

M-2 Regional Newsletter

FROM YOUR REGIONAL COORDINATOR:

Hi Everyone,

I'm **Nancy Gale**, the new Regional Coordinator for M-2, following in the footsteps of Julie Hagel, who has done such a great job. Before moving to Massachusetts in 2000, I belonged to the Hobbits and went to my first NAME National Convention in 1997, with that club. I never would have survived that wonderful week without the help and direction of my fellow Hobbits. What a fabulous experience. That is where I learned what caring, sharing people NAME miniaturists really are. Now I belong to Friends Through Miniatures in Worcester.

In April we each made a wonderful garage with a working door, and had a delicious lunch by the Tiny Treasures Society of Quincy. Friends Through Miniatures held their annual Fun Day in May. I met many of you at Molly Cromwell's Sturbridge Preview and Show in June, where I manned the NAME table.

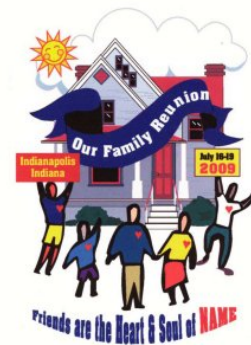
Then came the rain and more rain, and more rain. And now, in mid August hot summer is finally here. Did you work on your minis on those rainy days? This fall I hope to see you at the Cape Cod fun day in September and Carol Block's Handcrafters show in November.

YOUR REGIONAL TEAM NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Send us your news, projects, pictures, and club news for publication in our Newsletter. Marty Anderson is the new editor. Connie Reagan, our web mistress posts the newsletter on our regional website for all to read. Remember the website is: www.namenewengland.com Anyone who receives this newsletter by snail mail--please send us your email address, if you have one. That way you can be notified that a new newsletter is up on the website and we can save M-2 postage.

NAME National News: So many of us in the region were involved on the steering committee last year in Nashua, NH, that we thought you would enjoy reading about one members experience at this year's national. Jill Plump is a member of the Small Impressions Club that meets in Bedford, MA, and is open to new members.

The NAME National Convention in Indianapolis kept true to the theme: Our Family Reunion. Attendees traveled from all over the country including three of us from Small Impressions Miniatures Club, based in Bedford, MA, to come together and celebrate our mutual love of things small (and really small). Our welcome luncheon was true family reunion fare: including fried chicken, baked beans, and apple pie! Joanne, Mary and I each took some pre-convention workshops. I took a class from Pete and Pam Boorum on making an inlaid wood table - it's always a treat to take a class with the Boorums and I



learned some great tricks for doing wood inlays and tapered legs. Joanne and Mary took a multi-day class with the Young's and made a ¼" replica of the NAME house, located in nearby Carmel (pronounced like the candy). It was a real thrill to make the pilgrimage to the actual full-size NAME house later in the week. The NAME house is located in a very cute historic district and has several rooms of incredible miniatures to see. I would recommend that everyone make a visit sometime. Also in Carmel is the Museum of Miniature Houses where we saw a true range of miniatures of different eras and styles. (www.museumofminiatures.org)

My other miniature events during the week included: making baskets out of waxed linen with Marilyn Crocket, creating a miniature breakfast out of Fimo (including bacon, eggs, waffles and grapefruit) with Mary McVicker, and a theme luncheon on making candies and creating canes, hosted by Carl Bronson. The garage sale on Friday night was quite the event - it seemed endless. Table after table of other people's cast always that were true mini treasures for me! There was also a very lively auction with some amazing items that raised money for NAME. The auctioneer, some of a NAME member, and a real auctioneer (he sold livestock earlier in the week) really made the evening fun by joking with the audience and teasing people about their bids. And of course, the sales room was filled with great dealers: some of my old friends that I've seen before and love to buy from and I found some new dealers who had more amazing miniatures to buy. One of my favorite new artisans was Stewart Dollhouse Creations from Montana - I bought a truly amazing half peeled orange that is so realistic. Also, one of the dealers, Barbara Ann Meyer, asked me to deliver a special gift to Sandy Ingmanson, a member of our club, who had shared some pictures of her agility event sheepdog (Charlee) at National in Nashua. Sandy had inspired Barbara to make a new miniature sheepdog based on the pictures and Barbara wanted to make sure Sandy got one! The roundtables this year were very well done - there was a good variety of great items to choose from and no one was disappointed. The souvenirs were also amazing: a plate of beautiful watermelon slices by Barb Lewis, hand crocheted blankets, painted picnic baskets, a mini salad and exquisite rockers made by the Boorums. (Pam said it took over 2 years to make all 600+)! Throughout the convention members of the 2010 Houseparty in Seattle came around to people and "potted them" with cute teapot stickers promoting Merry Old England in Seattle 2010. At the farewell brunch on Sunday we all got cute invitations to next year's event that included mini teapots and a "tea tag style" notice. All in all, it was a great trip. It took me several hours by plane and in airports to get to the National this year, but it was worth it. I learned a lot, had a great time, and left energized about miniatures. And I was lucky enough to win one of the centerpieces!

Thank you, Jill. Now don't you wish you had gone to National this year?

Trash 2 Treasure



As you may remember this article is about trash, things you would normally throw away. This is not about low cost things, but NO cost things. What you can do or make with things that were destined for the wastebasket, things that were to be ground up, pulverized and stuck in the ground. You should have the idea by now. I learned this from a new



friend at the Quincy fun day this spring. One of the items in anyone's standard toolkit should be a foam brush. They are good for lots of things, painting, spreading thin glue, and (before it's used) flinging at your neighbor that forgot to return your favorite ruler. But they are not so good at spreading thick glues, like 'Yes' glue. For those that aren't familiar with 'Yes' glue it's a bit like wax, and is good for using on wallpaper without making bubbles or causing streaks in wallpaper made with an inkjet printer like wallpaper glue can. So the trick is: after you have retrieved the foam brush and favorite ruler from your neighbor, and finished painting with it, strip off the foam. The plastic insert left on the end of the stick makes a great applicator for 'Yes' glue. Once you have the glue spread, wipe it clean and you can even use it as a burnishing tool in the corners of the room that you can't reach with a credit card.

Next on the list is another tidbit from Pam Boorum. I don't personally admit to using this one and you will see why. If you use polyurethane and spill a little on a place you didn't want it you can use paint thinner to remove the spot before it dries. But that means you need yet another brush that has to be cleaned with soap and water in the church bathroom, and worse a jar of paint thinner to lug around in your toolkit. A better idea is to fill an empty bottle of nail polish filled with paint thinner. That way you can use the brush already in the bottle, and only bring a small bottle of it to spill (don't ask).

Next time I will cover a couple of other useful things that you may not have even known you could use, then again, if you've been in the trash business long enough you probably know more than I do. If so give me your ideas and I will pass them along.

Dave Ferkinhoff.

Dave-fe@cox.net



From the Editor

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Since this is the first newsletter I have written for you, please send me your comments and/or suggestions. I am looking forward to hearing from ALL CLUBS in this region. Send pictures of your best projects or meetings you have had in the last year. What did you do at the meeting where everyone in the club attended? Why did everyone come?

ARTICLES

Please send any articles which you think may be of interest, whether or not it's about miniatures. There are deadlines, but if you get the piece to me and it's too late, I'll file it and include it in a future issue.

- * **State reps, please send items about your clubs, individual members, shows, new shops, etc.**
- * **The newsletter would be more exciting if there were more personal items.**

Thank you all, Marty

All NAME Members in Region M-2 are welcome to contribute information, tips, pictures, miniature experiences, etc. Did you go on a miniature trip this year? Did you share your miniatures with a special non-miniature friend or group?

Please send interesting features, ads, club news, tips, comments, ideas and pictures for the newsletter to me at miawildoak@verizon.net. The deadline for the winter newsletter will be Dec. first.

Continue to send submissions for the website to Connie at hcsc@maine.rr.com.



Did you know you can also advertise your mini business in this newsletter? Info on the right.