

# Carl Barks

## FAN CLUB NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 44 • DECEMBER 2010

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CARL BARKS • 27 MARCH 1901 - 25 AUGUST 2000

WWW.THECARLBARKSFANCLUB.COM



**A MERRY CHRISTMAS** to all our members from your Carl Barks Fan Club! We treasure your continued support and wish you and your family a healthy and happy 2011 with many blessings along the way! Your Carl Barks Fan Club is happy to be part of the faithful community of Carl Barks fans who continue to celebrate the significant artistic and family-friendly contributions of “the duckman” to worldwide culture and to our individual and family lives as well!



## McDuck Sued for Uncountable Trillions ...

...So reads one of Carl's memorable dialogue balloons from page six of Uncle Scrooge #59, “North of the Yukon,” offered in last month's comic art auction. The 22 original pen and ink pages from this story comprised the only complete Barks comic book art still intact—until pages 1-6 (see page 3) were offered at Heritage Auction #7027 in November 2010.

Prices including 19.5% Buyer's Premium:

Page 1 .....	\$22,705.00
Page 2 .....	\$14,340.00
Page 3 .....	\$19,717.50
Page 4 .....	\$8,962.50
Page 5 .....	\$14,340.00
Page 6 .....	\$15,535.00

Highlight of the Heritage Auction was the second installment of Kerby Confer's collection of original Carl Barks oil paintings shown at left and on the next page. The prices achieved for these images, including Buyer's Premium are:

<i>A Bifnol Of Fun, 1974</i> .....	\$143,400.00
<i>And This Dollar Saved My Life At Whitehorse, 1973</i> .....	\$119,500.00
<i>Christmas Composition, 1972</i> .....	\$119,500.00
<i>Trespassers Will Be Ventilated, 1988</i> .....	\$131,450.00
<i>Blizzard Tonight, 1973</i> .....	\$83,650.00
<i>Dude For A Day, 1975</i> .....	\$35,850.00

During the 1990s, *Connoisseur of Malvern* in England produced a series of fine bone china porcelain sculptures of some of Carl's most memorable oil painting images for Bruce Hamilton's *Another Rainbow*. One piece, a prototype (shown at left), was *Christmas Composition*, which sold for \$15,535 (including Buyer's Premium) during the Heritage auction.

Among other Barks treasures, the remaining pieces in Kerby's outstanding collection will be auctioned by Heritage in

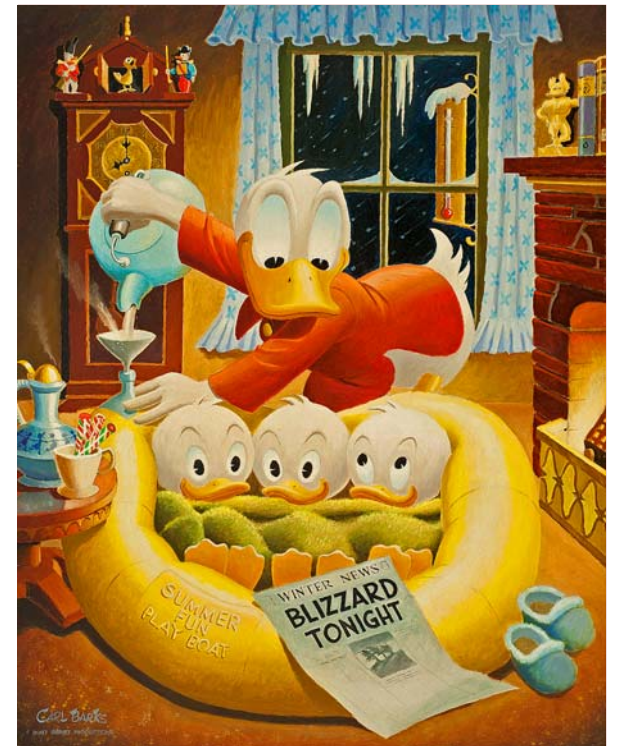


two sales during 2011. You are invited to continue to view the action on Heritage's website: [www.ha.com](http://www.ha.com).

An article in CBFC Newsletter 43 appeared in Heritage's catalogue for this sale.—E.B

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*Clockwise from upper left:*

*A Binful Of Fun*  
1974  
\$143,400

*Trespassers  
Will Be Ventilated*  
1988  
\$131,450

*Blizzard Tonight*  
1973  
\$83,650

*And This Dollar  
Saved My Life  
At Whitehorse*  
1973  
\$119,500



**North of the Yukon, Pages 1 through 6, Offered in Heritage Auction #7027, November 2010.**



**North of the Yukon, Page 1 ..... \$22,705.00**



**North of the Yukon, Page 2 ..... \$14,340.00**



**North of the Yukon, Page 3 ..... \$19,717.50**



**North of the Yukon, Page 4 ..... \$8,962.50**



**North of the Yukon, Page 5 ..... \$14,340.00**



**North of the Yukon, Page 6 ..... \$15,535.00**



## 2011 Dues Notices to be Sent in March.

2011 dues notices will be sent to all members this coming March, with the exception of “lifetime” members as well as those whose multiple-year memberships have not yet expired. We try to keep correct dues records but feel free to let us know if our records don’t correspond with yours.

Our Club depends largely on your dues to stay solvent so we are indeed grateful for your faithful and continued support!

### SCROOGE’S KLONDIKE KORNER



One of our members has a **Carl Barks-signed Klondike Treasure Map** to sell. It is one of the “regular” edition (100 produced). Please contact Ed Bergen if you have an interest.



If you have Disney Duck/Carl Barks items you would like to buy, sell or trade, please let Ed Bergen know and he can include your item in an upcoming newsletter!



## Limited Supply of “Klondike Gold Rush” Bronze Medallions Available for Christmas Giving.

In 1898, the intrepid SCROOGE McDUCK, a character creation of the incomparable CARL BARKS, made his way to Canada’s frozen north in Dawson City, Yukon Territory, and staked his claim at White Agony Creek during the height of the great Klondike Gold Rush! There he discovered his famed “Goose Egg Gold Nugget” which would become the foundation of his entire Money Bin fortune!

In June, 2000, Carl Barks Fan Club President Ed Bergen and Club member Captain Rob Scherer, retraced Scrooge’s steps to the Klondike and rediscovered the exact spot where Scrooge found his “Goose Egg Nugget” while freezing his fingers to the bone digging nuggets out of the creeks.

Our Club produced a limited edition of 100 bronze medallions commemorating the

## Italian Carl Barks Fan Club Affiliate Continues to Grow!

Giampiero Mascelli, leader of our Club’s Italian affiliate (CBFC-I), continues to show strong growth! Over the last two years, Giampiero has added 52 members by spreading the news about our club to Italian Barks fans at comic conventions and shows! We TRULY APPRECIATE all of his efforts on behalf of our parent organization here in the States!

Giampiero, with the support of his wife, Elisabetta, has distributed among his Italian roster of fans, several Barks and Scrooge items produced under Disney license in Italy. These “premiums” have served to increase interest in that country for the work of Carl Barks and have served as an incentive to retain Club members in Italy year after year.

Our parent club THANKS you, Giampiero, and your members, for all of your efforts to

100th anniversary of the Klondike Gold Rush in 1998 and the Carl Barks/Uncle Scrooge connection to that event. Many Club members acquired medallions when they were first issued. The remaining medallions are being offered on a first come, first served basis. We are offering them to Club members at the original price of \$150 each, postpaid. Each medallion is accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity indicating its number among the 100.

The “Klondike Gold Rush” bronze medallion is a great idea for a Christmas gift for your Barks fan, or for yourself as a Carl Barks Fan Club member. All proceeds go to support your club!



expand our club membership and for keeping the Carl Barks legacy alive and well in Topolino country! Keep up the good work—and a hearty “MERRY CHRISTMAS” to ALL of your members from your parent Carl Barks Fan Club in the United States!

### MISSION STATEMENT

THE CARL BARKS FAN CLUB has been formed to help preserve the Carl Barks legacy of stories and art for future generations and to promote that legacy to an ever-widening global audience!

**Carl Barks Fan Club Board of Directors:** Ed Bergen, Jim Zambon, Don Gaul, Tom Neis, Jim Schaid, Dave Waggoner.

**CBFC Newsletter Staff:** Peter Stumpf, Webmaster; Sue Scherer, Administrative Assistant; Joseph Cowles, Special Projects Coordinator.

#### Carl Barks Fan Club

Ed Bergen, President  
Post Office Box 444

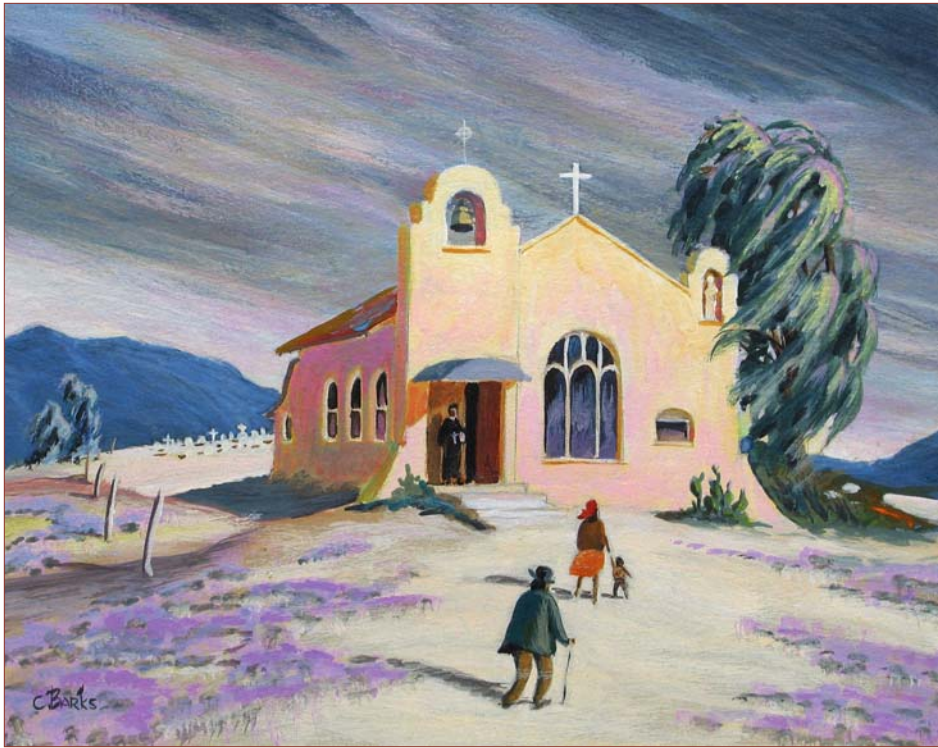
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*All Board Members and assistants serve without remuneration!*





Carl's small 1966 painting of the Soboba Indian Church near the Ramona Boulevard property where he attempted "chicken ranching." This painting is presently on display at the San Jacinto Museum adjacent to one of the Estudillo Mansions that inspired the Don Gaspar rancho of the 1951 comic book story, "Donald Duck in Old California."

San Jacinto High School buildings, across the street from the Barks' San Jacinto home on Washburn Avenue, today exist only in memory and on the canvas of several oil paintings Carl made of the campus, commissioned by senior class students.



## Carl Barks, Artist.

by Joseph Cowles

**Preparing to wind down** his career as a comic book story man drawing with pen and ink on Bristol board, Carl Barks began experimenting with brushes and paint on Masonite and canvas. A skilled artist, Carl knew that with practice he would become at least as productive with oils as he'd been with India ink. He also knew his artistic creations would no longer be subjected to the flat colors chosen by the comic book printers—poorly reproduced, out of register, on cheap “newsprint” paper.

Stepping off into the unknown abyss of retirement, the world's greatest cartoonist

would be exchanging the known certainty of regular income—which was neither regular nor particularly certain—for an opportunity to leave behind the frenzy of deadlines and constant aggravation of dealing with the often ridiculous decisions imposed by editors at Western Publishing. It was a trade-off he was willing to make. After three decades of what Carl considered “hack work,” he was eager to shake the dust from his boots and ride happily into the cartoon sunset.

With encouragement and guidance from his fine-artist wife Garé, Carl would quickly reacquaint himself with stiff brushes, palette





*"Evening Star," one of Carl's paintings interpreting indigenous life in early California. The depression in the boulder on which this maiden sits becomes the mortar and the oblong stone the pestle, to pound the kernels into cornmeal.*

knives, surface textures, color blending and smoothing, oils, turps, canvas stretching, and the rest of the craft.

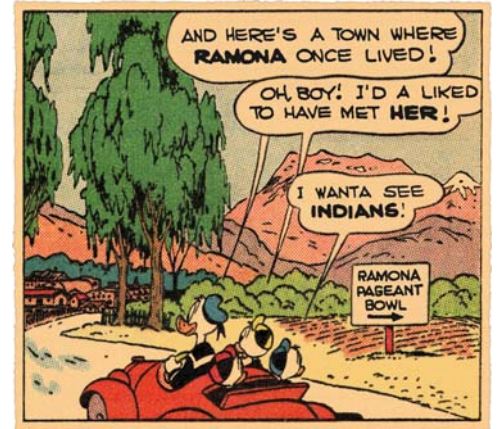
But what exactly would he paint? What images would he execute? And more important, what subjects would inspire

buyers to shell out cash for his paintings? This new venture was meant to be a less stressful way of keeping a roof over his head, not a hobby or avocation to slowly while away his remaining years.

Born in Oregon to the rural life of a

cowboy, Carl loved western stories and art. These were links to a long-ago time that wasn't all that long ago for him. As a young man, Carl had seen some of the still unspoiled wild but tranquil back country areas of California. And events he arrived too late to witness firsthand, he could see, read about and dream of in the works of artists and writers such as Albert Bierstadt, Jo Mora, Bret Harte and Mark Twain.

Carl had a batch of business cards printed to announce his new career: Carl Barks, Artist. He was well-known in the San Jacinto Valley, and soon obtained modest commissions painting local scenes. In 1966, one of his paintings was the Soboba Indian Church. This painting is now exhibited at the San Jacinto Museum, located on the grounds of one of two old Estudillo mansions in San Jacinto. The Estudillo properties are said to have provided inspiration for the rancho of Don Gaspar, in Carl's 1951 story, *Donald Duck in Old California*. In 1968, the graduating class of San Jacinto High School raised a small amount of cash to pay Carl to



do a painting of their alma mater before the old buildings became razed. (At least three paintings of this subject are known to exist.)

In late 1961 or early 1962, on one of my visits when Carl and Garé were living on Poppy Drive in Hemet, the couple treated me to lunch at a local restaurant and proudly showed off a large painting by Garé that the restaurant owners had purchased and were displaying. Afterward, we drove up to the top of a hill a few blocks above the Poppy Drive home, where Carl parked his old Ford station wagon and we three got out to stretch our



*Above— Carl's comic book story about "Old California" promoted San Jacinto Valley's annual Ramona Pageant in Hemet.*

*Left— Thermographed business cards proclaimed Carl's skills as an artist rather than cartoonist.*





legs and gaze down on the valley below.

We had been talking about the *Old California* story. “All these lands below us were once a single homestead, just like that of Don Gaspar,” Carl told me. “Grizzly bears roamed the hills and wild cattle grazed on the rich grasses of the valley floor. Indians

still live here,” he said, pointing north toward San Jacinto. “The mission padres called them *Luiseños*, because this territory belonged to Mission San Luis Rey, down in Oceanside. Our local tribe is called the Soboba [which he pronounced “Sho-voa”], and their people have lived here thousands of years. The name

means *A place to stay in the winter*. You probably learned about the Soboba in school.”

“Uh—no, not really,” I replied.

“Oh well. Here behind us is the Ramona Bowl,” he continued. “You know about the Ramona Pageant, don’t you?”

*Several years ago this painting was described by Christie’s auctioneers as “Peruvian Seed Gatherers.” Whoever composed their catalog knew little of the state’s history, because behind these Luiseño ladies is Mount San Jacinto (viewed from the west, it’s also in the comic book panel shown on the previous page). The trees in the background are tamarisks, introduced to the state in the early 1800s and today considered a water-wasting nuisance.*





*Young Raquel Tejada gained the respect and admiration of Carl Barks when she performed as Ramona in 1959.*

*A few years later, Carl would paint the scene shown at right, "Flight to the Mountains," portraying Alessandro, Ramona, and their infant child. (And could that mountain behind them possibly represent Mount San Jacinto?)*

*While we don't know for sure that Carl had Raquel in mind when he made this painting, the odds are in the affirmative. (Ditto for "Girl of the Ancient Temeculas" pictured on the next page.)*

*"Flight" sold for over one thousand dollars at Heritage Auction Galleries in 2008.*

"Uh—no, not really. Oh yeah! Donald said something about a Ramona when the ducks were driving through the back country. Is that the same person?"

"Yes. Ramona was a fictional character in a popular book published about seventy-five years ago, written by Helen Hunt Jackson. She wrote the story to expose the bad treatment Mission Indians received from the government after California became a state."

"1850," I offered.

"Ah—they did teach you something after all. Well, the Ramona Pageant is an outdoor play based on the book *Ramona*. It's been performed here every year since 1923. There's a huge amphitheater over there, big enough to make a natural stage for hundreds of people as well as their horses and wagons. Audiences come from all over the world to see the performances. You should see it, someday."

"I will, I promise. [And I did see it . . . but half a century would pass before I did so.] Was Ramona in the book the same as Panchita in your duck story?"







“No. But the Ramona story did provide inspiration and information.”

Ramona and her lover, Alessandro, would also inspire Carl’s early paintings, and his images of seed gatherers and other indigenous peoples were inspired by other Californians.

“One of your contemporaries won the lead role as Ramona, season before last. Raquel Tejada. A beautiful young lady. Surely you’ve heard of her.”

“Uh—no, not really.”

“She went to school over on the coast where you are,” he said, feigning disdain.

“Oh, Carl,” Garé interjected, “Their schools were nowhere near each other. Joe went to Anaheim High and Raquel was in La Jolla. And he’s probably a year or so younger than she.”

Carl grunted. “Hmph. If Joe were to get a glimpse of her, I bet he’d wish he’d gone to school in La Jolla.”

Carl was certainly right about that. An article in *Wikipedia* says the young actress of English-Bolivian ancestry was born Jo Raquel Tejada in September 1940 (nine months to the day ahead of me). In the year of her performance as Ramona, Raquel married her first husband, James Welch, changing her surname to that of her husband. She has retained the name (but not the husband) throughout a long and respected career in motion pictures and television.

[The above conversation with Carl Barks is a recollection after more than fifty years, so please don’t expect it to have word-for-word accuracy. Our conversations were always quite difficult, with Carl’s hearing problems and my shyness in speaking loud enough to be heard. Garé was our “translator,” repeating to Carl what I had said, and then repeating to me what Carl had said, even though I had no problem hearing him.]

—Joseph Cowles



“*Girl of the Ancient Temeculas*,” painted by Carl in 1968, sold for over three thousand dollars at Heritage Auction Galleries in 2008. Heritage described the 18 x 24 painting as a “fetching nude study.” The stereo photo at left, taken during the 1874 J. W. Powell Geological Survey, provides a somewhat more accurate glimpse of the native population. Still, no one ever faulted Carl Barks for his amazing sense of imagination.



# Lovely Teenager Tenth Ramona

Only sweet eighteen and already well on her way to theatrical fame and fortune is an enviable accomplishment for any modern miss with stars in her eyes.

Raquel Tejada of La Jolla, the Play's tenth "Ramona" is also the youngest. She's raven-tressed, dark-eyed and her vital



... Director Helps

statistics, figure-wise, should be the envy of Hollywood's entire starlet contingent.

Miss Tejada is particularly pleased and proud over her selection to enact the poignant and de-

manding role of Helen Hunt Jackson's long-loved heroine. When the casting committee revealed the name of the 1959 "Ramona," Miss Tejada admitted "it was the nicest thing that has ever happened to me."

Though acting is her prime interest, she has excelled in other fields, most notably scholarship. She was a straight "A" student and won National Forensic declamation honors at La Jolla's high school. She also is a life member of the California Scholarship federation. She is now a freshman at San Diego State college and a pledge to Alpha Phi. Her sorority sisters must be mighty pleased over her starring role in the play.

Miss Tejada has studied ballet and Spanish dancing in her hometown, and she ably demonstrates her prowess in the latter during the play's fiesta sequence. As for prior acting experience, she was cast in two major productions at La Jolla's Drury Lane theater, and appeared as an extra in the La Jolla Playhouse's star-studded production of "Pal Joey." "Ramona" is her first professional role.

Last year, Miss Tejada reigned as queen of the California State fair at Sacramento with the title of "Maid of California" as well as walking away with top beauty honors at the San Diego County fair.

Playing the role of the Indian maid, "Ramona," should be a pleasant acting plum for Miss Tejada, and her Spanish ancestry lends authenticity to the part. Her father, Armand C. Tejada, was born in Bolivia.

Miss Tejada was selected over 10 aspirants. Undoubtedly the judges' final decision was not only influenced by her poise and pleasing personality, her graceful carriage, her youthful dedication to enacting "Ramona," and the quality of



... Pretty Picture

her voice. It is a soft, vibrant voice that projects successfully.

She prefers legitimate theater though her thespian ability coupled with top-flight photogenic qualities should cause many a movie mogul to seek her name on a film contract.

Though she definitely hopes to make acting a full-time career, she is just as definite about procuring her degree from college.—M.B.S.