



# INSIGHTS

THE EXCLUSIVE CLUB MAGAZINE

## NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

2015 M.I. Hummel new introductions begin arriving

Meet the new head of the Convent's Artistic Board

M.J. Hummel®



*"Hummeling" Along!*



## "Hummeling" Along!

Dear Hummel Friends:

Things are really humming in the world of Hummel. Our 2015 figurines have arrived from Germany and they're taking a proud place as the latest stars in the M.I. Hummel repertoire.

We have an important announcement from the Convent of Siessen. Sister M. Emanuela has taken over the leadership of the Artistic Board, and you'll make her acquaintance in this issue.

A host of new products are now appearing to complement your traditional M.I. Hummel figurines. From beer steins to miniature tea sets, there are many new ways to enjoy the Hummel motifs you love.

We're happy to report that the M.I. Hummel Club has exceeded our membership goals by an impressive margin, and we're on the rise once again. We're also on the move. In September, Club members and M.I. Hummel dignitaries from all over America and the world will be headed to Philadelphia for our North American Convention.

It's an optimistic and dynamic time for the M.I. Hummel Club, and our 39th year is here. We invite you to share the energy and read about everything that's new and noteworthy. Enjoy your INSIGHTS!

Cordially,

Ken and Chuck  
Managing Partners  
The M.I. Hummel Club of North America  
Newboden Brands



## In This Issue

Reminisce about the classic toys you grew up with. Get a little background about two iconic symbols of Germany – beer and pretzels. Take an in-depth look at the Munich art school that launched Berta Hummel's career. There's plenty to interest you in this chock full issue. Happy summer and happy reading!

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## Rugged Adventure

Anyone who enjoys setting off on foot for a day of adventure will find no better region to roam than Bavaria, where Berta Hummel grew up. Berta's hometown, Massing, is surrounded by the Alpine foothills, with the Alps themselves rising majestically to the South. To the north, the Eastern Bavarian Central Mountains dominate the landscape, home to the first national park in Germany.

It's no wonder hiking throughout Bavaria, is still a beloved pastime as it was in Sister Hummel's time. So many of her drawings show children wearing those familiar, high-topped hiking boots and carrying walking sticks. It's apparent that a strenuous ramble over rugged terrain was a way of life and a source of entertainment, happily reflected in our new 2015 introduction, **A Day For Fun**.

This young lad, a companion to our **What a Day** figurine, is giving his tired feet a rest. But if you use your imagination, you can picture him steadying his way along a mountain path with his stick. And notice the edelweiss blossom fastened near the brim of his peaked cap. Perhaps he plucked it on the hillside, planning to give it to his mother – or his sweetheart – when he makes his way home.

This newest *M.I. Hummel* hiker, **A Day For Fun**, is ready to give you some fun and enjoyment.

This 2015 introduction is made in Germany under the guidance of the Convent of Siessen, just like all authentic *M.I. Hummel* figurines. Let's give him a hearty welcome, and wish him happy hiking!



### Summer News Flash

## Club Year 39 has begun

Recently revealed: the Club Year 39 Gift Figurine, yours FREE with membership. Admire it along with *Honey Bee*, *Honey Blossom* and the *Beehive Garden Scape* on page 20.



## INSIGHTS TRIVIA

The vegetable that the lad is holding in *For Father* (Hum 87) is:

- (A) parsnip (B) radish (C) turnip

Look for the answer hidden on the bottom of this page!

## Everyone Loves a Winner!

Nothing beats the satisfaction of winning first prize. If your team has ever come out ahead or if you've finished first in a race, you understand the thrill of surpassing the competition.

**First Place** captures that special feeling. It features a boy wearing a cap and goggles – the kind worn by old time sports car drivers. His trophy shows us he's just won a road race. The lad is bursting with pride as he cradles his prize atop a specially crafted base, further marking his Number One status.

This is your opportunity to own a *M.I. Hummel* original with an appealing and unusual theme.

**First Place** is a perfect way to commemorate an achievement, maybe even one of your own. Bring home this winning figurine, and you'll really bring home the gold!



# Pleased to Meet You

The Convent of Siessen has named a new Artistic Board leader, Sister M. Emanuela Tieze. On behalf of the M.I. Hummel Club, we send a warm welcome her way!



Sister Emanuela was born in 1960 in Augsburg, Germany and entered the Community of the Franciscan Sister of Siessen at age 25. She's taken on various roles, including the management of the Casa della Pace in Assisi and overseeing the community's candidates and postulants. For the last eleven years, she served as the personal secretary to the Archbishop of Freiburg, Chairman of the German Conference of Bishops.

In August of 2014, Sister Emanuela was elected to the General Council of the Siessen community. And as of November, 2014, she assumed management of the M.I. Hummel Artistic Board. The following are some of the personal thoughts of Sister Emanuela as she embraces her new responsibilities.

## ***What do M.I. Hummel figurines mean to you personally?***

"To this day my mother still has a night-table lamp of the small boy sitting in the fork of the apple tree with his green Tyrolean hat. (Hum 230). I often looked closely at this figurine in my youth and admired the natural expression. Only when I entered the Convent of Siessen in 1985 did it become clear to me that the beloved M.I. Hummel figurines come from the bold pastel drawings of another Franciscan, who I can now call a fellow sister.

As I became occupied with her works and her biography, I quickly divined that this happy woman, who died so young, in many ways can be an example for me. I heard about many episodes from her life in the Convent from my fellow sisters who had lived together with her in a small part of the Convent that had been seized by the

National Socialists in 1940. As novices in 1978, we were very moved when a series of Sister Hummel's sketches depicting the Way of the Cross were discovered. She was a person with deep feeling, with a great sensibility for everyone around her. That which moved her was mirrored in her artwork."

## ***What are the most important characteristics you look for when developing and approving a new Hummel figurine motif?***

"Recently I heard that a person from an Asian country, who for the first time held an M.I. Hummel figurine in his hand, mentioned that the expression on the figurine inspires a deep serenity and inwardness. This statement made me very happy. First of all I pay attention to see if those typical properties – the calm, wholehearted contemplation of the child going about its

business – appears in the raw model stage as well as on the decorated figurine. Besides the many other characteristics I appreciate – like the coloring, the expression on the face and much more – it is especially important for me that the figurine appears in a coherent relationship with itself, with the depicted accessory or with a toy, an animal or another figurine."

## ***What do you enjoy most about your new role?***

"I am very delighted that I am getting involved in the life and artwork of Sister Maria Innocentia in a deeper way. I like to contribute to introducing the message of her life as a religious sister and artist to a larger group of people."

## ***How can you explain the longstanding appreciation for Sister Hummel's artwork and figurines? Why is it important for this tradition to continue?***



"I am impressed that her work still attracts people and reaches them. It is quite clear to me that the message which Sister Maria Innocentia put into her artistic creations and which was reflected in the depth of her religious life, is the cause of this unbroken attraction that continues today. Our world still struggles, facing omnipresent threats similar to the dark time in which Sister Maria Innocentia lived, for the great values of human dignity and the guarantee of a just and worthwhile life with security and peace for all mankind. When people contemplate the pictures of Maria Innocentia and the figurines that developed out of the pictures, they find themselves in a deeper state of mind and gain serenity and peace. There is no better reason for the tradition to continue."

***Many of our Club members enjoyed meeting and talking with Sister Claudia Maria and we'd like to let them know what she's doing now. Can you give us any information about her new role?***

"Since the beginning of the year, Sister Claudia-Maria has undertaken a new assignment in our South Africa province. She is in charge of spiritual education and advanced training for our fellow sisters there. In this way, she shares

her many years of fruitful study of spirituality and the Franciscan philosophy and her experience in giving retreats. I am able to send warmest greetings to you from Sister Claudia-Maria!"

***Do you have any message for our North American Club members?***

"The new developments in the Hummel world depend on the friendship and at the same time on the constructive critical support of the North American Club

members. As we walk new paths so future generations will get in touch with the message of the artwork of Sister Maria Innocentia Hummel, I can only encourage you, dear Club members.

I warmly invite all M.I. Hummel Club members to visit us in Siessen and to see our *M.I. Hummel* exhibition. And I look forward to my first Hummel Convention and will be happy to meet you all in Philadelphia."



*left to right: Way of the Cross, Station XIII; Sisters of Siessen; Convent of Siessen, Bad Saulgau, Germany*

# Playtime Traditions

When we look back at childhood, what do we remember? Innocence, curiosity and simplicity, for certain. But most of all, we remember having fun.

Play is the basic work of childhood, helping the intellect grow and the personality develop. Toys are the tools children use to practice skills and expand their imaginations.

Sister Hummel knew this well. Her drawings are full of children at play, and toys are often part of the scene. If these toys seem familiar today, it should come as no surprise.

The most basic playthings haven't changed much through the ages. Rattles, balls, hoops, toy soldiers, toy animals, tops and checkers are just some of the toys unearthed by archaeologists. Children have used these simple implements since ancient times. The doll is believed to be the oldest type of toy, followed by the yo-yo!

Early toys were crafted of wood, clay, stones and even animal bones. In ancient Greece, children played a game with inflated pig's bladders – the original version of the balloon. In the 16th century the first dollhouse was crafted in Germany.

It wasn't until the industrial revolution that toys were mass-produced. The jigsaw puzzle was invented in the late 1700s, followed by the kaleidoscope in the early 1800s. Factories began turning out tin toys of all kinds, from horses pulling wagons to fire engines and tiny kitchen items. As transportation developed, children played with toy trains and eventually trucks, cars and even planes. But the old-fashioned rocking horse has never gone out of fashion.

The late 19th century gave rise to the idea of the educational toy, spurred by progressive teaching methods. Blocks took many forms – alphabet blocks, building blocks, interlocking tongue and groove blocks, even full-blown model villages.

Eventually, the drive toward educational toys led to *Mechanics Made Easy*, a construction set patented in 1901 by a man who wanted to interest his sons in engineering. Later called the Meccano, the sets were a popular precursor to more modern erector sets. And a few years later, John Lloyd Wright, son of famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright, invented Lincoln Logs.

In the 20th century, many children had less work to do and more time to play,

and inexpensive materials like plastics were developed. Toy production took off. Eventually toys made use of electricity, batteries, and even computer chips.

If you're interested in the history of toys, we encourage you to pay a visit to the Nuremberg Toy Museum, or Spielzeug Museum in Nuremberg's old town. It's an enjoyable detour if you're visiting the *M.I. Hummel* factory in Rödentel, about a three-hour drive. The museum is dedicated to toys through the ages, but especially from the era when Germany took the lead in toy-making and Nuremberg was at the center of the industry.

If you can't get to Nuremberg, do the next best thing. Take a look at your own *M.I. Hummel* figurine collection for a glimpse of some of the most popular children's toys of all time!





# Go Fly a Kite!

Legend has it that two thousand years ago, a Chinese farmer tied a string to his hat to keep it from blowing away, and the first kite was born. Kite flying was a popular pastime throughout Asia, with different cultures using kites for a variety of purposes, from military signals to warding off evil spirits. By the time the kite reached Europe, it was used primarily for fun.

The *M.I. Hummel* lad in our new figurine, **Fly Away**, certainly seems to be having a good time with his colorful kite. Notice the excited smile on his face as he waits for the wind to send it soaring.

**Fly Away** is an imaginative, mixed media work of art featuring real string and multi-colored ribbons. It's a tribute to a fond memory – being outdoors in a brisk springtime breeze while a kite, and your spirits, fly high.

## **Fly Away**

*Unforgettable Moments*

Made in Germany

1000211 Hum 2366

4.75" Price \$350



# Motif in Miniature

In the historic town of Denkendorf, Germany, there's a porcelain company called M.W. Reutter. For the past 60 years, this company has been crafting exquisite collections of porcelain miniatures.



*Martl Zimmerman in her studio.*

It all started shortly after World War II when a young German woman, Martl Zimmerman, sought employment as a teacher. Finding a job proved to be difficult, so the

enterprising 24-year-old began an apprenticeship as a potter.

As a class project, Martl's teacher asked her to create tiny ceramic tableware to fit in his daughter's dollhouse. It was a difficult task, and Martl learned to

reduce large shapes to a scaled-down size. She honed her skills and developed a passion for miniatures. In 1948, Martl married an engineer, Willy Reutter. That same year she established a small business, M.W. Reutter Porzellanfabrik, turning out her handmade crockery on a potters' wheel. A few years later, M.W. Reutter began exhibiting at the newly established Nuremberg Toy Fair,

showing off an assortment of tiny porcelain items. M.W. Reutter has been one of the stalwarts of the fair, continuously exhibiting for more than six decades.

The fair proved to be so successful in attracting new customers that traditional production on a potter's wheel could no longer meet the demand. So in 1954, the company switched to a different manufacturing method. Willy's engineering skills were instrumental in devising a way to extrude small porcelain pieces out of a lifting press, a much faster process. At the same time, Reutter porcelain items were lettered and marked with the golden stamp of the cloister of Denkendorf. Soon, Willy left his position as a precision engineer to concentrate full time on the M.W. Reutter company.

Martl and Willy learned as they went along, developing their porcelain production methods and meeting the challenges

of obtaining raw materials and tools from the Bavarian forest. Besides their focus on dollhouse miniatures, the company produced ashtrays, perfume atomizers and mosaic tables which were fashionable in the 1950s. By the end of the decade, M.W. Reutter had expanded their line with children's tea sets, gift items and an array of toy miniatures in porcelain.

The company continued to grow and diversify throughout the 1960s and 1970s and began licensing the drawings of Sarah Kay, a popular Australian artist. Sarah Kay motifs were used on mugs, plates, and other porcelain gift items. Licensing was a new marketing concept that took M.W. Reutter in an exciting new direction, giving them a foundation for moving forward into a worldwide gift market.

Eventually, Martl and Willy's sons joined the company, Bernd as Technical Ceramic Engineer and Bertram as Master of Economics. The sons had a strong influence on production, administration and





## REUTTER PORZELLAN BRAND MARKS



*Miniature bowls thrown manually, Martl and Willy Reutter at their stand at the Toy Fair in Nuremberg in 1963*

marketing. Today, Bertram Reutter serves as the Managing Director.

In 1991, M.W. Reutter acquired the rights to use the famous drawings of Sister Maria Innocentia Hummel to decorate porcelain pieces. These charming items became a quick success. For over two decades, M.I. Hummel products have been among Reutter's most popular offerings.

You can enjoy heirloom-quality children's tea sets and food-safe dinner sets for toddlers as well as porcelain giftware, thimbles, ornaments and more, featuring timeless motifs like *Apple Tree Girl* and *Ride Into Christmas*. See the M.W. Reutter Hummel Collection on display at our Philadelphia Convention, or online at [reutterporcelain.com](http://reutterporcelain.com).



Brand mark: 1954



Brand mark: 1975



Brand mark: 1980

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Reutter  Porzellan  
Germany

Reutter Brand mark  
with M.I. Hummel: 1991

Geschenkartikel Miniaturen Kinderservice  
  
Reutter Porzellan  
Germany

Brand mark present

# A Brew with a Twist

What could be more German than a big fat pretzel, except a frosty stein of beer to wash it down? Our upcoming Philadelphia convention will pay tribute to that classic pairing, and we hope you'll join us to sample some beer and pretzels, Pennsylvania style.

To whet your whistle, and your appetite, let's take a look at the origins of these well-known refreshments, and how they made their way to American shores.

According to the most popular story, the pretzel was born in Italy in 610 AD. It's said that an Italian monk baked bread in a shape resembling arms crossed in prayer, called the treats *pretiolas* or "little rewards," and gave them to his best pupils. Of course, there's no way to be sure if the tale is true. But we do know the pretzel made an early appearance in Germany. It was featured in the crest of German bakers' guilds in the 1100s, and became a staple snack.

Pretzels were considered a sign of good luck, possibly because the three sections recalled the Holy Trinity, and were associated with Lent and Easter. But whatever religious connection the pretzel once had is long gone. Today, anyone who's been to Oktoberfest in

Munich can tell you about the gigantic pretzels that hang with a ribbon around the necks of munching festival-goers.

German immigrants brought pretzels to America in the 1700s, and pretzel bakeries were established, many in Pennsylvania. In fact, 80% of America's pretzels are made in Pennsylvania to this day. Early pretzels were the soft, doughy variety. But in 1861 a commercial pretzel bakery in Lititz, PA created the hard pretzel, destined to become one of America's most notable nibbles.

To confirm Pennsylvania's reputation as the pretzel capital of America, the world's largest pretzel was baked by a Philadelphia resident. That enormous snack measured 5 feet across and weighed 40 pounds! And in 2003, Governor Rendell of Pennsylvania declared April 26th National Pretzel Day.

When the Club gathers in Philadelphia for our upcoming convention, we'll celebrate pretzels in our own special way – with a pretzel-making demonstration.

Of course, you can't munch a pretzel for long without craving a swallow of beer. So our story shifts to the frothy brew, considered one of the world's oldest beverages. Since man has been cultivating grain and baking bread, we've been fermenting a beer-like drink.

In Europe during the middle ages, beer was consumed daily by all social classes, and was usually brewed at home. The beverage was also produced in abbeys and cloisters. In fact, the oldest brewery in Europe that's still in operation is the Weihenstephan Abbey Brewery in Bavaria, dating from 1040. The introduction of hops in northern Germany in the 13th century improved the quality of beer, facilitated brewing, and helped the German beer industry expand.

In America, there's been beer as long as there have been European settlers, and nowhere was it more popular than in Philadelphia. In 1793, the City of Brotherly Love was producing more beer than any other American seaport. In 1829, David Yuengling opened a brewery

in the Pennsylvania coal town of Pottsville. It's still going strong today, owned by the same family – the oldest operating brewery in the United States.

Where there's beer, there are beer steins to hold it. The word is short for *Steinzeugkrug*, meaning stoneware jug or tankard. Any beer container with a hinged lid and a handle is considered a stein.

The origin is distinctly German, dating back to the 1500s. Surprisingly, the stein developed as an early form of sanitation. Fearing a return of the dreaded bubonic plague, or Black Death, German authorities passed laws requiring containers to be covered, as protection against frequent invasions of flies. German steins were primarily



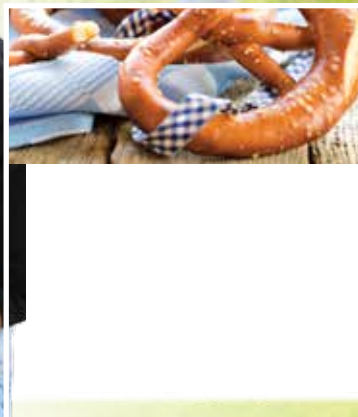




earthenware with pewter lids. As brewing methods and ingredients improved, more beer was consumed and the demand for steins grew. Many were elaborately decorated, especially among the wealthy. Germans took pride in their beer steins, and having a personal tankard became a status symbol. Steins were decorated with carvings of shields, historical and biblical scenes. Later, scenes

of towns, occupations, social, military and regimental designs became popular.

Don't miss a display of King Werk beer steins, at the Hummel Convention in September. King Werk is creating a special stein decorated with a beloved *M.I. Hummel* motif just for us. What a wonderful way to enjoy a refreshing sip of a cold brew – and don't forget the pretzel!



left to right: King Werk Lords Prayer Stein; Master Stein Painter Julia Apel, King Werk, Germany. Yuengling Brewery, National Register of Historic Places, Pottsville, PA



# The Franciscan Tradition in Philadelphia

St. Francis of Assisi was born more than 800 years ago, yet he remains one of the most beloved spiritual leaders of history. The cleric was known for the loving care of animals, advocacy of peace, and a lifestyle of simplicity.

The devout have been emulating St. Francis' gentle ways for centuries. In fact, the present Pope Francis took his name to honor "the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation."

When Sister Maria Innocentia Hummel gave her life to the Catholic Church and joined the Convent of Siessen, she immersed herself in the Franciscan tradition. She would be forever linked to Franciscans all over the globe, including North America.

The Franciscans got a firm foothold in the new world as early as the 1600s, established by missionaries who came with European settlers.

The earliest orders were founded in the South and Southwest, primarily engaging in missionary work with Native Americans.

The numbers of Franciscans in America grew continuously along with the population.

There is a strong Franciscan tradition in Philadelphia. When our Club Convention is held there this September, the representatives of the Convent of Siessen will find a warm welcome and common ground. A prominent Franciscan order thrives in Philadelphia, with a few interesting historical parallels to Sister Hummel.

The Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia began in 1855, and two of the founders came from Bavaria. Maria Anna Boll Bachmann and her sister, operated a

small shop and hostel for other immigrant women. When they were granted permission to found a new congregation, they were assisted and instructed by Philadelphia's Bishop John Neumann, the founder of the first Catholic school system in America. Maria Anna Boll Bachmann would take the name of Sister Mary Francis, and was elected leader of the Philadelphia congregation.

The Sisters of St. Francis nursed the sick and the poor, supporting themselves with sewing. They also began teaching, and branched out to Syracuse and later to Buffalo, New York to teach German immigrant children. In 1860, the congregation's

first hospital was opened, St. Mary's in Philadelphia.

The work was physically demanding and took a toll on the leader of the order. In a sad parallel to the life of Sister Hummel, Sister Mary Francis was diagnosed with tuberculosis and succumbed to the disease in 1863 at the young age of 38. Sister Hummel, as we know, passed away from the same illness at just 37.

Today the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia number nearly 450 women who serve others. The motherhouse was moved to nearby Glen Riddle, PA, and Neumann University was founded there in 1965. The



left to right: Sts. Peter and Paul Basilica, Philadelphia PA, Statues and Cathedral; Pope Francis during a recent papal visit to the Philippines.



## A PAPAL VISIT POPE FRANCIS

*Conventioneers who stay on for an extra week in Philadelphia will get a rare treat – Pope Francis will visit from September 25-27 to participate in the Eighth World Meeting of Families, a multi-cultural celebration of family life.*

*A Papal Mass will be held on Sunday, September 27 on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in the heart of Philadelphia and will be open to the public. This will only be the second time a Pope has visited Philadelphia.*

*In commemoration of Pope Francis' visit to the United States, the Good Shepherd Holy Water Font was produced in a 300 piece Limited Edition under trademark 10 with a special Papal Visit Backstamp.*

*To order, contact Hummel Gifts at 609-400-1647 – supplies are limited. (delivery Winter 2015)*

Sisters provide education, pastoral care, healthcare and elderly services to immigrants, refugees, the homeless, the poor and the ill. You'll find the Sisters of St. Francis at work in 24 states as well as Haiti, Africa and Ireland, devoted to the task of making the world a better place for us all.

To learn more about the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia visit [www.osfphila.org](http://www.osfphila.org).



**Good Shepherd Holy Water Font**  
**Special Papal Visit Backstamp,**  
**1000258, Hum 35, LE 300 pcs.**

# Well-Schooled in Artistry

*The State School of Arts and Crafts in Munich offers instruction in all those branches of the pictorial arts that serve architecture, handicrafts and industry. It provides training for artists and craftsmen, especially in terms of a thorough education in taste, independent artistic design, invention, and execution and introduces the student to special, uncommon and refined techniques, as well as preserving and revitalizing proven older ones.*

Mission Statement, State School of Arts and Crafts, 1920s

The Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Munich dominated the Munich art scene for decades, instructing students in the “high” arts of painting and sculpture. But in the second half of the 19th century, King Ludwig II of Bavaria saw the need for a different kind of institute specifically to train students in “applied art,” or art for commercial and industrial use.

In 1868, the Bavarian government founded the State School of Arts and Crafts, often called the Academy of Applied Arts. Four years later a separate section for women opened to promote the “training of women art teachers.”

As a modest and practical young art student, Berta Hummel didn’t think of herself as an artist in the pure sense. Although inspired by the works of the great masters, she didn’t indulge in much “art for art’s



©A. Hummel

The strongly traditional curriculum of State School of Arts and Crafts suited her practical nature, and in 1927 she passed an exam, submitted a portfolio, and gained acceptance to the school.

Since the school’s founding the basic curriculum included: “Line drawing the necessary principles of geometry, ornament drawing, figure drawing, flower drawing, wood-carving, art history, perspective and silhouette.” Berta received rigorous training in these subjects.

Early on she was taught lithography and woodcutting techniques that allowed her to reproduce multiple copies of her

drawings. She began to design postcards, a precursor to the work she would do at the Convent of Siessen, where she created religious

merit cards and greeting cards. Her studies in fabric design proved to be excellent preparation for her later role at the Convent creating clerical vestments.

Berta was instructed in drawing and watercolor painting, turning out a prolific array of work from nudes and landscapes, to still life and portraiture. One of her first teachers at the school was Professor Friedrich Wirnhier (1868 - 1952), a German artist who taught introductory exercises and drawing from nature, along with decoration for fabrics and glass.



©A. Hummel

**Portrait of a boy**  
1929/30, watercolor, 10 1/4" x 7", HM 128

**Market in Munich**  
1929/30, watercolor, 10" x 13 1/4", HM 265



©A. Hummel

**Massing, Brandgasse**  
1928, woodcut, 3 3/4" x 3", HM 657





©A. Hummel

#### Red dahlias

1929/30, watercolor, 16 1/4" x 11 3/4",  
HM 532

As Berta advanced to the Upper Division, she was granted permission to study with Professor Maximilian Dasio (1865 - 1954) whom she greatly admired. Dasio was known for painting, print-making and illustration, and in his later career he concentrated on designing medals and coinage. At the State School, Dasio taught Advanced Drawing medal and stone cutting.

Berta was greatly influenced by another Upper Division teacher, as well, Else Brauneis. The teacher herself studied at the school and taught geometry and perspective, becoming one of the school's most illustrious professors. She instructed Berta in watercolor and perspective drawings, and often organized class outings to the mountains surrounding Munich, the beautiful city of Salzburg, and other picturesque locales. These outings were among the

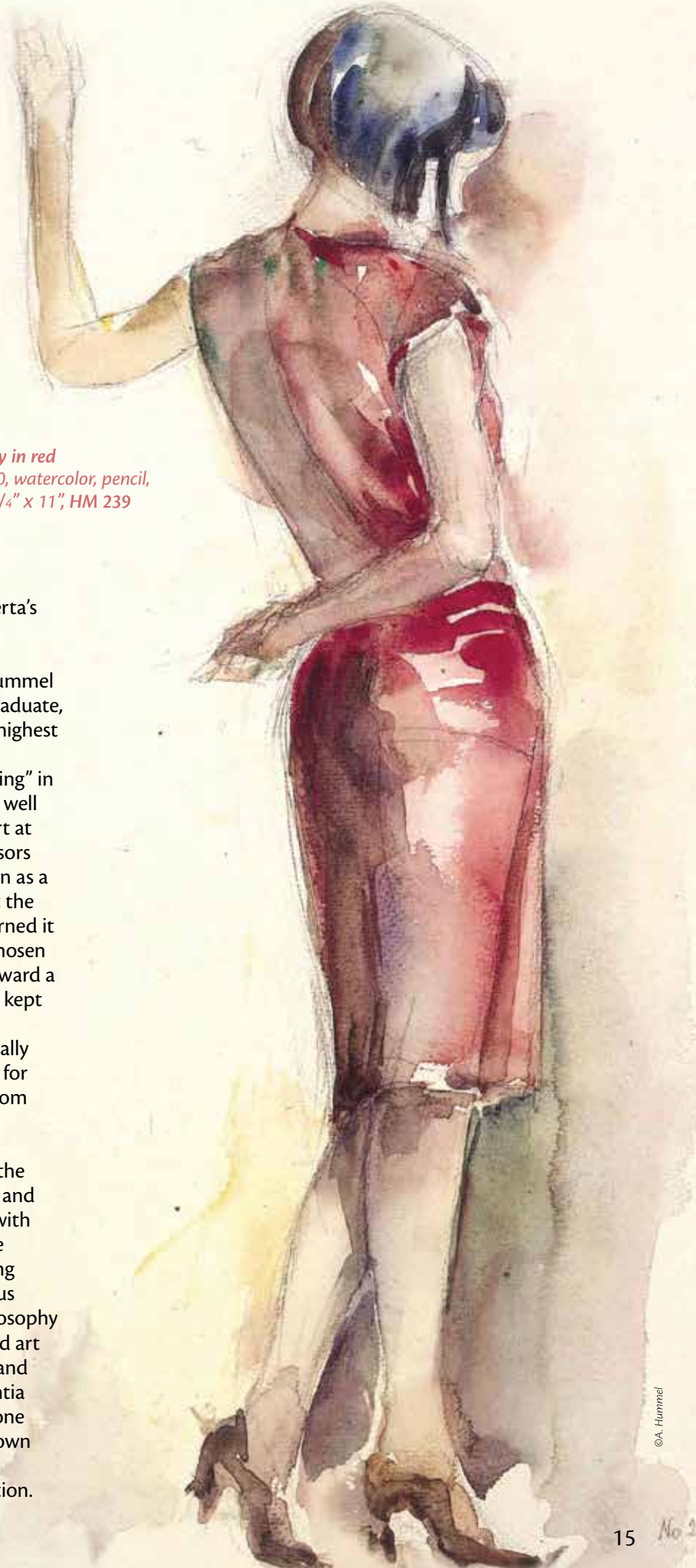
highlights of Berta's schooling.

When Berta Hummel was ready to graduate, she had earned the highest average in her class, receiving "Outstanding" in all subjects. She was well prepared to teach art at all levels. The professors offered her a position as a teaching assistant at the State School. She turned it down, for she had chosen an alternate path toward a spiritual life. But she kept in contact with her teachers and eventually returned to Munich for graduate training, from 1935 to 1937.

After World War II, the State School of Arts and Crafts was merged with the Academy of Fine Arts, finally becoming part of that illustrious institution. The philosophy of a practical, applied art education lived on, and Sister Maria Innocentia Hummel would be one of the most well-known beneficiaries of this educational foundation.

#### Lady in red

1930, watercolor, pencil,  
19 3/4" x 11", HM 239



©A. Hummel



# Community Buzz

The M.I. Hummel Club maintains a thriving community of members across North America. Members share camaraderie, community service, as well as a love of *M.I. Hummel* collecting.



## Good Food and Good Friends

*Pleasant Journey, MD* Local Chapter Pot Luck Dinner in June. In attendance is Linda LaFleur and Shirley Boyd, of the *Historic Triangle/Hampton Roads, VA* Chapter, saved up their money for the items they eyed on the Auction Table.

## Happy Anniversary!

*It's Cold, Silver Spring, MD* Local Chapter celebrates their chapter's anniversary in April every year. This year they gathered at the Normandie Farm Restaurant in Potomac, MD. "You can see from the smiles all around that we were enjoying seeing each other over a very pleasant lunch. The friendships have lasted for many years along with our shared love of Hummels." – Michelle Poulos, President



## Chapter Elects New Officers

After the death of their beloved Chapter President, Dan Gillespie, in November of 2014, *The Villages, FL*, held an election. The new board members are pictured above. Left to Right: Sheila Bass, *Incumbent Treasurer*; Betty Schulz, *New Vice President*; Emily Burchette, *New President*; Janet Heinrich, *New Secretary*.

## Contributions, Please!

We're eager to hear from members with news, updates, and information about your Hummel-related activities.

Please write to us at:

**The M.I. Hummel Club  
3 Third Street, Suite 210  
Bordentown, NJ 08505**

We welcome your letters, photos, and items of interest!





# M.I. Hummel Club Trip along the Enchanted Fairytale Road

We followed in the footsteps of the Brothers Grimm, then in the footsteps of Sister Hummel as we traveled through Germany, delighting in the sights, sounds, culture, customs, and of course, each others' company. From bewitched castles, enchanted forests and medieval villages to a private tour of the Hummel factory, the Club celebrated the 80th Anniversary of M.I. Hummel figurines together.



A number of M.I. Hummel Club members gathered together for a group picture after arriving at the factory for a tour and lunch in the town of Rödental.

## M.I. Hummel Club Travelers

Shirley Boyd – Hampton, VA  
 Mary Ann Damico – Crofton, MD  
 Marily & Jacob Dering – Crete, NE  
 Diane Dusza – Arlington, VA  
 Carol Eake – Neenah, WI  
 Nicole Ewald – Neenah, WI  
 Jeanette Ferrante – Franklin Square, NY  
 Mary Heard – Woodbridge, VA  
 Sandra & Richard Horn – Brooklyn, WI  
 Jacqueline & V.I. John – Kingston, Ontario, Canada  
 Linda LaFleur – Williamsburg, VA

Orchid Lee – New Bern, NC  
 Ann Ludwig – Hartford City, IN  
 Jeanne & Ernest Josche – Spring Valley, OH  
 Judith Murphy – Manchester, NY  
 Bonnie & John Roschy – Centreville, MD  
 Susanne Russell – Philadelphia, PA  
 Kay Schroepe – Hartford City, IN  
 Carolyn & William Self – Lillington, NC  
 Margaret & Leslie Williams – Duluth, MN



Carol Eake (with "pigtails") and her daughter Nicole Ewald having the best time, exploring the Fairytale city of Oberammergau during their "free" day.



John Roschy getting a lesson during the factory tour.



Margaret and Leslie Williams at the factory with master sculptor Marion Hrushka.



# Slaying Dragons

A rare Hummel figurine with an unusual beginning.



Meet Emily Burchette, a Charter Member of the M.I. Hummel Club and President of **The Villages, FL** Local Chapter. Emily possesses a M.I. Hummel treasure that any collector would be proud to own – St. George (Hum 55) also known as St. George the Dragon Slayer.

Here are some fascinating details we have gathered with help from the M.I. Hummel factory team in Rödental:

**Q. What inspired Sister Hummel to create this artwork?**

A. M. Innocentia Hummel created the drawing from a printing shown in the first Hummel Book (by Emil Fink Verlag Stuttgart, 1934) for a religious banner to Saint George. In a letter of 28 May 1936, Mr. Goebel asked Sr. M.I. Hummel if he could turn this original drawing into a three dimensional figurine in favor of a very interested foreign customer. Following is the words from the original letter:

*"I would like to produce Saint George with the dragon, shown on page 36 of the first Hummel Book, for a very good foreign customer, who is absolutely interested in this figurine and therefore ask you if you allow for us to make a model of such a figurine. The foreign customer will be visiting in the very next time, so I would be grateful if you grant me your permission for making this model promptly. According to our contractual agreement I will of course present the model to you at a later date before going into production. Awaiting your prompt reply, I sign – Goebel"*

The three dimensional clay model was made by master modeler Reinhold Unger.

**Q. How long did it take to get approval from the convent?**

A. The answer was sent immediately in a letter dated June 2, 1936. Sister M. Eligia gave the permission on behalf of the artist Sister M. Innocentia but only for this particular foreign customer. NOTE: It can take up to 6 months to get approval by the Convent.

**Q. Were there any unusual issues concerning this figurine?**

A. Unusual was – like mentioned earlier – the exclusive approval only for this foreign customer and the very short time it took to get permission. We know that Sister M. Innocentia was very satisfied with the workmanship of the figurine Hum 55.

**Q. Why was it temporarily withdrawn from production in January 1999?**

A. There is no information on reasons why it was temporarily withdrawn

from production. Usually those decisions are made in marketing department for various reasons.

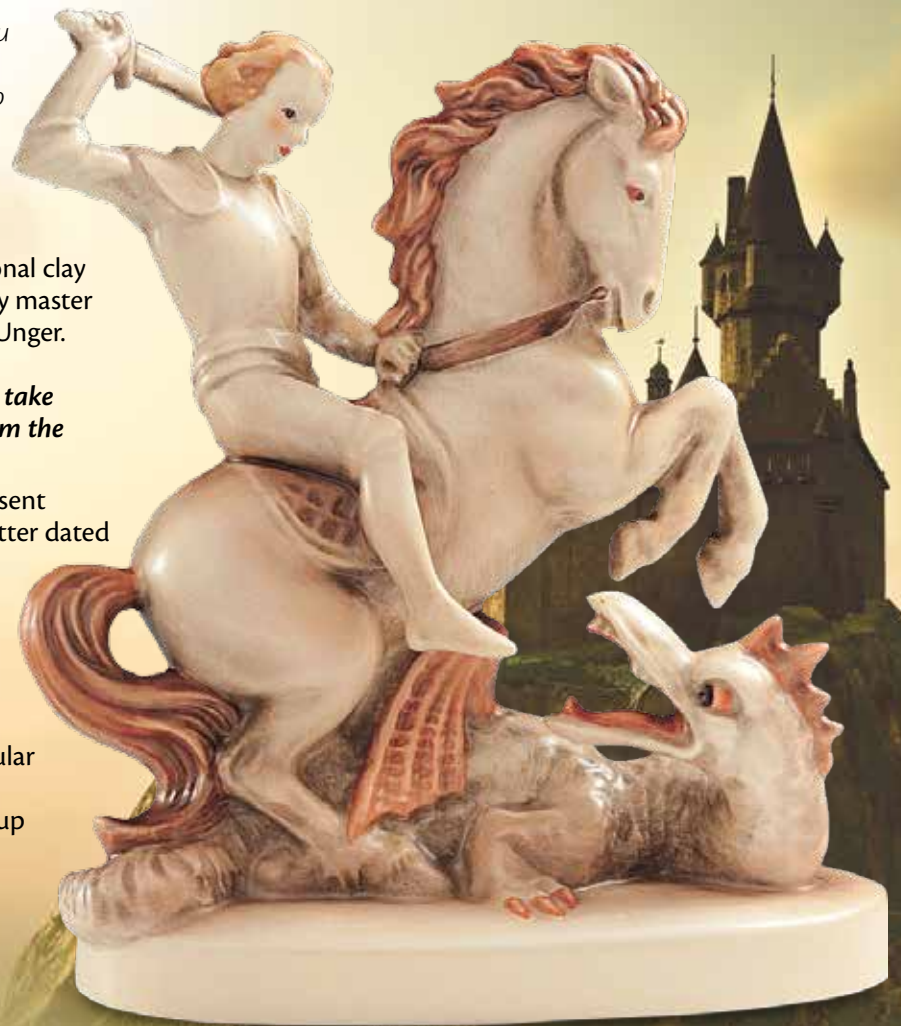
**Q. Are there any future plans to produce it again (last appeared with TMK 7)?**

A. Currently there are no plans to produce the figurine.

**Q. How many molds did it take to create it?**

A. St. George was made with five molds.

*Saint George, Hum 55*





# Dance for Joy!

We can't think of a moment quite as romantic as when a bride and groom meet on the dance floor for the first time as husband and wife.

We can't think of a moment quite as romantic as when bride and groom meet on the dance floor for the first time as husband and wife. A new M.I. Hummel figurine, *First Dance*, reveals such a loving pair dressed in traditional Bavarian wedding costume – a dirndl for the bride, lederhosen for the groom – taking those first shy steps together.

Don't be surprised if *First Dance* gives you a tender tug at the heartstrings and stirs fond memories of your own wedding day. What could make a more perfect wedding or anniversary gift than a figurine depicting that magical moment? See it on retailers' shelves this fall, or at [www.HummelGifts.com](http://www.HummelGifts.com).



## Partners in Excellence

The M.I. Hummel brand partners with a variety of companies to create delightful products featuring our motifs. These licensed items are carefully selected for craftsmanship and attention to detail, and members who attend the Convention will have an opportunity to admire many of them up close.

In addition to Reutter miniature porcelain pieces, described on pages 8-9 of this issue, there are many more imaginative products available, from King Werk beer steins to ARS Edition books and calendars, from Reddy paper goods to religious items from Christian Brands. You will also find Hummel-themed, hand-crafted jewelry from Fenton Art Glass.



If you can't make it to the convention, don't worry – we'll feature these fine-quality partner products in upcoming issues of INSIGHTS. And you can shop for some of them online at [www.HummelGifts.com](http://www.HummelGifts.com).

It's a chance to expand your love of Hummel beyond the traditional and surround yourself with the motifs you love in different ways. So start browsing!

*Bless This Child* assorted  
Hummel Christian Gifts

### Publishing Notes

**Extra Copies:** Additional copies of INSIGHTS are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Certain issues are out of print. Photocopies of these issues are available. All requests should be mailed to Dept. IN c/o the Club; include a check or money order, along with your membership number, for \$3 per issue to cover handling charges. Please indicate volume and number of issue and include your phone number. Allow 4 weeks for delivery.

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### Product List

<b>Front Cover, Pages 2 and 7:</b>		
Fly Away, Hum 2366, Item 1000211, 4.75"	\$350	<b>NEW</b>
<b>Page 3:</b>		
A Day For Fun, Hum 2317/B, Item 1000216, 4.25"	\$270	<b>NEW</b>
First Place, Hum 2357, Item 1000252, 5.25" with Winner's Platform	\$250	<b>NEW</b>
Bee My Friend?, Hum 2300, 4.25"	FREE with Membership	
<b>Pages 13:</b>		
Good Shepherd Holy Water Font, Hum 35, Item 1000258, 2.50" W x 4.75" L	\$99	<b>NEW</b>
<b>Pages 16:</b>		
Little Miss Mail Carrier, Hum 2120, Item 1000245, 4.75"	\$190	
<b>Pages 18:</b>		
St. George, Hum 55, 6.75"	N/A	
<b>Pages 19:</b>		
First Dance, Hum 2364, Item 1000225, 4.75" (Fall 2015)	\$550	<b>NEW</b>
<b>Back Cover:</b>		
Who Are You?, Hum 2295, 4.25"	FREE with Membership	
Bee My Friend?, Hum 2300, 4.25"	FREE with Membership	<b>NEW</b>
Honey Bee, Hum 2368, Item 1010129, 4.25"	\$195	<b>NEW</b>
Honey Blossom, Hum 2369, Item 1010130, 4.25" (Fall 2015)	\$195	<b>NEW</b>
Beehive Garden Scape, Item 6020001, 7.50" W x 4.50" L x 5.25" H" (Fall 2015)	\$80	<b>NEW</b>



# The Beehive Collection

## M.I. HUMMEL CLUB EXCLUSIVE

The chance to own Member's Exclusive figurines is a coveted privilege, and this year's selection is truly delightful. To match your most recent Club Gifts, **Who Are You?** and **Bee My Friend?**, we have created two Exclusives featuring friendly bumblebees, **Honey Bee** and **Honey Blossom**. Each is a beautiful example of M.I. Hummel artistry. To showcase all four Beehive Collection figurines, we offer a place for these children to play, the **Beehive Garden Scape**, available in the Fall. It's a special complement to a charming Collection!

**FREE**  
Beehive Garden Scape  
with purchase of both  
Honey Blossom and  
Honey Bee



### **Beehive Garden Scape**

*The Beehive Collection*

*Made in Asia*

6020001 7.50" W x 4.50" L x 5.25" H

Price \$80

(Fall 2015)

### **Honey Blossom (girl)**

*The Beehive Collection*

*Made in Germany*

1010130 Hum 2369

4.25" Price \$195

(Fall 2015)

### **Honey Bee (boy)**

*The Beehive Collection*

*Made in Germany*

1010129 Hum 2368

4.25" Price \$195

**Complete Your Beehive Collection Today – Call Member Services at 609-400-1647!**



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