

Miniature Enthusiasts of Edmonton Club

January, 2005 VOLUME 20 NUMBER 1 est. 1982
Box 70045, Londonderry Post Office, Edmonton, AB T5C 3R6
General Meetings: Held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month: 7:30 to 10:00 p.m.
(except July, August, and December) at McClure United Church, 13708-74
Street, Edmonton. Workshops are held every 1st and 2nd Tuesday of the month,
from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Admission: \$2.00 Membership: \$20.00



Upcoming Club Activities

Workshops: The next workshops are February 1, 2005 and February 8, 2005. The February 1st workshop with Bonnie will be a Mary Engelbreit project. Bring scissors and glue. The February 8th workshop will also be put on by Bonnie Maio, and we will build an aquarium. You will need to save your Tic-Tac boxes for this one, but everything else will be provided.

General Meeting: The next general meeting will be held on February 15, 2005. Show and Tell for that night has no specific theme, but of course anything you want to display is always welcome. Food for the February General Meeting will be provided by Nora Ferguson, and Barb Strietherst. Cream and coffee will be brought by Judy Mitchell.

All-Day Workshop: will be held on Saturday, May 14 at McClure United Church. Put it on your calendar now! We will be doing an indoor/outdoor room. The inside part of the roombox will have a plant alcove and a lit bay window with a seat. The other (outside) has a porch or garden. The roombox will be done in three sections, and the first workshops in April and May will be dedicated to preparation for the all-day workshop. The April 5th workshop will address lighting the box (electrical), and the May 3rd workshop will deal with aging wood, stone or brick for the outside of the roombox.

MEE Fall Show: will be held on September 18, 2005.

Minis On-Line

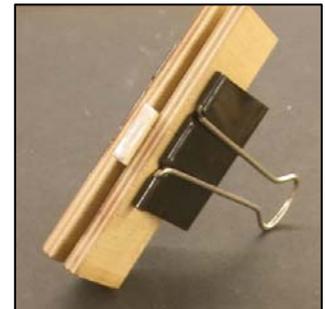
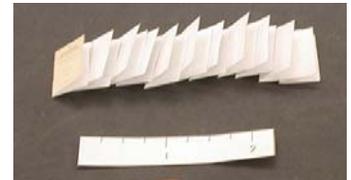
If you don't have your own computer, or access to a family member's computer, you can go to any branch of your local library, and the staff there will help you to get access to these sites. For a small fee, you can even print out material for your own personal use (like printable minis...). Some good sites for this month are:

- www.hallsminiatureclocks.com - you will see a range of 1/12th and 1/24th scale clocks that are accurate in every tiny detail. They are reproduced in close grain woods and copied from original clocks to be as authentic as possible. Some of them even work! The pictures are wonderful and the prices aren't totally out of reach. The highest price for working was 85 pounds or so and then other from 24 - 60 pounds, some of them working.
- www.grandtline.com - well, what fun here - 1/4" (1/48 scale) dome series kits to fit into a 3" dome, kits with dome up to \$30, dome alone \$14.95; Marketville-stores made from grocery store boxes like muffin mix kits less than \$30; fairy houses to die for they are so cute - 3 1/2" for \$30; dolls houses for the dollhouse 1 to 1 1/2".
- www.anitamoriginals.com - what a drooly site - photos of things, Bespaq baby house furnished, tiny Gudgel houses (go see what they are), Oriental dolls, kits for things, teeny metal stuff for teeny places, beautifully done.
- www.lisaslittlethings.com - a real treat for the eyes! Laser cut furniture, cupboards, boxes and kits to make, things to put in shops, etc. Prices seemed to be very, very reasonable.
- <http://www.nostalgic-images.co.uk> - want to know what Thomas Crapper's Victorian toilet really looked like? Or browse through some Victorian advertising? This is the site for you!
- <http://www.lenham-pottery-models.co.uk> - high-fired semi-porcelain miniatures for the bathroom, kitchen fittings, bedroom china and garden stoneware at one-twelfth scale. This company also provides horses at 1/8th, 1/10th, and 1/12th scale and harness kits.
- <http://www.lucyaskew.co.uk> - Artisan Lucy Askew offers for sale exquisite gilt looking-glasses and picture frames, fireplaces, fenders and fire-irons, and Robert Adam furniture from the Glass Drawing Room. These are exact miniature copies of antique pieces. They are cast in a special alloy which is both light and strong and accurately reproduces every detail of the carving and modelling on the master. The soft gilt finish resembles the water-gilding on the carved wood and gesso on the antique originals.

Hints and Tips – How to Build a Paperback Book

The “printies” attached to this newsletter provide you with covers to make some paperbacks to scatter around your contemporary doll-house: two diet books for your kitchen (isn't everybody dieting???), a dictionary, writer's guide and thesaurus for your office or student's dorm room, and three delicious mysteries for your bedroom! The following instructions allow you to assemble them in the same way that real paperbacks are assembled.

- Book binding requires little in the form of specialized tools. A pair of precise scissors, a sharp craft knife, a small steel ruler, and a variety of clamps is all that is required, with one exception. You can construct your own book binding press from two small pieces of ¼ inch plywood. Cut two pieces of wood 1 ¼ inch wide and 4 inches long. Add a 1 inch wide Binder Clip (as illustrated and available at any office supply store) and you are all set! This handles books up to ½ inch thick. When was the last time you read a 6” book?
- You can scan the covers and spines of any book you want to reproduce. The set of eight covers attached show how the front, back and spine should be assembled for printing. Cut the covers from the sheet with sharp craft scissors. Using a steel ruler and a sharp craft knife, **lightly** score the covers on both sides of the spine. Fold covers along the score lines. On dark colored covers, you may see a white line where the score line was, where the interior color of the paper shows through. You may wish to color this white line with a matching or contrasting color felt pen, depending on how you want your final book to look. In most cases, these white lines are unobtrusive and even decorative.
- On a piece of paper, draw squares that are 11/16 inch on each side. You should get more than 300 pages from a single sheet, more than enough to do bunches of books. Make sure that the cutting lines are cut off each page or you will have dark borders on alternate pages. Fold each page in half (always in the same direction) and arrange the pages in a row, with all the folded sides on the same side. Make sure you don't get any pages inside another folded page.
- Assemble the book by placing the pages in a stack, making sure that the folded side of each sheet is to the same side. Level the edges by tapping gently on a hard surface. Place a clamp on the open edge of the pages, with the folded side sticking out of the clamp, and test fit the pages against the spine of the book, as illustrated to the left below. You may need to add a few pages in order for the pages to fit the spine area tightly. It is important that this be done in a clamp to compress the pages. If there is a good fit, using a second clamp, clamp together the folded “spine-side” of the pages. Remove the clamp from the open side of the pages. Then, insert the open side of the pages into the book binding press, as illustrated in the centre illustration.



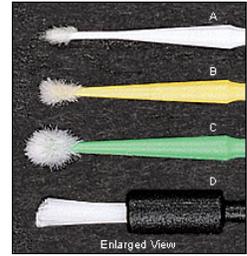
- Clamp tightly with the large Binder Clip, and remove the smaller clip. You are now ready to apply the glue. Sparingly apply a flexible craft glue to the folded ends of the pages, which will become the spine of the book. Run a craft knife (or your thumbnail) along each side of the spine to remove any excess glue. Let dry for a minute, then center the spine of the cover over the folded ends of the pages, making sure that the front of the cover is aligned with the front of the printed pages. Press down, and remove any glue that oozes out the ends. Let dry completely before removing from the clamp.
- Remove the book from the clamp once it is dry, and close the book. Gently press on the edges of the spine to slightly round the spine. You're done!
- NOTE ABOUT GLUE: Any good craft glue used for paper is suitable for book binding, as long as it dries into a **flexible** bond, so the spine won't crack on opening the book. Aleene's Tacky Glue or Sobo Premium Craft and Fabric Glue by Delta both work well.

Tool of the Month – Micro-applicators



Unquestionably an answer to a miniaturist's prayers, these disposable applicators (lifted directly from the dentistry business) let you apply tiny amounts of oil, paint, glue, stain, etc., very accurately and controllably.

They are equally good for cleaning hard-to-reach areas. They have articulating necks that let you bend them to reach around corners. The ball-head styles (approximately 3/64",



5/64", and 7/64" diameter) have lint-free, non-absorbent fibers that have quite good fluid-holding and flow characteristics.

The 1/16" diameter brush head has 1/4" long bristles. All brush styles are about 4" long and are available in packs of 10 or as a set of 40, one pack of each style. It is recommended you just buy the set of 40. You know you will use them.

Sold at Lee Valley Tools, 18403 – 104 Avenue, Edmonton - \$8.95 for 40 applicators.

Report from Your President

Here we are in a new year already, 2005, and Y2K still seems so fresh! Oh well, I (Sunni) have been working on totebag favors and finally got them mailed last week. The St. Albert girls helped out by starting the first 20 or so and then I carried on. IT'S A GOOD THING MOM WAS HERE OVER THE HOLIDAYS (good old Mom)(I don't mean OLD, I mean good old,)and is always bugging me to get things done while she is here to play, so we finished making the 125 teeny dollies with hair, and painted shoes and a tiny bow (MOM) on the front of each dress (with a pile of extras that she made by tying crochet cotton on two pins taped around the eraser of a pencil stuck between her knees). Now I'm working on the prize Lorry and I offered to take with us. Of course, Lorry is away for the month and I get to do stage one and look through her box of goodies that she left for ideas and have it to the point where she can carry on when I leave for a couple of weeks just before she gets back. Why do we get ourselves into these situations? Of course, I'm not asking this question of Luba and her gang who have had their contribution at the club for show and tell ALREADY! We do it because we love it and everyone who puts on a Gathering needs lots of support. The Winnipeg Club was instrumental in starting out these gatherings in the west(I think), and has always been very supportive of anything we have done, so it is always nice to do the same in return. PLUS, then all of us attending the festivities have a chance to get lots of fun stuff back. Maybe one of my own dolls, because needless to say I didn't make an extra for myself.

We could learn a lot from crayons:

- some are sharp
- some are dull
- some are pretty
- some are drab
- some have weird names
- all are different colors

BUT they all exist nicely in the same box!

Happy Valentine's Day!

THIS NEWSLETTER IS ON-LINE AT: <http://www.camacdonald.com/MEE/>

Contact Tina (487-8943) if you have something you want to sell, or to place an ad or an announcement.