



Small Talk

National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts

Region N2, Winter 2015–16

<http://nameregionn2.org>

From Your Regional Coordinator

I hope you all have had an active fall in Minis. NAME Day is over and do you know what next year's NAME Day will be? See it all here in this newsletter. GOOD SAM is over and, WOW!, what a busy show that was this year. Did you get there? And CHAMPS, I didn't make that show but heard it was really good this year.

I am not aware of any events in January, February at this point so maybe your group would want to sponsor something???

Recent Board Meeting summary reports are in this issue, as well as other news. Keep on reading what our clubs and areas are doing these days.

I was recently at the Philadelphia Show (really in Cherry Hill, NJ) in November where they always allow us to put on "NAME" Night. This is an evening for anyone attending the show—not just NAME members and NAME provides free Make 'n Takes, Demonstrations, Ice Cream Bar (courtesy of Kim Sher, show promoter and NAME), Goodie bags, Photo Booth, Door Prizes, Bingo and all round fun. It was a great evening. The show was amazing and this year was NAME's turn to put on the auctions, both Silent and Live Auctions. Many, many auction pieces were donated and the auctions went very well for everyone.

I wish you all an amazing Holiday season and look forward to a 2016 full of mini activity.

Barbara Thornton-Hill
Regional Coordinator, Region N2

Welcome Chair, JoAnn Jacot

I got started doing miniatures in the late 1970s when my nine-year-old daughter got interested in miniatures. I took my first miniature workshop at the Itty Bitty miniature shop that used to be in Reno, Nevada. We went every Saturday to work on a two-story building that we built from the kit the owner had made for it. Found out it was a good thing I had a good salary as the secretary for the Washoe County School District Board of Trustees. So besides paying for the kit, we frequently went into her shop to buy items for it! I made mine as a toy shop with a teddy bear bedroom on the second floor. As time went on there, the owner and her family started doing exhibits of miniatures at the senior center. About that time they started forming NAME clubs in the Reno/Sparks area. I joined one in Reno and joined NAME then and have been a member ever since.

In 1989 I married my current husband, who lived in Redwood City, California. I had gone to the Good Sam Show in the Bay area and there was a sign up on a table there for a new miniature club in Redwood City! So I signed up and was in it until we moved back to Nevada. Fortunately, there was a miniature club in Carson City, that I joined. We still are meeting and I have been the coordinator for several years now. We don't have officers, so I'm the contact person and do an e-newsletter each month, sent to members about the next meeting.

My first NAME houseparty was in Sacramento, California. I have been to many of them over the years, but haven't been able to afford going now that I am retired. I've been doing smaller scales for several years now since I was running out of room from the bigger ones! Have been an active member on several miniature Yahoo groups. Have been on the committee for several online miniature conventions. And am on the committee for the 2017 Sacramento Houseparty. I'm pleased that I was asked to be the welcome chair for our region. Hope to do a good job at doing it.

Mini Hugs,
JoAnn



N2 Website Info

We have a great photo gallery of fellow members' miniature projects. There are quite a few photos of the exhibits at the CHAMPS Show and Good Sam. Here is the link: <http://nameregionn2.org/category/gallery/>

You can also go to Member Gallery and receive updates via email when new photos are added to the gallery. There is a box at the bottom of the web page to add an email address. It says "get updates via email."

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Board Summary Report September 24, 2015

General Fund Status:

Budgeted Income for the year:	\$255,950.00
Income YTD (through August 31, 2015):	\$120,386.28 (47.0% of budgeted income)
Budgeted Expenses for the year:	\$255,350.00
Expenses YTD (through August 31, 2015):	\$ 83,6767.37 (32.8% of budgeted expenditures)

This has resulted in a year to date profit of \$36,718.91 versus a budgeted profit of \$600.00. In addition to the Indianapolis per capita income of \$26,644.00 and the Madison HP profit of \$14,456.05, the excess income was again assisted by unrestricted donations of \$11,369.58.

Fundraising. Planning is continuing for the tortoise and hare race for the spring of 2016.

Estate Position. After reviewing the letters of interest and resumes submitted for the Estate position, the Board selected Jenn Swager to fill this position.

Membership. As of August 31, 2015, membership stands at 4095. One new membership initiative is just beginning to get underway. The idea is to form Pods which are clubs that meet through internet connections and/or face-to-face interaction. The intent is to promote connecting with members who share the same interests but who do not necessarily have clubs available geographically. More details will be available later.

Clubs. We currently have a total of 232 NAME Clubs.

Conventions/Houseparties.

- Seattle will not have a wait list of dealers, so in order to offset a portion of the anticipated shortage in budget due to dealer attrition, the dealer fee for Seattle will be \$235.
- Policy 703B Dealer Selection Process was amended to clarify that it is the Selection Committee Chair that directs the Selection Committee.
- Policy 706 National Pre-Convention Workshop Selection Committee and Policy 707 National Registered Workshop Selection Committee were amended to further clarify the responsibilities of the of the Pre-Convention Selection Workshop Chair and the Registered Workshop Selection Chair.

Technology Report. Work has begun to set up an official NAME Pinterest page. Our NAME Facebook page has over 1100 “likes” and the NAME Facebook Group has grown to 2325 members.

Long Range Plan. Work is continuing on the long range plan for NAME.

Board Summary Report October 22, 2015

General Fund Status:

Budgeted Income for the year:	\$255,950.00
Income YTD (through September 30, 2015):	\$131,048.99 (51.2% of budgeted income)
Budgeted Expenses for the year:	\$255,350.00
Expenses YTD (through September 30, 2015):	\$105,761.78 (41.4% of budgeted expenditures)

This has resulted in a year to date profit of \$25,287.21 versus a budgeted profit of \$600.00.

Fundraising. Planning is continuing for the tortoise and hare race for the spring of 2016. Over 400 items are available for

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auction at the Philadelphia Miniaturia this year. The prototype for the 2016 NAME Day will be on display.

Estates. The auction site is up and running again with the current auctions ending on Saturday, October 24th. More are scheduled. Jenn Swager has added her first 'blog' on the NAME website. By mid-November, we hope to have estate items for sale on Etsy. NAME received \$591 from Dolores Kelly for estate items she sold belonging to Nancy Rosasco.

Nominations. The Nominating Committee has worked diligently to seek members to run for office on the NAME Board of Trustees. Following are the nominations for the 2016 elections:

President: Barbara Thornton-Hill

1st Vice President: Rhonda Keef

2nd Vice President: Amy Rauch

Secretary: Alician Pearce

Treasurer: Stan Boyd

Members at Large: Jane Sanem
Roy Moore
Marie Bird

Membership. As of September 30, 2015, membership stands at 4132. One new membership initiative is just beginning to get underway. Two Pods (clubs that meet through internet connections and/or face-to-face interaction) have been formed. One is on Skype and the other on Google. The intent is to promote connecting with members who share the same interests but who do not necessarily have clubs available geographically. Roy Moore has added a more personal touch by making personal phone calls to those whose membership is about to expire.

Clubs. We currently have a total of 227 NAME Clubs.

Conventions/Houseparties.

The Board approved a contract for Scranton, PA to host the 2017 NAME Small Scales Houseparty "Sleepy Hollow".

Technology. Marti Icenogle and Preble McDaniel have teamed up to create an official Pinterest page for NAME. More information will follow later.

Long Range Plan. Work is continuing on the long range plan for NAME.

Special Events. The prototype is completed for the 2016 NAME Day.



ABCs of Miniatures

Sacramento Regional Houseparty
March 22–26, 2017

Our Committee met at the Good Sam show and we had a wonderful discussion of activities and details. The Thursday night event promises to be amazing. You won't want to miss it. More info on that coming in the near future. Souvenirs and gifts will also be amazing!!!

The theme is "ABCs of Miniatures," with emphasis on tools and techniques in the workshops and activities. This will be primarily a 1" and 1/4" Houseparty but 1/2" and 1/44" will be juried for workshops, dealers and roundtables just as every other scale. Souvenirs, doorprizes, tables and swaps will be only in 1" and 1/4" and you will have to declare a scale when you register. This is a new concept and we hope you will all enjoy it.

The Houseparty will be held at the Doubletree Hotel on Arden, across from the Arden Fair Mall. We have wonderful facilities and are looking forward to a fabulous time for everyone.

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State Rep Reports

East Bay/Tri-Valley

State Reps Bobbie Schmidt & Will Thomas

The 19th CHAMPS Show had another successful year for the Children's Hospital. Congrats to Diane Walter and Committee for their hard work! The Mini Dreamers of Pinole are taking a little breather after the CHAMPS Show, although they did manage to squeeze in a mini project using Dollar Store pumpkins with various themes. They came out very cute. I really need to go to the Dollar Store. Some of the club members attended the NAME Day event and some Shop Windows were completed. Always a good thing.

Many old and new friends came through the door at CHAMPS. The Kubricans of Tru2Scale stopped by the NAME table and mentioned that they are reoffering the Chalk-painted Collector's Cabinet Workshop on Dec 5, 2015 in Petaluma. Great chance for a gift/project before the holidays. Of course, Good Sam was another mini destination event. How much fun was that! I even met a new friend from Washington State: our very own NAME Gazette Editor Dorothy Hansen! What a neat lady. The vendor list is more diverse than ever, making it harder and harder to make purchasing selections. But what fun...

Hope you all will have a great holiday season with lots of mini gifties.

—Bobbie Schmidt
artbum@aol.com

Delta Doolittles: Individual diversions took precedent over Delta Doolittles club's group efforts in recent weeks. Activity resumed in November. The club members meet for project work on the fourth Friday or Saturday of each month.

—Will Thomas

North Coastal

State Rep Laurie Parker

Redwood Small World: Just a little note to bring everyone up to date on what we do way up here in Northern California. We held a fabulous Play Day in March at which

we constructed attic room boxes. This event was titled "What's in Your Attic." What a riot. You would be surprised what people keep in their attics, even witches! Then we displayed these beauties along with other wild creations at The Humboldt County Fair. Because of our exposure we have signed up a new member who says this is the most fun group that she belongs to. At Halloween time one of our members hosted a "Witches Tea." We received the following invitation:

"Come play with me
at a witches tea,

Luncheon will be served and we will make hats.

So don your witch hat
And load up your bat
Jump on your broom
Let's make an heirloom!

This was part of our regular monthly meeting and there were 10 of us in attendance. We are looking forward to our next two holiday themed meetings to complete a very successful and fun year. Hope everyone has as much fun as we do.

—Gail Freeman

Marin, Napa Valley

Open Position

San Francisco/ N. Peninsula

Open Position

Central CA

State Rep Margaret Gordus

Our Little Mini Club: After working on unfinished projects, we are now planning to tackle a Wine Tasting Room.

Five of our members went to the NAME Day workshop in Sacramento put on by the "Small Design" club. It was a very pleasant, relaxing, FUN day. Thank you gals for a job well done.

Already looking forward to next year! Margaret spoke about "The World of Miniatures," using her miniature roomboxes as

centerpieces at October Paradise Elks Wife Luncheon.

Carlene Brown and Vegie Maclean had a successful workshop and sales table at the Good Sam show.

—Margaret Gordus

Fresno

State Rep Barbara Fairbanks

Tinker Belles: The Tinker Belles from Fresno wanted a "small" project to do and we all bought The Three Bears from Grandtline. What a fun project! Most of us are done and looking forward to the next project.

We had a great NAME DAY with a lot of participation. Each one is coming out completely different. Linda Balabin took pictures that day and will send them to Pat Frost. When we are all done, we will take another picture of each of the boxes.

Debbie Young is coming for a December 2 and 3 workshop. She will be teaching her Brick Bungalow. The workshop is open to all miniaturists. If you will be coming please let me know to make sure there will be a house kit for you. 559-907-6051

We are also making plans for Luci Hanson to teach her bookends in January or February. All are welcome we just need to know if you would like to join us.

With all of these projects to finish, we will have lots to do all 2016.

—Barbara Fairbanks

Sacramento, Central Valley, Sierra Foothills

Open Position

Itty Bittys: Itty Bittys meet once a month. We take turns during the year to be hostess and provide a small project to share with all.

Recently many of our members have gone on different "field trips" to local Estate and Antique sales. We've got to include the C.H.A.M.P.S show and sale plus many took the train to the Good Sam Show in San Jose.

Many N.A.M.E. Days were held in our area, including one hosted by "By Small Design" titled "Window Shopping" Potluck Event. Some our members belong to

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this Club and did a wonderful job to provide us with a great day of gluing and eating.

We've had a wonderful California summer but NO rain has come to our area yet. We're waiting for El Nino to fill our lakes, rivers and end the drought.

—Karebn Sandick

Gold Country Miniature Society: Gold Country Miniature Society was treated to a "Dollhouse for your dollhouse" project. It was designed and cut by Connie Younker. She said she used up all her stash of Grandt Line windows to make each house unique. Now it is up to the members to decorate and fill with teeny tiny 1/144 scale furniture. Especially nice for a little girls bedroom or Christmas scene.

—Dawn Cecil



Connie's dollhouse for a dollhouse project

Quarter Persuasion: We have been busy with our quarter scale club. Last month, Dawn Cecil taught us how to make accessories for our houses. We made lamps, plants and dishes out of pretty paper. It is amazing what you can make out of beads and wire and tiny things. Dawn is a great teacher. In November, Connie Younker will be teaching us how to make Steampunk furniture. It is something new to all of us but very popular.

We will be planning our Christmas party for December. That will be a lot of fun.

Have a wonderful winter.

—Pattie Hong, President

No. Nevada, Tahoe

State Rep Mary Ann Van Buskirk

Tahoe Miniacs: Things are rather quiet right now. We are gearing up with ideas for another "Summer at Tahoe workshop" and making plans.

Tahoe Miniacs is attending the NAME Day workshop in Sacramento and looking forward to seeing everyone before the winter sets in.

Diane Baumflek and I work for El Dorado county and when the building employees had a Halloween party recently, we joined in on the pumpkin carving contest. Diane took the lead and we submitted a miniature setting within the pumpkin. she used a Christmas ornament of Charlie Brown dressed in a Halloween costume, standing in the great pumpkin patch. We were greatly pleased to win first place! You can incorporate miniatures into every phase of your life.

Have a great holiday season. Mark your calendar for next August and another workshop.

—Mary Ann Van Buskirk

South Bay & Peninsula

State Reps Barbara Adams and Lynne Hoffman

Fall is always a busy time in the south bay/peninsula. In October, there were NAME Day workshops and get-togethers. Do read about those in the club reports.

Showcase of Miniatures celebrated its 40th birthday this year. Each attendee was given a "birthday gift" of a 40th birthday kit from the show committee. Friday classes, exhibits, salesroom, children's classes, white elephant sales, silent auction, "Tools and Techniques," raffles, and Monday workshops made for a fun weekend. It was quite the "birthday bash!"

The Wee Houser's had their annual Pot-Luck and Flea Market in November. It's a good time to buy and sell minis and to enjoy the company of local miniaturists.

The Mini Attic's annual exhibit at the Redwood City Library runs through December. Try to visit!

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

—Lynn Hoffman

MiniCals: MiniCals spent a busy summer gearing up for our NAME Day event with TTLG. It was once again a successful event with a fun finished product. Calling it "Ye Old Shoppe" meant it could be anything, but our plan was an antique shop with lots of surprises for attendees to fill it. Following the event the two clubs put together NAME grab bags with all our extra gifts for the NAME table at Good Sam.

Most of us were very involved once again with Good Sam and had a great weekend and also exhibited our NAME Day project. We purchased a large window casement at the white elephant sale for each member. Judy Pick built us a back for it and we are decorating for different holidays and plan to exhibit them at next year's show.

A couple of months rest and we will be up and running with the monthly spring workshops and our Spring Fling.

We are offering a darling lemonade stand January 16, building/weathering it and dressing your boy/girl vendor. Space is limited so you must sign up ahead.

If you saw the PlaneTree exhibit from the Good Sam committee, you saw Brenda Hough's little box with a "shabby chic" door/table/shelf. That is our February 27 project with a botanical flair. Space is limited.

March 19 will be The Spring Fling Pot Luck and Flea Market. Your \$6 prepaid or \$8 at the door and a food dish will get you one table to sell whatever you like or just come to shop, enjoy other miniaturists and eat yummy foods.

April 23 and May 21 is our venture into the world of 1/4 inch scale. We will be building/furnishing a ski lodge. This is by special request from many 1/4 inchers, so sign up early as space will be limited.

June 18 will be our Roundtable day. If you would like to be a teacher please let us know ASAP and send a sample or picture.

As usual, at this point in time we cannot set the workshop prices as we are still working and gathering materials, but our workshops are always very reasonable. Much of our instruction and shared supplies happens on workshop day and we are finding it difficult to make kits for those who cannot attend. This year the kits will only be offered in class. Our goal is to do these projects in a fun environment with

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other miniaturists and share our ideas.

A basic tool kit with a gluing jig and a bag lunch is all that is required. If there are special tools needed you will be notified a couple weeks before class. We also welcome shoebox sales at our workshop lunch break. We are looking forward to the Sacramento Houseparty in March 2017 and we are part of the door prize committee. We hope you will help us out and send us those door prizes and will also attend.

Any questions or comments on workshops: **Ruth, grouchybeartoo@aol.com**

Through the Looking Glass: Through the Looking Glass in San Jose has had a busy fall working with MiniCals on NAME Day in Morgan Hill and displaying and shopping at Showcase of Miniatures in San Jose.

Our October meeting was our annual miniature Halloween Party with much spooky fun had by all. We are looking forward to the Holidays, our Christmas Party and exchanging tiny gifts with each other at our traditional Twelfth Night Party early in January. Twelfth Night is also our planning meeting and much thought is being given by everyone to mini projects and activities in 2016.

—Barbara Adams

Wee Housers of the Peninsula: By the time you read this our San Mateo flea market will be over for another year. I hope everyone enjoyed the food and bought/sold lots of miniatures.

Two of our members, Moonyeen Moller and Nancy Wantiez, exhibited at the Good Sam show. Their exhibits were so special and I know everyone enjoyed seeing them. Those of us who attended the show had a wonderful time shopping and seeing old friends.

We are looking forward to our Christmas meeting. It includes a dinner out and, of course, a gift exchange. It is a great way to start the holidays.

Happy Miniaturizing in 2016!

—Laura Johnson

Mini Attics: The Mini Attics all agreed that the Good Sam Show was wonderful, and there were many beautifully crafted items to buy. Our Group Exhibit was split between two projects. Marjorie Milani and Diane Phillips exhibited their Name Day dinette booth project from last year. Di-

ane's classic 50s Diner, in warm reds with a juke box, made us all nostalgic for an old fashioned hamburger. Marjorie captured the 40s perfectly in her memory of Blum's Ice Cream Parlor, a popular San Francisco date night destination for many years.

Our other club was to make a scene in a book style box. Billi Cline was inspired by her trip to Botswana and a beautifully illustrated version of Aesop's fable of The Lion and the Mouse. Her box, titled Peaceable Kingdom, unfolded to feature the golden African savannah populated by endearing baby animals drawn to the water hole.

Carol Walls gathered her quarter scale workshops and projects from the popular Salt Lake City NAME convention, La Vie en Rose. Her book project of the same title opened to feature a charming Paris street scene complete with bistro, museum, and a Paris apartment.

World traveler, Brenda Hough, also chose Paris as a theme. Her box, titled Souvenirs of Paris, opened to reveal a shop filled with porcelain figures and miniature books gathered on her trips.

Lynn Miller's sea-themed box created a beach with a quarter-scale lighthouse that had been converted to a summer residence, complete with a pulsing light in the lantern room.

It was a busy year for quarter-scale projects for Lynn. She also exhibited Winter Wedding, a lantern-lit glittery church blan-



Exterior of Lynn Miller's church



Interior of Lynn's church

keted in snow. It caught the eye of a freelance writer, and she was invited to be part of a series featuring miniaturists who work in quarter-inch scale and their collections. The article is scheduled for the 2015 December issue of *Dolls House and Miniature Scene*.

And last, but not least, The Mini Attics will have their annual exhibit of miniatures at the Redwood City Main Library for November and December. If you live in the area, stop by and see our treasures.

—Gerry Silberstein & Lynn Miller

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NAME Day 2016

The next NAME Day project will be a Bunk/Trundle Bed, titled "BEDROOM Part I: Going Bunkers." This will be Part 1 of a 3-year project to complete the furniture for a bedroom. Watch for more information in the Gazette.

NAME Day 2016 will be Saturday, October 1, 2016. NAME Day is always on the first Saturday of October to help kickstart National Dollhouse Miniatures Month. Of course, some groups are unable to hold their event on that exact date because their venues may not be available but the idea is for everyone in NAME to be doing the same project on the same day each year.

MINICALS OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY PRESENTS

Spring Fling Potluck & Flea Market

**SATURDAY, March 19, 2016
10-2 pm**

18665 Madrone Parkway @ M & L Precision
MORGAN HILL, CA

HWY 101 south TO COCHRAN, EXIT RT-first right is Madrone Pkwy

*****DRINKS AND DOOR PRIZES*****

Pre Pay \$ At Door \$8

Send check payable to: Ruth Heisch, 7197 Wooded Lake Drive San Jose, CA 95120

Questions???? 408-997-1004/grouchybeartoo@aol.com

Name N2 Region Calendar

January 29, 2016

Registration Opens
Seattle National Convention
Welcome to My Garden
July 17-24, 2016

N2 January 16, 2016

MiniCals Workshop
Lemonade Stand
Morgan Hill
Info: grouchybeartoo@aol.com

N2 February 27, 2016

MiniCals Workshop
Shabby Chic door/table/shelf
Morgan Hill
Info: grouchybeartoo@aol.com

ARE YOU PLANNING AN ACTIVITY OR EVENT IN YOUR AREA?

Please remember that we have an Events Coordinator who is Leslie Swager (leslie@waveville.net, 209-293-4299). Please contact her regarding your scheduling of regional events so you can be sure there is no conflict with the dates and that we get your events on the calendar.

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