

SOUVENIR BUILDING COLLECTOR

Summer 2015

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JOURNAL OF THE SOUVENIR BUILDING COLLECTORS SOCIETY

Bob Kneisel

Founding Member Souvenir

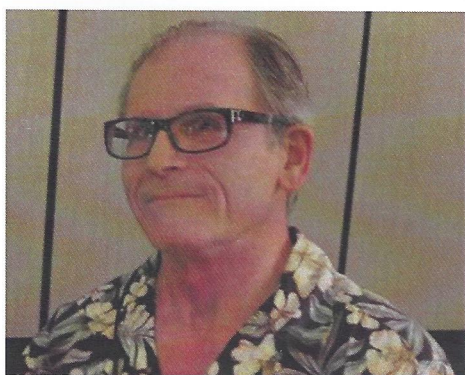
Building Collectors Society

Conventioneer

Extraordinaire

By Elizabeth Lawson

How many collectors groups, such as the SBCCA or the Salt & Peppers Club, which have annual conventions, have one, or more, member(s) that have attended EVERY one of their conventions? This is not a trivial question, as our own SBCS has just such a member – Bob Kneisel. 2015 Orlando was the 20th convention Bob has attended and he has no intention of retiring from our conventions. Now we all know that getting an A+ for attendance



Bob Kneisel

can mean more than Woody Allen's '80% of life is just showing up'. It frequently indicates diligence, determination, and dedication – all attributes of a great collector. Bob is one of our great collectors.

This spring Bob consented to an interview and told many stories from his fascinating life. During his school years in southern California he and his late twin brother, Bill, worked at Disneyland in the summers. Bob's education ended with a PHD in Economics.

Bob and Bill would buy a house, fix it up, and sell it; they were 'flippers' before the term was invented! As a result of 'flipping' he was given his alpha building in 1983 by the realtor of a recently purchased property.

During the long tenure of Tom Bradley as Mayor of Los Angeles (1973-1993) Bob was on the Mayor's staff and authored the first major energy study ever done for an American city. This landmark study was honored by the National



**Kneisel's alpha building:
The New York City skyline**

American Institute of Architects for its foresight in what has become a serious issue.

Bob then worked for the State of California on energy issues and for a mechanical engineering group promoting energy efficient cogeneration heating and cooling systems. His degree in economics gave him the ability to provide the financial analysis to energy conservation. Again, he was ahead of the curve. This is still an important part of his life and he has now taken up the grass in his street

yard and turned it into a xeriscape garden. And – he was among the first to buy and drive a Chevy Volt.

In 1989 Bob was instrumental in identifying and promoting the creation of the first Pasadena Historical District – his own neighborhood of early 20th century bungalows. His own 1912 bungalow, designed by Norman Foote Marsh (who designed the canals and many houses in Venice, CA) is filled with mission furniture much of which came from the now defunct Mission Inn in Riverside. The house also has a variety of California pottery

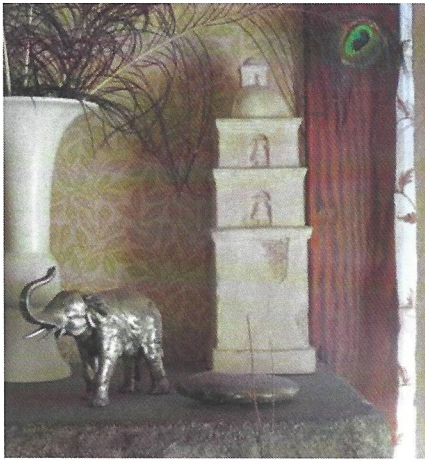


A model of a solar array – an appropriate item in Bob Kneisel's souvenir building collection

including, on the mantel, a lovely ceramic replica of the Santa Barbara Mission Tower.

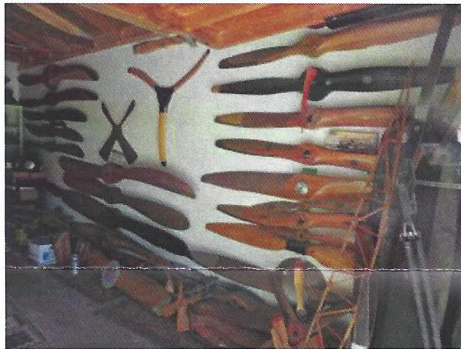
Among his 'other' collections, and housed in his garage, are wood airplane propellers, automotive 'stuff' and true tourist souvenir china.

Finally, on to 'the' collection of souvenir buildings: Bob, please bring forth buildings that are your 'favorites', have an interesting story, are rare or are unusual, etc. Here is a sample of what came forth.



Santa Barbara Mission Tower

This profile ends by noting the many years of service that Bob has given to the Souvenir Building Collectors Society. He served for two years as President from



Wood airplane propellers

1998 to 2000 and, for six years, as Membership Chair from 2004 to 2010. He now is the go to member for any and all consultations regarding society issues as he always brings his historical perspective and down right good sense to any thing you might ask him.



From the Grand Tour - Cleopatra's Needle and the Vendome Column



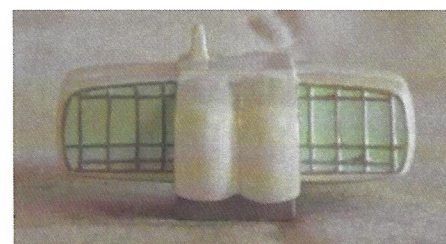
Found at Brimfield –the old Buffalo Civic Stadium, now demolished



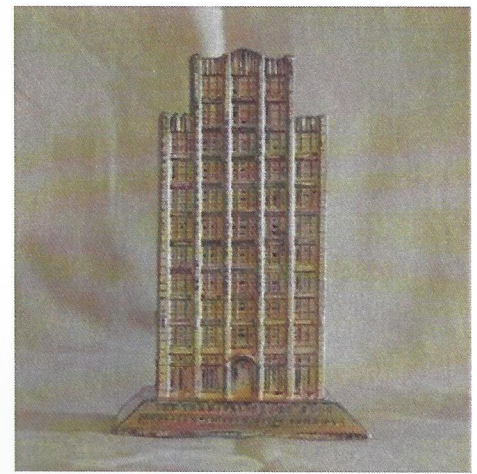
Tomb of Heloise and Abalard in the Paris Pere Lachaise Cemetery



Close up of the Heloise and Abelard Tomb



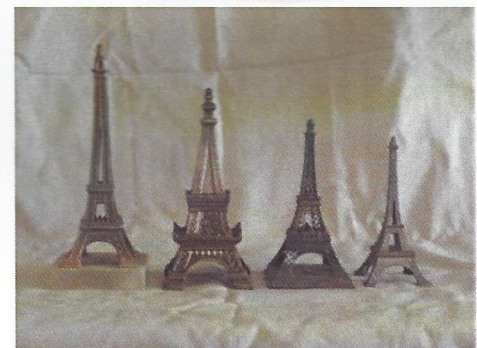
Disneyland House of the Future – of course!



A rare Terminal Sales Building in Seattle



An array of Washington Monuments, note the two on the left are made of macerated money



An array of Eiffel Towers l-r: showing the original galleries on the second level, an 1889 ink well, a very delicate rendition showing all of the galleries, a typical souvenir

And best of all: Bob Kneisel, every year, brings his presence to the SBCS conventions. Our organization, in addition to collecting (and worshiping) our little treasures has a real live treasure among us. We are indeed fortunate.

SBCS Conventions

Noting exclusively created convention commemorative souvenir buildings

1995 New York City May

(Chrysler Building by

Cornell Creations – the

First SBCS commemorative building)

1997 Washington DC April

(first Raffle)

1998 Los Angeles April

1999 Chicago May

2000 New York City May

2001 Montreal, Que June

2002 San Francisco June

(Coit Tower – by

Microcosms)

2003 Gettysburg June

See note (1)

2004 Seattle June

(Exchange Building –

first commemorative

building by InFocusTech)

2005 Philadelphia June

(Masonic Temple)

2006 Baltimore June

(Lord Baltimore Hotel)

2007 Dallas June

(Reunion Tower)

2008 Charlottesville May

(The Rotunda)

2009 Pasadena June

(Pasadena City Hall)

2010 Metro NYC/ Stamford June

(NYC City Corp) see note (2)

2011 Washington, DC

June (Pension

Building/National

Building Museum*)

2012 Toronto, Ont June

(Old Toronto City Hall)

2013 Minneapolis June

(Foshay Tower)

2014 Nashville October

(Parthenon celebrating

the 20th year of the SBCS)

2015 Orlando May

(Orlando City Hall*)

* Sites of Exhibits of souvenir buildings loaned by SBCS members (1) InFocusTech introduced the Wills House

(2) in Lucite



I-r San Francisco 2002, Seattle 2004,
Pasadena 2009



top I-r: Philadelphia 2005, Dallas 2007,
Baltimore 2006

Bottom I-r: Charlottesville 2008, Metro NY/
Stamford 2010



top I-r: Minneapolis 2013, Nashville 2014,
Orlando 2015

Bottom I-r: Washington, DC 2011,
Toronto 2012

President's Message

Every year the SBCS has a wonderful convention that lots of folks look forward to and enjoy when they go. It is certainly the highlight of the year for many. It's an opportunity to rekindle friendships, explore new cities and (hopefully) add to our collections. For the last several years, the quality and quantity of items at the swap meet, raffle and auction has steadily increased. There are excellent opportunities to greatly expand one's little building empire with good quality souvenir buildings. It also remains a great place to bring your little treasures to sell, auction or even just for show and tell

Going forward, it is encouraged for everyone to bring their very good quality little buildings for all members to enjoy. If you find yourself with duplicates or if you are re-focusing your collection and need to cull out the valued possessions that no longer fit into your planned cityscape – bring them with you to the next convention (or send them ahead for an easier security check at the airport). There are several opportunities to have these mini delights change hands – the swap meet, the auction and the raffle. Also, having items on a broad spectrum of quality and price makes it more interesting and accessible to folks on all levels of collections. Not everyone is a beginning collector looking for common examples; not everyone is only searching for the rarest little building on the planet; not everyone wants only metal buildings; variety, quality and fair pricing are universal guiding principles.

But the SBCS is much more than just the annual convention.

There has been a concerted effort to reach out to collectors on many different levels. Over the last several years, there has been a subtle but significant shift in focus for the SBCS. In addition to the newsletter and conventions as being the major activities for the membership, there is increasing attention and action in other areas as well. And that's a good thing.

The totally revamped SBCS website has sparked much greater interest within the membership by sharing information about their collections. It has become a better source for valuable facts on a wide range of topics. It has attracted the attention of several non-members seeking information about souvenir buildings. The development of the website continues to evolve and open up even more opportunities for members and others to expand their knowledge of these magnificent miniatures we all love. There are several more projects on the drawing board and you can be part of this exciting expansion. Everyone's participation makes for a better website. Let us know your interests, needs and most importantly – your feedback on what we've done already.

The SBCS Facebook page has become much more of a sharing community for many members. It has been fun to see postings and photos and read the

comments generated in response. More recently, several members have started some "new traditions" on this site. For example, "Where is it Wednesdays" gives us the opportunity to post photos of pieces in our collections that we seek location information. And "Friday Finds" lets us share photos of recent acquisitions that are unique, rare or just plain fun. Also, the regular "Throwback Thursdays" allow us to share SBCS photos from the good ole days of past events or early acquisitions. While anyone on Facebook can see the postings in this group – it is a closed group, so only SBCS members can post photos, make comments and actually join in the fun.

There is also growing interest in other social media sites such as Pinterest and Twitter. More and more photos are posted and comments shared which expand the knowledge and pique the interest of fellow collectors. There are so many more ways to connect with each other and share our love of collecting souvenir buildings. We can share the joy of the hunt, the pride of snagging that elusive little gem and the pleasure of showing off how we display out treasures.

There are even "old tech" ways to connect with each other. Check out the Membership Directory. That's right – pick up the phone or send off an email to another SBCS member. Maybe there are members you don't know well who are living nearby. Or perhaps you will be travelling and find yourself in another member's neck of the woods. If you concentrate your collecting on a particular subset of souvenir buildings (like grand tour, bookends, coin banks, pewter cityscapes, cathedrals, etc.), you might find another member to share in this journey. Reach out and start the conversation. You already have something in common (collecting souvenir buildings) – and you might just discover something new – or maybe something vintage.

Enjoy and have fun.

My Trip To Disney World

by Jay Myers

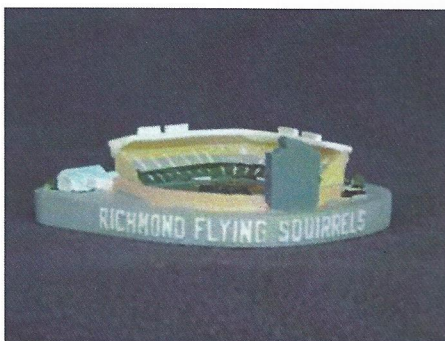
Prologue (by the Editor)

In Volume 21 #3 of the SBCS newsletter, the story of the 2014 Nashville convention ended with the report of a 'swap' of a building that Jay Myers had won in the raffle for the two all-day tickets to Disney World that I had won. The swapped building was The Diamond home of the Richmond, VA Flying Squirrels, a Double A Affiliate baseball team of the San Francisco Giants and - pictured here.

I was a little apprehensive when Elizabeth approached me offering to trade the two Disney World Park Hopper passes she won in the raffle for my raffle win, The Richmond Flying Squirrels Stadium. My Mom, Karen, who knew a little "something" (as usual) winked at me and suggested I go for the trade. The deal was done with a shake

and an exchange of prizes.

I hadn't been to Disney World since I was five and I knew much had changed, not only from my memory, but in the park as well. Waking up bright and early, we set off to the first park of the day, Animal Kingdom. Our journey took us in an open-air safari jeep through an African Savannah where native animals were living in a cage free environment. Black Rhinos, white rhinos, zebras, and giraffes were just a few of the many animals that were visible.



The Diamond, Richmond VA.

We went from African Animals to dinosaurs at "Dinosaur", a fun ride that took us back in time to a prehistoric era. After strolling the grounds and visiting lots of villages (aka souvenir shops), we headed to Epcot.

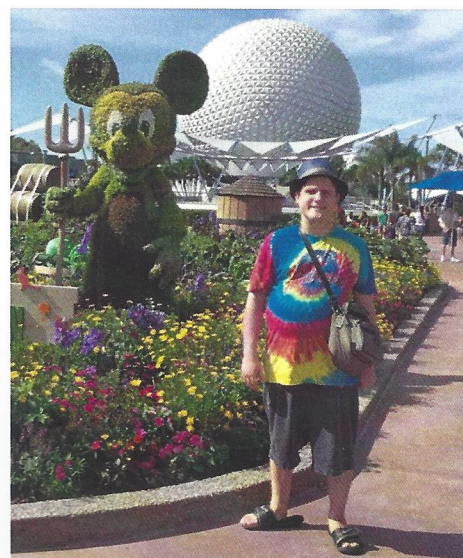
First stop was Spaceship Earth where we rode to the top and learned about the history of communications along the way. Try as we might, there was no small Spaceship Earth replica building to be found... only one very large one. This prompted me to make a mental note to check for one on eBay when I returned home. Next up, after a quick lunch, was Soaring. This ride simulates flight over California. Especially exciting was "flying" over LA and seeing all the buildings from an aerial view. After a walk through the various "lands" and



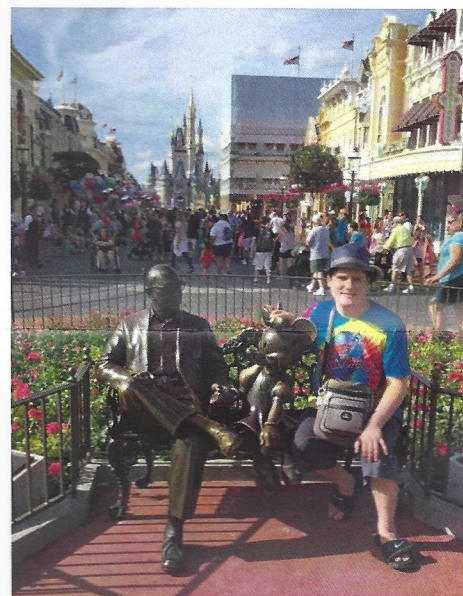
Jay at Animal Kingdom

a trip on "Mission to Mars" we hopped on the monorail and headed to The Magic Kingdom.

It was difficult to pass by all the shops and get to our first ride. But we finally made it to The Haunt-



Jay at Epcot



Jay with Friends with Cinderella's Castle

ed Mansion, one of the few attractions I remember from my last visit 25 years ago. It didn't seem as scary this time. I loved seeing Cinderella's Castle, which was just as majestic as I had remembered. Alas, there were no replicas of the castle within my budget so I pulled out my mental notepad again and jotted down "Cinderella's Castle" under Things to Look For on eBay. I did, however, find a very detailed 3-D magnet of the castle. We concluded our day with meet & greet with Elsa and Anna from the movie Frozen; one of my all-time favorites.

This was one of the most fun-filled days of my life. Thanks to Elizabeth for trading your tickets with me for the Flying Squirrel's Stadium, to Marty Gutierrez for donating the tickets, and to Jan and David Savanyu for replacing my Richmond Flying Squirrel's stadium. I love you all!

Cittacotte

City of Clay

By David Savanyu

My wife Jan and I first flew into Palermo back in 2004 with little intention of spending much time in the Sicilian capital. We needed some time there to recover from jet lag and I did want to make a quick visit to see the famous mosaics at the Palatine Chapel and the cathedral at nearby Monreale. I really wanted to get on with our visit to my main interest in that trip, seeing the Greek temples and ruins along Sicily's southern coast.

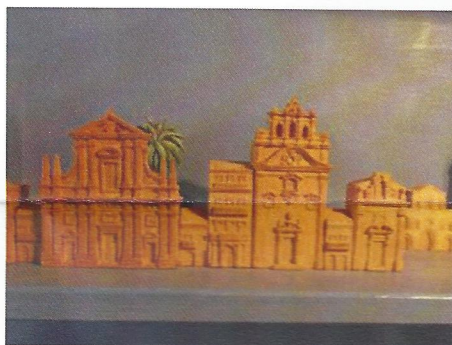
As we headed out for dinner on our first night, by pure chance, we passed by a little shop on the Corso Vittorio Emanuele where in the window were small models of the major buildings in Palermo. I do have my priorities straight, so I immediately knocked on the door and was greeted by Vincenzo Vizzari, who welcomed me into his magical little world. Mr. Vizzari does not speak English and I know little Italian, but we both understood the universal language of miniature buildings.

Since we really did need to get on to dinner, I said "domani" to him and, along with some hand gestures, indicated I would return the next day for a longer visit. Rosi Loria, the proprietor of the nearby Ai Car-tari B&B where we were staying, is fluent in both English and Italian and came with us to act as an interpreter the next day making it possible to listen to Mr. Vizzari's stories.



Vincenzo Vizzari at work in Cittacotte

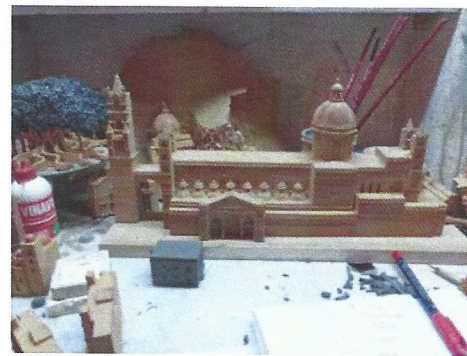
Mr. Vizzari was an architectural student thirty years ago who became fascinated by the sight of some miniature buildings made of painted pottery that some friends gave to him when they returned from visiting Germany. He graduated from architecture in 1993 and after working as an architect for an firm in nearby Cefalù he decided to return to his hometown of Palermo to become an artisan. He opened a workshop in a triangular-shaped corner studio on the ground floor of a Flatiron-shaped building in the old historic center on the Cassaro (the old original pre-revolution name for the Corso Vittorio Emanuele, and the name that most of the locals still prefer), where he could combine his passion for the work of an architect with doing craft-work. He named his shop Cittacotte, "city of clay".



A Cittacotte sampling

His models are created by first identifying the subject, perhaps a palace, a church, or even an interesting city gate in town. He then makes a fundamental relief accompanied with photographic documentation of every detail, before creating a scale model in clay. When satisfied with the prototype, plaster molds are developed and from these are produced replicas of the monuments in terracotta. The details are then hand-carved and left to dry.

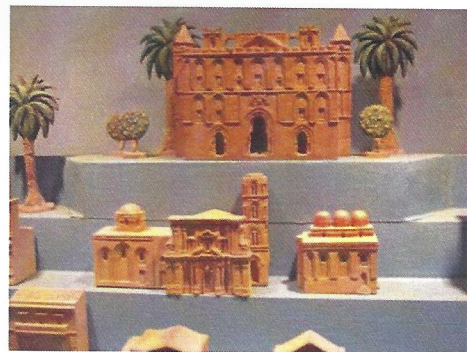
Once dried the pieces are placed in a kiln to bake. Out of the oven, the pieces go through another hand-carving to smooth out any flaws or enhance the details, giving each piece a one-of-a-kind unique quality. A final touch is to hand-



Dried 'brown' pieces before being fired in a kiln

label and personally sign each creation on the back or bottom.

So is created Cittacotte with their warm color. The pieces are modest but attractive, including the simple elegance of Arab-influenced Norman architecture and its evolution into the unique Chiaramonte Gothic and Catalan Gothic, the dozens of Palermo's magnificent Baroque churches, the many palaces of the city including the Steri, Zisa, and La Cuba, the ancient city gates of Porta Felice and Porta Nuova, and the magnificent Quattro Canti/Four Corners at the Piazza Vigliena in the heart of Palermo. All can be accented with his terracotta versions of slender palm and multicolored orange trees.



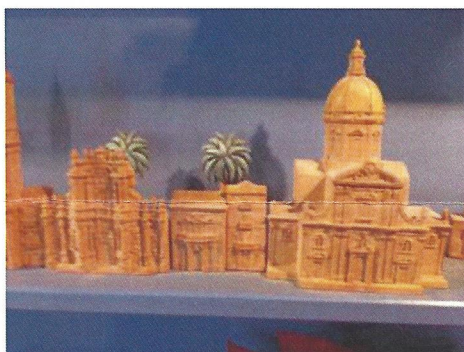
A finished piece with trees

In addition to the reproduction of architecture, Mr. Vizzari creates pieces for special occasions, albeit sporadic and restricted to particular circumstances, which he calls "the invention." For Christmas and for the feast of St. Rosalia, he prepares original decorations for his small window showcase on the Cassaro, keeping everything secret until the unveiling to

cheering family and friends by raising a small red curtain. The theme of Cittacotte is always present in his displays: the monuments of Palermo are reinvented and are arranged in various ways for each different composition. Movie clips of many of his creations can be seen on YouTube by searching for "Cittacotte."

When the EUA – the European University Association – had its annual meeting at the nearby University of Palermo in 2010, Mr. Vizzari created a large terracotta bas-relief containing the association logo and university seal to celebrate the event.

The Cittacotte are always made in limited quantities. The monochromatic tone and opacity of the surface, the play of light and shadow, and the attention to detail are the key features of these precious miniature architectural pieces.



A Cittacotte assemblage

What was to be a quick one-time stop in Palermo before moving on has now become a destination of choice for my return visits. It seems that each of my European visits now always has a detour back to Palermo, where I have seemed to still have barely scratched the surface of the city. Jan and I will again be heading back for a few days in Palermo in December this year while otherwise spending most of our time in eastern Sicily. Palermo incorporates all of the centuries of its history into its own unique cultural and architectural blend.

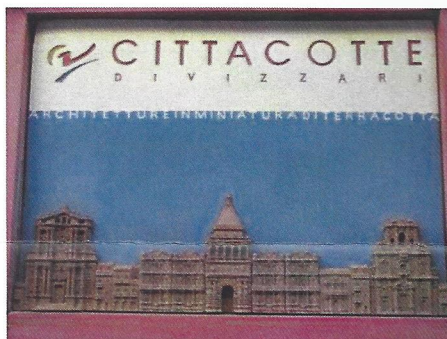
cooked simply yet elegantly on outdoor grills on the sidewalks.

I return to Palermo for the markets and

trattorias, for mazing blend of many styles of architecture, and for the museums and archeological sites of western Sicily. And I always return to Cittacotte, each visit I select something new, and Mr. Vizzari knows me well enough to prepare my special requests.

I now have eighteen of his works on a shelf in my home office, creating my own little "city of clay." I do have one very basic rule of souvenir building collecting in that I only purchase pieces of places to which I have actually been, so that each new site toured in Palermo now requires another purchase from the Cittacotte.

Cittacotte information:
Cittacotte di Vincenzo Vizzari
Corso Vittorio Emanuele, 120 at the intersec-



A Palermo 'must do'

tion with Via del Parlamento
90133 Palermo, Sicily, Italy
Phone: +39 – 3383626784

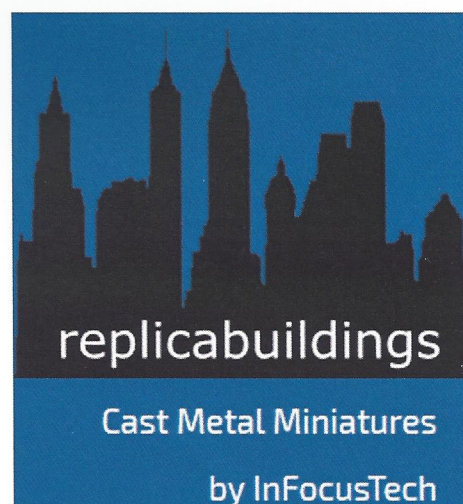
Website: www.cittacotte.com

The website does not seem to be updated very often and I never have tried to contact him directly, as I have always used Rosi as an intermediary. He lists seventeen items for sale in his on-line shop, but that is but a small fraction of the models he produces. The high cost of international shipping and the fragility of the models would, it seems, make any long distance purchase difficult. Mr. Vizzari is also not set up to handle any VAT (Value Added Tax) refund processes.

Letter from the Editor

This issue of the Souvenir Building Collector is a BIG one thanks to stories from David Savanyu and Jay Myers. And while, as a modernist architect, I believe that 'less is more' that dictum goes out the window when it comes to collecting; and, in the case of this newsletter issue, for photographs where 'more is more' is the theme.

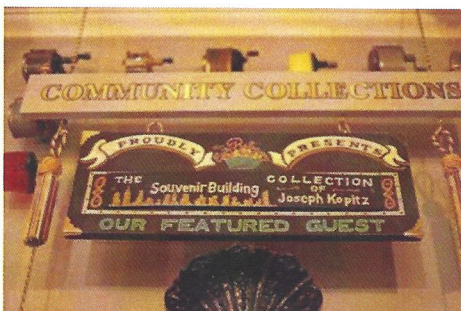
While the Show and Tell in Orlando was lively and, as always, fascinating it is difficult to take good pictures during the presentations given the overall party and good fun atmosphere taking place. As a group I would like to suggest, for everyone's consideration, that in the future each member who brings a building, or buildings, for Show and Tell also bring a brief written description AND a photograph of the building to give to the Editor. Then there could be a stand alone 'album' of Show and Tell buildings as a separate story in the newsletter. The written description and photograph could also be sent via email to the Editor before or after the convention. Something to think about for future conventions!



A Sampling of Souvenir Buildings

By Joe Kopitz

Last year it was reported in this newsletter that the City Reliquary Museum in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, NY had hosted a collectors night at the Brooklyn Historical Society and our own Joe Kopitz had been an exhibitor. This year he was invited to display a selection of his souvenir buildings in the City Reliquary Museum. The display is in the Community Collections Exhibit, a cabinet with 5 shelves recessed into one of the walls.



Next stop: Broadway

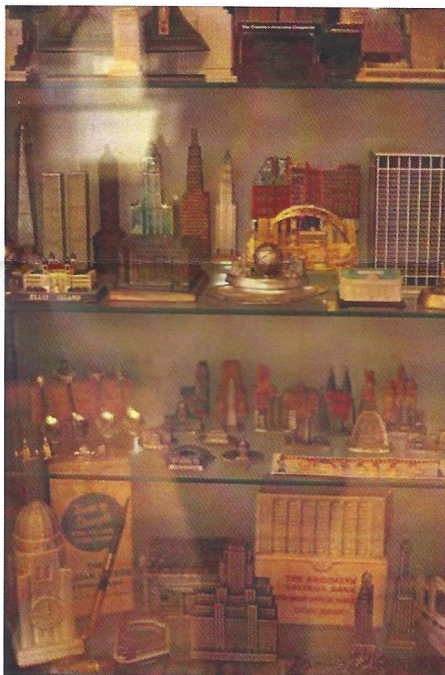
It's hard to condense one's collection into such a small space and still show the vast variety of styles, functions and materials used to create these loved little buildings. Over 90 little buildings were selected to try to represent a good cross-section of collectible souvenir buildings. The goal was to keep the display as New York City centric as possible – adding some buildings from other locations to round out the multitude of styles, functions and materials.

Many serious souvenir building collectors concentrate on solely little buildings made of metal – whether it is lead, pewter, iron or even pot metal. Some other collectors might find suitably interesting buildings made of ceramic, porcelain or plastic to collect. And even several might like souvenir buildings made from the more eclectic variety of material and function such as marble, coal, tin, wood or maybe encased in Lucite. Well, this display contains examples from all of these types and goes even further. There are also little buildings made of soap, eraser, wax candle, sand, terra cotta, inside snow globes and yes, even resin.

Of course, many of these little buildings simply function as paper weights or coin banks. But in order to show just how many different

places one can find souvenir buildings hiding in plain sight, there are also buildings on rulers and ashtrays. Some have thermometers attached, hold pens, adorn trees (as Christmas ornaments), adorn wrists (as charm bracelets or cuff links), sit on top of spoons or contain condiments (salt & pepper shakers). Surely there are materials and functions not represented in this display, but not many.

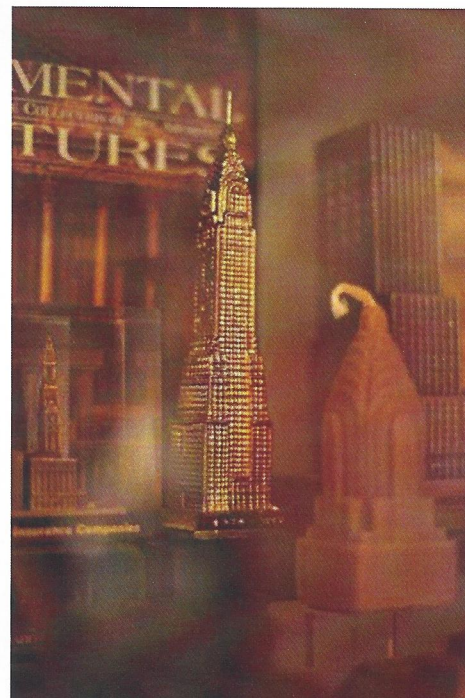
To help the casual visitor to this exhibit gain the most from their experience, an 8 page brochure was created to describe the items displayed, list many of the key companies who produced souvenir buildings and give useful printed and web resources for further exploration. It is hoped that this diverse selection will whet the appetite of those who view it and maybe, just maybe, spark an interest in collecting souvenir buildings for themselves.



A delicious and tempting sampling

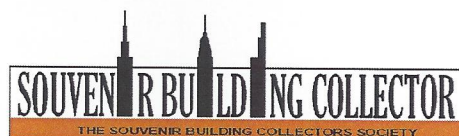
The exhibit will run until September, 2015 at the City Reliquary Museum, 370 Metropolitan Avenue in the Williamsburg neighborhood of Brooklyn, NY. Check out their website at: www.cityreliquary.org.

Special note – the SBCS is also having conversations with the City Reliquary Museum about the possibility of the Museum being a conduit for selling souvenir buildings in their gift shop which were donated by SBCS members. They are a tax exempt 501(c)3



How fitting – the FIRST SBCS convention building, the Chrysler Building, is included in this exhibit and in the same year as the 20th SBCS convention

organization, so donations to them would be considered tax deductible. For those who are following the negotiations underway between Russell Keune and the National Building Museum, this is welcome news. It is also a call for anyone else to reach out to other organizations to see if such programs can be expanded. More details to follow.



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The Souvenir Building Collector is published three times a year, with additional notices as applicable. The subscription rate is \$35 a year. The rate includes a one year membership in the Souvenir Building Collectors Society. Three free 50 word ads in the Classified Section, access to the marketplace on the SBCS website, and invitations to all conventions and members only events. Make check payable to Souvenir Building Collectors Society. Mail to Katharine Isbell, Treasurer, the SBCS, 809 Jackson St. Rockwall, TX 75087.

www.sbcscociety.com

SBCS 2015

Orlando

*Note the * represents photos of the event in an 'album' following this story*

SBCS 2015 Orlando commenced on Friday May first in the Lobby of the Embassy Suites. At 8:30 AM the early bird conventioners were off to the Lobby of the Orlando City Hall*. Our host, Marty Gutierrez, in addition to overseeing the planning of the annual convention, went over the top this year and organized a wonderful exhibit of souvenir buildings.

In partnership with Don Duer of the SBCCA (Still Bank Collectors Club of America) the SBCS received some terrific public exposure. The exhibit was well received and had 'viewers' almost all of the time that the Lobby was open.

After time spent looking at our little marvels the group headed for the Orlando Visitors Center* for the last city sponsored guided walking tour of the season (at 9:30 AM) of historic downtown Orlando. For all other SBCS'ers attending the convention, Marty gave an equally, and longer, tour in the early afternoon.

The program schedule noted that some attendees had reservations to ride the 'about to open' Orlando Eye* late that afternoon. Among these riders was our President, Joe Kopitz. In fact, he managed to ride it TWICE; and then, took a long time to give comments at the computers where you exited. His comments were true souvenir building collector ones: he chastised the 'Eye' for having such a 'cheesy' plastic replica in their gift shop; that they should look to the London Eye which has a beautiful replica that actually rotates! Thank you Joe for looking after our best interests!

As is the convention custom, all of the conventioners gathered at our Meet & Greet* at the home of Jake and Marty Friday evening. In addition to amazing food, liquid refreshments, and the greeting each other the traditional SBCS Show & Tell took place. There is never a lack of souvenir building collectors who come prepared to Show & Tell, frequently with several items. Of course the main attraction, Marty's collection, was stunning; particularly the way it was displayed. Special glass fronted shelving covers

one wall of the two story Living Room interrupted by the floor of the balcony above. There was no disappointment here!

On Saturday morning, Joe Kopitz led the annual business meeting*. A report from Russell Keune regarding the possibility of SBCS members donating their souvenir building collections, or parts thereof, to the National Building Museum in Washington, DC. More information on this developing story will be reported in a future issue of the newsletter. And then there was the Swap Meet*, another tradition of our annual convention.

Saturday afternoon saw the conventioners boarding a bus and heading south to Lakeland, FL to visit Florida Southern College*. This campus is the home of the largest number (18) of Frank Lloyd Wright buildings. While the architect members of the SBCS were thrilled to be able to visit this place, their enthusiasm was more than equaled by all of the other souvenir building collectors. After all – we all love buildings, no matter what their size. The SBCS had a formal guided walking tour of the campus – the LAST tour until October!

The highlight of this tour was seeing the just completed restoration of the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel and hearing that this was the first of the Wright buildings to be built. If you were not there you might say 'so what'. Well, it turns out that the Wright buildings were built by the college students as part of a unique work/study scholarship program. Because it was deemed the most difficult building to build, the students elected to 'learn' by building the chapel first. What an accomplishment!

The day and the Orlando 2015 convention happily concluded – starting with the free Happy Hour offered every day by the Embassy Suites in the central Lobby. The Happy Hour* facilitated the selling of raffle tickets which continued as we adjourned to a private dining room for the dinner, auction and raffle.

Led by our own SBCS auctioneer and raffle ticket announcer, Al Hays, a happy and raucous evening proceeded. A special, and rare, replica of the Travellers Insurance received the most spirited bidding in the auction. Contributed by Margaret Majua, Bill Hollins, whose father had worked for Travelers, had the winning bid. It is now a wonderful familial treasure.

Thanks to efforts the of Carol Detweiler and Mark Fine, the raffle lots received much attention and, better yet, many raffle tickets.

It seems as if every year there is one table that dominates (wins) the raffle. This year the table was where the Isbell sisters and their step-father, Arthur Thompson, sat. In fact Art was very likely the winningest raffle-meister for 2015!

SBCS 2015

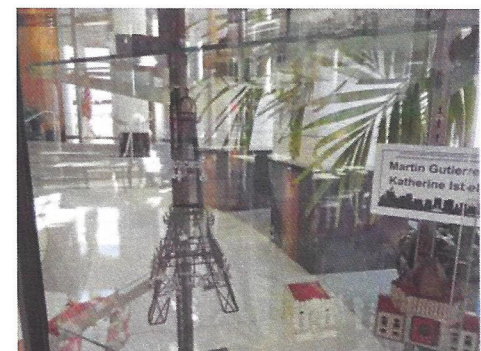
Orlando Album



Viewing the SBCS/SBCCA Exhibit in the Orlando City Hall Lobby



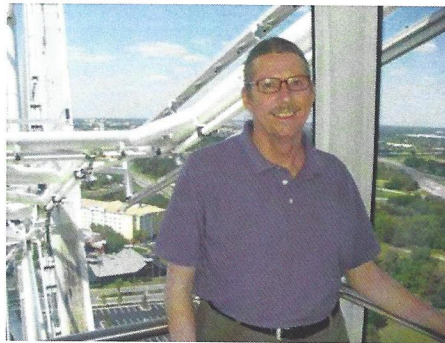
An exhibit close-up



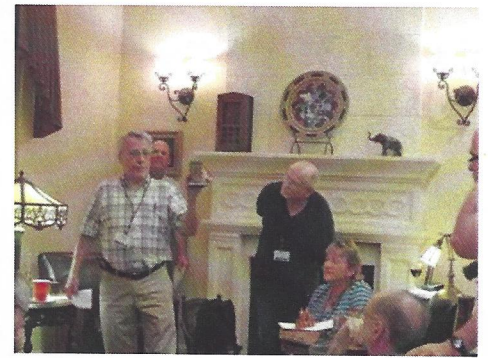
A large Eiffel Tower



The early birds



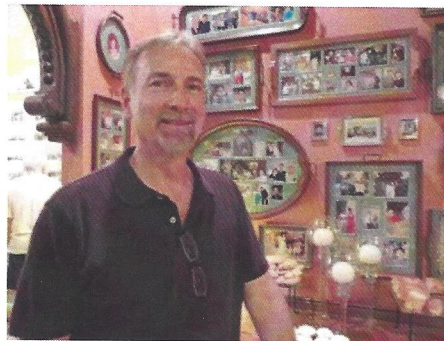
Joe Kopitz at the top of the Eye



Steve Backiel 'showing & Telling'



Admiring the model of Historic
Downtown Orlando



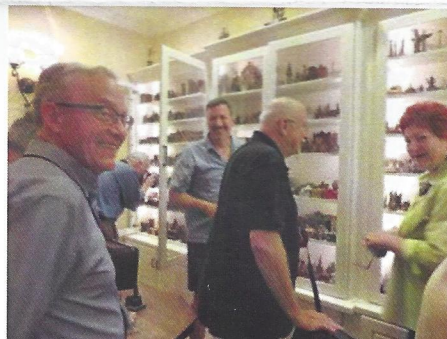
K 'Jake' Jakob
Ready to 'Greet' us



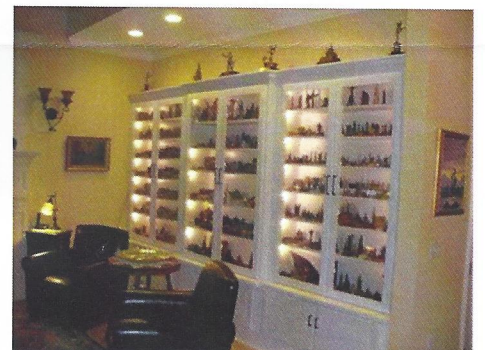
Some of Marty's ceramic pieces



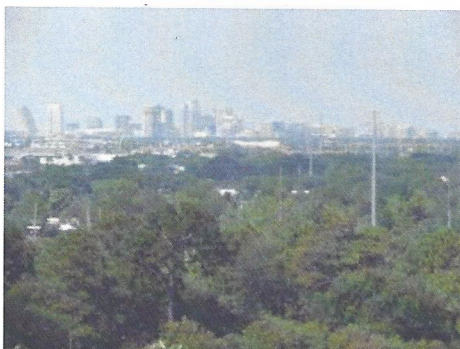
The Orlando Eye



Admiring some of Marty's collection



A 'few' of Marty's souvenir buildings



The Orlando city skyline in the distance



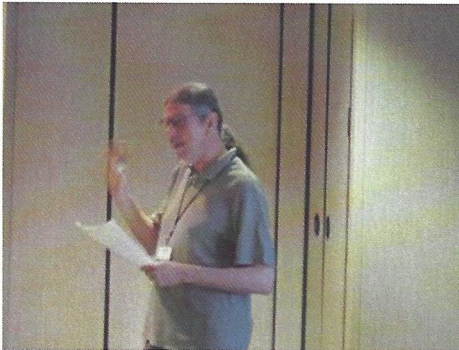
Mark Fine, Steve Backiel, Chris Spry,
Terry Van der Plas



Some of Marty's banks



The 2015 SBCS business meeting



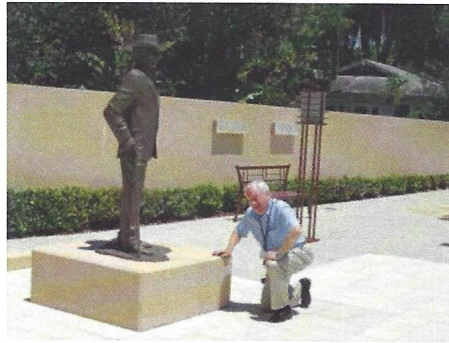
President Kopitz leading the meeting



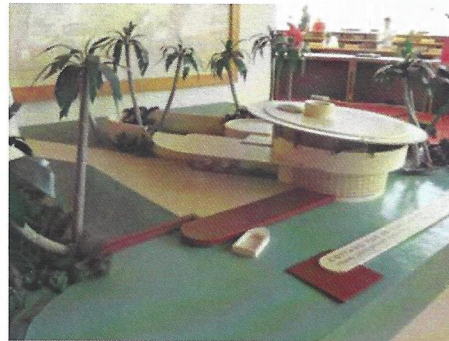
The annual Swap Meet



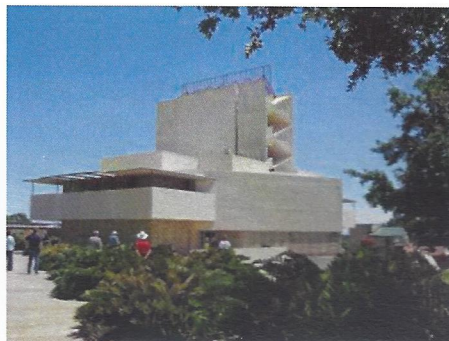
At Florida Southern College



Architect Russell Keune genuflecting
at the Master's feet!



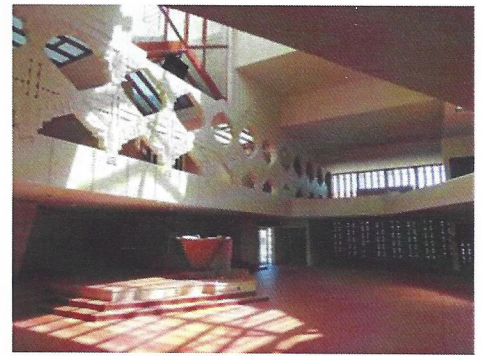
Wright's model of the Library



Florida Southern College
Annie Pfeiffer Chapel



The Chevaliers replica of the Chapel; eat
your hearts out SBCSers!



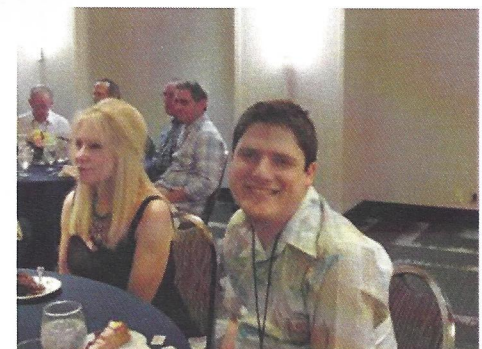
The lobby of the Chapel building



Our host, Marty Gutierrez very happy
at Happy Hour



Judy & Jimmy Tyree



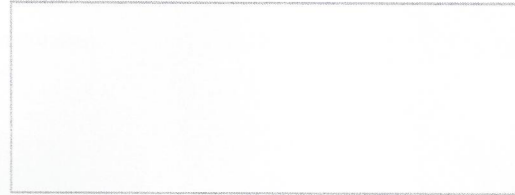
Karen & Jay Myers



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**Orlando City Hall 2015
SCBS Convention Commemorative**