VOLUME FOURTEEN | ISSUE TWO | SPRING 2015



Kiddie Car Classics ARE BACK ON THE ROAD AGAIN

INTRODUCING THE WORLD OF Frosty Friends

MEET THE FLOUR CITY Collector's Club

get to know keepsake artist Terri Steiger

Hallmark KEEPSAKE

Add magic to your mantel.

The very popular Frosty Friends series now goes beyond your tree with The World of Frosty Friends mantelscapes.

KEEPSAKE ARTIST TOM BEST collaborated with fellow artists Tracy Larsen on Here Come Frosty Friends and Nello Williams on Dome for the Holidays to create a whole wintry scene for your mantel or table.

"With the magic cord, you can do anything, and the smart chip allows them to play off each other, creating quite the

Powered by the **Magic Cord**, these synchronized pieces light up, play music and one of them even sways to the beat. light show," says Tom Best. "I have wanted to create the Northern Lights ever since I started working on Frosty Friends. But in the context of an ornament, it's hard to pull off. The mantelscape concept gave me the chance to do that."

Tom turned in numerous ideas for the lights, including projection lighting. But ultimately decided to take advantage of the clear base of ice each one rests on. "There is a nice ebb and flow of colors paired with some ethereal music that's really neat," says Tom.

The World of Frosty Friends fun will continue in 2016. Tom's sketch gives us a sneak peek at his initial ideas for the friends you will be able to add to your collection.

FROM LEFT:

HERE COME FROSTY FRIENDS The World of Frosty Friends Available beginning Ornament Debut

DOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS The World of Frosty Friends Available beginning Ornament Premiere

First or *final,* they're all avorites. FIRST IN SERIES Release at Ornament Premiere July 11-12 1. CAN'T WAIT TO SKATE 1st in the Mary Hamilton's Bears series 2. A WORLD WITHIN 1st in the series 3. A LITTLE CRAB CAKE 1st in the Keepsake Cupcakes monthly series Barbie COMING THIS FALL FIRST IN SERIES Release at Ornament Debut October 3-4 1. HOLIDAY BARBIE[™] ORNAMENT 1st in the Holiday Barbie[™] series (African American and Caucasian)

- 2.1932 FORD 1st in the Keepsake Kustoms series
- **3. RING IN THE SEASON** 1st in the series

Oops... We listed the price of Holly (Mary's Angels series) incorrectly in the Dream Book and Wish List. The correct retail price is \$9.95 (US) and \$12.99 (Canada).

FINAL IN SERIES

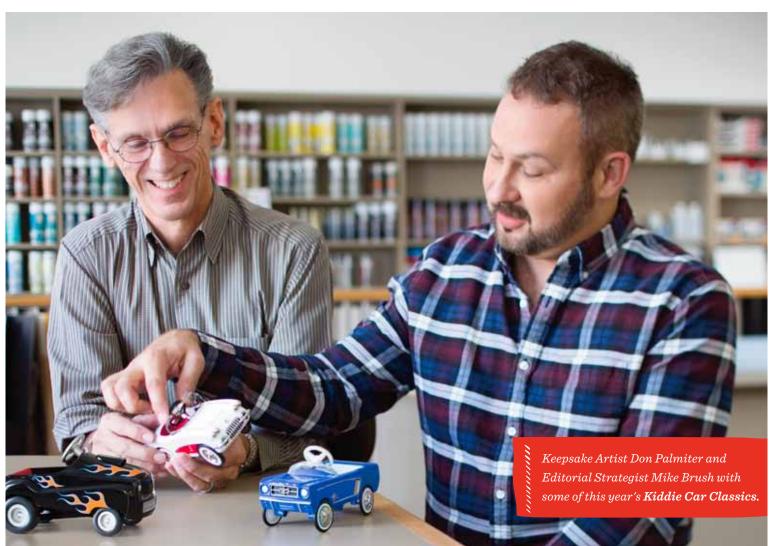
- 1. COOL ICICLES 3rd and Final in the Cool Icicles series
- 2. CLOCK SHOP 10th and Final in the Noelville series
- 3. LIEUTENANT NYOTA UHURA 6th and Final in the Star Trek[™] Legends series

STAR TREK

4. A YEAR OF DISNEY MAGIC SERIES 12th and Final (not pictured)

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MiNi



Pedal on over. Hallmark Kiddie Car Classics are back!

THE BELOVED COLLECTION WAS originally introduced in 1992 and consisted of scaled, die-cast metal replicas of full-sized pedal cars produced in the '20s through the '60s.

The line expanded to include Sidewalk Cruisers, such as tricycles and scooters. Accessories were also added to create realistic settings like a gas station for collectors to display with their collection. But in 2001, the Kiddie Car Classics line retired and has been greatly missed ever since.

"Every signing event I go to, I sign a large number of Kiddie Car Classics. And I've had many requests from collectors to bring them back," says Hallmark Keepsake Artist Don Palmiter who has worked on the line since its inception. So after 15 years, Hallmark has decided to relaunch with new versions of four cars that were in the original line—same size and nostalgic feel.

"What makes them so special is not only the artistic element that goes into them, but the functionality. They steer and pedal just like the real pedal cars did," says Mike Brush, Keepsake editorial strategist.

Don's favorite in the original collection was the 1935 Auburn Limited Edition—complete with working headlights, taillights, horn, suspension and clicker. "And we did an American Tandem that had a remote control. It was the epitome of Kiddie Car Classics."

For Don, his retirement in February 2015 is bittersweet. "The best part of Kiddie Car Classics was all of the relationships I developed with pedal car collectors and restorers all over the country," says Don.

"I've been at Hallmark for almost 48 years and that's the most fun I've ever had. It was a ball."

Kiddie Car Classics will relaunch at Father's Day and will include four fullsized versions, as well as the identical ornament for each. It will be a part of the new Hallmark Garage concept. According to Mike, "It's simply car stuff for car guys... things you can display, play with, drink from and more—neat stuff for your man cave." **f**K



5 Fun Facts About Terri

Keepsake Artist Terri Steiger has been with Hallmark for more than 25 years. But there are still things we have yet to learn about her, including these fun facts.

1. YOU KNOW ONE OF HER STUDY BUDDIES.

"I went to college with the famous Hallmark Keepsake Artist Tom Best. And even though I was an illustration major in college, two of my favorite classes were advertising and creative writing."

2. IT WAS HALLMARK OR BUST.

"When I interviewed with Hallmark right out of college, I told the VP of Creative at the time that I would even wash floors to get a job at Hallmark."

3. HER FAVORITE COLOR IS ORANGE. COLOR OF FOOD, THAT IS.

"I love orange-colored foods—Cheetos[®], Goldfish[®], orange circus peanuts, halos, tangerines, sugared gooey orange slices and Reese's[®] peanut butter cups...well, the wrapper is orange."

3. TERRI IS A BOOMERANG.

"I worked at Hallmark for 6½ years, but then left to freelance for 7. While freelancing, I did editorial illustrations for *The Kansas City Star*, among many other things. But then I returned to Hallmark and have been back for 19 years."

4. SHE HAS WRITTEN & ILLUSTRATED HALLMARK CARDS.

"Although working in Keepsakes is my favorite, I've also worked on cards, gift wrap and gifts."

Get more insider info online



Go to **Hallmark.com/TracysBooth** and guess what's missing from Tracy Larsen's workspace.

Find exclusive news and more at KOCmembers.com. Plus, check back often for the latest updates.

Hostess with the mostess.

Meet one of our local Keepsake Clubs who made a big impression during the 2014 Artist Signing events.

THE FLOUR CITY COLLECTOR'S CLUB is a charter club, founded in 1992 by Scott McNiven, owner of Scott's Hallmark in Rochester, New York, which is also the club's sponsor.

Its 30 club members enjoy meeting quarterly, but the highlight of 2014 was being one of the 16 clubs chosen for the Local Club Artist Signing events. "We felt so honored to be chosen…we just went wild," exclaims Linda Zeller, club secretary and Hallmark store employee.

They had six months to prepare for the in-store signing event which was held on August 8–9, 2014. During that time, Linda made store aprons for everyone to wear during the event, as well as favors filled with store samples and goodies. Club members also had fun preparing raffle baskets, which raised more than \$1,600 for local charities.



FRONT ROW (L to R): Hallmark Keepsake Artists Edythe Kegrize and Orville Wilson MIDDLE ROW (L to R): Club members Linda Zeller, Bonnie Graff, Jean Thom, Kaitlyn Longberry and Nancee Fischer BACK ROW (L to R): Hallmark Editorial Strategist Mike Brush and club members Bonnie Sale, Cindy Barrett and Tracy St. James

The night before the event, they hosted a welcome dinner for Hallmark Keepsake Artists Edythe Kegrize and Orville Wilson and editorial strategist Mike Brush. Hundreds attended the main event the following day and the club added 10 new members.

One of the club's favorite traditions is helping hang ornaments at the store for Ornament Premiere and Ornament Debut. They love getting a first look at the ornaments. Afterward, Scott opens up his home to club members for dinner. "Scott is the driving force behind our club. He's very involved and makes it so much fun. We've all become great friends and enjoy sharing our stories, our ornaments and our love for Hallmark," says Linda. **f**(

Hallmark Events

May 16 October 3-4 July 11-12 DREAM BOOK PARTY ORNAMENT ORNAMENT Premiere Come celebrate the launch of the 2015 Dream Book, as well as the birth of a new Baby Fairy Messengers series. August 7–8 FIRST IN SERIES MiNi **DESTINATION KEEPSAKES KOC EVENT** LOTUS AND POINSETTIA BABY FAIRY MESSENGERS In Kansas City, Missouri. 1st in the Baby Fairy Messengers series Registration is officially Set of two mini ornaments. open at KOCevents.com. RAMBLIN' SNOWMAN Fan Conventions April 16-19 July 29-August 1 STAR WARS[™] CELEBRATION **2015 NATIONAL BARBIE® DOLL COLLECTORS CONVENTION** Convention ExclusiveAN EPIC VISION Convention ExclusiveStar Wars™ SHOE-SATIONAL! Set of two ornaments based on Ralph Barbie® McQuarrie's original concept art. © & TM Lucasfilm Ltd © Disney

August 14-16

July 9-12

October 8-11



Visit KOCmembers.com to see all the convention-exclusive ornaments and itty bittys[®] plush.

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