



to all A-1 Members

Happy 2010

from your A-1 Team:

A new year . . . a new beginning . . .

OR should we finish up some of those projects that are half done or waiting to be started. We know that there's some people out there who always finish everything in a timely manor. (ed note: I have some good friends like that & sometimes wonder why they put up with someone like me who finishes very little!)

One suggestion for 2010 is to take an active part in region A-1 . . . this is YOUR region. How to do this? One way is to SHARE! . . . WHAT? your pictures, what you're doing (as an individual or as a club), hints, questions, info about a special miniaturist, how you shared minis with your community, events, anything miniature. WHERE? This newsletter **a1news2009@gmail.com** OR the A-1 website **http://www.name-region-a1.org** OR contact any of the **A-1 team members**.

Remember: *"Only through sharing can we really enjoy our treasures"*

to "e" or "not to e"

Many of you have mentioned that you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email. To make that work, we need to know if that is what you want (logical, right?) We need to document this. You need to send that request to **a1news2009@gmail.com**; say 'Yes, I want my newsletter sent to my email'. Include your name, snail mail address and email address.

***"It's been one of those days
all week"***

--- unknown

from Deb: (a Message from Our Regional Coordinator)

Greetings from Missouri!

What a busy year 2009 was!

First, I want to mention that National in Indianapolis was great. I really enjoyed talking to those of you who were able to attend. There were 114 people from A-1 in attendance this year; and we all had a great time. We also had the opportunity to go and see the NAME house in Carmel, IN. All the renovations were complete, and it looked wonderful. It was also fun to see centerpieces and souvenirs from past house parties.

I attended lots of meetings during the convention. First was the Club Presidents' meeting . . . congratulations and thank you to all the clubs that received their blue ribbon award . . . keep up the good work.

At the annual business meeting we heard reports on how well our organization is doing. We voted on some changes to the NAME by-laws. The Ambassador awards were given out. Mary Wrenn was the recipient for our region . . . congratulations Mary . . . well deserved!

Our regional meeting was a bit rushed, but we all received a gift from Lynn Jensen . . . thanks Lynn. Thanks to Cathy Kalte for taking minutes at the meeting. Year pins were passed out. Everyone was reminded to send in for their AIM pins. If you would like more info about either of these, please contact me.

I could go on and on about the wonderful dealers in the sales room and the exhibits and the workshops etc...but . . . I will sum it up by saying "National was fun again this year." If you have never been to one or if it's been a while, try to attend . . . you won't regret it.

Congratulations MARY WRENN

At the National convention in Indianapolis Mary was awarded the Regional Ambassador Award. Well deserved!!! This award is given to one member in each region for outstanding efforts in promoting NAME and the public awareness of miniatures and the miniature hobby. Read on and you'll see why this was so well deserved.

When asked, Mary shared the following:

I am a native of Kansas City, Kansas. I have four sisters and three brothers. I am a graduate of Kansas State University with a BS degree in Home Economics, now called Human Ecology. I received my MS degree in Elementary Education Administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. I have lived in Illinois since 1954 after living in Prairie View, Texas for two years.

I am the mother of one son and one daughter, grandmother of two granddaughters and one grandson and the great grandmother of one great granddaughter.

I belong to several miniature clubs in the metropolitan St. Louis area and many online groups. I serve on the board of the Miniature Museum of Greater St. Louis and volunteer on Wednesdays when I am in town. Please stop by and visit the museum if you are in the area. *(note Mary's plug for the museum!)* I have an exhibit each October at the Fairview Heights Library in Fairview Heights, Illinois. I also belong to two bridge clubs, one social club, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and Unity Lutheran Church. I volunteer with the American Cancer Society. I love to travel, visit with my family from coast to coast and attend miniature shows.

I work in 1/144", 1/4", 1/2" and 1" scales. I am tending to work in the small scales more now because I don't have any room left in my house for 1" scale. However, I am making a 1" scale dollhouse for my great granddaughter now. She loves to work at the miniature museum with me and attend miniature shows, but, right now her taste is bigger than her budget.

*"Of all things you wear,
expression is the most important"*
--- unknown

*** Exciting NEWS ***

2014

The NAME board has approved a proposal to have the **2014 National Convention in St Louis, MO.** Co-chairs are Jan McCandliss and Deb Baker. The theme is *Rollin' On the River* . . . chosen because all five states in the A-1 region touch the Mississippi River. More information will be announced as it becomes available.

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Congratulations LEE FRANK

At the 2009 National Convention, Lee was awarded the Mel Prescott Award, which is given to one person each year. This is the highest honor NAME can bestow on one of its members. This award is to honor a member whose “talent, leadership and achievement have helped to determine and preserve the art of miniatures, to establish and promote educational and philanthropic endeavors in the field of miniatures.”

Reading the following will help to understand why Lee is so deserving of this award . . .

Lee and his wife Allie have been collecting miniatures since the late 1960's when Allie inherited her Mother's miniature collection. It was the late 70's before they realized others also had a liking for miniatures. In 1983 they attended their first NAME Regional in Minneapolis. Lee and Allie created their “Library Parlor” which contains 215 miniature books by Barbara Rehab. Next they created “Musical Reflections” which utilizes mirrored glass to create infinity of reflections. These two room boxes were featured in Nutshell News and Miniatures Showcase. During the 1980's they were exhibited in New York City, Atlanta, and New Orleans. Lee was the Minnesota State Representative for NAME from 1988 through 1992.

In 1989 Lee and Allie began to inventory their miniature collection, and realized it was very important to know who made the miniature pieces. Talking to other collectors, they realized everyone needed this information and that no documented information was available. They decided to write a booklet that would benefit all of those who had a love for miniatures. The project took 5 years and grew into publishing a hard cover 550 page book containing hallmarks and other detailed information on 880 miniature artisans, worldwide.

They have three children and eleven grandchildren, who all live within 45 minutes of their home. They feel very fortunate having their family so close, and they all spend lots of time together.

Lee now does webmaster work for a number of non-profit organizations, including NAME. He and Ginger Wyatt started “World of Miniatures” in March 2001, with the sole purpose of attracting new people into the miniature hobby. See <http://www.worldofminiatures.org>

AND Lee is the webmaster for our own A-1 website.

***“Character is doing the right thing
when no one is watching”***

--- J.C. Watts

What is a Houseparty or a Convention? (or as we sometimes say “National”

from the NAME website:

‘A Houseparty or Convention is a gathering of like minded miniature enthusiasts who come together to play and learn all about the miniature world. It is an opportunity to meet others with the same passion; those who want to learn new techniques, view fantastic exhibits, take workshops from world renowned artisans, and exchange ideas about building and collecting miniatures. There are souvenir gifts, wonderful centerpieces, table favors and door prizes.’

The 2010 National Convention will be held in Seattle, WA in July. More information is available in the **Gazette** and on the NAME website <http://www.miniatures.org> or from **your state rep.** _

*"The most wasted of all days
is one without laughter"*

--- E.E. Cummings

Wisconsin State Day

On Saturday May 9, 2009 almost 90 miniaturists gathered at Concordia College to create their own miniature masterpiece. The Lakeshore Miniature Makers of Sheboygan, WI hosted this state day event; but many, many other people and clubs contributed to the success of the event. The project was an enclosed box designed to showcase the front door area of a house. The idea of the boxes was to allow participants to change their mini decorations for various seasons, holidays, and other special occasions or to show personal interests.

As well as the assembled box, each person received a door, siding, porch materials, and some landscaping. Instructional sessions throughout the day included how to install bricking and apply siding.

Participants were given tote bags full of lots of wonderful items that could be used to decorate their boxes. Special gifts, to enhance their front door area, were passed out during the day. There were many door prize drawings. Also, participants took chances on winning one (or more) of many wonderful raffle items. These were all made possible because of the generosity of so many people.

The day began with a continental breakfast. Lunch was served in the school cafeteria, and everyone enjoyed having a choice of what they wanted to eat. Cookies in the afternoon made sure no one went home hungry.

In addition to working on a wonderful project and learning new techniques, participants connected with old friends and made new friends. Everyone who attended reported having a grand time and are still talking about the day - - months after the event.

A huge "thank you" from the committee to all who donated items for the state day AND to everyone who attended. *"Only though sharing can we really enjoy our treasures."*

NOTE: see photos on the A-1 website. If you attended, we would like to add a picture of your box to the ones shown.

*"Sometimes the only way to convince a fool
he is wrong is
to let him have his own way"*

--- unknown

WINNER

Do many of you send in chances for the NAME fundraisers shown in the Gazette?

An overdue congratulations to Kay Felde of Manitowoc, WI. Kay (as usual) purchased tickets and was pleasantly surprised when she received a phone call telling her she was the winner of a wonderful room box from Region N3's 2008 houseparty, "Rain, Wine, and Roses"

Check the A-1 website for a picture of Kay with her treasure.

<http://www.name-region-a1.org>

to those with web access: When was the last time that you looked at your A-1 website? Have you ever looked at it? Above is the web address. It can also be reached from the NAME site. Many seem to want newsletters emailed to them. How many of you know that the newsletter is on the A-1 site?

Please share pictures or mini related items . . . this is YOUR website.

*Sawdust means
'Work In Progress'*
--- unknown

Events within the NAME A-1 Region

April 12-18, 2010 - Chicago, IL
Chicago International Show & Sale
workshops: Monday April 12 – Friday April 16
show: Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Tom Bishop (561) 434-6622
<http://www.BishopShow.com>

April 16-17, 2010 - Schaumburg, IL (Chicago)
**Independent Miniature Artisans (IMA)
Show & Sale**
workshops: Thursday, April 15th
show: Friday, Saturday
Thelma Lewis DeMet (630) 513-8329
<http://www.ima-show.com>

April 15-17, 2010 – Schaumburg, IL (Chicago)
Three Blind Mice Spring Show and Sale
show: Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Linda Frye (513) 861-0704
<http://www.3blindmiceshow.com>

April 23-25, 2010 - St. Louis, MO
Gateway Miniature Show & Sale
(Miniature Museum of Greater St. Louis)
workshops: Friday April 23
show: Saturday, Sunday
Fay Zerbolio (314) 261-7439
<http://www.miniaturemuseum.org>

April 30-May 1, 2010 - Bettendorf, IA
**Miniatures from the Heart of the Country
Show & Sale** (Metro Mini Makers)
workshops: Friday April 30
show: Friday, Saturday May 1
Metro Mini Makers

June 11-12, 2010 - Schaumburg, IL (Chicago)
Three Blind Mice Summer Show and Sale
Show: Friday, Saturday
Linda Frye (513) 861-0704
<http://www.3blindmiceshow.com>

August 27-29, 2010 - Chicago, IL
Chicago Miniatures Show & Sale
show: Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Tom Bishop (561) 434-6622
<http://www.BishopShow.com>

October 15 -17, 2010 - St. Louis, MO
Gateway Miniature Show & Sale
(Miniature Museum of Greater St. Louis)
workshops: Friday October 15
show: Saturday, Sunday
Fay Zerbolio (314) 261-7439
<http://www.miniaturemuseum.org>

More information about the above shows is available on the NAME A-1 website
<http://www.name-region-a1.org>

*“Age does not diminish the
extreme disappointment of
having a scoop of ice cream
fall from the cone”*

--- Jim Feibig

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Advice from A Tree

***Stand tall and proud
Sink your roots into the earth
Be content with your natural beauty
Go out on a limb
Drink plenty of water
Remember your roots
Enjoy the view!***