



Small Talk

National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts

Region N2, Summer 2016

<http://nameregionn2.org>

From Your Regional Coordinator

Well, miniatures are busy right now. I'm writing this before the Tortoise and Hare Races but they will be over by the time you receive this newsletter. Sure hope my babies do well. My tortoise McDawdle has been sunning by the pool, eating and getting lazier every day to be sure he can go slower than the others. And my hare, Senor Rapido, can do the track in no time at all. He trains 18 hours/day, racing, weight lifting, etc. He is in great shape. So, I have great hopes for one of the wonderful prizes.

Look in this issue for an exciting announcement about the Sacramento Houseparty in March, 2017. I'm sure you ALL plan to attend that one since it's in our own backyard and there are so many activities to participate in, not to mention meeting old and new friends.

Coming up soon is the Stockton Show at the end of June and the National Convention in Seattle. Please plan to come to the regional meeting in Seattle. I know it's really early on Saturday morning but I would like to see you there. That is followed by a fun workshop at Summer in Tahoe in August, Champs Show in September, NAME Day in October and Good Sam in October. Wow it will be a busy summer and Fall.

Barbara Thornton-Hill
Regional Coordinator, Region N2

Laura Siebert, State Rep for Sacramento, Central Valley and Sierra Foothills



Though I have loved dolls all of my life, I first really got into miniatures at age 12 (in 1981). That is when a wonderful lady named Glenva Conklin started a Miniatures Project in the American River 4-H club (in Carmichael, a suburb of Sacramento). I was in the Miniatures Project for three years, my last three years of 4-H. Oh, the fun we had.

When I married my husband, Michael, and we had our daughter, Mara, my two room boxes came along with me. (A Christmas room box and a little girl's bedroom room box. Well, everyone needs those.) I always hoped to get back into it. I took Mara with me on my occasional visits to The Elegant Dollhouse here in Sacramento. I was the only one enraptured, I'm afraid. Then one day I saw a flyer there at Elegant's—for a new miniature club. I eventually called Renate Winter, and joined at their fourth meeting in April of 2008. Mara graduated high school that June, and immediately moved out to her grandmother's home across town, so I had some free time. The Itty Bitties was my first mini club as an adult, and we have a wonderful time. It is a one inch scale club, and became a NAME club in 2010.

We usually make a small project each meeting. Each member pretty much has a chance to teach once

a year. I redid my first two room boxes, finished two more, and have two I'm working on.

I joined the Quarter Persuasion Club at their second meeting in February of 2013. It's a quarter scale club, (as the name suggests), and I have really grown to enjoy this scale. Each member teaches once or twice a year. We have continuing projects (little houses, etc.) or we teach one or several small items. I had only finished one quarter scale project prior to joining this club. Now I have an additional four that are complete, and several more "in progress." I have found that I like 1:144th scale, too. It's pretty tiny, but I like it. I plan to make a room box in half-inch scale at some point, too. I just want to try it.

Online, I am in the NAME Yahoo group, the Quarter Connection Yahoo group, and the Micro Minis (1:144th scale) Yahoo group. The help from other miniaturists is wonderful, and the projects and printies are THE BEST.

When The Itty Bitties became a NAME club, I joined NAME. I love the Miniature Gazette so much. I search for older issues, too, so I have more ideas for Christmas gifts to make for my mini friends, and projects to teach each year.

I am really excited to be the Sacramento/Central Valley State Rep for the next two and a half years! I want to give back. I was able to help Connie Younker and Darwin Spring a bit when they were State Reps for Sacramento/Central Valley. NAME has given so much to me over the last, well, 35 years, really. In checking back issues, most of the projects Mrs. Conklin taught me and the other 4-H members came straight from the Miniature Gazette. And I have enjoyed my last six years as a NAME club member so very much. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the Sacramento Houseparty in March of 2017 (next year)!

Small Talk

NAME ELECTS A NEW BOARD

Board Elections have been completed and votes counted. The following will be NAME'S Board of Trustees for next year. These people will take office at the National Business Meeting at the NAME Convention in Seattle in July.

President:	Barbara Thornton-Hill	Members At Large:	
1 st Vice President:	Rhonda Keef	Marie Bird	Leslie Swager
2 nd Vice President:	Amy Rauch	Roy Moore	Kim Wood
Secretary:	Alician Pearce	Jane Sanem	
Treasurer:	Stan Boyd	Jan Skuppin	
Past President:	Karen Barone	Dan Stewart	



ABCs of Miniatures

Sacramento Regional Houseparty, March 22–26, 2017

The theme is “ABCs of Miniatures,” with emphasis on tools and techniques in the workshops and activities. This will be primarily a 1" and ¼" Houseparty but ½" 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 ¼" 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.

HOUSEPARTY UPDATE: Registration opens on August 1, 2016. Remember that you will have to designate which scale you will sign up for: 1" or ¼". You will receive your souvenirs in that scale and you will sit at a table that will exchange gifts in that scale.

Now, we have a little surprise to share with you all about one of our souvenirs. It will be a special piece designed by Ruth & Dan Stewart with special artwork to go with it designed by Robin Betterley. It will be given in 1" if you signed up for 1" or ¼" if you signed up for that. Of course, there will be other souvenirs and there will be more to share about those later.

We plan to offer both Roundtable and Mega Roundtable workshops in Sacramento so you will want to think about that too. And wait til you hear about our Thursday night Event. Oops, have to wait til next newsletter.

Barbara Thornton-Hill
Houseparty Chair

CHAMPS Dollhouse and Miniature Show and Sale

This will be CHAMPS Last Show—Come celebrate a great run with us!

September 9–10, 2016
Friday 5–9; Saturday 10–4

El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito 94530

Benefiting Children's Hospital, Oakland
Presented by Mini Dreamers Club and Live Oak Branch

Admission: \$6 adult; Two-day pass \$8; Children 5–12 \$3
No strollers or pets, please!

Ample Parking ☆ Door Prizes ☆ Raffle to benefit Children's Hospital

For more information contact Diane Walter 510-724-0587

Small Talk

State Rep Reports

East Bay/Tri-Valley

**State Reps Bobbie Schmidt
& Will Thomas**

Our deepest sympathy to Will Thomas and family on the death of Nancy Thomas. She was a long time active participant in our miniature world. She will be missed.

I missed the sale at Cooper's Open House and Sale in Benicia (April 30—May 7). Hope that those in attendance came away with wonderful new projects and magical ideas.

Sad Announcement: Diane Walters and the Mini Dreamers of Pinole are announcing that this year, their 20th Anniversary, will be the LAST CHAMPS Show. If you were always going to attend this show, this is the year! Dealer space is available at this writing. Contact Diane for a contract: email: jandi2000@comcast.net or phone at 1-510-724-0587. Let's make sure we have a terrific show this year.

If anyone is interested in taking over this long established show, please call Diane (contact info above). She is very happy to share information. It would be so sad to lose another show in the SF Bay area.

MiniDreamers: The MiniDreamers of Pinole Club is working on CHAMPS Exhibit Room items. If anyone is interested in displaying their creations at the CHAMPS Show, contact Diane (see contact info above).

We are all looking forward to going to Seattle for the NAME National in July. As far as I know Melissa Holmes, Diane Walters, Jen Rich, Jackie Rich and I are going, as are many others from the area, I'm sure. The convention has some exceptional workshops on their schedule. Additionally, we have the various NAME Day Events, Summer at Tahoe and the Stockton Show in our date books. What fun! See you there!

—Bobbie Schmidt
arthum@aol.com

Central CA

State Rep Margaret Gordus

Our Little Mini Club: At our club meet-

ings we have been making items for the centerpieces for our 2017 Regional House-party to be held in Sacramento.

Jana Sindorf finished her Wine Tasting-Room box. Melba Wellsfry exhibited some of her roomboxes and accessories and gave a short talk about The World of Miniatures at a meeting of women at her church.

Carlene Brown, Vegie Maclean and Liz Driver are going to Seattle in July for the National Convention.

This month we went on a field trip to see Margie Wannamaker's doll house that has kept her occupied for many years. Margie described our visit as follows: *"I, with the help of my husband Fred, started building my dollhouse in October, 1999, and I named it Vista Heights Manor. The original blue prints for the Nob Hill Victorian were put out by Shellie Kazan of Shellie's Miniature Mania, now in San Carlos. My house is an Italianate Victorian circa 1860 but I decorated it to present time so I could include memories and representations of our family members. Having completed this dollhouse is a dream come true for me and it houses my collection of minis. I enjoyed having the Chico Mini Club, the club I belonged to many years ago, visit and view my dollhouse. Now I am in the process of landscaping around my house. And I look forward to having the club back again when I finish that."*

—Margaret Gordus

No. Nevada, Tahoe

State Rep Mary Ann Van Buskirk

Sacramento, Central Valley, Sierra Foothills

State Rep Laura Siebert

Itty Bittys: Another celebrity among us: LaVerne Munz, is a member of the Itty Bittys in Sacramento. During a club meeting LaVerne shared her farm stand she created.



Jana Sindorf's wine tasting room box



Margie Wannamaker with her dollhouse

Her idea was inspired by the 2015 NAME Day project and her veggie teapot collection. Carol Kubrican posted this on the National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts page. LaVerne entered her scene in the California State Fair.

Recently, we lost another dedicated and talented miniaturist, Pat Lewis. Many of her items will live on and be loved by area miniaturists. Sherri Hamilton purchased Diane Myrick's "Mill" from Pat's Estate Sale. Glad it will have a new good home. Miss you Pat.

January's meeting hostess was Karen Sandvick, she and husband, Paul greeted the group by providing a kit to "build a snowman."

In February Darwin Spring had all materials cut and ready to construct a garden bench. Some of us painted, decoupaged, or wallpapered to make the bench unique for our settings.

Small Talk

March club meeting was held in the home of Sandra Dawson. Sandra invited Susie DeRome to share her expertise in creating a cute Gingerbread House. This project had many skills that included using puff paints and a hands on introduction on how to create "canes" using Fimo.

April club meeting was hosted by Francis Bigler. Her project was to create a cheese board. We make our own bread and cheese using Fimo. The wine bottle was the inside of a Christmas light, enhanced with a red "seal" and we were provided real cork for the stopper. We also welcomed our newest member, Deb Laue to our group and enjoyed a visitor, Dena Avila.

—Karen Sandick

Quarter Persuasion: Our club has been doing a variety of projects. We made ornaments with little scenes inside, taught by Laura Seibert.

This month we learned to make some accessories, taught by Dawn Cecil. We made woven rugs using window screen and embroidery thread. We also made pans out of brads and lanterns out of small sheets of wire with little squares. It all turned out so cute.

Next, we will be making Gypsy wagons. They are so cute, and so small. We all have the same kit, but when they are done, they will each look different.

Carol Carton will be teaching us to make pastries out of Fimo in May.

We meet in a member's house each month, taking turns being hostess. We meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month. It is a fun group of ladies. Come join us if you can.

—Pattie Hong, President
530-432-3271

Fresno

State Rep Barbara Fairbanks

San Francisco/
N. Peninsula

Open Position

South Bay & Peninsula

State Reps Barbara Adams and
Lynne Hoffman

We are having a busy and wonderful Spring season with lots of mini events and fun. The

MiniCals have been having their monthly workshops and they have been attended by miniaturists from all over N2. Many members enjoyed the annual Spring Fling flea market and potluck in Morgan Hill in March. I'm looking forward to the Round Table workshops in June. Some of us will be dealers at Miniatures on the Waterfront in Stockton. Clubs and individuals are busy making tote bag favors, table gifts, door prizes and other items for the Seattle National in July. Through the Looking Glass & MiniCals are busy preparing for NAME Day and many members are working on Showcase of Miniatures 2016, both in October. Such a lot of projects going on! I hope you all are having fun. That's what miniatures is all about. Happy mini-ing!

Mini Attics: It's flower time again at Mini Attics. After finishing our California poppies Tote Bag gifts and sending them off, we had a camellia workshop taught by Lynn Miller. We made camellias to float in bowls and camellias on branches or bushes. Lynn uses a special kind of paper for her flowers and leaves, and they have a lovely texture, as well as being sturdy material to work with. It was a very satisfying project.



Camellias made by the Mini Attics club

Last Saturday six of us went to Morgan Hill where the Mini Cals were having

a two-part workshop constructing a ski lodge. We constructed and partly finished the building, and in May we will make the furniture for the lodge, as well as completing and wiring it. The project was designed and taught by Karen Laisure and Ruth Heisch.

The Mini Attics also had an election of new officers: Presiden—Marge Milani, Treasurer—Diane Phillips, Secretary/Newsletter—Gerry Silberstein.

—Gerry Silberstein

MiniCals: The MiniCals have been busy with our monthly meetings and projects with our three new members. The workshops In Morgan Hill continue to delight miniature fans in the area, and there is a Roundtable project sharing scheduled in June. We are looking forward to working with Through the Looking Glass with the NAME day bunk and trundle bed project with a Backwoods theme. Many of our club members are also involved with the Good Sam Miniature Show next October in San Jose, and we are looking forward to the Regional Houseparty next March in Sacramento. For more information about our projects, contact Ruth Heisch grouchybeartoo@aol.com

Through the Looking Glass: Through the Looking Glass is working on our tote bag favor for the Seattle National. We will be finishing it up at our May meeting. We continue to plan and work on our gifts for the NAME Day Workday in Morgan Hill that we co-host with MiniCals in October.

Our June meeting will be pure fun as we celebrate our members' unbirthdays at our first ever Unbirthday Party with an Alice in Wonderland Mad Tea Party.

Some members of our group had so much fun at the Morgan Hill Shabby Chic class in March that they are working with the rest of us to create our own and to complete theirs.

A number of our members are looking forward to the Seattle National this summer with great anticipation. All of us are looking forward to sharing in the photos and memories and new skills learned.

—Barbara Adams

Wee Housers of the Peninsula: We are still hard at work on our artists' studios. We're up to grouting the brick walls, making a transom window and wiring. It is so

Small Talk

exciting to see the project take shape. We hope to have pictures to share soon. Again, thanks to Moonyeen for all the work she has put into this project.

We have decided not to have the flea market this year. We hope to bring it back in 2017.

Happy Miniaturizing!

—Laura Johnson

North Coastal

State Rep Laurie Parker

Redwood Small World: The Playday was fabulous with a lively Garden Gazebo offering. We had a full house and added a new member to boot!

The members have been busy; many of the girls entered their lovely mini Houses in the fair and won blue ribbons. The libraries are extremely happy to have many miniature exhibits on show in Fortuna!

—Laurie Parker

Marin, Napa Valley

Open Position

Wonderful “Dollhouses, Trains and More” Trip

Seven of us had a lovely time at the “Dollhouses, Trains, and More” shop in Novato on April 2nd (a Saturday). We went in two cars. LaVerne Munz was the driver for the first car, which also included Darwin Spring, Renate Winter, and Sandra Dawson. Frances Bigler was the driver for the second car, which also included Connie Younker and me.

We all left from LaVerne’s home. We tried to leave at 8:30 am, but we were on the road about 8:50 am. We arrived in Novato at the miniatures shop about 10:20 am (they had opened at 10 am). Oh, it was so great to be back. We all scattered around the store, searching for our needed mini items.

About 11:20 am, my Aunt Linda Keller showed up at the store, and she helped me shop. My Aunt Linda lives down the street from the mini shop. I hadn’t seen her for over a year. She joined us when we broke for lunch, at 12:20 pm. We had lunch at a Mexican restaurant a block away. Before, and during the meal, we passed around the table the items we had bought so far. Some of those not driving had margaritas. My steak quesadilla was wonderful. It was decided that next time we go, we’ll eat at the nearby Chinese restaurant.

After lunch, LaVerne and all in her car headed back to Sacramento. My aunt walked home (she’s super healthy, my aunt). Frances, Connie and I headed back to the mini shop. We all bought some more items. We were inspired by what our mini friends had purchased, that had been passed around the table! What fun. We started back to Sacramento about 2:30 pm or 3 pm. I arrived home by 6 pm (I don’t drive on freeways anymore—back roads are great).

Wonder who will want to visit Novato on the next trip?

Thank you,
Laura Seibert



Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures

Saturday, October 8, 10-5, Sunday, October 9, 11-4

Doubletree Hotel San Jose

(1/2 Mile from San Jose International Airport)

2050 Gateway Place, San Jose, CA; (408) 453-4000

Admission: Adults \$7; Seniors (62+) \$5; Children (5-12) \$3; Children under 5 free

The dealers and workshop teachers have been chosen and you can check them out on the website, <http://goodsamshowcase.miniatures.net> about the first week of June. We are very pleased to have Ken Byers and Ruth Stewart teaching the Academy Workshop on Monday, October 10. Ken makes incredible shaker furniture and many actual working pieces of furniture and machines. He will also present a slide show on Sunday morning about the Shaker life and some time he spent at Canterbury Shaker Village in New Hampshire. Many of you have taken Ruth’s Friday workshops and she is planning a special expanded version at the Academy. She is making new molds special for this workshop and looking forward to sharing more of her talent after the show.

You will see some new teachers for Friday workshops and some past favorites. So don’t forget to check the website in June.

We are always on the lookout for miniatures for our raffle, silent auction. Don’t forget our white elephant tables and our kids sales table if you are doing your spring cleaning!

The show can always use volunteers in all areas. Let us know if there is a special place you’d wish to help!

Small Talk

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.



Name N2 Region Calendar

July 17-24, 2016

Seattle National Convention

Welcome to My Garden

August 6, 2016

Summer at Tahoe State Day

September 9-10

CHAMPS Show

October 1, 2016

NAME Day

October 8-9, 2016

Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures

Miniatures in Fremont?!



Blue Straw Vintage

"life's happy little surprises"

We now have a small
but ever-changing
selection of doll house miniatures
in our space inside

My Friends and I

37521 Niles Blvd.
Fremont, CA 94536
1 (510) 792-0118

Open Mon-Sat. 10-5
Sun 11-5

Lynne Hoffman
bluestrawgirls@gmail.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.

Small Talk

N2 Website

Keeping up with our region's news just became easier!

Our N2 Region's website is updated often with news, events happening in our region, and photos of members' projects. To make it easier for members to keep up with the latest info, our website contains a feature called, "Follow." This is not related to Facebook or other social media. Instead, when there are updates with Region N2 news, events, or photos of fellow Region N2 members' projects, "followers" will receive an email with the updates. As of this writing, we have 136 members who have signed up to follow our website and receive the email notifications.

Following the N2 Region website via email makes it easy to keep up with our region's news, events, and see what our members are creating. If you haven't already signed up to receive the email notifications, you may do so by going to our website's homepage: nameregionn2.org.

- GET N2 REGION NEWS VIA EMAIL -

Enter your email address to receive emails with news from the N2 Region.

Join 136 other followers

RECEIVE N2 REGION NEWS

org. Scroll to the bottom of the page, fill in your email address, and click on the pink button that says, "receive n2

Miniatures on the Waterfront presents the 5th Annual Stockton Miniature show



Dealers and Dollhouse Enthusiast Selling:

- 🔗 Dollhouses - Furniture
- 🔗 Miniature Accessories
- 🔗 Electrical, Lighting and More

Saturday, June 25, 2016
10:00am to 4:00pm

STOCKTON SCOTTISH RITE HALL
33 W. Alpine Avenue, Stockton, CA 95204

FREE LED Lighting Seminar By
Luci Hanson
8:30am to 10:00am
Please RSVP to reserve your seat

****Food and beverages will be available for purchase****

\$6.00 at the door - \$3.00 children 12 and under
For more information and to pre-register as a vendor call
Leslie Flint 209-462-4200
miniatureswaterfront@aol.com

www.miniaturesonthewaterfront.com

Small Talk

Region N2 Team Contacts

NAME

PO Box 69
Carmel, IN 46082-0069
317-571-8094

Regional Coordinator

Barbara Thornton-Hill
13707 No. Bloomfield Rd.
Nevada City CA 95959
530-265-5704
bathca@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Laura Johnson
650-533-1239
3408 Beresford Ave.
Belmont, CA 94002
dollsinnin@sbcglobal.net

Events Coordinator

Leslie Swager
leslie@waveville.net

N2 Webmaster

Carol Kubrican
true2scale@gmail.com

Welcome Chair

JoAnn Jacot
775-720-5184
bearsathought@charter.net

East Bay/Tri-Valley

Bobbie Schmidt
925-943-1741
Artbum@aol.com

Will Thomas
925-634-7584
williamthomas3245@comcast.net

Fresno

Barbara Fairbanks
559-875-2357
minimage1@gmail.com

Hawaii

Naomi Losch
808-261-9038
nlosch@hawaii.rr.com

Marin, Napa Valley

Open Position

North Central

Margaret Gordus
530-872-8787
mh6gordus@gmail.com

North Coastal

Laurie Parker
707-677-3944
parkrsclas@aol.com

Northern Nevada/Tahoe Area

Mary Ann Van Buskirk
530-541-0891
mavb2003@yahoo.com

Sacramento/Central Valley/ Sierra Foothills

Laura Siebert
916-363-8867
lauraseibert@ymail.com

San Francisco/N. Peninsula

Open Position

South Bay/Peninsula

Lynne Hoffman
408-257-7624
lynnandkatie@yahoo.com
Barbara Adams
408-264-8683
gingerbreadbarb@gmail.com

N.A.M.E.
C/o Barbara Thornton-Hill
13703 N. Bloomfield Road
Nevada City, CA 95959

