

Darby Doll Dispatch

Volume 1 Issue 9

May 2014



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*Darby Library American Girl
Book and Doll Club*

May Meeting

By Miss Kay

The May meeting of the Darby American Girl Book and Doll Club was held Friday, May 2, after school at the Darby Community Library.

The theme of our meeting was Cinco de Mayo. The fifth of May, Cinco de Mayo in Spanish, is a day celebrated mostly in the city of Puebla, Mexico, and in the United States. Cinco de Mayo is a significant historical day in Puebla, but today is not a national holiday in Mexico.

France had invaded Mexico, demanding payment of debts owed to France, and unpaid for two years. On May 5, 1862, the French army attacked the city of Puebla. The French were much better armed but a poor battle plan caused them to run out of ammunition for their

canon. When the French infantry advanced, they had no canon support. The Battle of Puebla was a significant victory for the Mexican army.

The French eventually overran the Mexicans in subsequent battles, but the Mexican victory at Puebla against a much better equipped and larger French army provided a significant morale boost to the Mexican army and also helped slow the French army's advance towards Mexico City.

Cinco de Mayo is commonly and mistakenly referred to as Mexico's Independence Day, similar to our Fifth of July. Actually, Mexico celebrates Independence Day on the 16th of September, commemorating the beginning of the War of Independence on September 16, 1810.

We dressed our dolls in Hispanic costumes including a fancy dress and sombrero and a Confirmation gown. Kiera got the most votes for her doll dressed in a red dress, apron and shawl. You may notice the tiny doll size Maracas that Kiera's doll has tucked in the waistband of her apron. Each of our members got two of these cute little Maracas for their dolls. The Maracas were a gift to our club from our sister club in Lakeland, Florida.



Kiera won "Best Dressed"

Josefina Montoya was our American Girl Doll of the Month. Josefina is a young girl growing up in New Mexico on her family's rancho in 1824. New Mexico became the 47th State in the United States on January 6, 1912.

The book of the month was *Josefina's Short Story Collection* by Valerie Tripp. This book contains several short stories about Josefina and her family. Living in a rural area and raising sheep,

Josefina has an exciting life with danger and adventure. This book is available to check out at the Darby Library in the Youth section.

We did not make a craft at this meeting, but you should have seen us try to do the La Vaquerita! It's not a difficult dance, but we sure need practice.

We had a very good year and we hope to see lots of new members next year.

Points Winner

By Miss Kay

After we voted on Best Dressed (worth an extra point) Miss Kay totaled all the points we have earned over the entire 2013/2014 school year.

One point each was awarded for attending a meeting, bringing a doll, teddy bear, toy or book, and for participating in the activities during the meeting.



Darby and Summer try out the stylist chair – prize for most points

One point was awarded to the winner of Best Dressed at each meeting. All members voted on first, second, and third place for their favorite doll or teddy bear costume based on the meeting theme.

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Two points were awarded to any club member who brought a friend who had never been to our club meetings before.

We had a tie for third most points: Anise and Bella. Second place went to Kenzee. And the Most Points winner was Kiera. Kiera won the stylist chair that has been on display all year. Congratulations Kiera!

The Doll Fairy Presents

By Miss Kay

The most anticipated moment of the May meeting was the drawing to see who won the American Girl doll. All year long, members who do not have a real American Girl doll entered their names in the drawing. Entries were placed in the Doll Fairy Box, hermetically sealed and guarded by the Doll Fairy herself.

Finally Miss Kay ripped the paper off the Doll Fairy Box and cut open the box to reveal lots and lots of entries. The entries were shuffled around and one was drawn.

And the winner is Kiera! The Doll Fairy tiara was placed on Kiera's head and every one shouted for joy and clapped and cheered. Kiera came to the front of the room to open the box in purple paper. Kiera won a My American Girl with layered caramel colored hair and blue eyes. She actually looks like Kiera!

Also on the table was a large purple bag with tissue stuffed in the top. Kiera discovered the bag contained quite a wardrobe for her new doll. Kiera found a nightgown, a denim jumpsuit, a jacket, a cap, a summer dress, a Christmas dress

and other goodies. Kiera's new doll also has shoes, purses, a backpack, a hairbrush and more.

We can hardly wait to find out what Kiera will name her American Girl doll.



Kiera and her new My American Girl doll, a gift from the Doll Fairy

2014/2015 Club Plans

By Miss Kay

The May 2, 2014 meeting closes out the school year for the American Girl Book and Doll Club. We plan to continue the club next school year.

Since September is always so busy with getting settled in school, our first meeting will again be scheduled for October. We will have flyers and posters

in the Library in the Youth section on our American Girl Book and Doll Club shelf.

Also watch for the September 2014 issue of the *Darby Doll Dispatch*. We will put several copies on our shelf in the Library and there is always a copy in our notebook. You can take the notebook copy out to read, but please return it to the notebook so others can read it too.

Do you have suggestions for themes for our programs next year? If you do, just write them on a piece of paper and put them in our basket, by the Florida doll, on our shelf in the Library.

We plan to continue the points system next year. Sorry, you will have to wait for the October meeting to find out what the prize is!

We will also continue with an extra point for Best Dressed at each meeting. When we select the themes for each of our programs for next year, we will publish them in the *Darby Doll Dispatch*. That way you will have lots of time to work on costumes for your dolls or bears to match the theme.

Will the Doll Fairy come to our meetings next year? I guess we'll just have to wait for the October meeting to find out.

Also in September 2014 there will be a display in the Library featuring dolls, plush animals, books, accessories, and information about the 2014/2015 school year club schedule.

The display will be in the glass case just inside the Library and will be up the whole month of September. We plan to include dolls and themes featured from this year and information about next year's plans.

Tell your friends about our club. The American Girl Book and Doll Club is open to all girls and boys from six years

old and up. You do not have to have an American Girl, or any other 18" doll to participate. And the club costs nothing! All you need to do is come to the meeting and be ready to have a lot of fun.

To add to the fun, bring your favorite doll, teddy bear, toy or book with you. We love sharing the stories of our toys and books with each other.

Have a wonderful summer, and we'll see you in October!

Summer's Scoop

By Summer Elise Flores



Congratulations to Kiera for winning the My American Girl doll. We love to add new friends

to our club and are just dying to know Kiera's doll's name.

Darby went to the Spokane, WA doll show April 19. Darby, why don't you tell us about the show?

Hi everyone. I had a great time in Spokane. We left real early Friday morning because Miss Kay had to pick up her friend, Miss Janie, at the Spokane airport. Janie is really nice but I was disappointed that she did not bring a doll so I had someone to visit with. Miss Janie is a doll doctor and Summer got to meet her last year in Boise, ID.

After we picked up Miss Janie, we went downtown in Spokane and did a little antique shopping. Miss Janie found a tiny candle holder for her dolls and Miss Kay found a John Deer lunch box for DeKarl. You remember him – the big 30" boy that wore the Harley Davidson jacket to one of our meetings.

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We checked into our motel, and then headed over to the community college to setup for the doll show. Hauling all that stuff in is hard work, but really fun.



Darby at the Spokane Doll Show

Saturday morning before the doll show opened, we got to go shopping again – at the doll show. And yes, we found some new clothes including a jumper with matching purse and a cute little pants set.

But the best part is that we have a new member of our family! Her name is



Denali and she is a My American Girl. She has long straight red hair with bangs, and freckles all across her nose, and the most gorgeous green eyes.

Welcome to the family Denali!

Denali and I spent the rest of the day visiting with lots of girls who came to

the show with their Moms and Grandmothers. We gave them each an American Girl bookmark, a trading card and a pin. It is so much fun to meet other girls from other States and tell them about our club.

Animal Adventures

By Albert, the alligator

We all came to the last American Girl Book and Doll Club meeting for this school year. We



were so happy to see all the girls but we sure will miss them all summer long.

I expect to go to Idaho this summer. It seems there is an alligator farm between Boise and Twin Falls. I can't believe there are alligators (besides me) in the Northwest! Come to find out, there are natural warm springs in that area which makes the climate very comfy for alligators.

Roscoe has a girlfriend. Benny has Bea. I hear Becca has a suitor in Florida. I have no one and sometimes, even with all my friends, I get lonely. So, I'm going to take a little trip to Idaho and see if there are any eligible females!

Personally, I think I am quite a handsome fellow and very charming. If I can find a lovey lady who is not already promised to some dude, I'm going to do my best to win her heart and see if she will come home with me to Lake Como. I have learned enough about lodge building, with Benny's help, I can make her a fine home. Wish me luck!

Photo of the Month

Submitted by Miss Kay



Kiera opens packages of clothes and accessories to go with her new American Girl doll.

Calendar of Events

| Day | Date | Event – Theme | Time | Location |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Friday | October 3, 2014 | AG Club – date is tentative | 3:00 to 4:00 | Darby Library |

To add events to the calendar, call or email Miss Kay at 406-360-7214, schrader1501@blackfoot.net