SMURF COLLECTORS CLUB
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NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 5
SUMMER 1987

Dear Smurf Collector,

As we go to press, at the start of our second year, membership renewal is very encouraging. Also, many new members have come on board. We are hoping to double our membership this year. We plan to increase our office staff.

All of our members' suggestions for our Newsletter have been noted and we will attempt to publish as many articles as we can this year to satisfy all our collectors' requests.

The article we published in our last issue, "A Club Member's Smurfing Saga," has met with a great deal of approval. We would enjoy publishing more stories. Let's hear from you! We need your input! Have you had a funny or interesting experience you can tell us about? Share it with us! WRITE! WRITE! WRITE! WRITE!

To dispel rumors that Schleich is out of business, we wish to explain briefly what is happening to the company in West Germany. Schleich has had serious financial problems. But has regrouped and the managers have been given the opportunity to bring the company out of the red. To the best of our knowledge, according to our reliable West German source, the factory is open and busy at work!

We will keep you posted as we receive word from West Germany. The last information we received was that the factory IS working on new Smurf molds. What they will be is unknown to us at the moment. Maybe, we will see a new marking as well!

The name of the company is now SCHLEICH-SPIELZEUG-VERTRIEBS.

In answer to many requests asking what an injected mold color means, we will try to explain how a Smurf is made. It is a fairly lengthly procedure, but we will attempt to simplify it for you.

Step 1- Schleich artists make a drawing or sketch. This sketch then becomes the basis for the sculptor to work from.

Step 2- The sculptor then makes a plaster or wax model.

Step 3- The steel engraver then makes a steel mold of the Smurf. This is the injection mold, commonly called the tool.

Step 4- When the injection mold (TOOL) is completed it is placed into the injection molding machine and the molds are filled with the rubber-like material (PVC) that Smurfs are made of.

At this point, more explanation is needed. Most Smurfs are injected with WHITE PVC, making the entire piece white, requiring all other colors to be painted. Papa Smurfs are usually injected with RED PVC, making the entire piece red, and then all other colors are painted. On occassion, other pieces have been injected in different colors such as yellow, blue, pink etc. and then painted..... for example: Devil, Jungle, Pink Baby with Rattle. The color a mold is injected in is usually the color of the bottom of your figurine (refer back to Issue III, Auction Block, Item #118 -Emperor. You will note that this is one of the rarer pieces having been injected in yellow).

Step 5- The Smurfs are then removed from the mold and sent to the paint shop.

Step 6- The figurine is meticulously hand painted to ensure its final detailed appearence. This hand painting process is what causes our hundreds of color variations.

Note: Approximately 3 months are required to make a figurine from a sketch.

The steel engravers work with special tools manufactured in Schleich's own plant.

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4

Step 6

The same injected mold process was used in all Smurf factories, Hong Kong, Portugal, Sri Lanka and Macaw. At times a piece would be made in one country and then painted in another. Example: You may find the markings "Made in Portugal, Painted in Sri Lanka."

Collectors' Comments

Dear Suzanne;

I keep seeing the name "BULLY" mentioned in the Newsletter. Some of these pieces seem to be highly collectible. Could you please tell me why?

Carol L. from ILL.

Dear Carol;

From 1973-1978 Mr. Bully held the license to produce Smurfs. He was somehow related to Mr. Schleich and used the Schleich factory to produce his Smurfs. Mr. Bully produced Smurfs using the Schleich molds without changing the markings. At times he did put his name on them. On a few occassions, Mr. Bully made new molds and these are highly collectable (see rare variations in previous Newsletters).

Remember when Exxon was Esso? Each time a name changes, anything with the old name becomes immediately collectible, although collectors frequently take years to recognize this fact.

Although Mr. Bully produced Smurfs with Schleich markings, and Schleich with Bully markings, Bully markings, in most cases, are highly collectible because it is the old name and more scarce.

Special Note: Please do not submit Bully pieces for the Auction Block. Write to the Club first and tell us what you would like to submit!!!!!!!!!!

To all members who are collecting Bully Trademarks and who have the Club's list, please add the following to the list.

091 Skier 155 Traffic 154 Patrol Crossing
20498 Johan 499 Peewit

For all of our members who are interested in collecting Smurfs with different country markings, the Club now has available a list of every number ever issued (to the best of our knowledge) with the country markings of Portugal and Sri Lanka. Send a S.A.S.E. for these lists.

NEW LICENSED SMURF ITEM

Be on the look out for Smurf PEZ Candy dispensers. This is the newest Smurf item on the market. Licensed by Wallace Berrie, 1986 Peyo. If you cannot locate this item in your area, drop us a note and we will attempt to find them for you. Point of special interest, all PEZ dispensers are considered "Collectible Items". Made by Mass Wood Mfg. Corp.

REMINDER - It is again Flea Market and Garage Sale time! If you don't see Smurfs or Smurfy items ask for them! Many of our members have been very successful. We just received word from a member that he found a Flirting Smurfette at a Flea Market.

Welcome aboard, John Thomas, newborn son of Club Member Theresa Z. of Conn.

An emergency meeting was called to discuss this weighty matter (8 lbs. 8 oz.) and Board members have, in view of our newest member's tender age (arrived on April 21 st), agreed that he be an honorary member. This ruling subject to change if, in future, Baby John becomes a wheelin' dealin' Smurf collector.

Our love and congratulations to Theresa and her growing family.

Variations: Please note, when we skip a number it is because there is no variation known to us, If YOU have one, please let the Club know about it.

ADDED VARIATION:
#20033 Clown: No red stripe on pants, Black mouth instead of Red

NEW NUMBERS:

#20037 Doctor: Blue lines on Thermometer
Red and Black lines on Thermometer

#20038 Singer: Yellow Songsheet
Yellow Gold Songsheet (Darker shade Yellow)

#20039 Mallet: Dark Brown Mallet
Light Brown Mallet

#20040 Gift: Yellow package
Orangy package
Dark Green Flower Stem
Light Green Flower Stem
Variations in the painting of the flower will be found.

#20041 Hiker: Yellow Jacket
Orangy Jacket

#20042 Chef: Dark Brown Spoon
Light Brown Spoon

#20043 Digger: See rare variation Newsletter I

#20044 Lover: Large Flower
Small Flower
Variations in the mold of the flower will be found.

#20045 Artist: Variations of colors on the paint palet and brushes will be found.
Raised colors on the palet te
Smooth colors on the palet te

#20046 Emperor: White injected mold, White hat, Gold Crown & Gown, Orange Cape
White injected mold, Gold hat, Yellow Crown & Gown, Red Cape
White injected mold, Gold hat, Orange Crown & Gown, Red Cape
Note: The next two variations are Yellow injected molds.
All yellow details are NOT painted.
Injected Yellow mold, White Hat, Yellow Crown & Gown, Orange Cape
Injected Yellow mold, Gold Hat, Yellow Crown & Gown, Red Cape

#20047 Trumpeter: Yellow horn
Yellow Gold horn (Darker shade Yellow)
Tan Horn

#20048 Flautist: Burgundy holes on flute
Black holes on flute
Orangy jacket
Red jacket

#20049 Tennis: Red Racket
Yellow Racket

#20051 Bowler: Red Ball
Orange Ball

Buy~Sell~Trade

AD #

42 WANTED - Smurf mugs in the "Smurfs Travel America" Series. Will somebody PLEASE HELP!? Esp. want San Fran., Chicago, Texas! Mint Cond. only.

43 WANTED - Tumblers in the promotional series given out by Hardee's (possibly in 1982) 6 or 8 in set. Given out mostly S.W. U.S. I believe.

44 WANTED - Stainless steel eating utensils (cereal spoons, knife, fork & spoon sets, etc.) for children. Send list & prices % Smurf Club. Want boxed in mint cond.

45 FOR SALE- Smurf Wrapping paper, three different designs. 100" long 25 Sq. Feet.

46 FOR SALE- Smurf Mini Storybooks by Random House. Send for list of titles.

47 FOR SALE- Soft Rubbery 1" Smurf Charms. Only available on European Market. Two styles only, Torchbearer in Red or Yellow and Sleepwalker in Yellow, Red, Green.

48 WANTED- Smurf Books or any Smurf material in foreign language. French, Italian, German etc.

49 FOR SALE - Smurf Mini Comics. Package of three. Two different sets. Mint.

HOW TO ANSWER AN AD....REPLY TO THE AD NUMBER AND SEND TO THE CLUB WITH A S.A.S.E.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN AD....SEND YOUR AD TO THE CLUB AND IT WILL BE PUBLISHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Auction Block

Item # 153 Smurf #20052 CLEANER Made in West Germany Good Condition
WITH NATIONAL EMBLEM ON BIB OF PANTS Opening Bid; $11.00

Item # 154 Smurf #20090 JESTER Good Condition
"BULLY" Opening Bid: $ 6.00

Item # 155 Smurf #20033 CLOWN Made in Portugal Mint Condition
NO RED STRIPE ON PANTS, BLACK MOUTH Opening Bid; $17.00

Item # 156 Smurf #20162 Waiter Made in West Germany Mint Condition
SILVER TRAY, RED GLASS Opening Bid: $16.00

Item # 157 Smurf #20081 TYROLESE Made in West Germany Mint Condition
"BULLY" ORANGE PIPE & FEATHER Opening Bid: $10.00

Item # 158 Baby #20202 with RATTLE West German Variation Mint Condition
VERY BRIGHT PINK, DARK BLUE SKIN Opening Bid: $8.00

Item # 159 Smurfette #20194 Jogger Made in West Germany Mint Condition
SUIT IS DIFFERENT SHADES OF COLOR THAN THE Opening Bid: $6.00
HONG KONG PIECE. PEACH AND LAVENDER.
SMALL ROUND BASE IS ALSO DIFFERENT

Item # 160 Smurf #20136 PUMPKIN Made in Hong Kong Good Condition
Opening Bid: $20.00

Item #161 Smurfette #20034 FLIRTING SMURFETTE Fair Condition
"BULLY" SEE NEWSLETTER 11 Opening Bid: $10.00
Paint Chip on Nose

Item #162 Smurf #20037 DOCTOR Made in Hong Kong Good Condition
BLACK & RED LINES ON THERMOMETER Opening Bid: $9.00

Item #163 Smurf #20027 THINKER Good Condition
SMALL VERSION HAND ON FOOT NOT ON LEG Opening Bid: $12.00

Item #164 SUPER #40216 FIREMAN Made in West Germany Mint in Box
GREY HAT, BLACK SUIT Opening Bid: $12.00

Item #165 Smurf #20021 SLEEPWALKER Made in Portugal Mint Condition
GREEN TASSEL ON HAT Opening Bid: $11.00

Item #166 Smurf #20012 MECHANIC Made in Portugal Mint Condition
Bright Green Overalls, Painted GREY Wrench Opening Bid: $15.00

Item #167 Smurf #20110 HAIRDRESSER Made in West Germany Mint Condition
"BULLY" Opening Bid: $6.00

Item #168 Smurf #20092 Conductor West German Variation Mint Condition
"BULLY" Opening Bid: $10.00

RESULTS OF OUR LAST "AUCTION BLOCK": CLOSED APRIL 30, 1987

Item #133 Small Angry	Sold For: $35.00	Item #143 Angler	No Bid
Item #134 Footballer	Sold For: $37.00	Item #144 Field Hockey	Sold For:$20.00
Item #135 Nurse	Sold For: $49.00	Item #145 Archer	Sold For:$21.00
Item #136 Jogger	Sold For: $12.00	Item #146 Angel	Sold For:$12.00
Item #137 Heart	Sold For: $25.00	Item #147 Devil	Sold For:$13.50
Item #138 Green Wreath	Sold For: $49.00	Item #148 Smfette.w Baby "	" :$12.00
Item #139 Gargamel w Net	Sold For: $15.00	Item #149 Smfette Soccer "	" :$12.00
Item #140 Motorcross	Sold For: $14.00	Item #150 Rare Digger	Sold For:$85.00
Item #141 Mermaid	Sold For: $28.00	Item #151 Super Angler	Sold For:$30.00
Item #142 Baby w Blks.	Sold For: $18.00	Item #152 Mechanic	Sold For:$25.00

AUCTION BIDDING TERMS

1- Mail in Bid Forms MUST BE USED. NO BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN LETTERS, NO PHONE IN BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED. If bid forms are needed send a S.A.S.E. to the Club.
2- Offers to "Top All Other Bids" will NOT BE ACCEPTED!
3- Winning bids MUST BE HONERED by bidders.
4- Invoices will be mailed to all winning bidders on the day following the close of the Auction.
5- Payment must be received within 10 days, or the item will go to the next highest bidder.
6- Tie bids will be determined by the earliest POSTMARK. If Postmarks are the same, each tie bidder will be notified to re-bid.
7- No returns WILL BE PERMITTED FOR ANY REASON after settlement is made with our consignors.
8- FIRST TIME PURCHASERS: USE BANK OR POSTAL MONEY ORDERS TO AVOID DELAY.
9- Results of the Auction Block will be published in our next Newsletter.

BIDDING ON ITEMS IN THIS ISSUE, CLOSES JULY 30,1987

HOW TO SUBMIT A PIECE FOR AUCTION

1- All pieces to be listed in our NEXT AUCTION BLOCK MUST be sent to the Club Before August 15,1987.
2- State the Price you are asking as your OPENING BID.
3- Please submit $1.00 per item for handling and postage. Your item will NOT be listed on the AUCTION BLOCK without this payment.
4- A FEE of 10% of the selling price of your piece will be charged to SELLER to help offset the expenses of the CLUB.

AUCTION BLOCK BID FORM

NAME_____ DATE_____

ADDRESS_____

_____

ITEM #	SMURF #	SMURF NAME	MY BID IS:
			$
			$
			$
			$
			$
			$

----------Cut-line----------

AUCTION BLOCK BID FORM

NAME_____ DATE_____

ADDRESS_____

_____

ITEM #	SMURF#	SMURF NAME	MY BID IS:
			$
			$
			$
			$
			$
			$