

# Boyds Inquirer

Everything that fits...we print!™

A Newsletter of The Boyds Collection Ltd.®

Exclusive Edition for F.o.Bs

Volume VII, Issue II Summer 2003

## Join The Folks At Boyds On October 18 & 19, 2003 For... A Celebration Of Friendship

*A Plush Special Event That's All About Giving  
And Sharing And Bonding With Friends!*

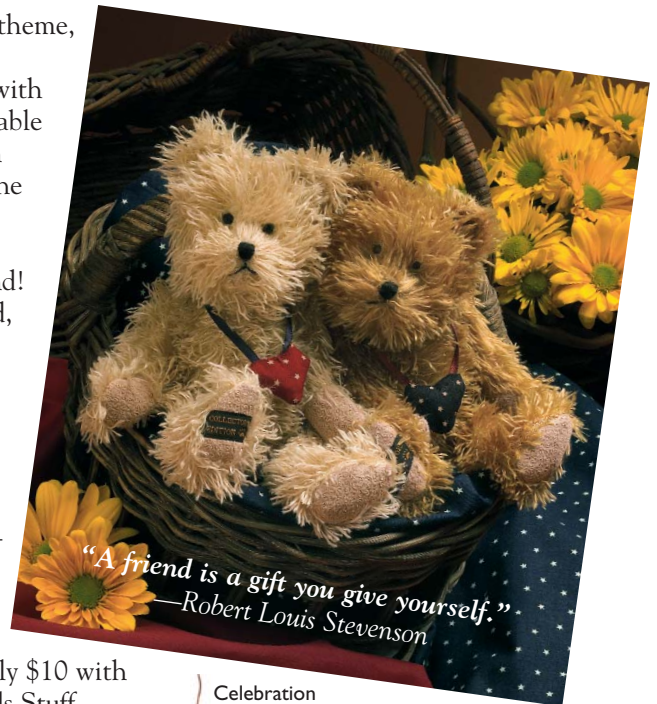
**G**et ready for one of the biggest special events the Folks at Boyds have ever hosted...over the weekend of October 18 and 19, Boyds Dealers across the country will host a Celebration of Friendship, a time for folks to bond with friends, share quality time, and give sumptin' back to that special someone who means so much!



In keeping with the theme, our special event set is designed to be shared with a friend! Our two adorable bears are linked paw in paw...simply remove the stitches, save one for yourself, and give the other to your best friend! Each bear is bean-filled, is made from an ultra soft string poly, wears a quilted heart pillow necklace, features ultrasuede paw pads with a special edition label, and is unnamed—you do the honors (don't forget to name one after a friend!).

Each set will cost only \$10 with a \$20 purchase of Boyds Stuff. You can't beat that price for two handcrafted limited-edition Boyds Bears!

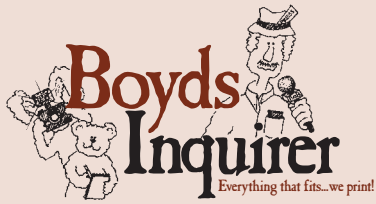
Wait, there's more! Boyds Dealers will be raffling off a spectacular Americana piece during our Special Event...20-inch Bailey! She's dressed for a patriotic celebration in a hand-knit cloche with star-print bow, a star-print blouse, a navy jumper, and star-print pantaloons. She comes with a mini American flag and a special



Celebration  
of Friendship Bear Set

paw-print enamel button on her left paw! You could be one of the lucky few to win this adorable bear, so make sure you attend on October 18 or 19...and don't forget to bring a special friend! 🐾

***Some Boyds Dealers do not have Sunday hours; make sure your favorite dealer is open on October 19 before making plans!***



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*"The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and the lightning bug."*

Mark Twain



## A Lil' Note From The Head Bear His Vedly Self!

**G**ENTLEMEN, start your engines...and get ready for the Land Conservancy of Adams County's Auto Show 2003. It's scheduled for October 18th, noon to 6 p.m. and admission is Free!

This year, in celebration of the 100th birthday of the automobile, ("That's right, 1903 was the birth of the horseless Carriage!") the Land Conservancy is partnering with Boyd's Bear Country™ and the Keystone Studebaker Club to Celebrate the Cars and the Culture of the Century

and the event is Free.

Just across the road from Gettysburg's newest and most popular attraction, (you guessed it, the "World's Most Humongous Teddy Bear Store"), the Allstar Sports Complex is the site for the Century Festival Auto Show featuring classic Studebakers, Fords, Buicks, and Corvettes. A Free Shuttle Bus Service will be running between Allstar and Boyd's Bear Country during the Show. The Century Festival will also be the location of the Finish Line Party for the Fifth

Annual Road Rally Tour. All proceeds from the Century Festival and Road Rally will be used by the Land Conservancy of Adams County to continue the important work of preserving the rural landscape of Adams County.

Want to know more? Contact Event Chairperson Bob McIlhenny (MACK-ell-henny) at (717) 334-3205 or the Land Conservancy of Adams County at (717) 334-2828.

Did we mention this was Free? OK, OK. 'nuff said. 🐻

## Ask The Folks At Boyd's

*In this column, we answer all yer*

*burnin' Boyd's questions. We'll try to answer*

*your questions as completely as we can*

*(without givin' away all our trade secrets!).*



**Q** I have been looking for the *Collectors Value Guide for Boyd's Bears and Friends for 2002 or 2003, published by CheckerBee.* The clerk at my Hallmark store said they were not published anymore. Is this true? Will anything like this be published in the future? This Value Guide is very helpful to have.

*I have been collecting Boyd's Bears for about six years. I have almost 300 resin pieces. I just love them!! The Treasure Boxes are one of my favorites*  
Shirley Davis,  
Sacramento, CA

**A** The Folks at Boyd's are proud to promote a brand new value guide, called Boyd's Tracker. Wanna order? Log onto [www.bangzoom.com](http://www.bangzoom.com) or call Bangzoom directly at 800-589-7333. For questions on payment arrangements and shipping/tax amounts, call Bangzoom directly so that a representative can help out.

We will also sell the Boyd's Tracker at Boyd's Bear Country™ in the near future.

-The Folks at Boyd's

**Q** I am new to collecting the Boyd's Bears. I was wondering if Boyd's ever did a motorcycle bear in plush or resin?  
Laura Hotaling,  
Alexandria, VA

**A** Nope. We've never created such a critter. But we will place on our idea pile. Thanks!

-The Folks at Boyd's

**Q** How come none of the plush bears have a tail? I think (pretty sure) real bears have little nubby or stubby tails!

Monika Watson,  
Marysville, MI

**A** Well, we gotta blame that one on The Head Bear...his first bear designs had no tails and we've continued in that tradition.

-The Folks at Boyd's

**Q** How do I CLEAN my Bearstone/Resin and Dollstone figures? My items are kept out in the open while on display, not in a glass cabinet. Can I dip them in water? Will the sun discolor the resin, since many of my items are placed on tables near a window?

Cece Groghan,  
Adelphi, MD

**A** Here's tips for both plush and resin...from yer ol' Uncle Bear.

•Resin Figurines  
A soft makeup brush or unused paint brush (no turpentine, please) will remove dust very easily. (But it really tickles,

so please be kind!)

Using a can of compressed air will also do the trick. Any small electronic vacuum will clean resin up nicely (and it's the best kinda massage).

Although you may like bubble baths, you can't take resin in there with ya (that's what rubber ducks are for!). Please forgo the soapy water—it's moida on the delicate details. And keep 'em out of the sun, which will fade the color!

•Plush Animals  
Spot cleaning with a damp cloth is a great way to spiff plush up!

Running the vacuum over fur will fluff the hair and get rid of stubborn dust.

Please don't throw plush in with the laundry (unless Baby Boyd's™ and machine-washable)! All that spinnin' and rinsin' weakens the seams—and things can get pretty ugly when the stuffin' starts spewin'.

*Hey, folks, what gives? Our volume of questions has fizzled to a trickle. Don't ya got any good questions for yer ol' Uncle Bear? Is the mystery gone? Do we need to start makin' a few more errors to keep you guessin'? Come on, really stump us! If you have a burnin' Boyd's question you really want an answer to, please send to Mary Graff, Marketing Department, The Boyd's Collection Ltd.®, P.O. Box 4385, Gettysburg, PA 17325.*

# Send Bearhugs And Well Wishes To Family And Friends Stationed Overseas!

**K**now a serviceman or woman stationed overseas? Wanna brighten the lives of women and men in the armed forces? The Folks at Boyds discovered some wonderful programs set up to do that very thing!

- Operation Dear Abby: Send e-mail messages to deployed troops of any Service from your home state (<http://anyservicemember.navy.mil/>).
- Defend America: Sign an online thank you card for troops (<http://www.defendamerica.mil/nmam.html>).
- Operation USA Care Package: Contribute to the purchase of a care package of items requested by troops such as sunscreen, disposable cameras, prepaid calling cards, and toiletries. (<http://www.usocares.org/home.htm>).
- To find out more about local volunteer opportunities, log onto [www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/03/20030325-4.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/03/20030325-4.html).

If you are preparing your own personal care package for a son, daughter, husband, wife, or relative in the armed forces (remember, Uncle Sam sez, “No more unsolicited care packages!”), consider stashin’ a lil’ Bearstone inside. Our G.I. Bruin is turning out to be the most popular figure of the Spring and Summer seasons. This valiant Bearstone is dressed in military garb and marchin’ forward to defend Democracy. Look on the “granite” base to see the

inspirational quote from famous American statesman, lawyer, and orator Daniel Webster...“God grants Liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it.” Other Americana pieces you may consider? Betsy Rossbear, stitchin’ her American flag; Sammy Bearmerican, pledgin’ his allegiance to the flag, our patriotic bear ornaments Tess and Bess, or how about some Americana stationery so that your relative can keep in touch with you...we’ve got memo and list pads, blank notecards, and journals.

And, family members, don’t forget about those everyday items that folks far away from home may be in dire need of: Deodorant, (Female/Male), Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Bar Soap, Laundry Detergent, Shampoo/Conditioner, Shaving Cream, Razor, Eye Wash, Mouthwash, Q-Tips, Disinfectant Wipes, Liquid Aspirin, Non-aspirin, Feminine Hygiene Products, Foot Powder, and Sunscreen/lip balm. 🐾

*“We defend and we build a way of life, not for America alone, but for all mankind.”*  
-Franklin D. Roosevelt



G.I. Bruin...Stand Up For Freedom



Betsy Rossbear... A Stitch In Time



Sammy Bearmerican... I Pledge Allegiance



Bess



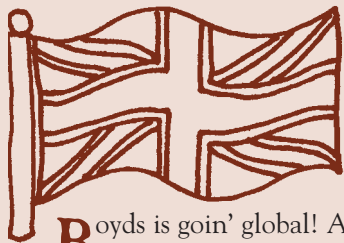
Tess

## Celebrate The Mommies-To-Be With Boyds' New Pregnancy Bear!



**Y**ep, we’re thinkin’ of every gift-givin’ angle these days! Brand new for Fall 2003, we present Ima Late, a mixed gold teddy bear with a swollen tummy and a “Baby on Board” maternity top. She joins our collection of Thinkin’ of Ya Bears™—bears and friends for every special person on your shopping list.

So what do you do with this adorable expectant momma bear? Stash in a gift basket and give at a baby shower or surprise a girlfriend or co-worker who’s just announced her happy news. Are you expecting a lil’ bundle of joy and feelin’ down and blue ‘cause yer back aches and feet have swollen to the size of watermelons? Buy Ima for yourself and get a big ol’ chuckle. Designed by moms for moms-to-be...enjoy! 🐾



# Boyd's Launches The Loyal Order Of Friends Of Boyd's™ In Britain

## The Boyd's Invasion Has Begun!

Boyd's is goin' global! Alotta lil' stores over in England are now sellin' Boyd's Bears...and the Brits (despite their better judgement) are fallin' head over heels for our stuff. Can't get enough

of it! Boyd's has so much of a followin' in the UK these days that we decided to launch a chapter of the Loyal Order of Friends of Boyd's there. Kinda neat to think that you have fellow F.o.B.s overseas! Our

English friends will receive the same club kit, benefits, and newsletter that folks in the States do. One Boyd's Dealer, Olive Thompson, who owns Dolly's of Holt, in Holt, Norfolk, reports that during a special one-day F.o.B. joining event, she had 25 customers sign up!

Give a big round of applause to Mrs. Jani Campling from Norwich... she's the veddy first collector in the UK to become an F.o.B. Bravo!

Keep yer eye out for more international features in this lil' newz rag as the months progress. Oh, and don't forget our Canadian friends—the Loyal Order of Friends of Boyd's has been alive and kickin' there since 1997!! 🐾



Boyd's™ Dealers and Friends from the UK paid a visit to Boyd's headquarters and Boyd's Bear Country this May. They included (first row, from left) Dave O'Neill, Lorna Betteley, Margaret Phillips, Cheryl Anson, Lynda Parris, Maxine Neild, and Armin Harji; (second row, from left) Ingrid Gitsham, Angela O'Neill, Joanne McDonald, Helena Pearson, Glenys Harji, Marie Juggins, Elaine Moodie, Sharon Connelly, and Lorna Floyd; (third row, from left) Rosina Bowers, Stella Bolland, Vickie Wells, Lou Juggins, Paul Pimlott, Shaun Bolland, Sally Dench, Sarah Willis, Phillip Neild, Olive Thompson, Tim Aldis, Joyce Wearing, and Bill Wearing; (fourth row, from left) Andrew Michalkow, Andrew Coldorne-Baber, Lee Sales, Ben Shirley, Jasper Pearson, and Bernie Beech.

*Canadian and UK F.o.B. members... you can now access the F.o.B. section of Boyd'sStuff.com<sup>SM</sup>! Use your member number (Canadian folks, add CA in front of this membership number) and your postal code to log in. Have fun and... welcome to the wacky world of Boyd's!*

## Be An F.o.B. Penpal!

### Write To A Boyd's Fanatic In The States Or Share Your Love Of Boyd's With A Friend Overseas!

Callin' all F.o.B.s...wanna correspond with a brand new friend in a far-off place? Now's yer chance! Since The Folks at Boyd's finally launched a UK chapter of the Loyal Order of Friends of Boyd's™ and have a thrivin' chapter in Canada, we thought it would be fun to organize a brand new penpal program that would allow folks from the UK, US, and Canada to correspond. How's it gonna work? Simply send us your mailing address or e-mail address (indicate which form of communication you would prefer) and a few juicy tidbits about yourself. We'll match you up with a special friend who shares your interests, send you that person's address, and the rest is up to you! Sound fun? Then fill out the form below and return post haste to: The Head Bean's Big Ol' PenPal Matchup. Don't get all worked up if you don't receive a penpal right away. It's gonna take us a little while to sift through all the entries, match folks up, and send info back out. And we may hold onto your entry until we find the perfect penpal match for you...so please be patient, 'cause good things come to those who wait! 🐾

Name _____	Male or Female _____	Age _____
Address _____		
Phone Number _____	E-mail Address _____	
How would you like to be contacted by penpal? _____		
How long have you been a collector/what line do you collect? _____		
Write a brief description of yourself (personality, hobbies, interests, etc.) _____		

Send To: The Head Bean's Big Ol' PenPal Matchup, The Boyd's Collection Ltd.®, P.O. Box 4386, Gettysburg, PA 17325-4386

# Send Sebastian On A Trip Across The Country!

Boyd's Launches "Travel Across America With Sebastian" Program And Invites F.o.B.s To Participate!



Bear Program. How's it gonna work? Read on!

Fill out the registration form (remember, you must be a current 2003 F.o.B. member) and return it to Boyds by December 1, 2003. If your name is drawn, you will be contacted by a gal in our F.o.B. department, who will tell you when Sebastian will arrive at your doorstep. He will come with his own trunk filled with many different outfits and accessories (ready for any occasion and weather), a travel journal, and his very own best friend (for those long nights away from home). You keep Sebastian for no longer than 10 days. What

**H**i! My name is Sebastian and I work at Boyds. I am the offishull bean counter and make sure that each Boyds Bear is filled with just the right amount of beans—not too many so that they look chubby, not so few that they look like Slim, but just the right amount to be cuddly. Just the way our collectors like them.

Most days, this is the perfect place to work, surrounded by all my friends, but lately every time I look out the window, I feel the urge to roam free. It's time for a VACATION! But vacations cost money, and this is Boyds, so I need an idea. How about a road trip across the USA? All I will need is a ride now and again, a place to rest, and maybe a few people to show me around their hometowns. But who will help? How about a few loyal 2003 F.o.B.s!

That's right! The Folks at Boyds are lookin' for a few good 2003 F.o.B.s to participate in our traveling Sebastian

do you do with your house guest during his stay? Take this adorable Boyds Bear to work, on errands, and on outings, document your time together, take tons of pictures, and mail them to Boyds with a letter about your visit. When your time with Sebastian has come to an end, the F.o.B. department will contact you with the address of his next destination. Pack up your dear companion and send him to his next host—you must cover shipping expenses (may cost up to \$15 and we recommend UPS) and provide Boyds with tracking information...we just wanna keep tabs on this lil' fella and make sure he's enjoyin' a safe and excitin' journey!

We'll feature articles about Sebastian's travel adventures in this newsletter and on our web site. You'll find out where he's been, who he's met, and where he's headed next!

Wanna play host to Sebastian? Then fill out the form below and return to Boyds, pronto! 🐾

## Travel Across America With Sebastian Registration Form

I wanna play host to Sebastian! Please register me for a chance to participate in this travel event!

- 🐾 All Participants must be 2003 F.o.B. Members
- 🐾 Fill out registration form and mail to Boyds no later than December 1, 2003

Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that to participate, I must be a 2003 F.o.B. Member. I promise to take the best care of Sebastian during his stay with me, feed him lots of goodies, and make sure he feels safe and secure. I will show him around my hometown and document his stay with stories and photos, so he will always remember his stay with me. When my time with Sebastian has come to an end, the F.o.B. department will contact me with the information for Sebastian's next destination. I will make sure I carefully pack him with all of his belongings and ship him (by method that provides tracking and at my expense) to his next destination and provide Boyds with the tracking number.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Send To: F.o.B. Dept., The Boyds Collection Ltd., P.O. Box 4386, Gettysburg, PA 17325-4386

Any questions? Contact the F.o.B. Department at (717) 633-9898, ext. 2705, or by e-mail at [fob@boydsstuff.com](mailto:fob@boydsstuff.com).

### Keep Yer Calendar Open This August!

QVC Collector's Day is comin'...keep checkin' our web site and QVC.com for more info on dates and products as the month nears!

# Celebratin' The 100th Anniversary Of Peter Pan With Limited-Edition Bearstone!

*A Tribute To The Lil' Boy Who Refuses To Grow Up (The Head Bean Can Relate!)*



*"Unless we believe in the hero, what is there To believe."*

*- Stevens*

Sir James M. Barrie, a Scottish journalist, playwright, and children's book writer. Barrie first introduced the character of Peter Pan in his 1902 book, *The Little White Bird*, and further developed this character in his play *Peter Pan, or The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*, in 1904.

Our intricately sculpted tribute piece—a wonderful addition to a baby or small child's room—is packed with detail. Evil captain Hook holds a soft resin sword and sheath and duels it out with ageless take Peter

aboard Hook's battered old pirate ship (check out the familiar script, "You Never Grow Old If You Believe," the miniature cannons, sailor's rope, and other amazin' nautical details!). Peter's defending his beloved Wendy, who's been tied to the mast so she won't fly away. But where's the popular character Tink? We stashed this delicate little faerie in the old sailor's lantern that rests next to Wendy. And just like the movie character, our lil' Tink glows... just flip the switch underneath the pirate ship to light up the lantern! 🐾

*Other Peter Pan 100th Anniversary Tributes To Check Out:*

*Head to the theaters this Christmas, 'cause that's when Universal Pictures will release the very first live-action film of Peter Pan!*

The Folks at Boyds are proud to present one of our most spectacular Bearstone limited editions to date—Hook, Peter, Wendy & Tink...The

and duals it out with ageless take Peter

## Meet Ms. Rouge Chapeau

*Boyd's Tribute To The Red Hat Society™!*

If yer 50 or older, you've probably heard of the Red Hat Society, a fast-growing group of women who greet middle age with "verve, humor, and élan." Never heard of the group? It all started with one woman, Sue Ellen Cooper, who was inspired by the poem "Warning" written by Jenny Joseph. The poem speaks of growing old in a wonderfully outrageous style and begins, "When I am an old woman I shall wear purple, with a red hat which doesn't go and doesn't suit me." Sue Ellen purchased a bright red fedora from a thrift shop and gave it to her friend, along with a copy of the poem. The gift was such a hit that she decided to give the same gift to one friend after another. None of these women thought of themselves as old yet, but they agreed that it might be time to start practicing to be the kind of women that they hoped to become when they really were old—fun-loving and eccentric, maybe even a little bit wacky.

Before long, Sue Ellen and her group of friends recognized that there was something special being born, an organization (they prefer the term "disorganization") in the making, and decided to find purple dresses to go with the hats and go out to tea in their vivid outfits. Why? It just seemed like a fun thing to do. That very day, the magic began.

The Red Hat Society has grown to include many thousands of women, who have formed their own chapters of the society all across the United States, Canada, and even in places as far-flung as New Zealand, Wales, and Australia. Sue Ellen and her friends had no choice but to branch out—only so many woman can sit around a tea table, after all! The Red Hat Society now hosts annual conventions and cruises and sponsors a web site so that folks can connect with other chapters in their areas, get help in forming new chapters, and keep abreast of Red Hat Society events, both local and national. Sue Ellen writes a weekly broadcast, which is e-mailed to everyone who requests it. Red Hatters are known to give themselves amusing, perhaps royal titles, and in that spirit, Sue Ellen has given herself the title "Exalted Queen Mother." Why? Because she can!

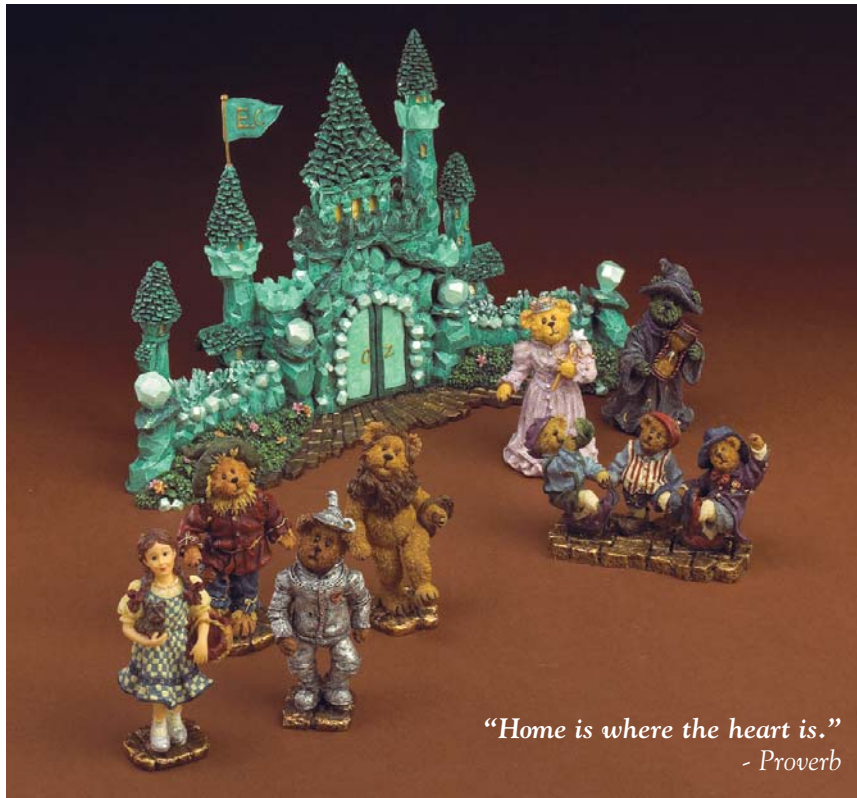
In the spirit of the Red Hat Society...the Folks at Boyds are proud to present Ms. Rouge Chapeau, a cream bear that celebrates the whimsical spirit of the society's members. She wears a red velvet hat with wired brim, plum rose, and black net veil; a plum velvet dress with red velvet collar and antique-style buttons; and red velvet pantaloons.

Contact your local Boyds Dealer to find out more about Ms. Rouge. To find out more about the Red Hat Society and become a member, log onto [www.redhatsociety.com](http://www.redhatsociety.com). 🐾



# Take A Stroll Down The Yellow Brick Road With The Folks At Boyds

Brand New Vignette For Fall 2003 Celebrates  
A Children's Book Classic!



**F**rank Baum's children's book classic celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2000 and the MGM movie will celebrate its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2004. As a tribute to the popular tale, the Folks at Boyds have created our own special tabletop vignette—the perfect piece to display in the nursery or add to a collection of Hollywood, movie musical, or Oz memorabilia!

The collection features an intricately sculpted Emerald City backdrop that looks like real crystal! The backdrop features individually sculpted crystal clusters; a “gold brick” walk; and sparkling grass and flower plots. Nine figures round out the assortment—each intricately sculpted and packed with detail! Our Dorothy figure is dressed in a blue-check dress and silver sparkle shoes and holds pooch Toto and a small farm basket. Her companions include the fearless lion (actually a bear in a cat suit!) a bear scarecrow; and the tinman, a bear in a metal suit complete with a bronze heart with

bear paw insignia! Each stands atop a “gold brick” base. And what Oz collection would be complete without the good and bad witches and munchkins? The Good Witch of the North is dressed in a pink gold-star-print sparkle gown and crown, and holds a scepter. The Wicked Witch of the West is dressed in a gold-star-print cap and gold-moon-print cloak and holds an hour glass (times tickin’ away for Dorothy and her friends!). And the munchkins (lil’ bear cubs in elf suits) are captured as they dance about and skip down the yellow brick road. 🐾

*Hey, Oz Fans. Did ya know that there's an annual Oz festival? Yep! September 19-21, 2003, marks the 22nd Annual Wizard of Oz Festival in Chesterton, Indiana. Events include celebrity autograph parties, a family picnic, a raffle, drive-in movie viewings of the Wizard of Oz, a 5K race, a parade, look-alike contests, an auction, and more!*

# Say It Best With Winston's World!

Illustrated Greeting Card Line Is Back In 2003 With 25 New Designs!

**L**ookin’ for sumptin’ that will make friends and family smile on special occasions? Then slip ‘em a Winston’s World™ greeting card! The collection grows in 2003 with 25 new designs that will brighten yer day, make ya smile, and remind you of all those important things in life!

Designed by Boyds’ in-house arteest, Amy Routson, each card comes with an illustrated envelope and features adorable Boyds-style illustrations, a thoughtful or funny greeting, and a matchin’ quote on the back to make you smile. Keep yer eye out for the brand new Winston’s World spinner rack displayer at your local Boyds Dealer to spot these special greetings. New styles fall under Birthday, Friendship, Miss You, Thinking of You, Thank You, Blank, Baby, and Get Well categories and feature bear Winston and his gang of buddies—Jack the playful rabbit, girlfriend Kathryn; lil’ brother Buddy and his teddy friend Binky; loyal puppy

Pudge; and Murray (a slow-movin’ moose with a heart the size of Montana!). 🐾



# Adopt A Baby Bear Cub At Boyds Bear Country™!

The World's Largest Teddy Bear Nursery Is Open And Searchin' For a Few Good Parents!

In May, the Folks at Boyds opened the doors of our brand new bear cub facility, the Teddy Bear Nursery. We had to do sumptin'...Boyds Bears have their cubs in the spring and summer. Where were the lil' fellas gonna sleep? So we set aside a lil' area and built a nursery, just like you'd see in the hospital—complete with an observation window for perspective parents to view the lil' bundles of joy (keep quiet and you can hear the sounds of cubs cooin' and cryin' for their bottles!).

So who's head RN at our bear cub nursery? Nurse Carin, the sweetest lady to ever enter the medical profession. Her smile will set you instantly at ease (new-parent jitters can sometimes get the better of folks!). The process is actually pretty easy. When you arrive at Boyds Bear Country, head to the third floor and hang a left. There you will find the nursery...can't miss it with all that pastel pink and blue décor and the big colorful sign. Nurse Carin will greet you and help you fill out the Adoption Application (you gotta promise to care for yer wee one and follow certain rules for rearin' bear cubs!). After that step is complete, you choose your bear cub (15 styles) and adoption option (three packages) and head on over to our craft center to create ID bracelets—one for the parent and one for your babe. We've got tons of colorful beads from which to choose! Then it's back over for another meetin' with Nurse Carin', when you will receive your cleaned and powdered and bundled bear cub, your offishull Boyds Adoption Certificate, a photo of you and your wee one to frame and display, and a lil'

## A Lil' Bear Cub Trivia

Did you know that cubs are born in the den during January or February and are blind, toothless, and covered with fine hair? Eek! Litter size ranges from one to four cubs, each weighing six to 12 ounces at birth.

booklet on bear care (written and illustrated by our veddy own VP of Stuff, Liz Smith!).

Prices are based on the option you choose (and, of course, the number of bear cubs you adopt!). Choose the Tot Bundle option for \$49.95, and receive an adorable bear cub, a baby blanket (to swaddle yer lil' bundle), a diaper (never can have enough of those), a bracelet, a photo of the proud parent and bear cub for framin', an adoption certificate, and a resin pin. Choose the Nipper Bundle option for \$59.95, and receive Tot Bundle items, plus an extra outfit and a wrist rattle. Choose the Dumplin' Bundle option for \$74.95, and receive Tot Bundle items, plus an extra outfit, a wrist rattle, a carrier (so handy when you want to parade around and show off yer lil' bear cub!), AND a special plush friend!

Wanna adopt more than one? Don't be shy! These bear cubs need a good home, and if we deem you fully capable of rearin' a litter, we will be happy to hand 'em over. One parent recently adopted quint (quite a handful!).

We invite kids of all ages to come and join in the fun! For more info on bear cub adoptions, log onto [BoysBearCountry.com](http://BoysBearCountry.com). 🐾



# A Summer Of Fun At Boyds Bear Country™!

Ahhhh...summer is finally here! Why not pack the kids in the car and head to Boyds Bear Country? A ton of fun things are goin' on at our Big Ol' Barn this summer—you won't wanna miss out!

## 🐾 Weekends Throughout the Summer Fun Events

Live bands, special Breakfast events hosted by popular Boyds Bear characters, a live DJ in the atrium spinnin' your favorite tunes, and much more.

🐾 **July 12-13, 19-20, and 26-27**  
Civil War Living History Weekends Encampments; dress parades; infantry firing, artillery firing, and cavalry demonstrations; small battles and skirmishes; and a Civil War Ball on July 26—the public is invited to take lessons prior to the dance and participate in the festivities!

## 🐾 September

**Teddy Bear Fun Factory**  
Build Boyds Animals from start to finish! Choose the fabric, select the bean fillin', fill the critter, and finish the seam! Choose from bear, dog, cat, rabbit, and moose designs, and fashion, profession, sports, sleepwear, and bridal outfits.

## 🐾 September 26, 27, and 28

**First Anniversary Events**  
Special plush anniversary piece (a purchase-with-purchase EXCLUSIVE!); a children's reading event; a HUGE GIVEAWAY (details to come!); and a Special F.o.B. Preview Tea, which will include lunch, a preview of Spring 2004 products, a gift from the Folks at Boyds Bear Country; and a chance to win Ralph McFarmin'. Fee for the tea will be \$25, and we are currently taking reservations for four seatings (Sept. 26 at 3 p.m., Sept. 27 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., and Sept. 28 at 11 a.m.). Each seating is limited to 75 people.

Keep checkin' [BoysBearCountry.com](http://BoysBearCountry.com) for our updated event schedule! And call 866-367-8338 for general questions about your visit.



# Well-Known And Loved Bear Artist Designs Teddy For Boyds!

Say hello to Rupert B. Shutterbear, the newest member of our Artisan Series of teddy bears and friends—plush critters designed by some of the country's most noteworthy bear makers. So who designed adorable Rupert? Steve Schutt, a special friend to the Folks at Boyds.

Here's a lil' background for ya. Steve grew up in Clarion, Iowa, and taught art in elementary school for 17 years. In his free time, Steve pursued an interest in puppetry and—a natural extension of the artform—bear making. Steve made his first bear in 1980 and sold his early designs, which incorporated antique



fabrics obtained from Victorian clothing, furniture, and buggy robes, in his antiques shop (another love of this creative fellow!). Steve turned to bear-making fulltime in 1988 and, over the past 20 years, has created over 12,000 bears and friends! (Now that's alotta stitchin' and stuffin'!) Steve is considered one of America's pioneering teddy bear artists and has been honored for his achievements with Golden

Teddy and Artists' Choice Awards, as well as Toby Award nominations.

Inspired by his love of bears, Steve co-founded, in 1984, the Iowa Teddy Bear Makers' Guild and organized, in 1990, Clarion's famous "Teddy Bear Reunion in the Heartland," a gathering that is held every five years. A big fan of Boyds (Steve sold Bearstones in his antiques shop!), the bear artist decided, in 2000, to help organize another Clarion teddy bear extravaganza...the Annual Celebration of Boyds, which attracts, each year, 25 exhibitors and 1000 attendees (including folks from Boyds)!

Boyds creates limited-edition Bearstones for the Reunion and limited-edition plush pieces for the Celebration... and Steve was kind enough to return the design favor when VP of Stuff Liz Smith, asked him to create a special piece for Boyds' Fall 2003 plush line. Rupert, an antique-style design, is floppy and bean-filled and features tan ultrasuede paw pads and an incorporated red union suite with paw-print buttons and "drop seat." Look for the special Steve Schutt hang tag to know you've found this gen-you-whine Artisan Series exclusive! "After working with Boyds in the Clarion Teddy Bear events that we sponsor and meeting several of the people that work for Boyds," says Steve, "I was proud and excited when Boyds asked me to design a bear for the Artisan Series and become a part of the extended Boyds Family of designers!" 🐾

## Silver Screen Starlets Inspire Fall 2003 Plush Limited Edition!

So Grab Yer Top Hat, Tails, And Join In The Fun!

Ah, the stars of the silver screen... Garbo, Hepburn, Dietrich, Rogers, Davis, Lake, Harlow, Leigh, Lombard, Bacall, and more. These Hollywood legends certainly knew how to strike a pose or two and came to symbolize the golden age of filmmaking.

Inspired by these film stars, the Folks at Boyds are proud to present our Fall 2003 limited-edition set, Marlena Beargeaux and Deitrich (okay, so we're takin' some creative license...you get the general idea!).

Marlena is dressed for her stroll down the red carpet...she adores her fans and

doesn't mind signing an autograph or two (just make sure the cameras catch her good side while she's at it!). This cream bear is dressed in a satin-lined black velvet hat with leopard-print trim, a velvet coat with leopard-print collar and cuffs, and black velvet pantaloons. She's accompanied by her pet leopard, Deitrich, a fully jointed plush friend with green eyes, velvet paw pads, and an ultrasuede leash.

This elegant set is hand-numbered and comes with a special hang tag with VP of Stuff Liz Smith's signature stamp! A special plush piece to treasure

and display with other Hollywood memorabilia! 🐾



See if you can match up these famous movie lines with the starlets who delivered them:

1. "Is that a gun in your pocket, or are you just glad to see me?"
2. "I want to be alone."
3. "Things are always darkest just before they go pitch black."
4. "All I'm trying to say is there's lots of things a man can do and in society's eyes it's all hunkey dory. A woman does the same thing, the same mind you, and she's an outcast."
5. "One woman has hurt you, you take your revenge on the rest of the world. You're a coward and a weakling."
6. "You know how to whistle don't you? Just put your lips together...and blow."
7. "I'd like to kiss you, but I just washed my hair."

- ANSWERS:  
 1. Mae West  
 2. Greta Garbo  
 3. Marlene Dietrich  
 4. Katharine Hepburn  
 5. Ingrid Bergman  
 6. Lauren Bacall  
 7. Bette Davis

# Spotlight On Starlight!

## Starlight Exclusive Products...

Jesselyn R. Angel and Introducing Twinkle Starlight



Many of you already know Jesselyn R. Angel, our newest plush bear designed exclusively for The Starlight Children's Foundation, an international non-profit organization dedicated to brightening the lives of seriously ill children. This bear is very special in that it is named after a ten-year-old girl in Virginia who has won the battle against Leukemia. Partners with Starlight since the year 2000, Boyds proudly donates 100% of the profits from the sale of the Jesselyn bear and other exclusive products to the foundation.

But, just because Jesselyn is our current Starlight product doesn't mean we've stopped thinking about our next addition to the Boyds/Starlight family. In fact, coming soon is Twinkle Starlight. Twinkle is Boyds' first-annual Starlight ornament.



gown covered in iridescent sparkles, a lavender banner with gold "Wish Upon A Star" script, translucent resin wings, and a "gold" halo. She holds an authentic crystal star charm with a 2003 dated tag. She even comes with her "beary" own stand! Twinkle will sell for around \$12 retail, however the ornament stand will be sold separately.

## Starlight Fun Centers...

Bringing Fun to Children in Hospitals across the Country!!

Things are finally winding down for the 2002 Starlight Fun Center

Contest. What that means is finally all 54 Fun Centers have been placed in hospitals across the country. Two hospitals each were selected to receive Fun Centers by the 27 Boyds Dealers who purchased the most Starlight exclusive pieces, Hope Angelwish and Everychild... Bless Our Children Bearstone and Alisa R. Angel plush bear, and donated an extra 50 cents to Starlight! Many thanks to our 27 winners and for all of you who helped make this contest a big success.



But, that's not all. We're about ready to roll out the 2004 Starlight Fun Center contest. Yes, that is correct...the 2004 contest!! Ya see, the 2003 contest is already underway and will offhushly wrap up in June with the final sales of Jesselyn R.



Angel. But, you can help kick off the new contest by purchasing Twinkle Starlight and the unnamed plush due out next Spring. So help yer favorite dealers win by tellin' all yer friends, neighbors, and pets about the wunnerful new piece. Winning dealers from this contest will place ONE Fun Center at a local hospital with the top three overall also getting the opportunity to grant a child's wish!

On another Fun Center note... Boyds has decided to place an additional 20 Fun Centers in hospitals across the country. Hearing what we are doing, Nintendo has graciously offered to match our donation, effectively wiping out Starlight's Fun Center waiting list!

## Starlight Sites...

Boyds Provides Children Far and Wide with Cozy Refuges!

Spring has sprung at "Hope Forest," Boyds' new Starlight Site at Johns Hopkins Children's Center in Baltimore, Maryland. In this cozy refuge you can now meet all of our new friends: the Daisydews, the Cherrybearys, the Beezleys, the Sugarcones, and the Fishers, just to name a few. They're sure to be hangin' out in the trees or playing it cool in their caves and providing pediatric patients and their families with the perfect getaway.

Construction began March 30, 2003



on the Barrier Reef, the new Starlight Site Boyds and the Boston Bruins wives are funding at the Franciscan Children's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. Crews have already moved a handicap bathroom and they are now tearing down walls. Construction is moving along and the site should be open around August. Check our website for updates!

## Hospital Happenings and KAN events...

### Boys Volunteers Host Fun-filled Events At Area Hospitals And Schools!

Hospital Happenings and Kids Activity Network Events are always an important part of how we can help out Starlight and our local community. They allow Boyds volunteers to interact with children confined to the hospital or special medical needs children in school.

On March 22, 2003, the Boyds Stuff for Starlight volunteers headed to the Penn State Children's Hospital in Hershey, Pennsylvania, for a Hospital Happening. We made baby food jar gardens with the children and played a few games of BLOOM (aka BINGO). Each child walked away with a prize from our bear stash...with Boyds, everyone is a winner!



And, on April 15, 2003, we held a Kids Activity Network Event at Rolling Acres Elementary School in the Littlestown Area School District. We made Easter Bunny magnetic photo frames with six kids at the school. In the frame each child placed a picture of him/herself to take home to Mom. 🐾

*We wanna thank our loyal Boyds Dealers and you, our collectors and friends, for helping us raise \$1,051,584.40 for Starlight thus far!*

# The Folks At Boyds Bid A Fond Farewell To Jean Grubesky

*After 16 Years Of Hard Work And Service, She's Retirin'!*



Jean cuts her retirement cake for the entire company to enjoy!

Jean Grubesky, VP of New Bear Projects, retired on May 9, 2003, after a 16-year career at Boyds. Wowza! Jean worked for Gary Lowenthal back in the good ol' days when the Boyds office was located in Littlestown, Pennsylvania (one desk was shared by a gazillion people and air conditioning meant nothing more than opening a window and wavin' a fan in front of yer face!). Jean has worked tirelessly for Boyds— as VP of Operations (she was in charge of Imports and the warehouse, went to gift shows, and sold...all under this title!) and in the F.o.B. Department (she orchestrated our F.o.B. Family Reunion a year or two back!). Talk about hard-workin', dedicated, and a bundle of laughs, taboot!

We celebrated Jean's career with a retirement party, complete with lunch, cake, and a bundle of goodies for Jean to treasure. This terrific lady is takin' the summer off to spend time with her kids and travel to Hawaii (a dream come true!)...and then who knows what the future may hold (how excitin'!). During our send-off party, a few tears were shed and bear hugs were shared around the room. We wish you the very best, Jean...thanks for the memories! 🐾

Jean was showered with retirement gifts, including a bee-ooo-tiful gold watch, complete with bear paw logo. She takes time out to smile for the camera with CEO Jean-Andre Rougeot and VP of Stuff Liz Smith



The Head Bean Hissel stopped by to wish Jean well and celebrate her career at Boyds. Whatta guy!

## Meet The Folks At Boyds

In each issue, we'll introduce you to a member of the Boyds Family—the folks who make this place tick. This behind-the-scenes article will give you an idea of what we do from day to day (besides eat and nap!). Let us know whom you would like to meet next...we'll feature him or her in an upcoming issue!

You know the feeling...you walk into a local Boyds Dealer and you see something out of the corner of your eye. A soft, huggable, lovable Boyds Bear. You turn, take one look, and your heart flutters...it's love at first sight! Ever wonder who's responsible for designing these adorable bears and friends? Say hello to Boyds' plush team, Tami Armacost, Michele Smith, and Jennifer Buckley!

So what does it take to be a Boyds Designer? Creativity is key and experience is a must. Tami joined the Boyds Family in 1991 and worked in several departments—receptionist, major accounts, sales, payroll, and accounting—before joining the plush team. Michele, who came to Boyds in 1993, worked in several key positions—Inside Sales, International Accounts, and Imports—before lending her talents to product development. And Jennifer, the newest member of the plush team (October 2002 to be exact!), served as a telesalesperson, Assistant Road Crew Manager, and National Accounts Manager before turning her attention to the creative side of the business.

There's never a dull moment for this dynamic trio. New collections are designed every six months. Tami, Michele, and Jennifer begin the process by discussing color concepts, theme concepts, and specific hallmarks for collections (ya know—the special embroidery, pins, or buttons that make bears and friends

stand out!). Then they choose the actual pieces (bears, hares, and friends) that will comprise each collection—decisions that are based on past successes and future trends (yep, these gals keep a close eye on the fashion, toy, and gift industries...ya just never know where a good idea might come from!). The next step is to see the designs through development, review the prototypes with VP of Stuff Liz Smith, and revise until each piece is perfection!

Although the job of creating soft and cuddly Boyds Bears is rewarding and fun, challenges do arise during the work day. On occasions, a prototype will not resemble the original concept. "Some days when it seems 100 things need to be accomplished, we are fortunate to have Cheryl Strevig and Bobbi Snyder, our product support team to keep us on track and in line!" adds Michele. "We couldn't do it without them."

So where do these gals get their creative ideas? Inspiration comes from children's clothing, home décor, and decorating styles (Country, Americana, Victorian, and more!). The trio also listens to feedback from collectors, family members, friends, and co-workers... who always offer fresh perspectives.

Although each and every bear they produce holds a special place in their



The plush team is always smilin' (From left) Jennifer Buckley, Michele Smith, and Tami Armacost take time to cuddle with their favorite plush creations!

hearts, the team ranks Baby Boyds™ as one of its favorite overall collections to design. Why? "It allowed the mom in all of us to come out!" says Tami.

Wanna know what Tami, Michele, and Jennifer are working on next? Although the Folks at Boyds don't like to give away too many secrets before a collection's premiere, the plush team did hint at some fun new designs. "We can't tell you when they will make their appearance," says Jennifer, "but we've been working on a collection of slightly off-centered (or more off-centered than usual!) sentiment bears."

When asked to describe their role at Boyds, these talented ladies used words like "rewarding," "creative," and "challenging." And they approach life with that same sense of gusto, says Tami. "We each enjoy spending time with our families and living life to its fullest!" 🐾

## Boyds Braggin' Column

Just when you think things can't get any better, they do! Boyds once again comes out a winner, bringing home two TOBY (Teddy Bear of the Year) Industry Choice Awards and one DOTY (Doll of the Year) Industry Choice Award. And no, there wasn't some kind of mix-up!!!

Industry award-winners are Potsie Daisydew in the Manufactured Miniature Bear category and Trevor T. Elfbeary with Giddyup in the Small Manufactured Bear-Dressed category. Annie with Tapper...Keeping in Step received her award in the Collectible Porcelain Doll Under \$125 category.

Boyds just keeps rackin' 'em up cuz on top of those three we were nominated for three more! Nominated for Golden Teddy Awards in the category Undressed, 12 inches & Over is Mumbley B. Bean and in the category of Dressed/Accessorized, 12 inches & Over is Krystle B. Bearbright with Joelle & Paz. And, nominated for a 2003 Dolls Award of Excellence in the Porcelain & Wax-Over-Porcelain Under \$250 category is Aubrey with Waddle...Puddle Jumping.

Now, the most important thing to remember is to cast yer vote for yer favorite Boyds pieces!! Only with yer help can we turn those Industry Choice Awards into Public Choice Awards and those Nominations into actual Awards. So, make sure you pick up the June/July copy of Doll Reader, the July/August copy of Teddy Bear and Friends, and the August copies of Teddy Bear Review and DOLLS Magazines to cast yer vote for yer favorites. And, it better be a Boyds! 🐾





# THB's Recipe Box

*The Folks at Boyds luv to eat. Can't help it...eatin's a good excuse not to work, so we have shindigs and special luncheons all the time! Here are some winnerful recipes sent in by loyal collectors. We hope you enjoy them, and send in your own family favorites for us to print in this column!*



## Tropical Muffins

- 1 3-ounce package cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 large egg
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 8-ounce cans crushed pineapple, drained
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup flaked coconut
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In a mixing bowl, beat cream cheese, sugar, and extracts until smooth; stir in egg. Combine flour, baking soda, and salt; add to the creamed mixture alternately with sour cream just until moistened. Fold in pineapple and coconut.

Fill greased or paper-lined muffin cups three-fourths full. Sprinkle with almonds. Bake for 25 minutes or until muffins test done. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks. Makes 18 delicious muffins.

*-submitted by Mary Beth Relyea, Canastota, NY*

## Heavenly Dirt

- 1 large package Oreos, crumbled
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened
- 16-ounce Cool Whip
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 2 small packages instant chocolate pudding

Line an 8" x 10" pan with crumbled Oreos (reserve some for topping). Pour melted butter over Oreos. In a separate bowl, mix together cream cheese, powdered sugar, and 8 ounces of Cool Whip. Spread cream cheese mixture over Oreos. Mix pudding according to directions on package and spread over the cream cheese. Spread remaining 8 ounces of Cool Whip over pudding. Garnish with crumbled Oreos. Refrigerate two hours.

*-submitted by Bonnie Houghton, Fairmont, WV*



## The Head Bean's Yummy Tummy Rhubarb Pie

*(The perfect treat on a warm summer evening...don't forget the ice cream toppin'!)*

- Your favorite pastry recipe for double crust (or use frozen and follow manufacturer's instructions!)
- 6 cups diced rhubarb
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- Dash of salt
- 1 egg
- 2 tablespoons butter

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.

Line 9-inch pie plate with pastry. Mix flour, sugar, and salt, and add egg. Stir into rhubarb and fill crust. Dot with butter and add top crust, gashed, or cover with lattice strips. Bake in hot oven for 40 to 45 minutes. Voila!

## Boyd's Bear Country™ Fried Chicken

*Can't get to our Rufus, Dufus, and Daryl Dining Hall? Try this fun recipe at home and eat like a farmer!*

- 1 frying chicken (2 1/2 to 3 1/2 lbs.)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Pepper
- 1 cup flour
- Lard or shortening

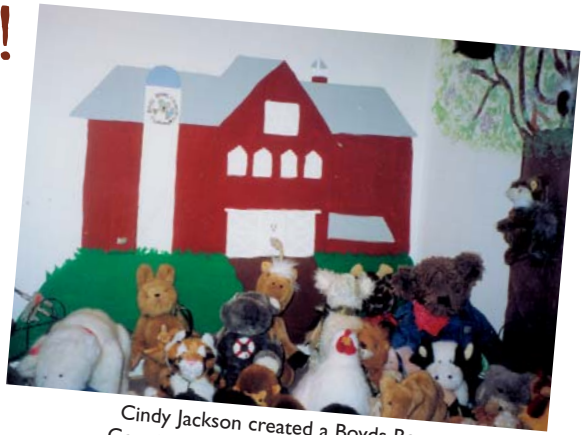
Cut chicken into serving pieces. Rinse pieces and dry. Season pieces with salt and pepper. Mix 1 teaspoon salt into flour and add to plastic bag. Add chicken pieces and coat by tossing them in bag. Remove from bag and shake off excess flour. Add shortening to black iron pan to depth of 1 1/2 inches. Heat until shortening is hot but not smoking. Add largest pieces first; do not crowd. Cover the pan and fry over medium-high for 8 minutes. When chicken is brown on underside, flip and fry on other side until golden brown. Pieces should be fried for 20 minutes total. Once cooked through, remove from pan and drain on paper towels. Finger-lickin' good! 🐾

*We'd like to keep runnin' your favorite recipes in the F.o.B. Inquirer. Please submit to Mary Graff, Marketing Dept., The Boyds Collection Ltd., P.O. Box 4385, Gettysburg, PA 17325. We'll publish as many as we can pack in this news rag!*



# Meet This Issue's Boyds Fanatics!

In a Special Section, the Folks at Boyds highlight those F.o.B.s who've gone a bit over the edge about Boyds (The Head Bear is so proud!).



Cindy Jackson created a Boyds Bear Country™ backdrop for her collection!



Bill Clute and WilBear Wright, aka Theodore Sr., flyin' the friendly skies.



WilBear Wright is ready to take off at Clute's Hilltop Airport.

## Susanna Clute Greer, SC

My name is Susanna Clute and I live in Greer, South Carolina. I am passionate about Boyds! I have been a collector since 1996 and I own over 100 Bearstones.

Lucky for me I won Theodore Sr. at Ann's Hallmark Store in Greenville, South Carolina, in April 2002. Theodore inspired me to combine my passion for Boyds with my husband's (Bill) passion—aviation. Aerobatics to be exact!

Bill and Theodore Sr. have shared many hours flyin' the friendly skies.

Theodore Sr. reminded me that this December will be the 100th anniversary of the first flight (aviation)—Yes, Theodore Sr. and I speak. Okay, call me an F.o.B. Fanatic!

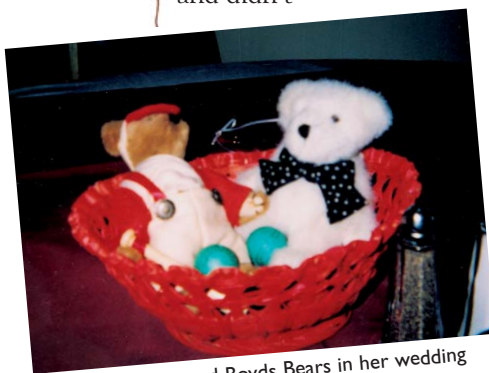
Theodore Sr. really enjoys his adventurous flights. He

now wants Bill and I to call him WilBear Wright, his alter ego.

I mean WilBear Wright explains, "It's not easy getting to 100. Aviation and I are part of a classic breed."

## Elaine Shuey Delaware Water Gap, PA

Last June 22, I got married. Keep in mind that I was 45 and didn't



Elaine Shuey used Boyds Bears in her wedding reception table centerpieces!

do a lot of traditional things. During the planning, I realized I hadn't done anything about centerpieces for the reception. It suddenly hit me—Boyds Bears. Most of my friends love them. So I went to my local Boyds Dealer—Beary Best Friends

in East Stroudsburg—and asked if they could work with me. We had a lot of fun coming up with bears that matched each other and the tablecloths at the reception. I used mostly 6 and 8-inch bears. I took them home and created a "setting" for each pair of bears. Some were in flowerpots, some in buckets, some in other arrangements. Some had little books with them, others were surrounded by large handkerchiefs, and the beach bears had angelfish erasers all around them. A few people laughed at me, but there were none left at the end of the reception. Luckily, I had one spare bear because I had also failed to buy a bouquet to throw. So I threw the bear.

Naturally, the head table was decorated with the large bride and groom bears surrounded by white satin and champagne glasses filled with pearls.

## Carol Neiderer, Boyds Employee Hanover, PA

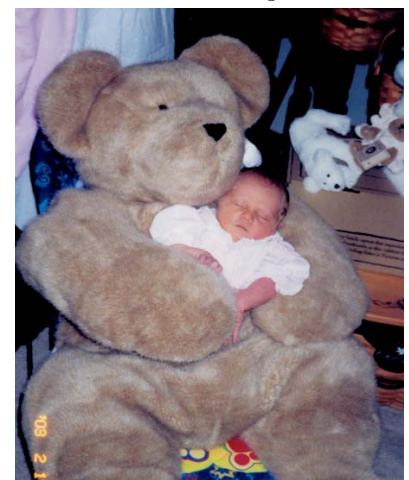
Layona Rugsley is proudly helping to take care of Mikayla, the youngest bear collector of the family. Her

collection is already growing in size and someday will match the collection of her Mommy, who has been a Boyds Collector for eight years. Mikayla was born on February 15, 2003, to Beth and Doug Gebhart in Hanover, Pennsylvania.

## Cindy Jackson Worcester, MA

What can I say, I just love Boyds Bears. I have almost 300 plush pieces. I desperately want to visit Boyds Bear Country™, but I can't afford to do so. I did the next best thing. I brought the "museum" to me. I also needed a clever way to display my Boyds barnyard collection. What a better way to display the barnyard collection than by building my own little farm.

I had a friend paint a



Mikayla snuggles with her first bear, Layona.



Boys Bears at the Faire members at the MS Walk in Winter Park.

replica of the museum and I painted a tree, sun, and some clouds on an adjoining wall.

I am very happy with my very own bear country. And wanted to share it with you.

**Carol and Alan Thomas  
Gahanna, OH**

Bells were ringing on Saturday, April 26, at The Doll House in Gahanna, Ohio! Why? BnBers Carol Silvia & Alan Thomas of Pennsylvania tied the knot during Boys' Special Event!



BnBers Carol Silvia and Alan Thomas of Pennsylvania locked hearts for life on April 26.



A brilliant sun shone on the wedding party, (from left) Bud Gray, newlyweds Alan and Carol Thomas, and bridesmaids Kelsey and MacKenzie Hawk and Beth Phillip

**Brigitte Lejeune  
Casselberry, FL**

On March 15th, 11 club members from Boyds Bears at the Faire walked three miles in the MS Walk in Winter Park. We not only had lots of fun—wearing our club T-shirts and bear ears and pushing Ripley in a stroller—but we also raised lots of money to help end the devastating effects of multiple sclerosis. How much did we raise? Our team total was a TERRIFIC \$3,054—over three times our original goal!!!

The walkers were: Valerie Sewell (Team Captain), Brigitte Lejeune, Chris Simpson, Jennifer Polen, Shirley Martin, Patty McCord, Connie Dean, Andrea

Turner, Grace Boyd, Bonnie Pease (Boys Club Sponsor), and Linda Hagman (Boys Sales Rep.). We took turns pushing Ripley wearing his MS shirt during the walk. Every member received her completion certificate after the walk, including Ripley.



An Ohio dealer created a plush display based on our 10th Anniversary Bearstone set!

**10th Anniversary Bearstone**

Talk about creativity! The Folks at Just Because Gifts & More, Inc., in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, recreated our miniature 10th Anniversary Bearstone set...with full-size plush bears and an old travel trunk! What a great way to celebrate our April special event! 🐻

Wanna be featured in our Boys Fanatics section? Send a letter to Mary Graff, Marketing Dept., The Boyds Collection Ltd.®, P.O. Box 4385, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Give us all the juicy details about yourself...how long you've been collecting, what you like best, any funny stories you'd like to share with the F.o.B. family, and yer phone number and e-mail address just in case we wanna talk with you in person. AND DON'T FORGET TO SEND PHOTOS OF YERSELF AND YER COLLECTIONS OF BOYDS STUFF!



**Celebratin' A 100th  
Birthday With Our  
Theodore M. Bear**

Fred Ambrosius has something in common with the teddy bear...both were born in the same year! Fred celebrated his 100th birthday on December 12, 2002, and was given our centennial bear, Theodore M. Bear, as a special gift. Congratulations, Fred, and thanks to Fred's daughter, Helen Wilkerson, for sending in the photo! 🐻

