was very interested in our project started last year by Louise Williams and Martha Melton. They were doing extensive research to determine the many varieties of plants which were growing at Bonniebrook at the time of the O'Neill's living on the homestead. Rose's journals provide much information about the varieties of plants and that information has now been shared with Laurie who has already donated time, plants, and advice to the volunteers and our caretaker, Larry Palmore.

The mission of the University of Missouri Extension Master Gardener volunteer program is to provide horticultural information and training to the gardening public based on proven research specific to the local climate, soil and plants. Master Gardeners of the Ozarks mission is to help others learn to grow. And, we definitely needed help with that. Laurie saw a two foot tall "plant" we were nurturing and watering and she proclaimed it to be a large weed!

On July 9th, BHS is hosting the monthly meeting of the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks and they have asked for a presentation and tour of the property. We are very hopeful that once these Master Gardeners actually see the amazing potential of our special place on earth, we will have several more volunteers who will assist us with this project!!

Bonniebrook Bridge Repairs

Thanks to volunteers Stephenie Schultz and Darren Cummings, owners of Stillwater Construction in Branson! They have been busy with the project of repairs to the walking bridge on the east side of the house. Over the years, the top and side railings of the bridge have been exposed to a lot of moisture as they stretch across the Bonniebrook Creek.

Stephenie and Darren are donating their expertise and labor so BHS only needs to furnish the new boards, nuts, and bolts!



Donations!!!! Thank You!!!!

- Dena Anthony**—Handmade Kewpie bookmarks, charms, and earrings for gift shop.
- California Rose O'Neill Association**— 125 Kewpie charms to sell in gift shop!
- Jean Cantwell**—Research library archive items. Costume jewelry and household items for garage sale.
- Donna Davis**—Delicious homemade gingerbread cookies for our volunteers Research papers for library
- Dave Edwards**—Harry Leon Wilson Books and research papers for library.
- Estate of Mona Nevins**—Photographs of the house under construction, first BHS house museum, and C of O dedication of Embrace of the Tree.
- Dortha Galutia**—Garage sale items.
- Gayle Green**— Collectible baseball cards and signed photos of player for garage sale. Office supplies & snacks for volunteers.
- Jerry Kidd & Family**-18 Kewpie dolls from Oleen Kidd's collection and two character dolls-one in the im age of Lois Holman and one Rose O'Neill.
- Jerry's Boat & Mini-Storage (owners Jerry & Sue Causey)** HUGE load of boxes and boxes of household & collectible items for garage sale. Also gardening tools, office supplies, tools and display tables for BHS!
- Shellie Kirkendall**—Research papers/ photos for library.
- Kazuo & Misako Kitagawa**—Japanese school book "World Trek-English Communication" (Chapter 8 is about Rose O'Neill) and research papers for library.
- Shelley Kleypas**—Baked goods and garage sale items.
- Darlene & Joe Lupo**—Boxes and boxes of collectible and household items for garage sale.
- Master Gardeners of the Ozarks**—Perennial plants for Bonniebrook flower beds.
- Laurie McCann**—Perennial plants for Bonniebrook flower beds.
- Sereda Perosa**—Kewpie cookie cutters for gift shop.
- Alan Scott**—Quicken financial program software.
- Susan Scott**—Gardening supplies. Snacks. Kewpie and O'Neill books to sell in gift shop. Garage sale items.
- Chuck & Ingrid Taylor**—Baked goods and garage sale items.
- Paula Terhune**—Lovely handmade Kewpie ornaments and Christmas decorations to sell in the gift shop.
- Eleanor Waladkewics**—Kewpie scrapbook pages.
- Jeanne K. Hain Weimer**—Framed original photograph for Open House Silent Auction.
- Louise Williams**—"Rose Photo Book-Compilation of Photos for Unpublished Autobiography"—signed by David O'Neill and Janet Sullivan. Research papers, Vern Jordan book, and BHS events paperwork.

Cash Donations In Memorium

Susan & Stanley Baker— In memory of Jay Woods, Mary McIntyre and Adele Seidelman.

Eleanor Waladakewics—In memory of Michael Waladakewics and Adele Seidelman

Donna Davis—In memory of John (Dickie) Henderson and Verna Garner.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$Cash Donations\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Richard Bartley	Paula Terhune
Les & Doris Erickson	Karen Walker
Dennis Evans	Annie Wetzel
Annette Fitzgerald	Plus Many
Kazuo & Misako Kitagawa	Anonymous Donations!
Connie Liberty	
Max McGrath	
Candace McMains	
Alma Munoz	
Don Ogden	
Sereda Perosa	
Linda Rodgers	
Susan Scott	

2012 Volunteers

Jeanette Bair	Charlotte & Larry Palmore
Margie Beadles	Stephenie Schultz
Jerry & Sue Causey	Alan, Chris & Susan Scott
Darren Cummings	Ashley & Arthur Seltzer
Glenn Donze	David & Su Stewart
Judy Draeger	Mike & Angie Stokes
Annette Fitzgerald	Chuck & Ingrid Taylor
Dortha Galutia	Louise Williams
Gayle Green	C.B. & Arlene Wilmore
Shelley Kleypas	
Robin Lowe	
Billie Macrander	
Laurie McCann	
James, Martha, & Seth Melton	

Thank You for Donating Time!!!

2012 Open House

The Annual Bonniebrook Open House & Tea was held on April 21st 1:00-4:00pm. This free admission event was open to the public and featured great food prepared by “Made in the Shade” caterers, book signings by published authors, Linda Brewster and Elaine Warner, and visits to the museum, fine art gallery and tour home. The talented “Stringfield” trio entertained our visitors in the multi-purpose room.



Scrumptious goodies were served by Shelley Kleypas.



Visitors to the house learned about the O'Neill history at Bonniebrook.

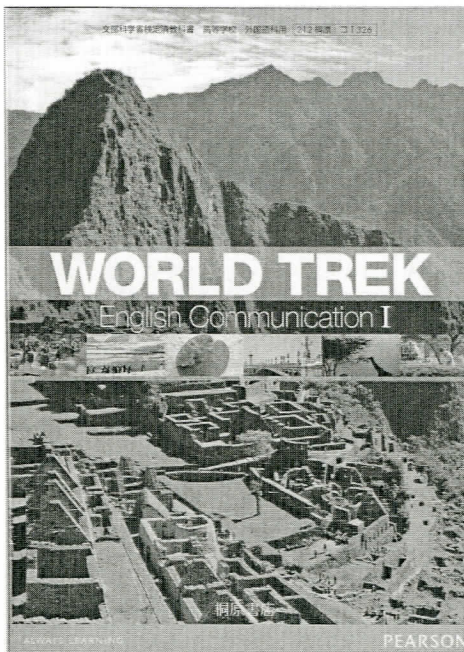


Linda Brewster, author of “Rose O'Neill The Girl Who Loved to Draw” provided the presentation, “Secret Messages in Rose O'Neill's Illustrations.”

Elaine Warner, author of the recently published “More Than Petticoats—The Remarkable Women of Missouri” was also available for a book signing.

Special thanks to Glenn Donze for these Open House Photos!

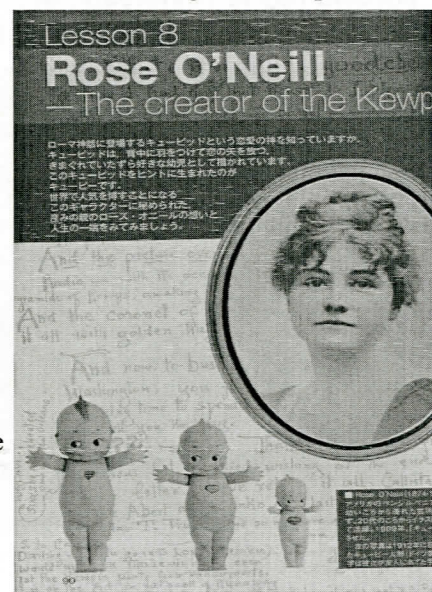




Japan Introduces School Book with a Chapter About Rose O’Neill

Thanks to Kazuo and Misako Kitagawa who worked with the Japanese government for over three years to get approval for the inclusion of a chapter on Rose O’Neill in a wonderful book that teaches Japanese students the subject of English Communication.

Several excerpts from the book include: “You probably have seen these cute characters, the Kewpies. Do you know who created the Kewpies? The Kewpies were created in 1909 by an American artist, Rose O’Neill. Compared with other characters in children’s books in those days, the Kewpies were very unusual. Characters drawn with such simple lines were quite unique at that time. Rose designed a sample and Kewpie dolls began to be mass-produced in 1912. They created a sensation around the world. The Kewpie doll stretches out its arms with a smile. It seems to be wishing for all children to be happy.”



“Like her Kewpies, Rose was always thinking about others. She wanted to change society. There were a lot of social problems in those times. For example, there was severe racial discrimination. She wrote about this problem in some of her Kewpie stories. Also, women didn’t have the right to vote. Rose took part in demonstrations for women’s rights and made public speeches. “

“The Kewpies celebrated their 100th anniversary in 2009. They have changed with the times. Today, we see various types of Kewpie dolls in different costumes. The next time you see some Kewpies, think about Rose’s dream. Are we living in the world Rose hoped for?”

Americans need to take time to reflect on this precedent of including Rose’s amazing history in the Japanese school books. We need to start the required process with our American school system to add information about Rose O’Neill and her amazing history in our school curriculum and books!

Rose O’Neill Nomination to the Hall of Famous Missourians

BHS has been diligently working to get Rose Cecil O’Neill nominated to the Hall of Famous Missourians which is located in Jefferson City, Missouri in the 3rd Floor Rotunda of the Missouri State Capitol. During our Open House and throughout our open season, we have accumulated signatures of those who support this nomination. In addition, the International Rose O’Neill Club Foundation and David O’Neill circulated the petition during Kewpiesta. David continues to receive signatures from visitors to his museum. The Hall is located in the Missouri State Capitol Rotunda and several of Rose’s Missouri acquaintances are already honored there with a bronze bust in their image- Thomas Hart Benton, John Neihardt, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Walt Disney and Mark Twain. The group of 40+ bronze busts depict prominent Missourians honored for their achievements and contributions to the state. The Hall is visited by thousands of school children and vacationing families every year which would assist in our educating about the many accomplishments of the genius of the arts, Rose Cecil O’Neill.

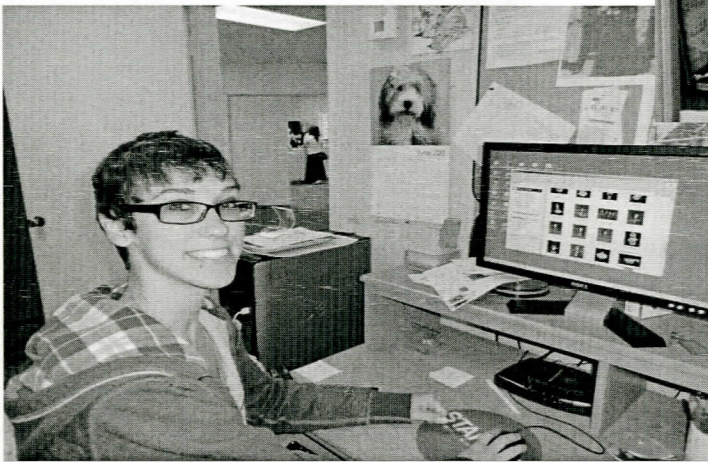
Please take the time to mail a short note of support for Rose to be considered for this prestigious award and mail to our Bonniebrook Historical Society address—485 Rose O’Neill Rd., Walnut Shade, MO 65771. All letters and signatures received will be included in a nomination packet which will be mailed in November to the newly elected Missouri Speaker of the House of Representatives.

From the Research Library.....

Thanks to Martha Melton, our volunteer team leader, much progress on the entering of detail information into our museum archive system, Past Perfect, is being made. Volunteers are photographing each item, describing the size and markings on the item, and then entering this into the BHS system. Thanks to all our volunteers who are devoting much of their extra summer days to this important project— Martha Melton, Judy Draeger, Gayle Green, Ingrid Taylor, and our Missouri State University art student intern, Tandy Barber.

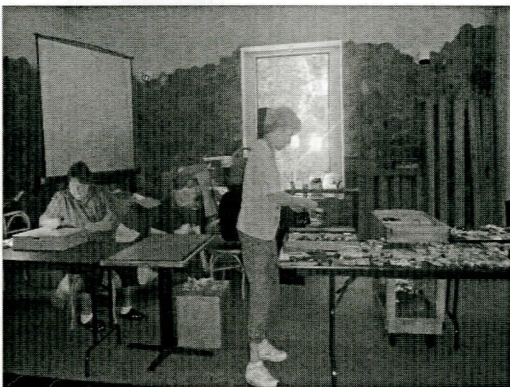


Martha Melton and Gayle Green enter detail information including donor names, and descriptions for each item in the collection.



Tandy earns college credits toward her art degree as she photographs and then inputs images into the BHS Past Perfect system.

Thank You Garage Sale & Fundraising Volunteers

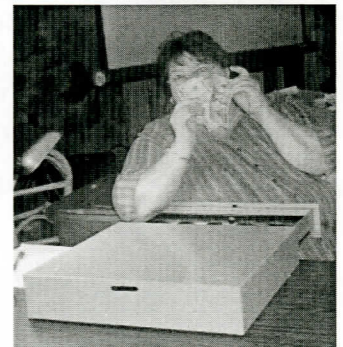


Special thanks to our dedicated volunteers who work on all the BHS fundraising projects. Our recent garage sales of donated household items have been very important to the financial stability of our organization during these tough economic times. Volunteers who have helped pick



-up items from donors, unpack and price items and then work the sales are greatly appreciated: Jerry & Su Cosey, Judy Draeger, Gayle Green, Dortha Galutia, Shelley Kleypas, Billie Macrander, Martha Melton, Larry & Charlotte Palmore, Alan, Chris, & Susan Scott, and Chuck & Ingrid Taylor. Thanks to you - our 2012 garage sales have made over \$1,000.00...so far!!

Note to members: Please remember our garage sales when traveling to Bonniebrook!!! Bring those household items in the trunk of your car.....tie them on top of your car.....pull a trailer filled with items behind your car!!



Bald Knobber Movie Filmed at Bonniebrook

On May 27th, 2012, Bear Creek Productions began shooting scenes for the full-length feature film “Bald Knobber.” The producer, writer and director, Mike Johnson, decided that the perfect location for several action scenes for this film would be at the Bonniebrook Homestead.

Ironically, Rose O’Neill reveals in her autobiography, “There were two log cabins beside the brook, between wild cedar clothed and closely embracing hills, and the nearest neighbor’s cabin was far away. The place had been abandoned by a native who had been invited to go to another county for having assisted in the last lynching by the Bald Knobbers. Our Bald Knobber had been fond of roses.” Our research has not yet confirmed the presence of an



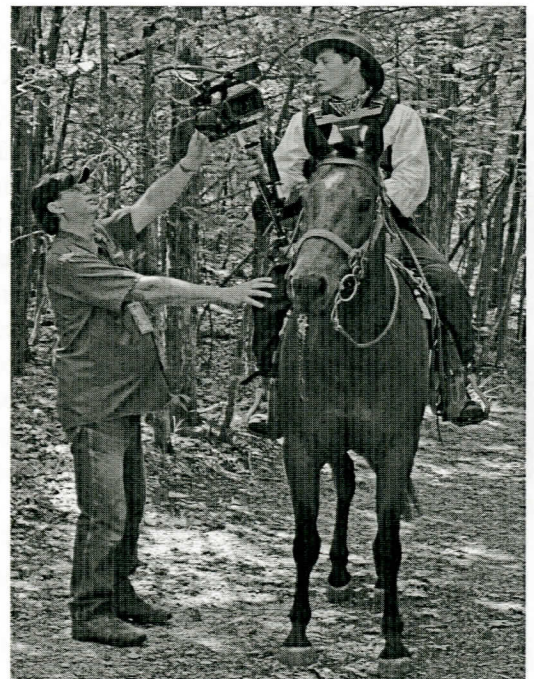
historically recognized Bald Knobber family living at Bonniebrook so it is possible that Rose was referring to someone who once only “assisted” this group of vigilantes.

This full length feature film is scheduled for release in the spring of 2013.

What fun we will all have when the film is on the big screen and we can identify the scenes which were filmed on the Bonniebrook historic homestead property.

News articles in the *Taney County Times* and *Branson Tri-Lakes News* have shared the wonderful information about this filming at Bonniebrook, “Actors, horses, real guns with blanks, costumes, cameras and action were just a portion of what was taking place Sunday afternoon along the covered by-ways of the lush O’Neill property. The movie will show how the Bald Knobbers went from a 100-man organization fighting against crime to an 800 to 900-man unit that began taking matters into their own hands.”

All photos courtesy of Glenn Donze

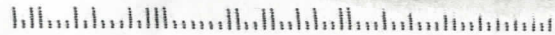


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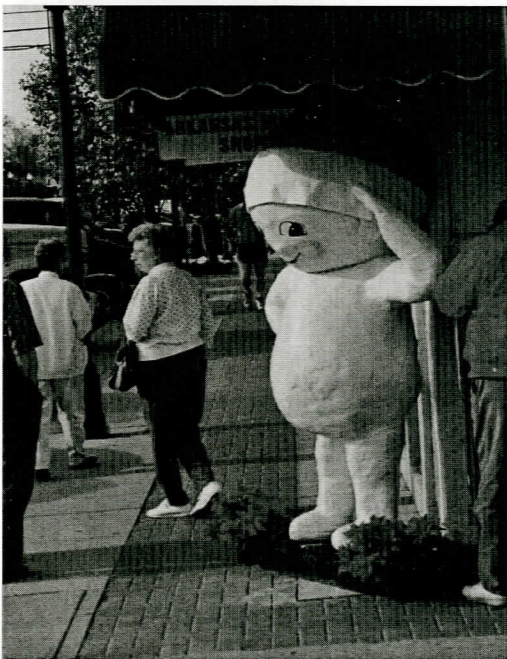
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COLUMBIA, MO 65201-3564

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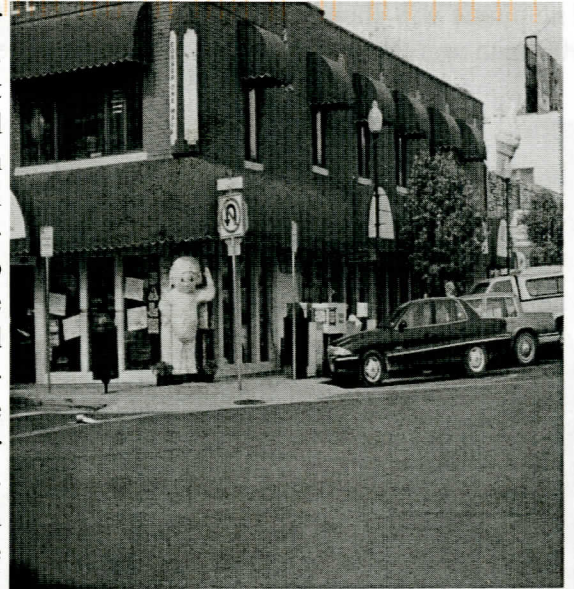


Giant Kewpie Update!

Special thanks to board members, David Stewart and Mike Stokes for volunteering to lead the repair work for the giant Kewpie project. After taking quite a fall in the BHS banquet room last year, the Giant



Kewpie, which once stood on the downtown Branson Main Street during annual Kewpiestas, has been undergoing examination to determine the best possible methods of repair. David and Mike are first stabilizing the Kewpie with the construction of a larger base. Then, extensive repairs to the head, body and arms of the Kewpie can be addressed.



Thanks to Eleanor Waladakewics for sharing these historic 1994 photos of the Giant Kewpie in downtown Branson!

We will keep you posted on the progress of repairs to the Giant Kewpie!