

Letter From The Editor

*O suns and skies and clouds of June,
And flowers of June together,
Ye cannot rival for one hour
October's bright blue weather...*
(*"October's Bright Blue Weather"* – Helen Hunt Jackson)

As I write this letter, there is a welcome change in the air. Days are cooler, and the nights are even more so. Leaves are turning a brilliant yellow and orange—gently drifting down, sometimes dancing in circles when the wind catches them as they meet the ground.

In this October issue we welcome Samy Odin as a monthly contributor with a focus on paper dolls. We thank Samy for sharing his expertise on this topic on a recurring basis.

Coverage of the UFDC's 75th Annual Convention continues with a photo gallery from the ever-popular Sales Room.

Our cover story by Linda Edward celebrates the first-series Portrait Jumeau, spotlighting a stunning example soon to be auctioned by Ladenburger Spielzeugauktion (October 11 & 12).

Susan Foreman takes us on a journey to Japan where we learn the backstory of the popular souvenir, Kokeshi, with a rare peek into how they are made.

Step back in time to the early days of collecting as Elizabeth Ann Coleman shares the story of the gentlemen who laid the pathway for our doll collecting hobby.

Nicki Burley brings us the story of Bécassine with a pattern to dress your bisque Nancy Ann doll in Breton-inspired style.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we enjoyed putting it together for you. We wish you a magical and merry month and remember to pause and take in October's bright blue weather.

Happy Autumn!

Laurie

Laurie McGill
Editor-in-Chief