

Small Talk

National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts

Region N2, Fall 2016
<http://nameregionn2.org>

From Your Regional Coordinator

Oh my goodness, Seattle Convention was so so much fun! There was something to do almost every minute and then the Breakfast In the Garden Workshop—that was designed to hold all of the souvenirs (a beautiful fountain by Lori Corral, a stained glass window by Barbara Sabia, that hangs and fits perfectly into the opening of the Potting Bench gift designed and provided by Debbie Young and a beautiful potted plant/flower in a can, by Pat Richmond—was a great way to end the workshop times. If you've never been to a Houseparty or convention, you really should try to get to one because they are so amazing. Just imagine being immersed in miniatures and with other like-minded miniaturists, playing and socializing for several days. A great escape!

So, speaking of Houseparties, we have one coming up in our own region imminently. ABCs of Miniatures in Sacramento, March 22-26, 2017. Read more later in this Newsletter.

I just returned from attending the Summer At Tahoe State Day Workshop—"The Welcoming Door." It was a fun project and, as always, MaryAnn VanBuskirk and her family and club provided us with a fun day of workshop, prizes and food. Thank you, Summer At Tahoe group.

I want to thank you all for being so supportive and participating in the many activities in our region, N2, over the past couple of years. I have resigned as Regional Coordinator due to being NAME President. My time is just not that available now so thank you to Connie Younker for resuming the position. Connie had to resign a couple of years ago due to some health issues but is back now and enthusiastic as ever. Welcome back to the job, Connie! As you all know, when one RC completes a term of office, all State Rep positions are reopened. Connie will be asking for volunteers who might want to continue or join the Regional Team. Thank you to all who have served our region and NAME in some capacity over the past couple of years.

I'll be seeing you around the region and feel free to email or call me with NAME questions any time.

Barbara Thornton-Hill

Past Regional Coordinator, Region N2 and current NAME President

Meet Connie Younker, Returning N2 Regional Coordinator

Hello everyone! I'm back! As your newest Regional Coordinator, taking over from Barbara Thornton-Hill, who's doing so many jobs, I do plan on a future meeting with all our state reps. These ladies work as volunteers and I want to thank all of you. Good Sam's event will be here shortly and then it will be our Sacramento houseparty next March. If you haven't already signed up please look in this newsletter for an application.

I started collecting miniatures as a child and my collection grew into a hobby of love which has lasted over 50 years. Anyone who will cut out 1,200 shingles for a project, it has to be a labor of love! Now I try to come up with original works and make almost everything myself. The picture is the entry of my newest project, a steam punk quarter-scale Victorian house.

N2 still has two openstate rep positions: for Marin/Napa Valley area and San Francisco/N. Peninsula. Anyone out there who wants to volunteer can email me.



Thank you to Laurie Parker who has served as State Rep for the North Coastal Area for the past couple of years. Unfortunately, she has moved out of our Region. We welcome **Sharon Ocheltree** who will now serve as the State Repre-

sentative for the North Coastal Region. We will have Sharon let us know a little more about herself for the next Newsletter.

Small Talk

Nancy Eisenbeiss Thomas (1934-2016)

When Nancy Rae Eisenbeiss Thomas, 81, unexpectedly passed away in May the world of miniatures and legions of volunteers lost a valuable asset. She was a resident of Brentwood for 19 years before moving to an Antioch retirement community two months before her death.

Nancy willingly shared not only her numerous artistic talents but also the energy and care with which she tackled most tasks, never shirking what she considered her responsibilities even though painful “bad legs” the past few years restricted her mobility. Liking Nancy seemed so easy no matter the organization or venue in which she was active.

Nancy was an active member of Mini Friends and Mo Mini clubs for most of her 30 years in San Mateo County and, after retiring with her husband Will to Far East Contra Costa County's Brentwood-Antioch area, she helped launch and was a driving force and mentor of the Delta Do-Littles miniature club. She was a familiar face at the dealer table of the South Bay's Good Samaritan miniature show almost from its beginning.

For a few years Nancy travelled to house parties beyond California. Always a tight-knit group, the Mini Friends' members occasionally booked flights to Missouri when it was a former member's turn to be hostess for the meeting. (The Mo Minis club is

comprised of the members who regularly made the trip to Kansas City, Mo. area.)

As often as with her miniatures' passion, Nancy was generous with volunteer commitments to community organizations. Residing for 29 years in unincorporated Broadmoor, adjacent to Daly City, Nancy was a past president of Questers and PEO chapters in San Francisco, active in local and regional PTAs and with Cub and Girl Scouting. With her zest for miniatures and miniaturists around her, she and other club members often arranged for their displays to be placed in public libraries.

Nancy remembered recently that she and Will, heading on a Northwest expedition, once loaded their daughter in the rear slot of the family's bright-red VW bug, crammed the three boys in the back seat and stacked chairs, tents and other camping gear on top, some four or five feet high. Sorting through old family photos shortly before she died, Nancy discovered a small photo of that overloaded car. Always one with miniatures on her mind, she immediately suggested that a replica of the small car and its large cargo should be reproduced—in miniature of course. Will has since agreed that would be a feat, indeed worth tackling; he will try.

Will Thomas, Nancy's husband of 61 years, who is also involved with miniatures, is a retired newspaper editor-manager helping with publicity for the 2017 regional Houseparty in Sacramento.



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 1/144" 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.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR “ABCs of Miniatures” Sacramento Houseparty, March 22-26, 2017?

Registration opened on August 1 and there are some spots left. If you have not yet registered for this Houseparty, get it in quickly so you can have your choice of scale in souvenirs: One inch or Quarter Inch. There is a Registration form in this Newsletter.

The souvenirs from our great souvenir artisans are incredible: Ruth & Dan Stewart and Stephanie Engeseth. A “Drive It Yourself Tour” to see some of our Miniaturists' Work Areas and Collections, Thursday Evening of ABCs with 26 Specialists and 26 surprises to go with it, amazing Theme Luncheons and Workshops, Theme Dinner leading into Roundtables and Mega Roundtables, Salesroom (you'll want to stock up on everything in sight here) and then there are the Centerpieces (one lucky person at each table will win one).

Of course there are the other traditional activities of a Houseparty: Table exchanges at the Saturday night banquet, an active Hospitality Room, Exhibits, Houseparty Helpers, Silent Auction, and please don't forget one of the greatest things about a Houseparty or Convention...spending this time with old and new friends who share your love of miniatures and all the camaraderie of the weekend.

Are you wondering what some of these terms mean? Go to the NAME Website at miniatures.org and pull down the Events window. Go to Houseparties & Conventions and then scroll down to see what a Houseparty is and click on some of the activities for explanations of what they are. See you in Sacramento next March!

Barbara Thornton-Hill
Houseparty Chair

Small Talk

State Rep Reports

East Bay/Tri-Valley

**State Reps Bobbie Schmidt
& Will Thomas**

Well, I don't know about you, but I am finally recovering from the Seattle National, although still not fully unpacked.. What an event, from Workshops, Seminars, Theme Lunches, Sales Room, Round Tables and the many other events. Wonderful costumes were worn by many. Charlotte Atcher looked terrific in her gnome costume. And the hats! So creative. You should have seen Jeff Packard parade his slinky red couture number. If you missed it, you can buy the NAME Men's Garden Club Calendar. The best thing though, as always, was meeting up with old and new friends. Fun, fun, fun.

MiniDreamers: The MiniDreamers of Pinole Club is working hard on the CHAMPS Show, El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Ln, El Cerrito, CA, September 9-10, 2016. Hours: Friday 5-9 pm and Saturday 10am-4 pm. This will their 20th and last show and benefits UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital. Please attend to make it a rousing success for the club.

Don't forget the 3rd Annual Mini Sale and Flea Market on November 5, 2016, 9am-1 pm., Sebastopol Masonic Hall, 373 N. Main St., Sebastopol, CA. Always a fun time to pick up a some items that you never knew you needed.

And last, but definitely not least, send in your registrations for the N2 Region Houseparty in Sacramento, CA. The theme is ABC's of Miniatures, March 24-26, 2017. This is a regular houseparty with an emphasis on tools, tips and techniques and with all the usual events we love. You know that in every class and workshop we take, we learn something new and so it is here! Come one, come all!

Bobbie Schmidt artbum@aol.com

Central CA

State Rep Margaret Gordus

Our Little Mini Club: Three of our club members, Carlene Brown, Vegie Maclean and Liz Driver, enjoyed attending the Na-

tional Convention in Seattle.

Melba Wellsfry spent four days with Margaret Gordus. Melba brought two room boxes needing some wiring to make them complete and Margaret was able to accomplish this with the help of her husband, George, who is always willing to lend us a hand.

In addition to completing some other UFO's, we enjoyed working on projects for the upcoming Sacramento, CA, Houseparty, the ABC's of Miniatures.

No. Nevada, Tahoe

State Rep Mary Ann Van Buskirk

Sacramento, Central Valley, Sierra Foothills

State Rep Laura Seibert

Itty Bitties: The Itty Bitties have had a busy three months. In May, it was Sandra Dawson's last month as our president. Thank you, Sandra! It was also Debra Taylor's month as our hostess. She taught us how to apply gold leaf to two metal picture (or mirror) frames. This was new to us. We learned a new skill! In June, I (Laura Seibert) started my term as president of the Itty Bitties. We discussed the upcoming March 24th-26th Houseparty in Sacramento, "ABCs of Miniatures" quite a bit, at both the June and July meetings. A majority of our members will be attending. Renate Winter taught the June project, a "Cocoanut Doll House" (yes, that extra "A" in the middle is intentional). Renate made up kits for us. Cocoanut Doll Houses were doll houses made from cocoanut crates, (I think from the 1890s). They are just adorable! At our July meeting, Linda Vertrees was our hostess, but she had Deb Laue (a club member) teach us the project this time. The woven basket is one of Deb's original designs. We all had fun staining, then weaving. It is a very cute basket! We will be making some tote bag favors for the Sacramento Houseparty at the August meeting. I have the kits all ready to go!

—Laura Seiber



Melba's room

Gold Country Petal Pushers: As you all know, we are a club that specializes in miniature plants, flowers and gardens. The Petal Pushers have recently completed flowers, which they donated to the Seattle Workshop, Breakfast In the Garden.

We made 220 Sunflowers, one for each participant in the workshop. This required punching 4800 petals, 220 circles, 1,200 leaves and cutting 220 wires to size then constructing and coloring each flower.

We also made 220 Roses and 220 Rose making kits with 10 roses to be made in each kit.

This required: 26,000 rose petals punched and packaged, 2,400 stars punched, 2,200 wires cut to size

We are all suffering from debilitating arthritis at this point from punching too many petals!!! Where is my Aleve when I need it or whatever great anti-inflammatory works???

—Barbara Thornton-Hill

Fresno

State Rep Barbara Fairbanks

Fresno TinkerBelles: meet every Thursday and it seems each of us are working on different projects.

Most of us have finished our houseboats, and Grandtline 3 Bears motel. Some are still working on Debbie Young's Bungalow. We did electrify this project and are so pleased with the results.

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Several members were able to attend the parking lot sale in Sacramento this year and also the Stockton show. We all found treasures we could not live without.

Kayanne Yung, Annie Quock, Suzanne Quock, Glendon Davis, Marlene Foster, Terri Millar, and I attended National in Seattle this past month. It was a great house-party and there was something for everyone. The schedule was full every day from early morning to late at night.

We are looking forward to NAME DAY to be held October 1 at Hobbytown in Fresno. At 9 we will be having sweet rolls and then begin building our kits. There are several choices for lunch within walking distance, then back to work. We will stop for a break in the afternoon for a sweet treat. We will work until about four.

Our next project will be the Aurora by Debbie Young. It will be a real challenge for me as the Princess Aurora is what I usually build. Trying to make it old and used will be very hard. We will begin this project after NAME DAY.

When in this area, be sure to stop by and join us at club.

—Barbara Fairbanks

San Francisco/ N. Peninsula

Open Position

South Bay & Peninsula

State Reps Barbara Adams and Lynne Hoffman

Wow! With all the anticipation and preparation for the Seattle convention, it seemed to be over in a flash! A very busy, fun, and exhausting flash! The committee really did a wonderful job. From registration to the goodbyes at Sunday brunch, it was a happy, interesting, and fun time. It was good to see so many folks from N2 in attendance. If you have never been to a convention or houseparty, I hope that you will consider going to Sacramento "The ABC's of Miniatures" in March. I am excited to see the centerpieces that Vegie MacLean has designed and so curious about the souvenirs, as Carlene Brown is the souvenir chair. Registration began August 1, so send in those forms asap!

Very soon, N2 will be in the thick of activity with NAME Day October 1, and Showcase of Miniatures October 7–10. More info on classes and the show: www.goodsamshowcase.miniature.net. Please stop at the NAME table to say hi! in the lobby area at Showcase of Miniatures. Items for grab bags are always needed. Please let me know if you have some to donate (lynnneandkatie@yahoo.com) to N2 or bring them to NAME Day in Morgan Hill.

Mini Attics: The Mini Attics are, once again, a Blue Ribbon Club. We are pleased to be part of this distinguished group. Our main activity for August will be a needle-point pillow project taught by member Hong McKinsey. We did not meet in July because of vacations and the convention.

Convention News:

Brenda Hough participated in Janet Smith's Candy-making class and Sue Herber's Boulangerie workshop. It's an inside joke in our club that Brenda always seems to do food, and desserts in particular, room boxes and displays.

Lynn Miller, who was a convention first-timer, was, at first, a bit overwhelmed, but really enjoyed meeting a lot of people and taking some great classes, in spite of early start times. She will bring her grapevine wreath, which was her table gift, to club to share with us. Lynn was the winner of the centerpiece at her table!! Her centerpiece was made by Donna Brewington.

Carol Walls and Laura Johnson took the Breakfast in the Garden workshop, where they received 10 gifts. All of the convention souvenirs fit in this garden. Carol also attended Ruth Stewart's and Sue Herber's luncheons where the gifts were a 1/4" school house and a 1/4" Peter Rabbit.

Meg Milani said she enjoyed meeting new people, participating in the gift exchange, and purchasing Round Table kits.

The convention seems to have charged out members' "mini batteries" for more projects.

—Gerry Silberstein

MiniCals: The MiniCals have been busy getting ready for upcoming events in our area. We have NAME day on October 1st with Through the Looking Glass and every-

one is invited to make a very special bunk bed. Several of our members are active in the Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures which is scheduled for October 7-10th with two days of workshops and two sales and exhibit days. More information on the show is on the website: www.goodsamshowcase.miniature.net

The club was given the Blue Ribbon Club award at the NAME National, and Ruth Heisch was honored with a NAME Ambassador award. We welcomed Su Sterling to the club and will say goodbye to Marie Gattis as she moves to Missouri. Contact Ruth at grouchybeartoo@aol.com or Brenda at hufstuff2003@yahoo.com for more information about our upcoming events.

—Brenda Hough



Donna Brewington's Seattle centerpiece won by Lynn Miller

Through the Looking Glass: In June, "Through the Looking Glass" gave itself its very first Very Happy Un-Birthday Party. We all brought sweet and savory tea munchies, our favorite tea and place settings and un-birthday gifts for each other. We all remembered what good cooks we are and what fun it is to get together and have tea and a good visit—and admire each other's Mad Tea Party hats! This may be

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come an annual event!

Our Club also created Tote Bag Favors for the Seattle House Party in July and many members attended. In Seattle, TTLG received our Blue Ribbon Award for the 11th consecutive year. We continue to work with MiniCals on the upcoming Morgan Hill NAME Day Workday, Saturday, October 1st. Many of our members have worked individually and as small groups to create gifts and kits for the Workday.

Don't forget to stop and say "Hello" at the NAME Table, manned by many "Through the Looking Glass" members at Showcase of Miniatures in San Jose, Saturday and Sunday, October 8th and 9th.

—Barbara Adams

Wee Housers of the Peninsula: The Wee Housers were represented by several members at the national convention in Seattle. The workshops were great and we were again awarded a Blue Ribbon Club certificate. I attended the club presidents' meeting and there was a lot of enthusiasm and good ideas for recruiting new members.

Summer meetings have been few with so many members absent. The fall should see us hard at work on our artist's studios. Moonyeen has wiring and shelving on the to-do list. Moonyeen will complete hers and display hers at Good Sam.

Happy Miniaturing!

North Coastal

State Rep Sharon Ocheltreer

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



Karen Tomajin's shabby chic door plant stand



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

Hard to believe Good Sam is less than 2 months away. The workshop mailers should be in your mailbox by now and there are some great classes from which to choose. Be sure to check out the photos on our new website that Michael Puff has so graciously designed for us. It may help with the tough choices.

Also, on the website, are the **Academy classes for Monday, October, 10**. Ruth Stewart, fimo artisan extraordinaire, and Ken Byers, Master of Shaker furniture, are ready to present a fabulous day for you. Ruth has designed her gingerbread molds especially for this class and they have never been seen before. You must have noticed Ken's beautiful work as you first come in the door at the show. He will guide us in the making of a beautiful Groveland Cabinet.

Great news for show-goers is that we will have use of an extra parking lot! Hopefully, that will alleviate some of the parking woes. Also hoping for good news on the coffee shop hours so keep watching for that update on the website at the end of September.

As always, we are in need of volunteers so please let in touch if you are able to spare some time between shopping on Saturday or Sunday.

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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

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 Day "Going Bunkers"

October 29, 2016

By Small Design is hosting NAME Day "Going Bunkers," Oct 29 2016 at the Arden-Dimick library, 891 Watt Ave., Sacramento, CA. Please join us for a fun day with friends, enjoying a potluck lunch, door prizes and donation drawings. Gifts from friends and committee members. Contact Pattie Hong at peppermint_pattie@att.net. Hope to see you there.

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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Name N2 Region Calendar

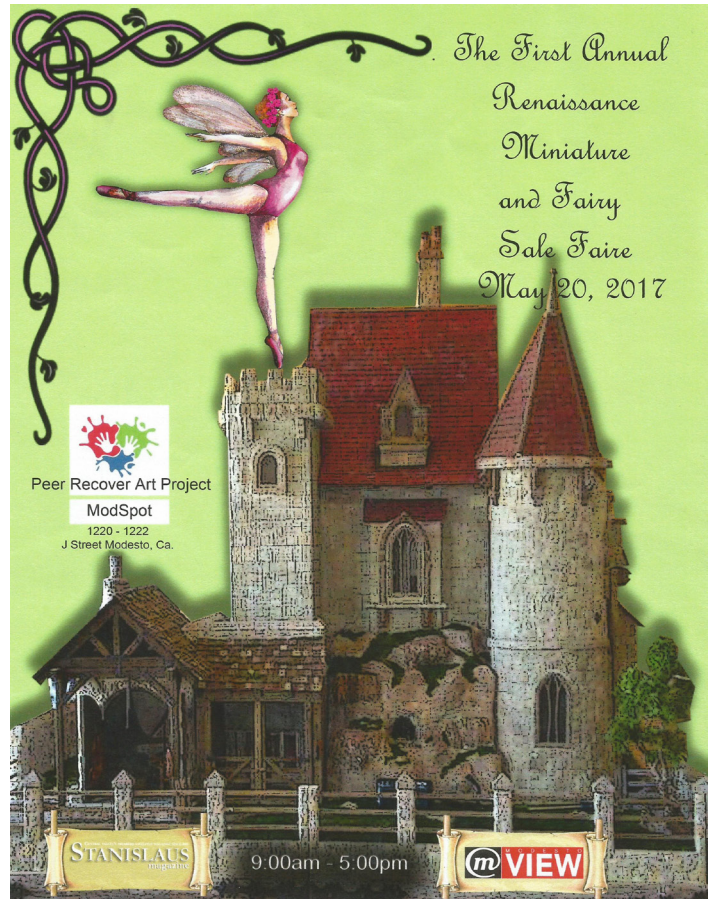
September 9–10
CHAMPS Show

October 1, 2016
NAME Day

October 8–9, 2016
Good Sam Showcase of Miniatures

October 29, 2016
Going Bonkers NAME Day

November 5, 2016
Sebastopol Mini Sale



Sebastopol Mini Sale

Saturday, November 5, 2016, 9 am–1 pm

Masonic Hall, 373 N. Main St., Sebastopol, CA

The annual Sebastopol Mini Sale and Flea Market that takes place late summer, has been rescheduled for Saturday, November 5, 2016.

Dealer tables are available for \$35. Call Lori AR 707-829-0795 or email Cary Yerves at mrminimeister@gmail.com.

View all N2 Region events on the calendar page of the N2 website.

Smallsea Dollhouse Museum Closing

Smallsea is closing November 30, 2016. Prior to closing there will be three sales.

Sale Dates: September 8, 9, 10

October 6, 7, 8, 9

November 3, 4, 5

Sales are cash or checks.

The Smallsea collection of buildings, dolls, furniture and accessories will be auctioned in early 2017.

Check www.smallseamini.com for more information.

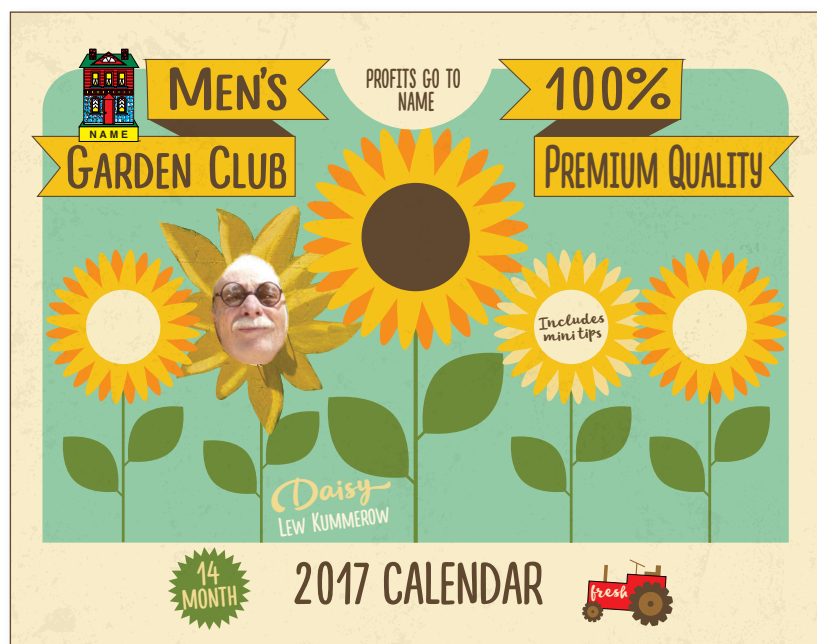
Completed Breakfast in the Garden Workshop from the Seattle convention



MEN'S GARDEN CLUB

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Don't miss this special opportunity to support NAME and own this creative and entertaining keepsake!

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Order your calendar today!

BUY ONLINE: NAMEMINIATURES.ETSY.COM **OR USE THE MAIL ORDER FORM BELOW.**

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\$1 per additional calendar

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Send order form and remittance to: NAME, PO Box 69, Carmel, IN 46082

Make checks payable to: NAME

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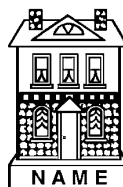
• REGISTRATION FORM •

One person registering per form • This form may be duplicated • Registration is NOT transferable



SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA REGION N2 HOUSEPARTY *ABCs of Miniatures* March 24-26, 2017

Registration Opens - August 1, 2016*
Cancellation Deadline - February 5, 2017
Registration Fee \$220



For Office Use Only

Region _____
Member Year _____
Registration # _____

***You may mail your registration form between July 1st - August 1st, 2016
for it to be considered first day postmarked (NO EARLIER).**

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone () _____ Cell _____
E-mail _____
Name as you would like it on your badge _____



Please designate which scale you are registering for – this cannot be changed. If registration for your preferred scale is filled and there is space in the other scale, you will be asked if you wish to change to that scale. See back of this form for further explanation

I am registering for: ☐ One inch, 1:12 scale ☐ One-quarter inch, 1:48 scale

The entire packet will be available to view and download from the NAME website: www.miniatures.org

- Will you still need a paper packet mailed to you? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Have you ever attended a NAME Convention OR Houseparty? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do you require vegetarian or modified meals? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, please specify here: ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Other: _____
Please include only medically necessary restrictions or modifications.
- Do you have mobility issues (for meal & workshop purposes)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, ☐ Need wheelchair access ☐ Need scooter access ☐ Use a walker
- If under the age of 18, please list your age and accompanying adult: _____

If there are more registrations received with first day postmarks than there is room for, applicants from within the region hosting the Houseparty are given selection preference, then the length of continuous membership is used to make the remaining selections. Specific information on workshops, roundtables and special events will accompany registration confirmation.

Check the NAME website: www.miniatures.org for further updates!

If you wish to charge your registration you must complete the following:



Name on Card _____

Account Number _____ Expiration _____

Signature _____

Please make checks payable to: **NAME 2017 Sacramento, Houseparty** and send to:
NAME 2017 Sacramento, Houseparty Registration, PO Box 69, Carmel, IN 46082

No refunds issued after February 5, 2017 • Cancellation fee \$40 • NO TELEPHONE REGISTRATIONS

Small Talk

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Open Position

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